



SPILLING BEANS

Actor Janhvi Kapoor opens up about the relationship status with her alleged boyfriend Orhan Awatramani, a social activist

LEISURE P2



COP27 BEGINS

Delegates agree to discuss whether rich nations should compensate poor countries vulnerable to climate change

INTERNATIONAL P10



INDIA FACE ENGLAND

India beat Zimbabwe by 71 runs to set up a semifinal clash with England in the T20 World Cup

SPORTS P12



MARCH FOR UNITY: Congress leader Rahul Gandhi with lawyer Prashant Bhushan and activist Yogendra Yadav during the party's Bharat Jodo Yatra, in Medak district, Telangana, Sunday

6 YEARS SINCE DEMONETISATION Cash with public at record ₹30L-cr

The intent of demonetisation, which was criticised by many experts for poor planning and execution, was to make India a 'less cash' economy

AGENCIES

Mumbai, Nov 6: Currency with the public has jumped to a new high of ₹30.88 lakh crore as of October 21, illustrating that cash usage is still robust even six years after the demonetisation move.

At ₹30.88 lakh crore, the currency with the public is 71.84 per cent higher than the level for the fortnight ended November 4, 2016.

November 8, 2016, Prime Minister Narendra Modi had announced the decision to withdraw ₹500 and ₹1,000 denomination notes with the ultimate aim of reducing corruption and black money in the economy. The intent of the move, which was criticised by many experts for poor planning and execution, was to make India a 'less cash' economy.

As per the fortnightly data on money supply released by the RBI Friday, the currency with the public increased to ₹30.88 lakh crore as on October 21. The central bank data



for Reserve Money had put the currency in circulation at ₹17.7 lakh crore November 4, 2016.

Currency with public refers to notes and coins used by people to transact, settle trades, and for buying goods and services. The figure is arrived at after deducting cash with banks from the currency in circulation. Cash usage has been steadily rising in the economy, even as newer and far convenient digital alternatives of payments have become popular. The COVID-19 pandemic, which laid an emphasis on contactless transactions, also gave a fillip to such digital modes.

A 2019 RBI study on digital payments had partly addressed the

issue. "Although digital payments have been growing gradually in recent years, both in value and volume terms across countries, data also suggests that during the same time, currency in circulation to GDP ratio has also increased in consonance with the overall economic growth," it had said.

"... An increase in digital payments to GDP ratio over a period of time does not seem to automatically imply a fall in the currency to GDP ratio of the country," it had added.

It had said that after demonetisation, India has witnessed a significant increase in digital transactions, although the digital payments to GDP ratio in the country has been traditionally low.

In a recent note, economists at SBI had said the currency in circulation declined by ₹7,600 crore in the Diwali week, which was the first such decline in nearly two decades if one were to exclude the 2009 festivities.

5cr unused doses of Covaxin set to expire

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Hyderabad, Nov 6: Nearly 50 million doses of Bharat Biotech's COVID-19 vaccine, Covaxin lying with the firm are set to expire early next year as there are no takers owing to poor demand, company sources said.

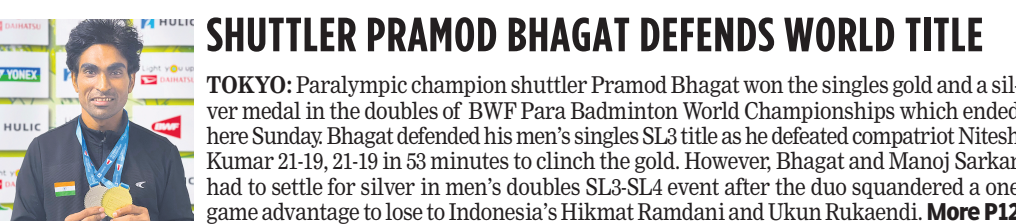
Due to lack of product demand, production stoppage of Covaxin-a two dose jab, was initiated by Bharat Biotech earlier this year, though the vaccine maker has established manufacturing to reach an annualised capacity of 1 billion doses at the end of 2021.

"Bharat Biotech has more than 200 million doses of Covaxin in bulk form and approximately 50 million doses in vials ready to use. Due to lack of product demand, production stoppage of Covaxin was initiated several months ago, earlier this year," sources told PTI.

"Covaxin doses in vials are set to expire during early 2023, resulting in losses for the company," sources further said.

However, the quantum of loss that Bharat Biotech would incur in the event of all the 50 million doses expiring next year is not known.

So far, 219.71 crore doses of COVID-19 vaccines, including Covaxin have been administered under the nationwide vaccination drive. As the infection rate has been steadily declining globally, exports of Covaxin were negatively impacted with poor off take by foreign countries.



SHUTTLE PRAMOD BHAGAT DEFENDS WORLD TITLE

TOKYO: Paralympic champion shuttler Pramod Bhagat won the singles gold and a silver medal in the doubles of BWF Para Badminton World Championships which ended here Sunday. Bhagat defended his men's singles SL3 title as he defeated compatriot Nitesh Kumar 21-19, 21-19 in 53 minutes to clinch the gold. However, Bhagat and Manoj Sarkar had to settle for silver in men's doubles SL3-SL4 event after the duo squandered a one game advantage to lose to Indonesia's Hikmat Ramdani and Ukun Rukaendi. **More P12**

Boars on rampage: 1 killed, 6 injured

Berhampur: A 62-year-old woman was killed and six others were injured when wild boars attacked them in Ganjam district Sunday. The incident happened in Ramapalli near Kodala in Polasara forest range. People of Ramapalli, Beruabadi and Marudi were working in their farmland when they were attacked by the boars, said Dilip Kumar Rout, DFO of Ghumsar South. Bharati Swain succumbed to her injuries while undergoing treatment at the Kodala Community Health Centre, he said.

BJP retains Dhamnagar



Suryabanshi Suraj
80,351

Abanti Das	70,470	Rajendra Das	8,153
Baba Harekrushna Sethy	3,561		

SHG card in the bypoll to counter the sympathy wave for Suryabanshi, failed in its strategy.

While BJD supremo and Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik said the result was "expected," Union minister Pradhan asserted that the result reflects the people's trust in the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

The bypoll result reflects the mood of people in Odisha as well as Odisha's trust on the decisive and credible leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, Pradhan said, congratulating all party workers on this victory.

Notably, Dhamnagar has been regarded as the citadel of the BJP since it won twice in the recent past - Manmohan Samal in 2004 and Bishnu Charan Sethi in 2019. The BJD had emerged victorious in all five bypolls in the state since 2019, wresting the Balasore Sadar seat from the BJP. This win will give a boost to the BJP to fight against the ruling BJD in the coming elections.

ASSEMBLY SEAT	WINNER	PARTY
Adampur (Haryana)	Bhavya Bishnoi	BJP
Andheri East (Maha)	Rutuja R Latke	SS(U)
Dhamnagar (Odisha)	Suruabanshi Suraj	BJP
Gola Gorakhnath (UP)	Aman Giri	BJP
Gopalganj (Bihar)	Kusum Devi	BJP
Mokama (Bihar)	Neelam Devi	RJD
Munugode (Telangana)	K Prabhakar Reddy	TRS

REPORT P7

IRREGULAR by MANJUL



I'm contesting not to serve the people but because this is my only chance to get a life-long pension

WEATHER

	BHUB	CTK
TEMP: MAX	31.6°C	30.6°C
TEMP: MIN	21.6°C	22.0°C
Humidity	74%	65%
Rainfall	Nil	Nil

Forecast: Dry weather likely

Tirupati temple richer than Wipro, Nestle

At current trading price, the net worth of Tirupati temple is more than several blue-chip Indian firms

AGENCIES

New Delhi, Nov 6: Tirupati's world famous Lord Venkateswara temple's net worth of over ₹2.5 lakh crore (about USD 30 billion) is more than the market capitalisation of IT services firm Wipro, food and beverage company Nestle and state-owned oil giants ONGC and IOC.

Tirumala Tirupati Devasthanams (TTD), keeper of the temple dedicated to Tirupati's presiding deity, for the first time since its found-

ing in 1933 declared its net worth.

Its assets include 10.25 tonnes of gold deposits in banks, 2.5 tonnes of gold jewellery, about ₹16,000 crore of deposits in banks, and 960 properties across India. All these total to over ₹2.5 lakh crore.

At current trading price, the net worth of Tirupati temple is more than several blue-chip Indian firms, according to stock exchange data.

Bangalore-based Wipro had a market cap of ₹2.14 lakh crore at close of trading Friday,



while UltraTech Cement had a market value of ₹1.99 lakh crore. Swiss multinational food and drink major Nestle's India

unit, with a market cap of ₹1.96 lakh crore, too was valued below it.

State-owned oil behemoths Oil and Natural Gas Corporation (ONGC) and Indian Oil Corporation (IOC) too were valued less than the temple trust and so was power giant NTPC Ltd, auto makers Mahindra and Mahindra and Tata Motors, world's largest coal producer Coal India Ltd, mining conglomerate Vedanta, real estate firm DLF and several others.

Continued on P4

COOL KIDS SAVING A HOT PLANET

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ANA DE ARMAS' SPIN-OFF BALLERINA STARTS ROLLING

Fans of the John Wick franchise are in for a treat as the Ana de Armas-led spin-off *Ballerina* will start rolling the cameras in the coming week. The announcement was made by Lionsgate CEO Jon Feltheimer, reports *Collider*.

ANDY TAYLOR SKIPS DURAN DURAN'S ROCK & ROLL HALL OF FAME MOMENT

Andy Taylor, the original *Duran Duran* guitarist, could not attend the *Rock and Roll Hall of Fame* induction ceremony in Los Angeles which honoured the group. The cause behind his absence from the ceremony was his health issues related to Stage 4 metastatic prostate cancer, reports *Variety*.



FORTUNE FORECAST

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ARIES
You will exhibit your worth in ample measure today. You will probably chalk out great plans and ideas at work, and this will be very beneficial. But despite this, Ganesha says, if you don't get the deserved recognition, don't lose heart.

TAURUS
You may face conflicts on the personal front and find your thoughts leaning towards aggression today, says Ganesha. There is a possibility of suffering losses due to loved ones. Exercise restraint in arguments with relatives and siblings, advises Ganesha.

GEMINI
It will not be hard for you to complete your tasks successfully and without any delays or obstacles in your path, only if you first seek to fully understand and acquire the learning required to perform it. The fruits of your labour will keep you happy and satisfied, says Ganesha.

CANCER
You will take on new responsibilities, says Ganesha. So you will be busy in your task. You may feel exhausted due to hectic work. So it entails mental tension.

LEO
Guides help other people choose the right path in life and to select the correct alternatives. It is a good day for those who are in the teaching or coaching professions. It is also a progressive day for those working in MNC's. Ganesha's blessings are with you.

VIRGO
It is more than likely that you will reap financial profits from foreign contacts, predicts Ganesha. You will excel in all the activities that you undertake today. Your dream of establishing a mammoth business enterprise in a foreign country will take flight today.

LIBRA
Ganesha says today will be the start of a new love story for you and you will be able to spend time with someone very dear to you. You will be more conscious today about your appearance and may even go to the beauty parlor. Do remember the saying - beauty lies in the eye of the beholder. Ganesha says that you will be equally conscious of your dressing style and clothes and may go in for a new wardrobe today.

SCORPIO
Your energy levels are high as you gear up for new events. However, there are chances that these events may not meet your expectations. But, don't lose hope and get disappointed. Keep your spirits high. Implement the first lesson learnt in school: try & try till you succeed!

SAGITTARIUS
Ganesha foresees business expansion on your cards. Your friends, relatives and other contacts across seven seas will lend a helping hand to develop your business. And thanks to your super communication skills that make the task easier. The leader in you is all set to conquer the world. Way to go!

CAPRICORN
Some people do backbreaking work throughout their life, and still don't taste the sweet taste of success. While in your case, success will be easy as pie. You are already loaded with work and some new projects - assignments will be added to that, today. But, you are not complaining as some recreational activities will refresh your mood and energy.

AQUARIUS
Things have become stagnant but it fails to frustrate your spirit. Slow and steady wins the race and it seems you have imbibed it very well. You will be able to seize opportunities coming your way and march ahead on your path. Financially, you will be on a stable ground, says Ganesha.

PISCES
You need to tread cautiously today when it comes to matters related to business. Do not make any decisions in haste, or it could come back to haunt you at a later date. All financial dealings will need to be carefully monitored. Do not indulge in speculative activities or undue risk taking.

Kangana's solution to Twitter conundrum

Mumbai: Kangana Ranaut may have been banished from micro-blogging site Twitter for her extreme reactions, but she recently heaped praise on the platform for being "ideologically motivated".

She also criticised the verification process of the platform and furnished a simple suggestion - verify everyone who has an Indian Aadhaar card.

Sunday, the controversial actress took to the story section of her Instagram and shared a long note praising Twitter.

She wrote: "Twitter is the best social media platform that is there right now. It is intellectually and ideologically motivated is not about looks or lifestyle. I could never understand the idea of verification that some selected few get, as if others don't have an authentic existence. For ex-

ample, I will get verified but if my father wants a blue tick then 3-4 clowns will dismiss his very identity as if he is living some illegal life."

Then came a solution from her arsenal to the \$8 and verification conundrum: "Everyone who has an Aadhar card must get verified simple as that."

The actress seems to be in favour of "paying a certain amount" to Twitter, which in her opinion will help in maintaining the integrity of the platform.

Kangana's shift in attitude towards the micro-blogging site clearly is because of the change in the leadership after the acquisition of Twitter by Elon Musk. **IAN5**



Janhvi responds to dating rumours

Mumbai: Janhvi Kapoor's close relationship with old friend Orhan Awatramani has often led to rumours and gossip. While the actor often gets spotted with her friends Nysa Devgn, Vedant Mahajan and others for dinner or lunch outings or even success parties Orhan and Janhvi's closeness has many times baffled media and fans whether something is cooking between the two. Buzz is strong that the two are allegedly dating for quite some time but there hasn't been any official confirmation.

Now, in a new interview, the actress while speaking about Orhan, as Orhan is fondly called in close circles, said that Orhan has had

her back for a long time it feels like home when he is around.

The *Mili* star claimed that she knows Orny for years now and he is someone who Janhvi not only has so much fun with, but he's had her back for a long time, and the actress had his back as well. She also confessed that she trusts him a lot.

She further added that it's rare to find friends, who will stand up for you the way Orny has stood up for his friends.

Meanwhile, on the work front, Janhvi's latest release *Mili* has received appreciation from critics and audience alike. **AGENCIES**

B-Town showers love on Ranbir-Alia's baby girl

Mumbai: As Ranbir Kapoor and Alia Bhatt became proud parents to a baby girl Sunday, top filmy celebrities showered the couple with their best wishes and congratulatory messages.

Akshay Kumar, who was most recently seen in *Ram Setu*, commented under Alia's post almost immediately after becoming a mother: "Congratulations!!! @aliaabhatt, Ranbir: No bigger joy in the world than to have a daughter. Bless you all."

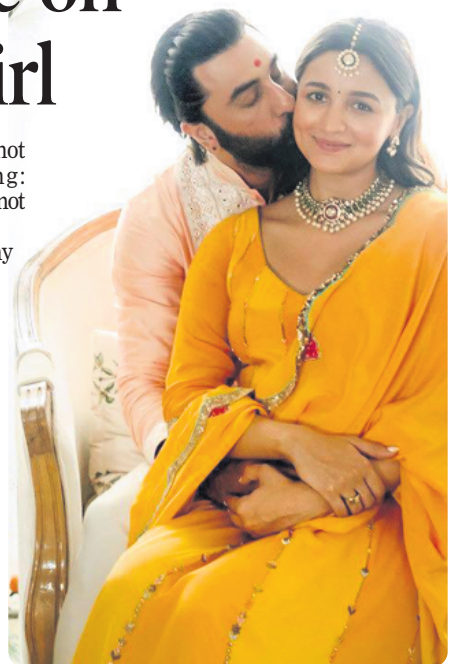
Madhuri Dixit Nene said: "Warmest wishes and congratulations on the birth of your sweet little baby girl."

Ayushmann Khurrana wrote: "Heartiest congratulations." Sonam Kapoor Ahuja, who herself wel-

comed her little one, son Vayu, not long ago, reacted by saying: "Congratulations darling girl! Cannot wait to see your princess."

Ritesh Deshmukh wrote: "Many many congratulations!!!! Dearest @aliaabhatt & Ranbir - the bestest journey of your life begins today - big love."

Earlier in the day, Alia shared the happy news on Instagram along with a sweet picture of a lion family. She wrote on the picture: "And in the best news of our lives - our baby is here... and what a magical girl she is (heart emoji). We are officially bursting with love - blessed and obsessed PARENTS!!! Love love love Alia and Ranbir." **IAN5**



Play Nabakalebara to be adapted into feature film



A scene from the play

OP PHOTO

Bhubaneswar: Nabakalebara, a historical Odia play which was staged at Rabindra Mandap here for three days to full house, will be adapted to a feature film titled *Shree Jagannathanka Nabakalebara* soon.

Drama's producers Bini Samal and Nihar Samal announced this on the third and final day of the play Sunday.

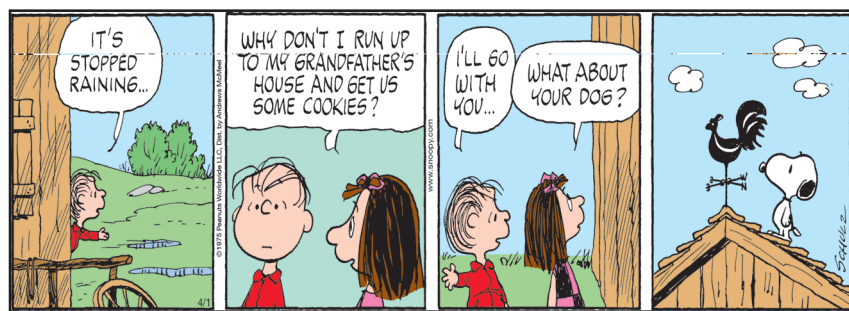
Written by Shankar Tripathy and directed by Dhira Mallick, the drama was about how the 'Brahma' (souls of Lord Jagannath, Lord Balabhadra and goddess Subhadra) was saved from the clutches of Muslim General Kalapahada and handed over to the then Gajapati by Bisar Mohanty,

an ardent devotee. In a bid to spread the Jagannath Culture across the globe, the drama will also be staged in Dubai, Canada, the US and a few European countries, sources from Sai Shradha Production Trust which presented the event said.

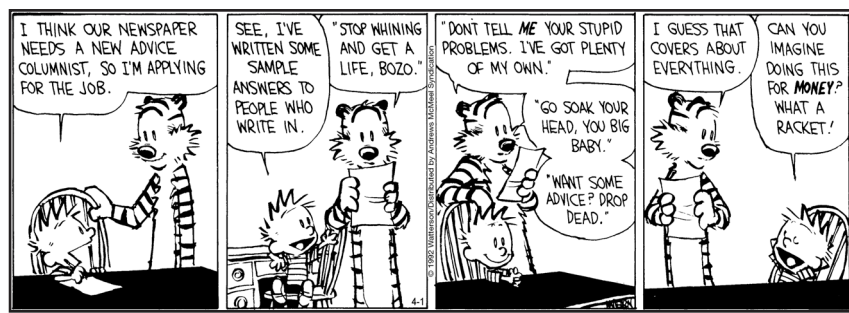
Spiritual thinker Guruji Chandrabhanu Satpathy was present on the occasion and spoke to the viewers.

Among others Rajya Sabha MP Manas Mangaraj, Culture Secretary Satyabrata Sahoo, Twin City Police Commissioner Saumendra Priyadarshi and journalists Dilip Hali and Arun Prasad Kanungo were felicitated on the occasion. **PNN**

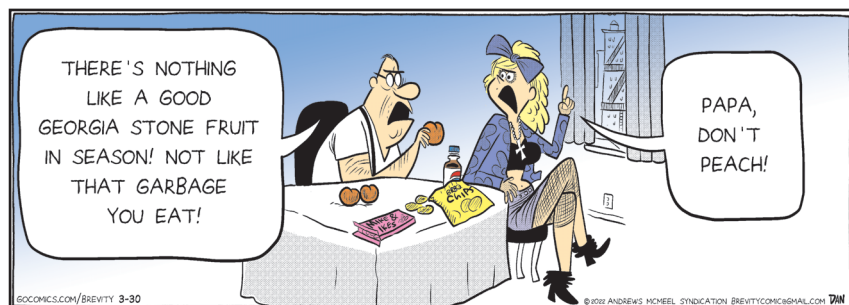
PEANUTS



CALVIN AND HOBBS

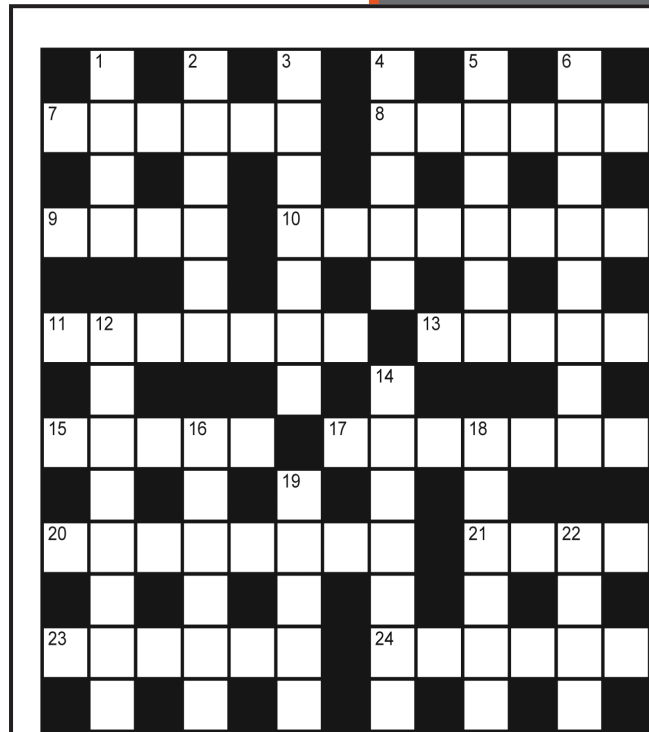


BREVITY



FUN post

CROSSWORD

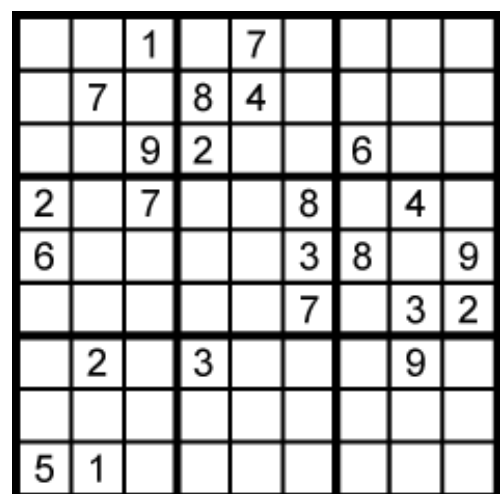


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- Across**
- 7 Enthusiastic (4,2)
 - 8 Removable locks
 - 9 Tropical tuber
 - 10 Sales venues
 - 11 Legendary Arabian bird
 - 13 Precipitous
 - 15 Huge hit
 - 17 Relishes
 - 20 Gambling game
 - 21 Robe for Caesar
 - 23 Rough drawing
 - 24 Mason's tool
 - Down**
 - 1 Heavenly glow
 - 2 Snub
 - 3 Wandering
 - 4 Soup starter
 - 5 Olde worlde
 - 6 Greenland caribou
 - 12 Resting places
 - 14 Purplish-red
 - 16 Bowling boobos
 - 18 Choice
 - 19 Like a bug bite aftermath
 - 22 Secluded valley

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



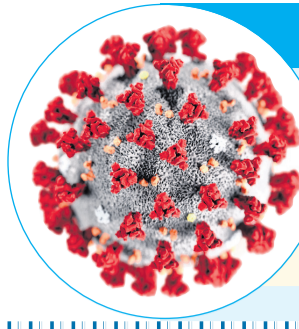
CHECK FOR SOLUTIONS OF THE PUZZLES TOMORROW

downtown



RICH TRIBUTES

Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik pays floral tributes to Pandit Nilakantha Das on his 55th death anniversary in Bhubaneswar, Sunday



COVID-19 TRACKER

	INFECTED	RECOVERED	DEAD
World	63,76,83,949	61,72,07,705	66,05,417
India	4,46,60,579	4,41,15,240	5,30,500
Odisha	13,36,261	13,26,840	9,204

NHRC seeks info on under-trials



Around eight in 10 prisoners in Indian jails are awaiting trial while the rate of occupancy increased from 118% to 130% in 2021, according to India Justice Report

The SC has made it clear that unless a crime is devious and attracts a punishment of seven years or more, no arrest is to be made

POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar, Nov 6: The National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) has asked the chief secretaries of Odisha and other states to submit detailed reports on under-trial prisoners (UTPs) languishing in jails.

Hearing a plea filed by senior Supreme Court lawyer Radhakanta Tripathy, the apex rights body has asked the chief secretaries to file the reports within two months.

Tripathy had informed the commission that most problems that UTPs are facing are borne out of poverty, lack of proper legal help and insensitivity within judiciary. "Most under-trials are from weaker sections of the society, illiterate and unfortunate victims of circumstances," Tripathy said, seeking the NHRC's intervention for ensuring fair trials to the UTPs.

Tripathy said that the SC has made it clear that unless a crime is devious and attracts a punishment of seven years or more, no arrest is to be made. But this is being ignored and the police across the

country continue to make arrests based on flimsy charges. Enforcing the SC order in itself would reduce the number of prisoners in the country by half, he said.

According to India Justice Report, around eight in 10 prisoners in Indian jails are awaiting trial while the rate of occupancy increased from 118 per cent to 130 in 2021.

There has been an increase of 7.7 lakh in the number of people arrested in 2021 as compared to 2020. While 1.47 crore people were arrested in 2021, 1.39 crore were arrested in 2020. The prisoner population in 1,319 jails grew by 13 per cent from 4,88,511 in December 2020 to 5,54,034 in December 2021.

Across India, 24,003 under-trials have been in jails for three to five years and 11,490 for more than five years of which Uttar Pradesh and Maharashtra have the lion's share.

Significantly, appalled over the poor living condition of prisoners in Odisha jails, the High Court had directed the DG, Prisons to ensure clean toilets and prisoner wards in all the jails in state in 2021.



MARITIME GLORY



SET TO PULL CROWD: Preparations for Baliyatra in full swing as Cuttack braces for hosting the maritime festival after a two-year hiatus



OP PHOTOS

CRUT bags 'Award of Excellence' Nuapada tops NITI's Delta Ranking

POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar, Nov 6: The Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs Sunday conferred the prestigious 'Award of Excellence' on Capital Region Urban Transport (CRUT) during the 15th Urban Mobility India Conference and Expo 2022 at Kochi in Kerala.

CRUT general manager (Personnel & Administration) Dipti Mahapatro received the award which was given under the category of 'State/UT which had implemented best urban transport project during the previous year.'

Mahapatro said winning the coveted award inspires CRUT to keep working for the best. "We're



completing our 4th year and Mo Bus has already become the mobility life-

line for people in the capital region of Odisha," Mahapatro said.

She went on to say that the Mo eRide and eBus have also been appreciated by commuters. "The faith reposed in us by the people and the support provided at every step of the way by the state government is something we deeply cherish. I credit my dedicated team for their consistency and teamwork," Mahapatro pointed out.

We're completing our 4th year and Mo Bus has already become the mobility lifeline for people in the capital region of Odisha

DIPTI MAHAPATRO | CRUT GM (P&A)

AGENCIES

Bhubaneswar, Nov 6: Nuapada district in Odisha has topped NITI Aayog's Delta Ranking in terms of overall performance for the month of September, 2022.

According to official sources, Nuapada district is followed by Chhatrapur in Madhya Pradesh and Shrawasti in Uttar Pradesh at second and third place in the ranking.

Bastar and Uttar Bastar Kanker, both in Chhattisgarh were placed fourth and fifth in the list of five topmost districts in NITI Aayog's Delta Ranking for overall performance for the month.

It may be noted that Nupada



was among the five topmost improved aspirational districts in the education sector of NITI Aayog's Delta Rankings for the month of

September, 2021. "India's #AspirationalDistricts are making huge progress towards attaining an #AatmanirbharBharat!" NITI Aayog said in a Twitter post.

Launched in January 2018, the Aspirational Districts Programme aims to quickly and effectively transform 112 most under-developed districts across the country.

The broad contours of the programme are Convergence (of Central and State Schemes), Collaboration (of Central, State level 'Prabhari' Officers & District Collectors), and Competition among districts through monthly delta ranking; all driven by a mass movement.

Now, app to assess structural integrity of bridges

BRIDGES NATURALLY VIBRATE, AND TO STUDY THE ESSENTIAL 'MODAL FREQUENCIES' OF THOSE VIBRATIONS IN MANY DIRECTIONS, ENGINEERS TYPICALLY PLACE SENSORS

There could be a smartphone application to know if San Francisco's Golden Gate Bridge, or any other bridge for that matter, is holding up well, according to a study.

The new study shows that mobile phones placed in vehicles, equipped with special software, can collect useful structural integrity data while crossing bridges. In doing so, they could become a less expensive alternative to sets of sensors attached to bridges themselves.

"The core finding is that information about structural health of bridges can be extracted from smartphone-collected accelerometer data," says Carlo Ratti, co-author of the study.

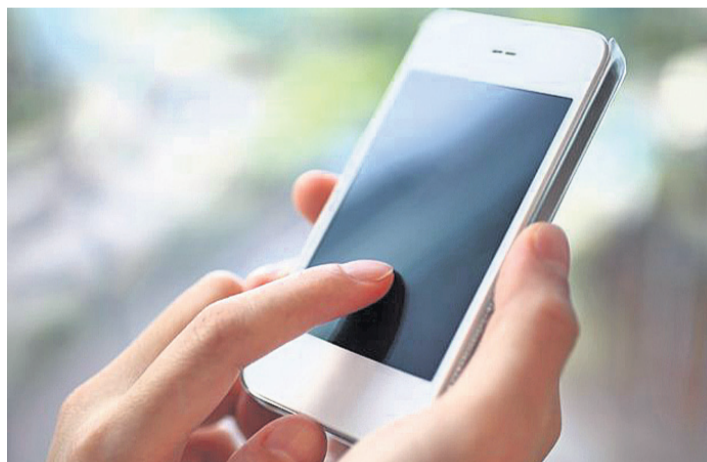
The research was conducted, in part, on the Golden Gate Bridge itself. The study, involving researchers from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT), US, showed that mobile devices can capture the same kind of information about bridge vibrations that stationary sensors compile.

The researchers also estimate that depending on the age of a road bridge, mobile-device monitoring could add from 15 per cent to 30 per cent more years to the structure's lifespan.

"These results suggest that massive and inexpensive datasets collected by smartphones could play an important role in monitoring the health of existing transportation infrastructure," the authors write in their new paper, published in Nature Communications Engineering.

Bridges naturally vibrate, and to study the essential 'modal frequencies' of those vibrations, engineers typically place sensors, such as accelerometers, on bridges themselves.

Changes in the modal frequencies over time may indicate changes in a bridge's structural integrity.



To conduct the study, the researchers developed an Android-based mobile phone application to collect accelerometer data when the devices were placed in vehicles passing over the bridge

To conduct the study, the researchers developed an Android-based mobile application to collect accelerometer data when the devices were placed in vehicles passing over the bridge. They could then see how well those data matched up with data record by sensors on bridges themselves, to see if the mobile-phone method worked.

"In our work, we designed a methodology for extracting modal vibration frequencies from noisy data collected from smartphones," lead researcher Paolo Santi said.

"As data from multiple trips over a bridge are recorded, noise generated by engine, suspension and traffic vibrations, (and) asphalt, tend to cancel out, while the underlying dominant frequencies emerge," Santi added.

In the case of the Golden Gate Bridge, the researchers drove over

the bridge 102 times with their devices running, and the team used 72 trips by Uber drivers with activated phones as well, the study said.

The team then compared the resulting data to that from a group of 240 sensors that had been placed on the Golden Gate Bridge for three months.

The outcome, according to the study, was that the data from the phones converged with that from the bridge's sensors; for 10 particular types of low-frequency vibrations engineers measure on the bridge, there was a close match, and in five cases, there was no discrepancy between the methods at all. "We were able to show that many of these frequencies correspond very accurately to the prominent modal frequencies of the bridge," Santi says.

However, only one per cent of all bridges in the US are suspension

bridges. About 41 per cent are much smaller concrete span bridges. So, the researchers also examined how well their method would fare in that setting.

To do so, they studied a bridge in Ciampino, Italy, comparing 280 vehicle trips over the bridge to six sensors that had been placed on the bridge for seven months.

Here too, the researchers were encouraged by the findings, though they found up to a 2.3 per cent divergence between methods for certain modal frequencies over all 280 trips, and a 5.5 per cent divergence over a smaller sample. That suggests a larger volume of trips could yield more useful data.

"Our initial results suggest that only a modest amount of trips over the span of a few weeks are sufficient to obtain useful information about bridge modal frequencies," Santi mentions.

Looking at the method as a whole, Professor at MIT, Markus Buehler observes, "Vibrational signatures are emerging as a powerful tool to assess properties of large and complex systems, ranging from viral properties of pathogens to structural integrity of bridges as shown in this study."

As Ratti acknowledges, there are ways to refine and expand the research, including accounting for the effects of the smartphone mount in the vehicle, the influence of the vehicle type on the data, and more.

"We still have work to do, but we believe that our approach could be scaled up easily — all the way to the level of an entire country," Ratti said.

"It might not reach the accuracy that one can get using fixed sensors installed on a bridge, but it could become a very interesting early-warning system. Small anomalies could then suggest when to carry out further analyses," said Ratti.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS WESTERN RAILWAY

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INDICATIVE NOTIFICATION

RECRUITMENT AGAINST SCOUTS & GUIDES QUOTA FOR THE YEAR 2022-23
Employment Notification No. RRC/WR/03/2022 (S&G Quota) Date of Issue: 07/11/2022

Opening Date and Time	10-11-2022 10.00 hrs.
Closing Date and Time	09-12-2022 23.59 hrs.

1. Western Railway invites ONLINE applications from eligible Scout & Guide candidates for filling up the following Posts against Scout & Guide Quota for the year 2022-23 :-

Sr.No.	Post	Scale (₹)	Quota	Distribution
1	Level 2 (Gr.C)	19,900 – 63,200	02	Anywhere on Western Railway
2	Level 1 (Erstwhile Gr.D)	18,000 – 56,900	12	02 Posts each for BCT, BRC, ADI, RTM, RJT & BVP (*) Division

NOTE: (*) BCT - Mumbai, BRC - Vadodara, ADI - Ahmedabad, RTM - Ratlam, RJT - Rajkot, BVP - Bhavnagar

2. Only those Scout & Guide candidates who are active member of a Scouts Organization for the last 5 (Five) years i.e. 2017-18 onwards will be eligible to apply for appointment against above posts under Scout & Guide Quota.

3. For further details, refer Employment Notification No. RRC/WR/03/2022 (S&G Quota) dated 07/11/2022 uploaded on RRC/WR's Website <https://www.rrc-wr.com> on 07/11/2022.

Dy.CPO(Gaz)

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Continued from P1

Tirupati temple...

Only about two dozen companies have market valuation larger than the temple trust's network.

These include billionaire Mukesh Ambani's Reliance Industries Ltd (Rs 17.53 lakh crore), Tata Consultancy Services (Rs 11.76 lakh crore), HDFC Bank (Rs 8.34 lakh crore), Infosys (Rs 6.37 lakh crore), ICICI Bank (Rs 6.31 lakh crore), Hindustan Unilever Ltd (Rs 5.92 lakh crore), State Bank of India (Rs 5.29 lakh crore), Bharti Airtel (Rs 4.54 lakh crore) and ITC (Rs 4.38 lakh crore).

TTD is growing richer and richer as the cash and gold offerings made by devotees at the hill temple continue to rise and fixed deposits in banks are also generating more income in view of increase in interest rates, a temple official said.

The assets owned by TTD include land parcels, buildings, cash and gold deposits in the banks, given as offerings to the temple by devotees. Assigning a value to priceless antique jewellery and properties including cottages and guest houses on the seven hills to provide amenities to devotees could be misleading and hence does not form part of the estimated general asset value, temple officials said.

The sprawling seven hills are held sacred by devotees and are revered as the abode of Lord Venkateswara.

In its about Rs 3,100 crore annual budget for 2022-23 presented in February, the TTD has projected over Rs 668 crore as income in the form of interests from cash deposits in banks. Also, Rs 1,000 crore income was predicted in the form of cash offerings alone - by about 2.5 crore devotees - in the hundi of the hill temple. TTD administers a large number of temples in Andhra Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, Telangana, Odisha, Haryana, Maharashtra and New Delhi.

Four-day ICS concludes at KIMS

POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar, Nov 6: The Kalinga Institute of Medical Sciences (KIMS) Bhubaneswar witnessed live spinal surgeries Sunday by eminent surgeons from across the country, capping the four-day-long ICS 2022 organised by the Association of Spine Surgeons of India (ASSI).

The demonstration was carried out for 100 participants for those who attended the Instructional Course in Spine (ICS 2022), exposing them to the advancement of spinal surgery. A Cadaveric Workshop on Spine was also organized to demonstrate the skills for the ASSI members under the leadership of Shankar Acharya, President of ASSI. Other leading spinal surgeons such as SS Kale, Ajoy Shetty CS Dhillon and Shankar Acharya demonstrated live surgeries. KIMS Neurosurgery HOD, NK Das coordinated all the surgeries along with the whole local faculties.

Acharya explained that the live spinal surgery demonstration at KIMS benefitted the participating young and budding spinal surgeons as training and knowledge upgradation in spinal surgery is very vital for professional excellence, besides adopting computer-aided surgeries for more accuracy.

CLASSIFIED AFFIDAVIT

By an affidavit before the Executive Magistrate, Jamankira, I, Iswar Chandra Naik, Village-Bandhabahal, Po.-Kulundi, Dist.-Sambalpur declared that my wife Gurubari Naik is the nominee of my pension payment order under Bihar Regiment being No.S/042781/2009. In this service pension document my wife's name has been mentioned as Gurubari Nayak instead of Gurubari Naik. That both the names belongs to one and same person.



SAY NO TO DRUGS: Members of All Odisha Veteran Soldiers Association taking out a rally to spread awareness against illicit drugs at Master Canteen in Bhubaneswar, Sunday

1,200 offer letters at Kaushal Mahotsav



POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar/Dhenkanal, Nov 6: The Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship (MSDE), through its strategic implementation and knowledge partner, the National Skill Development Corporation (NSDC), organised a Kaushal Mahotsav at Sarangadhar Stadium, Kamakhyanagar stadium in Dhenkanal Sunday. The event saw an overwhelming response and witnessed thousands of registrations in the entire day. More than 70 dream companies across 20+ sectors brought innumerable apprenticeship and job opportunities for the youth of Odisha.

The event was inaugurated by Dharmendra Pradhan, Minister for Education, Skill Development and Entrepreneurship and graced by Mahesh Sahoo, Member of Parliament, Dhenkanal. Prafulla Kumar Malik, Minister, Steel & Mines and Works and Ved Mani Tiwari, CEO, National Skill Development Corporation (NSDC) were also present on this occasion.

Inspiring the locals, Pradhan said that the youth of Kamakhyanagar and Dhenkanal have immense potential and they must be extended all possible opportunities through various infrastructure and economic developments.

I am certain that we can build multiple such skill hubs to support local economic growth and benefit our youth."

He further said that "We have witnessed thousands of youths register for opportunities at the Kaushal Mahotsav today and around 1,200 have already been provided with offer letter from the corporates." More than hundred companies like Maruti Suzuki, HCL JSW, Amazon, L&T and Urban Clap were present on this occasion to provide employment opportunities to the youth.

Ved Mani Tiwari, CEO, National Skill Development Corporation (NSDC) expressed his immense pleasure to see enthusiasm in the youth of Odisha to make the best of the opportunities being offered. We are confident that we will be able to work in the guidance of MSDE and in strong partnership with our corporate partners to bring a new world of opportunities for everyone here, he said.

The day-long event witnessed several Sector Skill Councils (SSCs) and companies exhibit their offerings through a skill exhibition creating awareness about skill development for the youth. Several candidates got an opportunity to take a free psychometric test at the event and participated in group counseling.

ORF launches project for 'special' children

POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar, Nov 6: Odisha Rising Foundation (ORF) with the support from V-Guard Industries Limited launched a statewide project - "Navadarshan" recently for the empowerment of special children of the state, focusing more on Intellectually Challenged children.

The project was launched by Ashok Chandra Panda, Minister for Social Security and Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities (SSEPD) in the presence of SSEPD Director, Bratati Harichandan and District Social Security Officers (DDSO) of Khurda and Koraput districts. On

this occasion, 12 special schools students from 7 districts were presented along with their teachers.

Panda applauded the unique initiative of V-guard & ORF. He expressed his gratitude and encouraged the special school teachers and staff for their selfless services for the mentally challenged children. He also thanked the present DSSO for their unwavering support.

Pradeesh P, Deputy General Manger V-Guard said, "Navadarshan project is a replicable model of Kerala where V-guard has already piloted and now extended to Odisha to empower and impact the intellectually disabled children.



SPORTS FEST: Pro-School Basketball League was inaugurated by Sports Minister Tusarkanti Behera in a grand ceremony on ODM Global School premises in Bhubaneswar. Twenty Major Schools of Odisha participated in the two-day sports festival, November 5 and 6. In Boys and Girls Category, Mother's Public School was the Champions. ODM Public School secured the 3rd position in Girls Category.

Post-pandemic, confidence in vaccines has declined considerably

It's one of the greatest achievements of modern science. Within only a year of SARS-CoV-2 (the coronavirus that causes Covid-19) being identified, safe and effective vaccines were developed, tested, and had begun to be rolled out. Since the first doses were administered nearly two years ago, they're estimated to have saved tens of millions of lives.

And yet Covid vaccines attracted considerable opposition before their development was even complete. While vaccine hesitancy is not a new phenomenon, Covid vaccines were met with particularly virulent hostility among conspiracy theorists and other anti-vaxxers.

Meanwhile, the vaccines' rapid development and approval gave way to a new group of vaccine sceptics. These people don't consider themselves "anti-vaxxers", and didn't necessarily oppose other vaccinations, but had concerns over the speed at which Covid vaccines were tested and approved. This leads to the question of

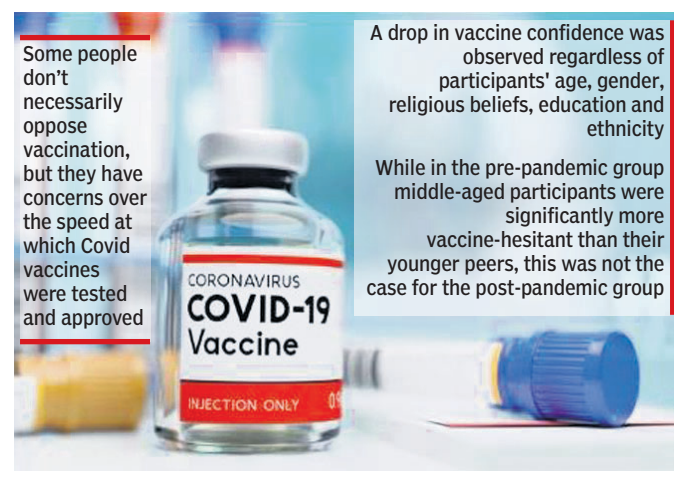
whether, despite the undeniable success of Covid vaccination campaigns, public confidence in vaccines has decreased since the onset of the pandemic.

Researchers sought to answer this question in our recently published study, in which we compared vaccine confidence pre-pandemic and since the rollout of Covid vaccines.

We compared the results of two online surveys carried out in November 2019 and January 2022, involving more than 1,000 adults. The survey responses showed that confidence in vaccinations in the post-pandemic group was considerably lower than in the pre-pandemic group.

A drop in vaccine confidence was observed regardless of participants' age, gender, religious beliefs, education and ethnicity.

One notable difference between the two surveys was that while in the pre-pandemic group middle-aged participants were significantly more vaccine-hesitant than



their younger peers, this was not the case for the 2022 group.

This observation could be partly explained by the fact that Covid is known to cause more serious illness in older patients, whereas it doesn't commonly lead to hospitalisation and death in young people. So it's conceivable that older people felt more motivated

to get their job, and were more appreciative of the protection it afforded them.

Both in 2019 and 2022, participants who held religious beliefs were significantly more vaccine-hesitant than atheist and agnostic ones. Meanwhile, respondents from black and Asian backgrounds were more hesitant than those of white

Graft charge in Lokayukta against civic body officials

POST NEWS NETWORK

Jatni, Nov 6: Members of Jatni Municipality Retired Employees' Association lodged a complaint with Odisha Lokayukta alleging that the executive officer of the civic body and his three associates were demanding bribe to clear their pending arrears and pension. The Lokayukta has reportedly agreed to hear the petition Monday.

The retired employees have named the municipality executive officer Dillip Kumar Mohanty and three associates in their complaint.

As per reports, though 10 years have elapsed to the retirement of at least 50 employees of the municipality, the civic body office hasn't cleared their pending dues. These retired employees have been staging demonstrations and hunger strikes for the last five years in order to draw the government's attention to their plight.

The complainants have moved the Odisha Human Rights Commission about their sufferings.

Association's general secretary Saroj Kumar Ray has lodged the complaint with Lokayukta citing inordinate delay in payment of dues. He has also mentioned in



the complaint that the officials are demanding bribe from the aggrieved employees, who rightfully deserve their dues.

As per reports, though 10 years have elapsed to the retirement of at least 50 employees of Jatni municipality, the civic body office hasn't cleared their pending dues

According to the complaint, while many ex-employees are having a tough time dealing with diseases, the above-mentioned authorities have disobeyed the directives issued by Housing and Urban Development department. The officials, they alleged, have diverted the funds meant for payment of pensions and retirement benefits towards other projects.

The association sought the kind attention of the inhumane and unconstitutional act of the authorities. After receiving the complaint, the Lokayukta has fixed Monday as the day of hearing. On the other hand, the association president, Subrat Nanda, has demanded exemplary action against the executive officer and the associates.

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SUBARNAPUR COTTON FARMING

Reaping high returns from 'white gold' rush



REPRESENTATIONAL IMAGE

Times of distress sale are over as farmers in this district choose Maharashtra traders over CCI to sell their produce eyeing high returns this year

This cash crop known as 'white gold' is being cultivated in upland or non-irrigated lands, but black soil is the most suitable for this farming.

Cotton farming is mainly concentrated in Birmaharajpur, Ullunda, Tarava and Sonepur blocks. Quality of the cotton produced in Birmaharajpur area is better than that of other areas.

The district had a cotton spinning mill, which is now lying defunct. Some farmers said that as cotton now has good demand abroad, the farmers are now reaping benefits from this crop which was once riddled with distress sales.

For last several years, traders from Maharashtra are buying cotton from farmers here at a price higher than the MSP. More and more farmers are evincing interest in the cotton farming.

The climate has been very favourable this year for cotton farming. Farmers have started harvesting cotton and the process will be over in next 15 days.

Earlier, some people of Andhra Pradesh used to grow cotton on the farmlands in the district on a

lease basis. Some of them even settled here. Local farmers learnt the techniques of the cotton farming from the Andhra farmers.

Now, thousands of farmers are growing cotton at Tentulimahada, Badakhmar, Anandapur, Jatosingha, Bagabar, Mursundhi, Kenjharipali, Bhalpadar, Khandahata, Durjantaila under Birmaharajpur; Kalapathar, Jaloe, Sonepur and in some parts of Tarava block.

The Central government has fixed the MSP of cotton per quintal at ₹6,080. A procurement centre is at Badakhmar under Birmaharajpur. Significantly, the Cotton Corporation of India (CCI) has decided to procure cotton from the farmers at MSP.

However, farmers say, selling their produce to the CCI at the MSP will be a loss for them, as previous year the Maharashtra traders had bought cotton at ₹9,510 per quintal. The farmers had good returns by selling the yield to the private traders.

"We want to sell our produce to traders and cotton mills because of high price," farmers said.

Shahadev Mahakur, a cotton farmer of Anandapur said that this year they have got a good harvest - 15 quintal per hectare. This year, cotton rate will be high and farmers are expecting good returns.

When asked about the prospects of cotton farming, district agriculture officer Gourishankar Singh said that a decision was taken to open the procurement centre at Badakhmar this year. "In Tamil Nadu and Maharashtra, cotton farmers have suffered crop loss. Cotton mill owners in those states are eager to buy cotton from Odisha. In view of such situation, the cotton farmers of Subarnapur are at a vantage point to make a big buck by selling their produce at the price higher than the MSP," he observed.



TIME FOR CELEBRATIONS: BJP supporters celebrate the victory of party candidate Suryabanshi Suraj in the bypoll to Dhamanagar Assembly segment in Bhadrak district, Sunday

Textbooks sold off as scrap in govt school

POST NEWS NETWORK

Paradip, Nov 6: In a shocking incident, books meant for distribution among students of government schools in this port town were sold off to a scrap dealer after those were allegedly eaten away by white ants.

The matter was reported from Sanjay Gandhi School at Nua Bazaar in Paradip port town where the books were sold to a scrap dealer Raghua Sahu for ₹400. This cluster school in Paradip is included in Mo School Yojana under 5T initiative of the state government. The school has 15 teachers and a peon with 330 students on its rolls in 2021-22 session. The school has undergone repairing and transformation thrice from 2019 onwards at an expenditure of ₹1 crore.

The books were meant for distribution to students of government schools under Ujjwal and Utthan schemes when schools remained closed during Covid pan-



demic in 2020-21 educational years. Many students failed to study properly due to closure of the schools. Realising the situation, the state government had decided to supply books to students from Class-II to Class-V under Ujjwal scheme and for students from Class-VI to Class-VIII under Utthan scheme.

The state School and Mass Education department had supplied these books to schools for distribution but the authorities chose to keep it with them instead and sold

them off after those were allegedly eaten away by the white ants.

Cluster resources centre coordinator (CRCC) Sukant Swain operates from a room in this school. When questioned, the CRCC and school authorities tried to shift the burden and blamed each other for the development. This reporter met the scrap dealer Sahu and tried to figure out the matter when he was coming out of school carrying the books. Sahu confirmed the develop-

ment stating that all the books weighed 72 kg and he had paid ₹400 to the school in the presence of four lady teachers and a male teacher.

The CRCC said that the teachers have sold these books. Headmistress Sabita Kumari Parida feigned ignorance on the development stating that the books were in possession of CRCC and he might have sold these books. Block education officer Pabitra Kar said he has no knowledge about the incident as he is in a hospital on a health emergency. DEO Niranjan Behera also feigned ignorance about the incident.

A local Arabinda Swain demanded a probe into matter and action against the teachers and education authorities. Rabindra Ojha, vice-president of school committee alleged that the school authorities always sell off the old articles whenever a repairing or renovation work takes place in the school.

Charred body of missing youth found in Kandhamal dist

POST NEWS NETWORK

Phulbani, Nov 6: The charred body of a 19-year-old man was found inside a roadside bush in Phiringia area of Kandhamal district a day after he went missing, police said Sunday.

The police also seized a half-burnt mobile phone, shoes, a wallet along with ATM and Aadhaar cards and some burnt currency notes around a kilometre away from the spot where the body was found near Ganjukhole village.

It is suspected that those items belonged to the deceased person identified as Bibhudatta Kanhar, Phulbani SDPO Suprasanna Mallick, said.

The tribal youth, a Plus-II student, used to study at Phiringia Panchayat College.

He was staying in Phiringia though he was originally from Krandidali village under Gochhapada police station in Kandhamal district.

When contacted, Phiringia IIC SS Rao said the student was supposed to reach his sister's place in Ganjukhole village Friday evening but did not reach there.

His family then lodged a missing diary with Phiringia police station Saturday. However, Kanhar's body was also found Saturday by the local people. Rao said the matter is being investigated from all angles.

Man arrested with barking deer meat

POST NEWS NETWORK

Baripada, Nov 6: A man was arrested with 2.25 kg meat of barking deer at Simlipal National Park in Mayurbhanj district, forest officials said Sunday.

Sridhar Pingua, 30, was nabbed by a forest patrol team at Kadalibadi in Kendumundi range of the park, they said. About 2.25 kg meat of barking deer, a bow and arrows were seized from him, said Jadumani Kerketa, the assistant conservator of forest.

A case under the Wild Life (Protection) Act was registered against him, Kerketa said.



AWARENESS RALLY: Students of Government Women's College in Jeypore participated in a rally organised as part of Vigilance Awareness Week by the Vigilance office, Koraput Division in Jeypore, Sunday

Champua's women farmers show the way with solar-powered cold storage

POST NEWS NETWORK

Champua, Nov 6: Farmers in many cases are deprived of getting right price for their produce due to lack of marketing and preservation facilities. Some women farmers in Champua area of Keonjhar district have set an example for others by setting up a cold storage which is run by solar energy. This has made them self sufficient.

Women members of Baba Jhadeswar Self Help Group (SHG) of Maheswar village have been managing a solar-powered cold storage facility given by OMBADC. Its storage capacity is 5 metric tonne. ₹15 lakh was spent for the project in 2021-22, with 100 percent subsidy to the beneficiaries from the Horticulture department.

Since then, the women members of this SHG have never looked back. They have taken up vegetable farming and they store their produce in the cold store till the time they get good prices in return.



Prajwalit Mohant, one of the beneficiaries said that earlier they used to face a lot of problems after harvesting vegetables. "The vegetables could not be kept for a long time when they are unsold. They used to rot and go waste. Now, that

problem is over. Farmers have to keep their harvested vegetables for a long time in the cold store till they feel confident to sell them at right price to customers or traders," Mohant observed. The labour they invested in

raising crops does not go in vain after the cold storage facility was put in place in the area. These farmers are making good profits from the project. "Earlier, farmers felt compelled to sell their vegetables within a day or two after harvest. Now, the cold store has provided them preservation facility. Local people also pay rent to use the cold store," they said.

They observed that such cold stores are required in various parts of the district so that more people would be encouraged to take up vegetable farming.

Luna embankment caves in due to wanton sand mining

POST NEWS NETWORK

Marshaghai/Drabish/Patkura, Nov 6: With rampant sand mining from Luna riverbed, a 40-metre stretch of the right embankment of the river at Jalapoka panchayat under Marshaghai block of Kendrapara district caved in. Following this, communication on this route connecting two panchayats has been disrupted since Saturday.

Reports said, the right saline embankment of Luna river had developed a thin crack Friday night. It gradually widened before collapsing into the river. It is the only road that facilitates communication to people of two panchayats to the block headquarters.

Locals have expressed their displeasure over the development, alleging that wanton sand mining from the river bed near the embankment is weakening the road. After the collapse of the em-



bankment, people of Pakyat, Kanibanka, Srutipur, Sisua-Sathila and Purastampur are unable to venture out from their villages. Besides, just 200 metre away from the spot where it collapsed, another crack line was found.

Local residents fear that this portion of the embankment will also go down in a few days. Some utility poles and water supply pipelines along the embankment have been prone to collapse.

Meanwhile, a team of engineers from Jagatpur north irrigation division visited the spot. They said that the damaged embankment will be repaired temporarily to facilitate communication. "Thereafter, a tender will be floated for restoration of the embankment," he added.

However, it was learnt that the embankment was earlier strengthened from Pakhyat to Karilopatana, but the work was botched up.

Contacted, the superintendent engineer of the Cuttack north irrigation division blamed the low water flow in the river adding that it has posed danger to the embankment. The repair of the damaged embankment will be started soon, he said.

DEATH OF 4 PERSONS IN ACCIDENT

Plaint filed against NHA

POST NEWS NETWORK

Keonjhar, Nov 6: Two days after the death of four persons in a gruesome road accident at Badapasi under Sadar police limits in Keonjhar district, a complaint was lodged at the Sadar police station holding the National Highway Authority of India (NHA) and the consultancy agency responsible for the mishap, Saturday.

The complaint was lodged by former MLA candidate Jagabandhu Mohanta of Ghasipura Assembly segment. Mohanta has alleged that the accident occurred due to the negligence, irresponsible and whimsical attitude and error in road construction works by the NHA authorities and the consultancy agency.

Mohanta has written letters to SP, Keonjhar, NHA authorities, state police DG and Union Road and Transport secretary demanding action over the mishap. He alleged that the mishap occurred as the vehicles were moving on one side of the road due to



incomplete road works and no warning sign or information on maximum speed limit was displayed at the site.

Sadar police IIC Sunil Kar said that he could comment only after the FIR lodged is available to him. Advocate Suraj Mohapatra said it is necessary to probe whether the consultancy agency had the permission to obstruct the road and the guidelines of NHA has been observed or not.

FOCUS ECONOMY

THE POLITICS OF INFLATION



Annual consumer-price inflation is at 8.2 per cent in the US, 10.1 per cent in the United Kingdom, 10.4 per cent in Germany, and 11.9 per cent in Italy. Among emerging and developing economies in Asia, year-on-year inflation is at 5.7 per cent in South Korea, 7.4 per cent in India, and 85.5 per cent (not a typo) in Turkey

remain a confounding challenge for policymakers.

President Joe Biden's administration has been criticised for failing to see that the \$1.9 trillion American Rescue Plan might lead to price increases. It was obvious to virtually every economist that this enormous COVID-19 relief package would cause some inflation, but it is easy to see why US policymakers were wary of acknowledging the risk. High inflation can quickly turn into a self-fulfilling prophecy. A government official who says there will be inflation is almost guaranteed to drive up consumer prices just by saying so.

Many officials within the Biden administration surely could see that the rescue package would cause some inflation, even if they could not say so publicly. But they correctly determined that helping lower-income families withstand the pandemic was worth the risk. And, lest we forget, the main driver of today's soaring prices, in the US and worldwide, is Russia's invasion of Ukraine, which severely disrupted global energy supplies.

Although pandemic-relief efforts in the US could have been improved with some minor tweaks, policymakers got it right by risking a moderate increase in inflation to protect the most vulnerable Americans during the worst stage of the crisis. Ignoring this is short-sighted and morally wrong. But, as the Republicans may be about to prove, doing so can be a winning political strategy.

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

©PROJECT SYNDICATE

Rising inflation has put the United States on edge. While much of the focus so far has rightly been on the pain that price increases inflict on ordinary Americans, many are concerned about the long-term political effects. With polls suggesting that angry voters will likely hand Republicans control of one or both houses of Congress in the US midterm elections next week, today's inflationary surge may affect US politics long after price pressures ease.

But popular anger reflects a fundamental misunderstanding of the forces driving inflation in the US and beyond. For starters, while the level varies from country to country, today's inflation is a global phenomenon. Annual consumer-price inflation is at 8.2 per cent in the US, 10.1 per cent in the United Kingdom, 10.4 per cent in Germany, and 11.9 per cent in Italy. Among emerging and developing economies in Asia, year-on-year inflation is at 5.7 per cent in South Korea, 7.4 per cent in India, and 85.5 per cent (not a typo) in Turkey.

While the current outlook for the world economy is undoubtedly grim, we must not lose perspective. Today's inflationary pressures are nothing like the hyperinflationary episodes of the twentieth century. Interestingly, while developing countries in Latin America and Africa have experienced periods of extreme hyperinflation, the worst episodes on record are Hungary's 1946 bout, followed by Germany in 1923. Back then, inflation accelerated so rapidly that the price of restaurant-goers' lunch would often increase as they ate.

Then as now, soaring prices had profound political consequences. In fact, inflation affects politics more than any other economic indicator. As a recent report in The Economist shows, contrary to popular belief, there is

little correlation between economic slowdowns and political leaders' popularity (I believe the same is true of the unemployment rate). But, based on my experience as an economist and an adviser to the Indian government, I suspect that a rigorous statistical study would show that inflation disproportionately affects political leaders' reputations.

This is partly because people do not need data to experience inflation at gut level. The trade balance is just a figure they hear on the news, the latest jobless claims figures do not mean much to them if they have not lost their own jobs, and it takes so long for GDP data to reflect slowdowns that even this indicator may feel abstract. But you do not need to wait for government data or news reports to learn about inflation. The data are available to you every

time you go shopping.

It is no wonder, then, that rising inflation is the issue that most concerns US voters. People are often well-informed about inflation and invariably expect the government to be fully in command of it. That makes inflation a key correlate of political (un)popularity. When I was advising the Indian government and annual inflation was hovering close to 10 per cent, I remember an elderly uncle phoning me as he was grocery shopping to ask earnestly, "Why are you doing this? Prices have risen again."

But, contrary to the impression one gets from the confident pronouncements of experts, our understanding of inflationary surges is still rudimentary. We know enough to avoid the mistakes of 1946 and 1923, but beyond that, dramatic price movements



Kaushik Basu

WHILE THE LEVEL VARIES FROM COUNTRY TO COUNTRY, TODAY'S INFLATION IS A GLOBAL PHENOMENON

Bibi Back

We find in others what is in us. If we always find mud around us, it proves that there is mud somewhere in us.

THE MOTHER



The pendulum in Israel politics has swung to the opposite direction with vengeance in just one year. A great experiment in the history of the country in inclusive governance comprising Right, Left, centre and Israeli Arabs has miserably failed and is now being replaced by another first ever in its history - a government by a coalition that includes Far-right and ultra-orthodox. The election - fifth in less than four years - has not only brought back to power Benjamin Netanyahu, known by his pet name Bibi, ousted a year back, but turned Israel dangerously Far-right. This is a trend gaining ground across the world and even in nearby Europe, even though Left politics is getting firmly entrenched in one South American country after another, the latest being Brazil.

In fact, Israel has been drifting Right for years. According to one estimate about 60% of the Israeli electorate is Right-wing against 12-14% voting for the Left and the remainder belonging to the so-called centre. But while polling had clearly indicated that the Religious Zionism - a bloc of three extremist parties that collectively embody racist, Jewish supremacist and anti-Arab sentiments - would do well in the election, the extent of their success has surpassed all expectations.

The elections this time were fought primarily to ascertain whether Netanyahu, who is still facing trial for corruption, has the popular mandate to recapture power. The results confirm his return as Prime Minister once more with a slender majority in the 120-seat Knesset (Israeli Parliament), chalked up with the help of the Far-right and rabidly anti-Arab, anti-Palestinian outfits. Such a fallout is sending shockwaves both to the Middle East and the rest of the world. The triumph of the racist Far-right signals the new government may have to acquiesce to the Religious Zionism's agenda of deportation of 'disloyal' Palestinian citizens of Israel and the annexation of the occupied West Bank. The strategy adopted by Netanyahu by joining hands with these groups has greatly helped his extremist allies become part of mainstream politics. Itamar Ben-Gvir, the new icon for anti-Arab forces, was a follower of the banned Kach terrorist group, with a conviction for inciting racism. For years he was dismissed as politically untouchable. After the recent election he now controls the third-largest political force in Israel, thanks to Netanyahu who is expected to appoint him as a senior minister.

Such a scenario has already caused alarm across the world. The Joe Biden administration has made it clear that it will have no truck with Ben-Gvir. Such a stand, however, does not seem to cut much ice with Netanyahu who is hoping for the return of Donald Trump as US President in 2024 on the wave of a Republican resurgence. The mid-term poll in the US gives encouraging indications for such an eventuality as Biden's popularity has dangerously nosedived.

Netanyahu, undoubtedly, is also too seasoned a hardliner to dance to the tune of the Far-right. He needs this coalition for his own survival. His immediate agenda is to get a law passed to postpone or even cancel his trial. A guilty verdict or a plea bargain that would drive him away from politics will cause an existential crisis for him. He is also bent on packing his men in the Supreme Court in order to make a mockery of Israeli democracy and firmly establish his grip on power.

He may, however, find it difficult to implement his other agenda of thwarting Iran's nuclear ambitions through airstrikes at Iran's strategic installations. His efforts to block the Biden administration's plan to clinch a nuclear deal with Iran may not succeed. This is because the US at this stage is unlikely to invite fresh troubles in the Middle East as its hands are already full.

Mohammad Shtayyeh, Prime Minister of the Palestinian Authority, said the results "confirm that we have no partner in Israel for peace." He may sound too alarmist. The only encouraging possibility, as Israel watchers point out, is that Netanyahu may fall back on the coalition forged by the outgoing government of the caretaker Prime Minister Yair Lapid's Right and centre bloc which has made a respectable showing.

WISDOM CORNER

We all want to be famous people, and the moment we want to be something we are no longer free. **JIDDU KRISHNAMURTI**

Everything that irritates us about others can lead us to an understanding of ourselves. **CARL JUNG**

Only put off until tomorrow what you are willing to die having left undone. **PABLO PICASSO**

WORDSWORTH

Collaboratory

With the growth in the expense and complexity of experimental equipment in many fields (astronomical instruments and accelerators in particle physics are two examples) and increasing constraints on research budgets, the need for mechanisms that will help researchers to share scarce and costly resources has become ever more pressing. The collaboratory concept has developed in the nineties as a method that may enable researchers to work together on projects even though they might be thousands of miles apart. Using information technology, they would be able to schedule and set up experiments, control instruments remotely, share data, and communicate with each other in a "laboratory without walls". The term seems to have been coined by Professor William Wulf of the University of Virginia in an unpublished paper in 1989 as a blend of collaboration and laboratory. The term has not appeared much in the UK, perhaps in part because the British pronunciation of laboratory on its second syllable makes the blend less felicitous.

Collyrium

"Great men," wrote Ralph Waldo Emerson, "are a collyrium to clear our eyes from egotism, and enable us to see other people and their works." At the time, 150 years ago, his educated readers would have been familiar with the word in the sense of a medicated salve for the eyes (and with its plural collyria), though it's now much less common. In fact, it's all Greek to most of us, which is only reasonable since it's originally Greek, from kollurion, a poultice, a word taken from kollura, a type of coarse bread roll. The Greek writer Lucian used it in the first century BC to explain how a trickster was able to remove seals from documents and replace them undetected afterwards. One method was to make a mould of the seal using "the substance called collyrium; this is a preparation of Bruttian pitch, bitumen, pounded glass, wax, and mastic". Not the sort of thing you'd want near your eyes. The shift in sense came about in part because the Romans and their successors gave the name to a variety of solid medicines that were made up into cakes held together by gum.

LOL

The loss of engines

Two men were flying to Miami from Cleveland. Fifteen minutes into the flight, the captain announced "One of the engines has failed and the flight will be an hour longer. But don't worry we have three engines left." Thirty minutes later, the captain announced "One more engine has

failed and the flight will be two hours longer. But don't worry we have two engines left." An hour later the captain announced "One more engine has failed and the flight will be three hours longer. But don't worry we have one engine left." The first man looked at the other and said "If we lose one more engine, we'll be up here all day."



SPECTRUM NUTRITION

Food for thought for our policymakers

There are many global indices released by various agencies at various points of time. Some bring cheer, some just pass by and some others result in debates; at times uproarious! Every October the Global Hunger Index (GHI) is released. It's a tool that attempts to measure hunger globally; prepared by European NGOs -- Concern Worldwide and Welthungerhilfe. The organisations measure and rank countries on the hunger index at global, regional and national levels. They do not go beyond that. However, in a country like ours we have regional disparities in all developmental parameters and therefore the existence of hunger related disparities cannot be ruled out within the country. Besides, GHI disproportionately focuses on a particular segment of population - those less than five years old. Therefore, the stated objective of GHI to reduce hunger around the world is debatable.

The use of the word hunger sensationalises the whole issue. It takes us back to the famine era when millions of people died of starvation. There were great famines in India - the great Bengal famine of 1770, the India famine of 1899. The most recent one was the Bengal famine of 1943 in which over four million people died. Famines in India have resulted in more than 30 million

deaths in the 18th, 19th and 20th centuries. Droughts combined with policy failures have periodically led to major Indian famines. The 1943 Bengal famine could have been avoided and/or its impact reduced substantially had the then British government prioritised this catastrophe. Under the pretext of World War II, the responsibilities to save lives were simply ignored. Famines in India largely ended after the Bengal famine of 1943. Even as droughts have impacted lives of millions of people in different parts of country from time to time in post-Independence period the hardship was localised and the government of the day has always come out with policy measures to mitigate the misery of people in such eventualities. Of course there have been sporadic reports in some parts of the country of abject poverty, mass emigration, child selling out of despair; deprivation and despondency. We heard about one such incident about four decades ago in Kalahandi district of Odisha.

Notwithstanding the above, nutrition, if not food, and particularly child nutrition continues to be an alarming issue. Our own institutions' findings such as that of the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (MoHFW) - National Family Health Survey (NFHS-5) provide comparative state level data, including the main pointers that determine health and nutrition. These surveys are carried out every four/five years. Some of the findings of NFHS-5, which has captured the data during 2019-20 and has been conducted in around 6.1 lakh households, are as under:

Children's nutrition: NFHS provides estimates of underweight, stunting and wasting. Child nutrition indicators show a slight improvement at all India level. Stunting (low height for age) has marginally declined from 38% to 36%, wasting (low weight for height) has declined from 21% to 19% and underweight from 36% to 32% at all India level. These conditions affect preschool children (those less than six years of age) disproportionately and compromise a child's physical and mental development. They also increase the vulnerability of children to infections. Besides, undernourished mothers give birth to deficient babies who are again susceptible to infections.

As per UNICEF findings, over a third of India's children are stunted. We are a country with limited resources. But we have one endowment in abundance - our children. The overall development of a human being is laid in early childhood; health and education being the two most vital

ingredients. If the foundation is not laid in early childhood any intervention later will not compensate for the deprivation in early years.

Almost one dozen nutrition programmes have been under implementation during the last 50 years. Mostly these food distribution programmes benefit children. Expectant and lactating mothers are also included in these schemes. This must continue. At the same time newborns, infants and toddlers need special attention. We have successfully overcome many bigger health related issues such as smallpox, malaria and polio. We have also succeeded in reducing maternal and child mortality substantially.

We should lose no more time in debating over the GHI rankings. Instead, all our agencies should focus on the findings of NFHS to steer a new course to improve the nutrition practices of our children. The fact remains that they are the most vulnerable section of society - they don't belong to any trade union or pressure group. Nor they vote! We always say that children are the future of this country. We are morally bound to take care of their present.

The writer is a senior adviser of the Indian Banks' Association. Views are personal.

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Bikash Narayan Mishra

THE OVERALL DEVELOPMENT OF A HUMAN BEING IS LAID IN EARLY CHILDHOOD

Millions trapped

Sir, Brick kilns in India are operated in a largely unregulated manner and they remain outside the purview of workplace laws. Millions of brick kiln workers in the country are trapped in bonded labour and are regularly cheated out of their wages. They are toiling amid punishing heat and life-threatening pollution at tens of thousands of small-scale brick kilns. A human rights organisation says that millions of workers in India's brick kiln industry are trapped in a perpetual cycle of imposed debt and low wages, which forces them to bring their children to work alongside them in the hot and dusty kilns. The report adds that the living conditions at the kilns are dire, with the air filled with dust and other chemicals, and entire families live in cramped rooms. While bonded labour is illegal under Indian law, and even though the government has taken some steps to address the issue, it didn't go far enough and the law is not implemented by corrupt or under-resourced officials.

Ranganathan Sivakumar, CHENNAI

Burning issue

Sir, Stubble burning has become a contentious issue with Delhi turning into a gas chamber. Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal and his Environment Minister Gopal Rai have taken the blame for the farm fires with a rider that the Centre is also responsible for the present situation. The Centre has accused the Punjab government of not utilising the funds for the purpose for which it was meant. The Air Quality Index (AQI) has fallen from "very poor" to "severe" category. This is a matter of grave concern. It may be recalled that the Delhi government had blamed the Punjab government when the AAP was not in power in that state. Farm fire episodes have gone up by 19% in Punjab over the last year, according to Indian Agricultural Research Institute. In Haryana, the state has reportedly witnessed a 30% reduction compared to last year. Persuasive diplomacy has failed in farm fire control projects in Punjab both under the AAP and the Congress regimes. Punjab needs to learn from the experiences of neighbouring Haryana. Admittedly, putting out farm fires is a complex task. Meanwhile, the AAP government in Delhi has devised a slew of measures to keep the people away from the effects of air pollution. Primary schools in Delhi have been closed, while 50% of Delhi government officers have been advised to work from home.

KV Seetharamaiah, BANGALORE

Letters

TO THE EDITOR

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

OrissaPOST

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national

of the day quote

We will never allow the division of West Bengal. Elections are coming, so BJP is raking up such issues. Congress will always fight against any attempt to divide West Bengal

ADHIR RANJAN CHOWDHURY
CONGRESS LEADER

The 2024 Assembly elections will be contested under the leadership of Chief Minister Eknath Shinde

DEVENDRA FADNAVIS
MAHARASHTRA DEPUTY CM

The basic fault with the present collegium system is that the judges are recommending those colleagues whom they know. Obviously, they would not recommend a judge they do not know

KIREN RIJUJI
UNION LAW MINISTER

SHORT TAKES

Militant arrested

New Delhi: A wanted Manipur Naga People's Front militant, carrying a cash reward of Rs four lakh on his head, was arrested in connection with an ambush on an Assam Rifles commandant's convoy in Manipur, an NIA official said Sunday. Machukring Zamsim Shimray, alias "Ningkhram", of New Cannon village in Ukhrul district was arrested in a special operation by a joint team of the NIA, Assam Rifles and the police from Yaingangpokpi in Imphal East district Saturday, a spokesperson of the federal agency said.

Boy ends life

Gwalior (MP): A 16-year-old student committed suicide allegedly after he was scolded and punished by the principal and the class teacher over the bursting of crackers on the premises of a private institute in Madhya Pradesh's Gwalior district, police said Sunday. A case of abetment of suicide has been registered against the principal and the class teacher, an official said. Police officer Ramesh Shukla said some students had burst crackers in a private higher secondary school in Tekanpur area on November 3, following which the principal and class teacher scolded the student.

Man held

Palghar: A 48-year-old man has been arrested for allegedly cheating people by stealing their ATM cards and withdrawing money from their accounts in Maharashtra's Palghar district, police said Sunday. The MBVV police were probing many cases of cheating and ATM card thefts in their jurisdiction, an official said. Based on CCTV footage, the police zeroed in on Mohammad Arifali Shaikh and recovered 21 ATM cards and a motorcycle from his possession, senior inspector Pramod Bhadak said.



A prime minister has to have a vision for the inclusive development of all and be broad-minded but unfortunately it doesn't appear to be so. The PM should focus more on (reviving) the weakening economy and bringing down inflation

SHARAD PAWAR | NCP CHIEF

FRESH SNOWFALL

Higher reaches of Kashmir received fresh snowfall while the plains were hit by moderate rains in the early hours of Sunday, officials said



BJP wins 4 of 7 seats but loses to KCR

Lanka arrests 15 fishermen

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi/Mumbai/Patna, Nov 6: The BJP won in four out of seven assembly constituencies in six states, retaining the three seats it held, in the by-election results declared Sunday while the TRS and RJD won one each after a stiff contest with the saffron party.

Rutuja Latke, the candidate of the Shiv Sena (Uddhav Balasaheb Thackeray), won the by-election to Andheri (East) in Mumbai, the seat earlier represented by her deceased husband, after major parties including the BJP did not field candidates. The second-highest number of votes (14.79 per cent) went to the None Of The Above (NOTA) option in the constituency. The BJP said the result of the November 3 by-election was a stamp of approval by people on Prime Minister Narendra Modi's policies as it retained Gola Gokarannath in Uttar Pradesh, Dhamnagar in Odisha and Gopalganj in Bihar where it had fielded the kin of its party MLAs whose death necessitated the polls.

BJP candidate and former chief minister Bhajan Lal's grandson Bhavya Bishnoi defeated his nearest rival and Congress nominee Jai Prakash in Haryana's Adampur by a margin of around 16,000 votes, maintaining the family's winning streak. Candidates of AAP and INLD lost their deposits as they failed to



Shiv Sena (Uddhav Balasaheb Thackeray) supporters celebrate after the party candidate Rutuja Latke won from Andheri East seat, during the Maharashtra Assembly by-elections, in Mumbai

secure one-sixth of the votes polled. The resignation of Bhavya's father Kuldeep Bishnoi necessitated the by-election after he left the Congress and joined the BJP.

The Adampur seat has been held by the Bhajan Lal's family since 1968, with the late leader representing it on nine occasions, his wife Jasma Devi once and Kuldeep on four occasions. It was the only seat where the Congress was in some reckoning. The party lost Adampur (Haryana) and Munugode (Telangana), where its MLAs had streak and joined the BJP. TRS candidate Kusukuntla

The BJP said the result of the November 3 by-election was a stamp of approval by people on Modi's policies

Prabhakar Reddy defeated his nearest BJP rival Komatireddy Raj Gopal Reddy in Manugode, while Congress nominee Palvai Sravanthi



Bharat Rashtira Samithi supporters celebrate Munugode Assembly constituency by-election results, at TRS Bhavan in Hyderabad

was a distant third. In Bihar, the RJD saw its victory margin fall in Mokama and it fell short of a win in party president Lalu Prasad's home district of Gopalganj, which the BJP retained, albeit by the skin of its teeth. RJD candidate Neelam Devi won in Mokama by more than 16,000 votes.

The BJP contested from the constituency for the first time as the saffron party had, on previous occasions, left the seat to its allies. BJP's Kusum Devi, the wife of MLA Subhash Singh whose death had necessitated the by-election in Gopalganj, polled 70,032 votes, while

RJD's Mohan Gupta got 68,243.

BJP's Aman Giri defeated his nearest rival and Samajwadi Party candidate by over 34,000 votes in the UP seat that fell vacant after the death of his father and party MLA Arvind Giri on September 6. Aman Giri won by a margin of 34,298 votes. He received 1,24,810 votes and Vinay Tiwari got 90,512 votes, an official said. With the BSP and the Congress keeping away, it was a direct contest between Aman Giri and Tiwari. The BJP's campaign was led by CM Adityanath, while SP chief Akhilesh Yadav did not campaign.

Centre's panel revokes anti-pollution curbs



Delhi's air pollution levels ameliorated marginally to the lower end of the 'very poor' category Sunday primarily due to favourable wind speed and a drop in the contribution of stubble burning

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, Nov 6: The Centre's air quality panel Sunday directed authorities to lift the ban on plying of non-BS VI diesel-run light motor vehicles in Delhi-NCR and entry of trucks into the capital imposed under the final stage of the Graded Response Action Plan.

The restrictions were imposed three days ago. "As the present AQI level of Delhi is around 339 which is about 111 AQI points below the threshold for invoking the GRAP Stage-IV actions (Delhi AQI > 450) and preventive/mitigative/restrictive actions under all stages up to Stage-IV are underway there is a likelihood of sustaining the improvement in AQI. The forecast by IMD/ IITM also does not indicate any steep degradation further," an order from the Commission for Air Quality Management read. GRAP stage IV is a stage of disruptive restrictions that impacts a large number of stakeholders and the public at large. There are no stricter measures, than as laid in GRAP Stage-IV, that could be taken to improve upon the air quality scenario, the commission said. "The sub-committee, accordingly,

hereby decides to revoke the order, issued vide dated November 3, 2022, for actions under Stage-IV of GRAP with immediate effect," it said. Actions under stages I to III of GRAP will, however, remain invoked and be implemented, monitored and reviewed by all agencies concerned in the entire NCR to ensure that the AQI levels do not slip further to the 'severe' category. Delhi's air pollution levels ameliorated marginally to the lower end of the "very poor" category on Sunday primarily due to favourable wind speed and a drop in the contribution of stubble burning.

The 24-hour average air quality index stood at 339 at 4 pm, dropping from 381 a day ago. It was 447 on Friday, according to the Central Pollution Control Board.

It had jumped to 450 on Thursday, just a notch short of the 'severe plus' category, prompting the authorities to invoke the final stage of anti-pollution curbs, including a ban on non-BSVI diesel light motor vehicles.

The CAQM had also directed the closure of all industries running on non-clean flues in the region, "even in areas which do not have PNG infrastructure and supply".



Vehicles cross the Zojila Pass after a fresh spell of snowfall in Sonamarg, Ganderalbal district

PTI PHOTO

Navy plans to stop Chinese spy ship

INDO-ASIAN NEWS SERVICE

Kolkata, Nov 6: The Indian Navy will not allow the Yuan Wang-6 to enter the country's Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ) that extends up to 200 nautical miles into the sea.

Though it is known fact that the Yuan Wang-6 is a spy ship of the People's Liberation Army Navy (PLAN), sent to the Indian Ocean Region to track India's missile tests from the APJ Abdul Kalam Island off the Odisha coast, she is officially registered as a research and survey vessel. While foreign vessels, including warships, can freely sail through the EEZ, Indian law forbids any survey, research or exploration there by a foreign

nation without permission.

In 2019, the Indian Navy had forced the Chinese research vessel Shi Yan 1 out of India's EEZ after it was found lurking near Port Blair. The Shi Yan 1 is also considered a PLAN spy ship masquerading as a research vessel. That move by the Indian Navy had led to a diplomatic row with China but India had put her foot down.

According to sources, the Indian Navy will do the same this time round if the Yuan Wang-6 attempts to enter India's EEZ.

The destination of this vessel is not marked to any port but to 'open sea' and that is where she will have to remain, a senior official said.

PM launches election slogan in Gujarati

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Nana Ponda (Gujarat), Nov 6: Prime Minister Narendra Modi Sunday said the forces that indulged in spreading hatred and defamed Gujarat will be swept out of the state again in the next month's Assembly polls which he said BJP would win with a record margin.

Addressing his first election rally in his home state after the announcement of the poll schedule, Modi came up with a new slogan in Gujarati - "Aa Gujarat, mai banavyu chhe" (I have made this Gujarat), and also made people chant it several times during his 25-minute-long speech.

"Those divisive forces that have indulged in spreading hatred, those who have tried to defame and insult Gujarat have been swept out of Gujarat. The people of Gujarat never accept those who spread hate. Whoever had tried to defame and insult Gujarat in the past have been wiped out of Gujarat by the people. In this election too, such people will meet

the same fate," the prime minister said while launching the Bharatiya Janata Party's poll campaign from tribal-dominated Nana Ponda village in Kaprada taluka in Valsad district.

Without taking any names, Modi said the people of Gujarat have identified a "gang" working against Gujarat which always tries to defame the state. He added that though such people have been trying hard for the last two decades, the people of Gujarat never believed them.

Those who try to defame Gujarat are surprised why people of Gujarat are not believing their false propaganda. This is because the people of this state have made Gujarat with hard work and they will never allow someone to harm the state

NARENDRA MODI
PRIME MINISTER



ISRO to explore dark side of moon with Japan

Making a presentation on ISRO's future missions at the Akash Tattva conference, Anil Bhardwaj, Director of the Ahmedabad-based Physical Research Laboratory, said the space agency also planned to send a probe to Mars



plans to explore the dark side of the moon in collaboration with Japan. Making a presentation on ISRO's future missions at the Akash Tattva conference here, Anil Bhardwaj,

Director of the Ahmedabad-based Physical Research Laboratory, said the space agency also planned to send a probe to Mars. Bhardwaj said it was in talks

with the Japanese Aerospace Exploration Agency (JAXA) for sending a lunar rover to explore the permanent shadow region of the moon. As per the initial plans, a lunar lander and rover built by ISRO will be put into orbit by a Japanese rocket with a planned landing near the south pole of the moon.

"The rover will then travel to the permanent shadow region of the moon which never sees sunlight," Bhardwaj said. He said the exploration of the region was interesting as anything that has remained in the PSR zone was akin to staying in deep freeze for times immemorial.

Bhardwaj said the Aditya L-1 would be a unique mission in which a 400-kg class satellite carrying the

payload would be placed in an orbit around the Sun in such a way that it can continuously view the star from a point called the Lagrange Point L-1.

The orbit would be located 1.5 million kilometres away from the Earth and it would try to understand the coronal heating, solar wind acceleration and the initiation of coronal mass ejection, flares and near-earth space weather.

Bhardwaj said the Aditya L-1 and the Chandrayaan-3 missions would be taken up on priority as early as next year and were likely to be followed by the mission to Venus and the mission to the moon with JAXA. The success of the lunar rover on board Chandrayaan-3 was crucial as it would be used again in the mission with JAXA.

Recent cases, numbers expose shocking record of lynchings in J'khand



INDO-ASIAN NEWS SERVICE

Ranchi, Nov 6: Jharkhand, which is known for rich mineral deposits, has also earned a bad reputation as an increasing number of crimes, including murder, rape, mob lynching, etc, are being reported from the state.

Around 2014, when the term of 'mob lynching' started to be used for such incidents, opposition parties had described Jharkhand as "lynching-khand".

The statistics of the frequent incidents of mob violence in the state corroborate this. During the Assembly's Budget session this year, the Jharkhand government, in response to a question by CPI-ML MLA Vinod Singh, had said that between 2016 and 2021, there were 46 incidents of mob lynching in the state.

In 2022, about a dozen incidents of mob violence have come to the fore. On the night of October 6, dozens of people thrashed 45-year-old Imran Ansari in Dhawaiya village under the Gomia block of Bokaro district. The villagers alleged that this man had illicit relations with a woman of another religion in the village.

The incident led to communal tension in the village and surrounding areas. To control the situation, more than 300 policemen were deployed and prohibitory orders had to be implemented. A total of 11 people were arrested.

On October 3, 22-year-old Ejaz Khan was beaten to death by a mob in the Dumartoli village in Gumla district located on the Jharkhand-Chhattisgarh border, over accusations of stealing a goat in Chhattisgarh.

On the night of September 25, a mob assaulted four people, including three women of a family, accusing them of witchcraft, in Aswari village under Saraiyahat block of Dumka district. The mob also forced them to drink excreta and urine and branded them with hot iron rods.

On the night of September 4, a mob of hundreds killed three women, calling them witches, in Ranadih village of Sonahatu police station area, 50 km from Ranchi. The son of one of the women was also among the mob. When the police reached the village the next day, they had to face opposition from the villagers during the search operation.

In February this year, 17-year-old Rupesh Pandey was beaten to death

by a mob during the Saraswati Puja immersion procession in Barhi, Hazaribagh. The matter was also raised in Parliament.

In the first week of January, a mob thrashed tribal youth Sanju Pradhan on the charge of stealing wood and then later burnt him alive, in Besrajara Bazar under the Kolebira police station area of Simdega. More than a dozen people were arrested in this case.

In May, 45-year-old Shamim Ansari was thrashed to death by a mob in the Bharano police station area of Gumla district just because he had protested against cutting a tree.

The Jharkhand government had also passed the Anti-Mob Lynching Bill in the assembly in December last year to curb the incidents of mob lynching, but in March this year, the Governor returned the bill with some objections.

In this Bill, life imprisonment and fines ranging from Rs 5 lakh to Rs 25 lakh have been proposed in case of death in mob lynching. The cost of treatment of the victim of lynching will be given from the number of fines.

The Bill defines attacks by two or more people as mob lynching. Governor Ramesh Bais had returned the Bill, objecting to this point, and seeking a redefinition of the crowd.

State Parliamentary Affairs Minister, Alamgir Alam, said, "By removing the points to which the Raj Bhavan has objections, the government will pass this bill again in the next session and give it the form of law."

He had told the House that the government is contemplating setting up a fast-track court for speedy disposal of mob lynching cases.

S Ali has filed a PIL in the Jharkhand High Court regarding the incidents of mob lynching in the state. According to the data he had collected on mob lynching in the state, from March 17, 2016, to March 13, 2021, 42 people were lynched, of which 23 died and 19 were seriously injured.

Advocate Yogendra Yadav says that the trend of mob violence in the state is very dangerous, and reasons like superstitions, love affairs, caste and religious hatred, and enmity are the main reasons.

Along with taking steps like setting up a special cell for probes, and fast-track courts, it is necessary that a massive public awareness campaign should be launched to check this trend, he said.

Leopards pose threat to cheetahs at Kuno

HIGH DENSITY OF LEOPARDS AT KUNO MATTER OF CONCERN FOR CHEETAHS BUT BOTH CAN CO-EXIST, SAYS EXPERT

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Bhopal, Nov 6: As eight Namibia-born cheetahs complete more than 50 days in their new home Kuno National Park in Madhya Pradesh, a South Africa-based animal conservationist has expressed concern over the high density of leopards in the sanctuary, but said the two carnivores have a history of co-existence as well.

The cheetahs were flown from the African country and released in the Kuno National Park (KNP) in Sheopur district with much fanfare September 17 at a function by Prime Minister Narendra Modi as part of a project to revive their population in India, seven decades after they were declared extinct.

Since their arrival at KNP, the big cats have been kept inside quarantine enclosures, where they completed 51 days November 6.

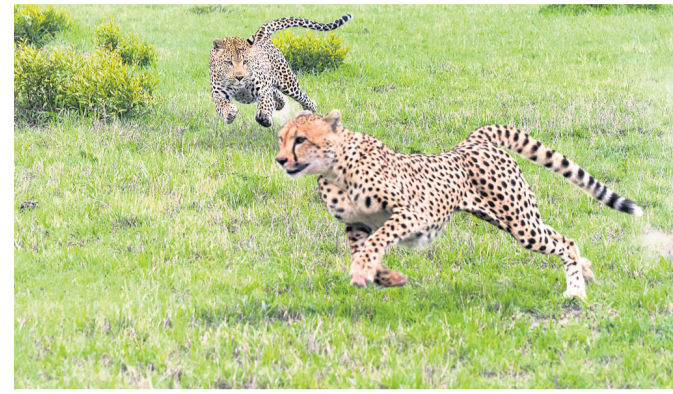
According to animal conservationist Vincent van der Merwe, who manages the cheetah metapopulation in South Africa, the high density of leopards in KNP is a matter of concern for the new guests.

Experts in the past have expressed apprehension about a possible conflict between leopards and cheetahs in the national park.

"The high density of leopards is a matter of concern for cheetahs in KNP. But, two spotted animals have a history of co-existence in South Africa, Namibia and India since centuries," Merwe, who has been given the responsibility to get 12 cheetahs from his home country to India, said.

In Africa, home to most of the cheetahs in the world, leopards are known to attack the fastest land animal.

"Leopards account for 9 per cent of cheetah mortality in South



ANIMAL CONSERVATIONIST MERWE'S STATEMENT HAS COME AT A TIME WHEN PRESENCE OF 70 TO 80 LEOPARDS HAVE BEEN NOTICED IN KNP'S CORE AND BUFFER AREA

IN AFRICA, HOME TO MOST OF THE CHEETAHS IN THE WORLD, LEOPARDS ARE KNOWN TO ATTACK THE FASTEST LAND ANIMAL ACCOUNTING FOR 9% OF CHEETAH MORTALITY THERE

EXPERTS IN THE PAST HAVE EXPRESSED APPREHENSION ABOUT A POSSIBLE CONFLICT BETWEEN LEOPARDS AND CHEETAHS IN THE NATIONAL PARK

Africa," the 40-year-old conservationist, who flew with the eight spotted cats from Namibia to KNP in September, told PTI over the phone from South Africa.

His statement has come at a time when presence of 70 to 80 leopards have been noticed in KNP's core and buffer area spread over 1,200 sq km.

"I form part of a combined Namibian and South African team providing founder animals for reintroduction and giving technical advice to India. As part of this team, I was invited to accompany the founder cheetahs," he said about his September visit to KNP.

Merwe, who oversaw 31 cheetah translocation projects in South Africa, said the adult fastest mammal on the earth avoids leopards and even chases them away.

"But cheetah cubs and sub-adults

do fall prey to leopards," he added.

Speaking about the Metapopulation Initiative, the expert said it is a private group that coordinates cheetah relocations between the network of metapopulation reserves to prevent inbreeding, cheetah overpopulation or local extinction.

"It offers service to metapopulation reserves by identifying cheetahs for swapping or surplus cheetahs for relocations to reserves where their population needs to be augmented," said Merwe, who is managing population of the spotted cats in South Africa for the last 11 years.

A metapopulation programme works by nurturing several populations of the big cat in mostly private game reserves, and swapping cheetahs between these sites to boost the gene pool.

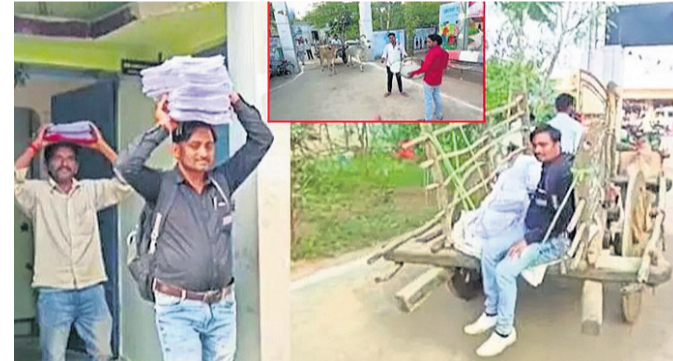
Elated RTI activist comes with bullock cart to get 9,000-page info

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Shivpuri (MP), Nov 6: For Right to Information (RTI) activist Mahkan Dhakad it was an occasion that he had to celebrate as he was finally getting 9,000 pages of information, which he had sought, after a two-month-long struggle and payment of Rs 25,000. So elated was he that he reached the local civic body office on a bullock cart amid the beating of drums to collect the documents.

Dhakad, who resides in Bairad town of Shivpuri district in Madhya Pradesh, created a buzz among locals when he reached the municipality office with a band Friday afternoon to collect the loads of papers containing information about the Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana (PMAY) that he had sought under the RTI. A video of his act surfaced on social media.

Talking to reporters, Dhakad said he had filed an application seeking information about the PMAY about two months back, but the Bairad civic body denied the information.



The activist said that he was asked to pay Rs 25,000 by the civic body, but despite the payment, the information was not provided to him. He then appealed to the higher appellate authority of the Urban Administration Department in Gwalior, which ordered the civic body to provide the information to him.

The RTI activist claimed that he had arranged funds by taking loan from his acquaintances.

"So when I was told that the information I had sought under RTI was ready, I decided to celebrate the

occasion by hiring a band and going on the bullock-cart to carry 9,000 pages of information," he said. He said it took him and his four friends two hours to count the pages.

When asked, Chief Municipal Officer of Bairad Nagar Parishad, JN Para, told PTI that the civic body provided information to Dhakad only after he deposited the fee. Four employees were assigned the work and it took five days to arrange the photocopies of all the documents asked by the activist, he said.

Elton, Freddie now in larger enclosure

Two out of the eight Cheetahs that were brought from Namibia have been released into a larger enclosure, the officials associated with the state wildlife department said. The big cats were released Saturday. Both are male and are named as 'Elton' and 'Freddie'. Notably, since their arrival at Kuno National Park, all big cats (five male and three female) have been kept inside quarantine enclosures, where they completed 51 days November 5. Officials monitoring the daily movement and the health condition of the Namibian

cheetahs at their new habitat at Kuno, said that one more big cat will be released into a larger enclosure by Sunday evening. Prime Minister Narendra Modi also expressed his happiness over the release of the two cheetahs. Great news! Am told that after the mandatory quarantine, 2 cheetahs have been released to a bigger enclosure for further adaptation to the Kuno habitat. Others will be released soon. I'm also glad to know that all cheetahs are healthy, active and adjusting well, Modi posted on Twitter along with a video.

The wildlife expert said he is hoping to obtain permission from the South African government to return to India with an additional 12 cheetahs for KNP.

"A large founder population will be required to establish cheetahs at Kuno," added Merwe.

The Indian government has urged its South African counterpart to make cheetahs available for its reintroduction efforts, he said.

"As manager of the Cheetah Metapopulation in South Africa, I am in a position to source suitable cheetahs from South Africa. The decision to send cheetahs to India for reintroduction lies with the South African government," Merwe said. He said the eight cheetahs at KNP were in good health.

KNP Director Uttam Sharma has admitted there were 70 to 80 leopards in the park. An adult cheetah weighs 40 to 50 kg and a leopard between 50 and 60 kg.

According to Sharma, who also keeps a watch on the Namibian cheetahs at KNP, the large animal can eat as much as 6 to 8 kg meat at one sitting if not chased away.

A cheetah does not return to eat its leftover kill like a leopard or tiger. Suppose a cheetah kills a chital (deer) weighing around 30 kg, it will automatically leave behind around 22 kg meat of the kill for leopards and hyenas, the KNP director explained.

Asked how many days a cheetah eats, Sharma said the world's fastest animal cannot keep its kills safe. Bigger carnivores like leopard and also hyena can snatch kills from cheetahs. "Even a pack of jackals is believed to be able to snatch a prey from cheetahs," he said.

A tiger hides its prey in a bush for another day to eat, but this is not the case with a cheetah as its kill gets snatched, the forest officer added. A full-grown tiger weighing 200 kg eats 18 to 20 kg of its kill at the first go, Sharma said. In other words, tigers scavenge, while cheetahs are fresh meat eaters, he said.

The eight cheetahs at KNP - five females and three males - are in the 30-66 month age group and named Freddy, Alton, Savannah, Sasha, Obaan, Asha, Cibilli and Saisa.

6 months after Deoghar ropeway tragedy, no sign of probe report or action

In wake of the tragedy in Gujarat's Morbi, the probe panel wrote to the Tourism department, demanding the lab report, and will submit its report soon, said sources

INDO-ASIAN NEWS SERVICE

Ranchi, Nov 6: The probe report by the high-level committee into the ropeway incident at Trikut hill of Jharkhand's Deoghar April 10, is still awaited with the panel yet to complete the investigation, after almost six months after the incident, despite the deadline of two months.

This is a classic example of how governments are active only for some days after such incidents, and then proceed to virtually forget about them.

Trikut hill in Deoghar is a famous religious tourist centre. On April 10, at around 6 pm, three people were killed and more than one and a half dozen injured when one of the ropeway wires broke.

A total of 78 people on 23 out of 24 trolleys of the ropeway were trapped mid-air. Of these, 28 people were rescued on the same day, while 48 people were left hanging without any food or water for the next 36 to 45 hours.

After 45 hours of high-risk rescue operations by the Indian Air Force, the National Disaster Response Force, the Indo-Tibetan Border Police and Army, 46 of trapped people were saved, while two died during the rescue operation. One victim died even before the trolley fell.

It was revealed that the private company running the ropeway did not maintain it as per norms nor

did it rectify the lapses revealed in the safety audit conducted three weeks before the accident by a government agency.

The agency identified 24 defects in the 1,770m ropeway, which were ignored by the company.

The Jharkhand government issued a notification for the formation of an inquiry committee headed by state Finance Secretary, Ajoy Kumar Singh April 19.

The committee was instructed to complete the investigation within 60 days but it only reached the accident spot 70 days after the accident to start its work.

The committee was unsuccessful in completing its report due to the delay in receiving the report of the shaft that caused the accident, from the metallurgical lab, said sources.

However, it is to be noted that the state Tourism Department received this report almost a month ago but it still has not reached the inquiry committee. In wake of the tragedy in Gujarat's Morbi, the probe panel wrote to the Tourism Department, demanding the lab report, and will submit its report soon, said sources.

Meanwhile, the Haradih-Budhadih bridge, built on Kanchi river near Ranchi at an outlay of Rs 13 crore, was washed away even before its inauguration, due to heavy rains triggered by cyclone Yaas May 27, 2021.

Chief Minister Hemant Soren then announced the formation of a high-level committee to investigate it and warned that corruption would not be tolerated.

In Jharkhand, more than three dozen bridges have collapsed in the last decade due to substandard construction, but no action against the culprits, except of suspension for a few months, has been seen in any of these cases.

From Maoist guns, opium to marigold, lemongrass

SINCE THE FORMATION OF KHUNTI DISTRICT IN 2007, MORE THAN 150 PEOPLE HAVE BEEN KILLED IN NAXAL ATTACKS. BUT THIS IS NOW A THING OF THE PAST WITH FLORICULTURE BEING THE HALLMARK OF CHANGE

INDO-ASIAN NEWS SERVICE

Ranchi, Nov 6: In dozens of villages adjacent to the forests in Jharkhand's Khunti district, which was identified as a Naxal-affected area, the sound of guns used to echo continuously and the smell of gunpowder spread in the atmosphere, terrifying the people. Opium was also cultivated on a large scale in these remote areas.

But this is a thing of the past. For the past two-three years, the area has been smelling of flowers and lemongrass. This year, marigold flowers have been cultivated in more than 269 acres and lemongrass in about 50 acres in the entire district.

The most important thing is that in most of the villages, women farmers are leading this cultivation. The flowers of their gardens were sold in many cities including Ranchi, Khunti, Jamshedpur this Diwali, Kali Puja and Govardhan Puja.

As there are a series of festivals



like Christmas, New Year and also the wedding season ahead, these farmers are hopeful that the bumper sale of flowers will earn them good money. From providing seeds and plants for flower cultivation to taking the produced crop to the market, the state government agencies are helping the farmers.

In the markets of Jharkhand, earlier the demand for flowers in the festive season was met from West Bengal. Now it is the opposite. Businessmen from West Bengal,

Bihar and Karnataka now take flowers from here. It is estimated that this year the farmers here will do a business in flowers of over Rs 1 crore.

Local journalist Ajay Sharma said, "The cultivation of flowers in Khunti was first started in 2004 by two women of Hitutola. They cultivated an area of about two acres and made good profits from it. As the effect of Naxalite terror subsided, gradually a large number of women were inspired to take

up floriculture. The Jharkhand State Rural Livelihood Mission and voluntary organization Pradan helped them a lot by teaching them the methods of flower cultivation."

Plants were provided to them. The women showed great enthusiasm. This year, about 45 villages of Khunti district's four blocks Khunti, Murhu, Torpa and Adki have grown flowers. More than 1200 women are engaged in this. Pradan has provided about 17 lakh

plants of marigold flowers this year. With the help of the Jharkhand State Rural Livelihood Mission, about 400 women farmers are involved in flower farming this year, Ajay Sharma stated.

Khunti Deputy Commissioner Shashi Ranjan said, "These women of Khunti block are an example of self-employment. In different blocks of Khunti, Sakhi Mandals have cultivated marigold flowers on about 260 acres of land. Rural women have been encouraged by the demand for flowers during the festive season."

Khunti district, spread over 2535 square kilometres, came into existence September 12, 2007. Since the formation of the district, more than 150 people have been killed in Naxal attacks here. Dozens of people were killed every year in attacks by Maoists as well as banned outfit PLFI. For the last few years, the effort to change the identity of this violence-hit district has been launched. Floriculture is the hallmark of this change.

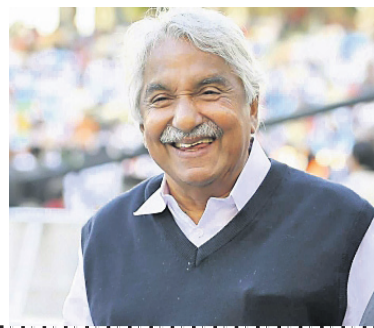




The BJP is saying make a double-engine government. The Congress is saying the BJP is bad, make our government. This time do not make a double-engine government but a new-engine government
MANISH SISODIA | DELHI DEPUTY CM

CHANDY LEAVES FOR GERMANY

Senior leader of the Congress party and two time Chief Minister of Kerala, Oomen Chandy has left for Germany for medical treatment. He left early Sunday morning via Qatar and will be undergoing treatment at the prestigious Charite Medical University, Berlin



of the day quote

The Congress has contributed a lot in halting the country's development. It never tried to do politics on the real issues and managed to confuse people and win elections by any means to continue being in power

J P NADDA | BJP CHIEF

We recently wrote to the Government of India to return Rs 17,000 crore worth of deposits of three lakh government employees in the state. The Government of India wrote back saying they could not return the money. They, however, did not give any reason

BHUPESH BAGHEL | CHHATTISGARH CM

Bihar can leapfrog to be counted among the top five states of the country in just two years if the Centre fulfills the long-standing demand for special status

TEJASHWI YADAV | BIHAR DEPUTY CM

BJP promises UCC in Himachal if voted back

AGENCIES

Nagrota/Una (HP), Nov 6: Uniform Civil Code will be implemented in Himachal Pradesh and all irregularities in the salary system of government employees will be looked into if the BJP comes back to power, Union Home Minister Amit Shah said on Sunday.

Addressing polls rallies in the hill state, Shah said this election is not about electing MLAs or the chief minister; but making India "a strong and a great country under Prime Minister Narendra Modi". "If you elect the Jai Ram Thakur government, I promise you that the common civil code will be implemented in Himachal Pradesh. No one can stop it," he said.

In his poll rally at Mehatpur in Una, Shah urged people to elect Satpal Satti and help him become



a minister. "Kindly help make a strong and a prosperous India with your vote," he said. "The BJP has put in all its efforts to accomplish this." Shah said Himachal Pradesh was not just "Dev Bhoomi" but also "Veer Bhumi" as brave mothers of the state sent their sons to protect the country's boundaries. "I salute this land," he added. The BJP in its election manifesto for the hill state has also promised 33 per cent reser-

vation for women in government jobs, new educational institutions and sops for various segments.

Urging women to encourage their daughters to study at least up to Class 12, Shah said the government will gift them two-wheelers. "She will ride to school in the morning and also help you bring vegetables home in the evening," the home minister said. During an election rally at Nagrota in Kangra district earlier

DALIT MAN KILLED FOR 'STEALING' GUAVA IN UP

INDO-ASIAN NEWS SERVICE

Aligarh, Nov 6: A Dalit man was allegedly beaten to death in Uttar Pradesh's Aligarh district on suspicion of stealing a guava from an orchard in Manena village.

The incident took place Saturday and the police have registered a case of murder and invoked relevant sections of the SC/ST Act against the two accused - owners of the orchard - named by the family of the victim. Deputy Superintendent of police Abhay Pandey said that both the accused have been arrested.

Satya Prakash, brother of the victim Om Prakash, 25, said, "My brother had gone to relieve himself in the forest and while returning home picked up a guava from the ground at the orchard. Seeing the guava in his hand, some of the local men, including Bhimsen and Banwari, the orchard's owners, thrashed him brutally with lathis and other heavy objects until he lost consciousness." Police said that Om Prakash



The incident took place Saturday and the police have registered a case of murder and invoked relevant sections of the SC/ST Act against the two accused

was found lying unconscious on the ground. They rushed him to the district hospital, where he succumbed to his injuries. A senior police officer said, "The body has been sent for post-mortem. Further investigation is underway."

Bharat Jodo Yatra completes 60 days



Congress leader Rahul Gandhi with supporters during Bharat Jodo Yatra in Medak district

INDO-ASIAN NEWS SERVICE

Hyderabad, Nov 6: Congress leader Rahul Gandhi's Bharat Jodo Yatra continued in Telangana Sunday.

On the 60th day of his walkathon, the Congress MP started walking at Alladurg in Medak district on Sunday morning.

He along with state Congress chief A. Revanth Reddy and other state leaders walked through different parts of Alladurg headquarters before the mid-break halt at Chintal Lakshmapur.

During the padyatra, Rahul interacted with people from various walks of life. He waved at the people standing on either side of the road and entertained the requests of some youngsters for selfies with him.

The Congress leader also held a meeting with representatives of various groups and enquired about their problems.

The padyatra will resume at Nizam underpass at Narayanekhed in the evening and end for the day at Mahadevally. Rahul will have a night-halt at Jukkai in Kamareddy district.

Bharat Jodo Yatra will enter Maharashtra Monday. Meanwhile, eminent lawyer and activist Prashant Bhushan lent his support to the yatra by joining Rahul Gandhi in the foot march. Political activist Yogendra Yadav also walked with the Congress leader.

Madiga Reservation Porata Samithi (MRPS) leader, Manda Krishna Madiga, also met Rahul Gandhi during the walkathon and explained to him about his organisation's long-pending demand for categorisation of Scheduled Caste reservation.

Rahul Gandhi had started Bharat Jodo Yatra on September 7 from Kanyakumari to unite people and 'stand up to the hatred and violence being spread by the BJP and RSS.' The walkathon will cover 3,750 km and pass through 12 states before concluding in Srinagar.

The yatra already covered Tamil Nadu, Kerala, Karnataka and Andhra Pradesh. The yatra entered Telangana from Karnataka on October 23.

It had a four-day break during its journey through the state. In Telangana, the yatra will cover a total distance of 375 kms in 19 Assembly and 7 Parliamentary constituencies.

During his journey in Telangana, Rahul Gandhi attacked both the BJP government at the Centre and the TRS government in the state.

Addressing a public meeting at Peddapur on Saturday, he said that neither Chief Minister K. Chandrababhan Naraiah nor agriculture minister N. Niranjan Reddy had the slightest understanding of the problems being faced by the farmers in the state.

He alleged that the chief minister was grabbing the land of farmers in the name of Dharani portal. The Congress leader said that the condition of farmers, workers, students and employees is not good not only in Telangana but across the country. After 2014, unemployment and poverty have increased manifold.



TESTING SKILL: Men play football in Kolkata

PTI PHOTO

EC seeks cut in expenditure limit

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, Nov 6: The Election Commission has proposed reducing the amount a candidate contesting polls can pay in cash for campaign-related expenditure from the existing Rs 10,000 to Rs 2,000 to make their transactions more transparent, sources said.

In the proposal submitted to the government recently, the poll panel recommended that the Conduct of Election Rules should be amended to ensure that all cash payments in excess of Rs 2,000 made to a person or entity for election-related expenses are made either through account payee cheques or online and digital means.

This, the sources said, is part of efforts to bring greater transparency in the expenditure by individual candidates contesting polls and to remove 'fungibility'. As of now, the



This, the sources said, is part of efforts to bring greater transparency in the expenditure by individual candidates contesting polls and to remove 'fungibility'

at least one day before filing of nomination. Candidates also have to maintain day-to-day accounts, cash book and bank book from the date of filing of nomination to the date of declaration of results (both dates inclusive).

They have to include all expenses incurred on the date of filing of nomination as well. A candidate has to submit the election expenditure account to the District Election Officer (DEO) within 30 days of the declaration of the poll results.

While announcing the schedule for Gujarat polls, the EC had said that for the purpose of maintaining purity of elections, it has issued a Standard Operating Procedure for flying squads and static surveillance teams constituted for checking excessive campaign expenses and distribution of items of bribe in cash or in kind in the constituencies during the election process.

10-yr-old watches porn, rapes girl



INDO-ASIAN NEWS SERVICE

Kanpur (Uttar Pradesh), Nov 6: In a shocking incident, a 10-year-old boy allegedly raped a seven-year-old girl after watching pornographic materials on a mobile phone.

Station house officer (SHO) Pankaj Mishra said that the boy has been detained and he confessed to the crime.

"We have lodged an FIR in which the boy has been charged with rape and POCSO Act," he said. The boy was produced before the district juvenile board and sent to a juvenile home.

The girl's father said she is a Class 3 student and was alone in the house when the incident took place. When the parents came back home, they found her scared and crying.

The family informed the police about the incident immediately, said the station house officer. "The minor boy told the police officials that he watched porn on a mobile phone that belongs to one of his relatives after which he committed the crime," he said.

Kuru Kolumn

Modi ministers on their toes

Prime Minister Narendra Modi has introduced a model to bridge the gulf between the party and the government. All Union Cabinet Ministers, without exception, have to visit the BJP's newly-built headquarters at Deen Dayal Upadhyay Marg as per their turn. These ministers

are expected to spend three hours at the party headquarters in the afternoon without fail. The ministers are expected to listen to the grievances of party workers and resolve their problems. Past experience has shown that party workers get disenchanted as their own grievances remain unaddressed.

EC's Gujarat riddle

Prime Minister Narendra Modi has been advocating simultaneous elections for Lok Sabha, Assemblies and other elected bodies once in five years. It's different that no formal step was taken by the government or the Election Commission or any other institution. Lately, Modi has also stopped talking about it. The ruling BJP may have realised that simultaneous polls may not enhance its own electoral prospects. But the EC has done something unthinkable

when it announced Assembly polls in Himachal Pradesh to be held on November 12 and did not declare poll dates for Gujarat. The EC, in the past, has been declaring poll dates simultaneously in these two states and the Model Code of Conduct (MCC) came into effect the same day. The EC has the power to club election dates if two or more states go to polls within a span of six months. In the case of Himachal and Gujarat, the difference was less than a month and the EC was expected to follow precedents and norms. The BJP is reaping the harvest as no MCC is in force in Gujarat and plenty of freebies, schemes, projects and other steps are being announced on a daily basis.

Who will be LoP in RS?

With the new Congress president taking over the reins of its affairs, all eyes are set on who will be the new Leader of

Opposition (LoP) in Rajya Sabha in place of Mallikarjun Kharge. In the Lok Sabha also, the Congress has to appoint a Deputy Leader after senior party functionary Anand Sharma retired. It is argued that LoP in Rajya Sabha should be from north India considering the fact that the region remains unrepresented in terms of key positions in the Congress. The leader of the Congress in Lok Sabha is from West Bengal (Adhir Ranjan Chowdhury) and party president is from Karnataka.

P Chidambaram (Tamil Nadu) and Jairam Ramesh (Karnataka) who are senior functionaries, are also from southern states. Therefore, it is argued that the LoP in Rajya Sabha should be from the Hindi heartland.

Testing time for Priyanka

After burning her boats in UP Assembly polls badly, Priyanka

Gandhi Vadra has taken a plunge in Himachal Pradesh Assembly elections being held on November 12. The Congress is hoping to reap the harvest on the anti-incumbency of the BJP and Priyanka thinks that the ground is fertile due to price rise and unemployment. The Congress has promised to revive the old pension scheme to lure the government employees who play a decisive role. The BJP high command took a cautious decision not to replace Thakur. It must be remembered that the BJP had changed CM three times within six months in Uttarakhand and its strategy paid rich dividends and Congress licked the dust. For Himachal, the BJP virtually declared that elections will be fought under the leadership of Modi. The Congress campaign has not picked up so far as Rahul Gandhi is busy with his 'Bharat Jodo Yatra' in southern states.

international



The security environment in the East and South China seas, especially around Japan, is increasingly becoming more severe
FUMIO KISHIDA | JAPAN'S PM

OVER 150 DACOITS ATTACK POLICE CAMP IN PAKISTAN
At least five policemen, including an officer of the Deputy Superintendent rank, were killed and several other personnel taken hostage when over 150 dacoits attacked a police camp in Sindh province, a media report said Sunday



of the day quote

Britain's government is facing significant and difficult decisions on taxes and spending in an effort to plug a budget shortfall
OLIVER DOWDEN | MEMBER OF THE UK PARLIAMENT

If you want to stop the destruction of our country and save the American dream, then Tuesday you must vote Republican in a giant red wave
DONALD TRUMP | FORMER US PRESIDENT

Respect for our shared human rights should set the guardrails for the platform's use and evolution
VOLKER TURK | UN HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR HUMAN RIGHTS

SHORT TAKES

China posts 6-month high Covid-19 count

Beijing: China Sunday reported its highest number of new Covid-19 infections in six months, a day after health officials said they were sticking with strict coronavirus curbs, likely disappointing recent investor hopes for an easing. China recorded 4,420 new locally transmitted Covid-19 infections Saturday, the National Health Commission said, the most since May 6 and compared up from 3,659 new local cases a day earlier.

Nine killed in Syria shelling

Idlib: Syrian government forces shelled tent settlements housing families displaced by the country's conflict in the rebel-held northwest early Sunday, killing at least nine people and wounding dozens, opposition war monitors and first responders said. The shelling was the latest violation of a truce reached between Russia and Turkey in March 2020 that ended a Russian-backed government offensive on Idlib province.

Sunak announces extra bank holiday

London: UK Prime Minister Rishi Sunak has announced a bank holiday Monday (May 8) after the coronation of King Charles III May 6. "The Coronation of a new monarch is a unique moment for our country. In recognition of this historic occasion, I am pleased to announce an additional bank holiday for the whole United Kingdom next year," Prime Minister Sunak said. "I look forward to seeing people come together to celebrate and pay tribute to King Charles III by taking part in local and national events across the country in his honour," a statement by the UK PMO quoted the Prime Minister as saying.

COP27 puts climate costs on agenda

ENVOYS FROM AROUND THE GLOBE GATHERED SUNDAY IN THE EGYPTIAN SEASIDE RESORT OF SHARM EL-SHEIKH FOR TALKS ON TACKLING CLIMATE CHANGE AMID A MULTITUDE OF COMPETING CRISES, INCLUDING THE WAR IN UKRAINE, HIGH INFLATION, FOOD SHORTAGES AND AN ENERGY CRUNCH

AGENCIES

Sharm el-Sheikh (Egypt), Nov 6: Delegates at the UN's COP27 climate summit in Egypt agreed to discuss whether rich nations should compensate poor countries most vulnerable to climate change for their suffering. "This creates for the first time an institutionally stable space on the formal agenda of COP and the Paris Agreement to discuss the pressing issue of funding arrangements needed to deal with existing gaps, responding to loss and damage," COP27 president Sameh Shoukry told the opening plenary. The item was adopted to the agenda in Sharm el-Sheikh, Egypt, Sunday, as world leaders arrived for the negotiations scheduled to run through November 18.



Alok Sharma, president of the COP26 climate summit, speaks at the COP27 UN Climate Summit Sunday

The loss and damage discussions now on the agenda at COP27 will not involve liability or binding compensation, but they are intended to lead to a conclusive decision "no later than 2024," Shoukry said. "The inclusion of this agenda reflects a sense of solidarity for the victims of climate disasters," he added. Negotiators spent a frantic two days ahead of the meeting discussing whether to formally consider the issue of loss and damage, or reparations, to vulnerable nations suffering from climate change. The issue, which has weighed on the talks for years, was agreed just hours before the meeting officially opened. In an opening speech, the head of the UN's panel of climate scientist highlighted the urgency of cutting greenhouse gas emissions and adapting to the effects

of global warming. The outgoing chair of the talks, British official Alok Sharma, said countries had made considerable progress at their last meeting in Glasgow, including on setting more ambitious targets for cutting emissions, finalising the rules of the 2015 Paris agreement and pledging to begin phasing out the use of coal — the most heavily polluting fossil fuel. "We kept 1.5 degrees (2.7 Fahrenheit) alive," he said, referring to the most ambitious goal of the Paris pact, to keep temperature increase since pre-industrial times under that threshold. Yet now those efforts were being "buffeted by global headwinds," he warned. "(Russian President Vladimir) Putin's brutal and ille-

gal war in Ukraine has precipitated multiple global crisis, energy and food insecurity, inflationary pressures and spiralling debt," said Sharma. "These crises have compounded existing climate vulnerabilities and the scarring effects of the pandemic." However even the most optimistic scenarios assuming countries do everything they have pledged put the world on course for 1.7 C of warming (3.1 F), he warned. "As challenging as our current moment is, inaction is myopic and can only defer climate catastrophe," said Sharma. "We must find the ability to focus on more than one thing at once." The UN's top climate official also appealed to countries both to engage constructively in the negotiations and take the necessary action back home.

WAKE-UP CALL

➔ Much of the tension at COP27 is expected to relate to loss and damage - funds provided by wealthy nations to vulnerable lower-income countries that bear little responsibility for climate-warming emissions
➔ At COP26 last year in Glasgow, high-income nations blocked a proposal for a loss and damage financing body, instead supporting a new three-year dialogue for funding discussions
➔ More than 40,000 participants have been registered for this year's talks, reflecting the sense of urgency as major weather events around the world impact many people and cost billions of dollars in repairs
➔ Egypt said over 120 world leaders will attend, many of them speaking at a high-level event November 7-8, while US President Joe Biden was expected to arrive later in the week



WORLD IS BURNING

Earth's warming weather and rising seas are getting worse and doing so faster than before, the World Meteorological Organisation warned Sunday in a somber note as world leaders started gathering for international climate negotiations. "The latest State of the Global Climate report is a chronicle of climate chaos," United Nations Secretary-General Antonio Guterres said. "We must answer the planet's distress signal with action — ambitious, credible climate action." In its annual state of the climate report, the United Nations' weather agency said that sea level rise in the past decade was double what it was in the 1990s and since January 2020 has jumped at a higher rate than that. Since the decade began, seas are rising at 5 millimeters a year (2 inches) compared to 2.1 millimeters (.08 inches) in the 1990s. The last eight years have been the warmest on record, the WMO said in a report that didn't break new ground but was a collection of recent weather trends, data and impacts in one central place. The only reason that the globe hasn't broken annual temperature records in the past few years is a rare three-year La Niña weather phenomenon, he said. The data on sea level and average temperatures are nothing compared to how climate change has hit people in extreme weather.



'US urges Ukraine to be open to Russia talks'



AGENCIES

Washington/Kyiv, Nov 6: The United States is privately encouraging Ukraine to signal an openness to negotiate with Russia, the Washington Post reported, as the State Department said Moscow was escalating the war and did not seriously wish to engage in peace talks. The newspaper cited unnamed sources as saying the request by American officials was not aimed at pushing Ukraine to the negotiating table, but a calculated attempt to ensure Kyiv maintains the support of other nations. US and Ukrainian officials acknowledged that Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy's ban on talks with Russian President Vladimir Putin had generated concern in parts of Europe, Africa and Latin America, where the war's effects on costs of food and fuel are felt most sharply, the Post said.

Zelenskyy signed a decree October 4 formally declaring the prospect of any Ukrainian talks with Putin "impossible" but leaving the door open to talks with Russia

"Ukraine fatigue is a real thing for some of our partners," it quoted an unnamed US official as saying. The White House National Security Council had no immediate comment on the accuracy of the report. A State Department spokesperson responded: "We've said it before and will say it again: Actions speak louder than words. If Russia is ready for negotiation, it should stop its bombs and missiles and withdraw its forces from Ukraine." Meanwhile, Russian forces are stepping up their strikes in a fiercely contested region of eastern Ukraine, worsening the already tough conditions for residents and the defending army following Moscow's illegal annexation and declaration of martial law in Donetsk province, Ukrainian authorities said.



PLANE CRASHES INTO LAKE: A small passenger plane crashed Sunday morning into Lake Victoria on approach to an airport in Tanzania, and the country's Prime Minister says 19 people on board were killed. Prime Minister Kassim Majaliwa gave the new death toll, up from three. Earlier, local authorities said 26 of those on the Precision Air flight from the coastal city of Dar es Salaam were rescued and taken to a hospital. It was not clear if any of those who were rescued died at the hospital

China plans monkey reproduction experiment in space

China is planning to send monkeys to its new Tiangong Space Station to study how they grow and reproduce in a zero-gravity environment. A report from the South China Morning Post, cited scientist Zhang Lu, who leads scientific instruments for the space station, reported that the research would be carried out in the space station's largest module, which would be used for life science experiments. As per the report, the experiment will be carried out in Wentian, the largest module of the space station. The researchers suspected that long-term exposure to cosmic rays, which are hundreds of times stronger in orbit than on Earth, could hurt the quality of sperm and eggs.



Earlier research has evaluated the reproduction of tiny species in space, including zebrafish and insects
Soviet researchers sent the rats into space for an 18-day mating experiment, but upon their return to Earth, they discovered that none of the rodents had given birth
Despite being raised in cages, laboratory monkeys may exhibit negative responses such as decreased activity, hair pulling, or refusal to eat, according to the researcher, who asked to remain

anonymous. The monkeys can become frightened during the rocket trip to the space station. The scientist further explained that on the ground, a monkey in panic mode might be soothed with toys, music, or even by simply being allowed to interact with other monkeys. The astronauts will face a new task in figuring out how to take care of the monkeys and keep them content and comfortable in space. The Wentian module has two biological test cabinets which currently have only enough room for algae, fish or snails, but they are expandable and reconfigurable. The challenges of a life sciences experiment in space increased exponentially with the size of the animals used, said

Kehkooi Kee, a professor with the school of medicine at Tsinghua University who led an in-orbit stem cell experiment conducted by Chinese astronauts. However, larger animals, especially the monkeys, shared more similarities with humans. According to Kee, the astronauts will need to feed them and deal with the waste. Meanwhile, experts pointed out that there are still many difficulties involved in conducting such studies on complex living forms such as rats and primates. Soviet researchers in the Cold War era managed to get some rats to overcome physical challenges and engage in mating during 18 days of space flight. But there were no signs of pregnancy and none of them gave birth after returning to Earth.

Arizona poll workers face midterm threats

Arizona, Nov 6: Election workers in Arizona's most fiercely contested county faced more than 100 violent threats and intimidating communications in the run-up to Tuesday's midterms, most of them based on election conspiracy theories promoted by former President Donald Trump and his allies. The harassment in Maricopa County included menacing emails and social media posts, threats to circulate personal information online and photographing employees arriving at work, according to nearly 1,600 pages of documents obtained by Between July 11 and August 22, the county election office documented at least 140 threats and other hostile communications, the records show. "You will all be executed," said one. "Wire around their limbs and tied & dragged by a car," wrote another. The documents reveal the consequences of election conspiracy theories as voters nominated candidates in August. Many of the threats in Maricopa County, which helped propel President Joe Biden to victory over Trump in 2020, cited debunked claims around fake ballots, rigged voting machines and corrupt election officials. In Maricopa, a county of 4.5 million people that includes Phoenix, the harassment unnerved some election workers, according to previously unreported incidents documented in the emails and interviews with county officials.

of the day quote

We have spent a little less of the 50 per cent (of the planned capex) till now

TV NARENDRA | CEO, TATA STEEL



The AIF, a private equity fund in India, will raise money from Indian investors for the Indian companies. We have money from Indian investors and we are setting up an Indian AIF, an equity fund

RAVI CHACHRA | FOUNDER, 8VIX



On the domestic front, the market will react to the last batch of Q2 earnings from companies like BPCL, Coal India, Tata Motors, Eicher Motors, Hindalco and Mahindra & Mahindra

PRAVESH GOUR | SENIOR TECHNICAL ANALYST, SWASTIKA INVESTMART



SHORT TAKES

McCap of seven of top-10 firms rises

New Delhi: Seven of the top-10 most valued firms together added ₹1,33,707.42 crore in market valuation last week amid an overall positive trend in equities, with Reliance Industries emerging as the biggest winner. Last week, the BSE benchmark jumped 990.51 points or 1.65 per cent. Reliance Industries, Tata Consultancy Services (TCS), HDFC Bank, Infosys, State Bank of India, HDFC and ITC were among the gainers, while ICICI Bank, Hindustan Unilever Limited and Bharti Airtel faced erosion from their market valuation. The market capitalisation (mcap) of Reliance Industries jumped ₹44,956.5 crore to ₹17,53,888.92 crore. Reliance Industries remained the most valued domestic firm, followed by TCS, HDFC Bank, Infosys, ICICI Bank, Hindustan Unilever, State Bank of India, Bharti Airtel, HDFC and ITC.

Coal despatch to power sector dips

New Delhi: The despatch of coal to the power sector registered 5.5 per cent decline at 56.49 million tonne last month. The coal supply to the power sector was at 59.79 million tonne (MT) in October 2021. "The power utilities despatch has reduced by 5.1 per cent to 56.49 MT during October 2022 as compared to 59.79 MT in October 2021," provisional statistics of the coal ministry showed. However, in April-October period of ongoing financial year, the despatch increased 13.07 per cent to 413 MT from 365.25 MT in the year-ago period. The overall despatch of the dry fuel to different sectors in October also dropped to 67.02 MT from 70.21 MT in the year-ago period. The supply to captive power plants also fell to 3.54 MT from 4.97 MT.

RIL to buy METRO Cash & Carry India

New Delhi: Reliance Industries is set to acquire German retailer METRO AG's Cash & Carry business in India in a deal estimated at around 500 million euros (Rs 4,060 crore), industry sources said. The deal includes 31 wholesale distribution centres, land banks and other assets owned by METRO Cash & Carry here, they said. This is going to help Reliance Retail, the country's largest retailer, expand its presence in the B2B segment. Discussion between billionaire Mukesh Ambani-led Reliance Industries and METRO was going on for the past few months and last week the German parent firm agreed to the offer from Reliance Retail, they added. METRO Cash & Carry's customers include retailers and kirana stores, hotels, restaurants and caterers (HoReCa), corporates, SMEs, companies and institutions.



We have seen that in the past four years, there has been a sudden surge in air purifier demand during the smog situation in Delhi. The onset of winter only further deteriorates the air quality and acts as a catalyst to push the sales for air purifiers

MAHESH GUPTA | CMD, KENT RO SYSTEMS

SBI MOST PROFITABLE COMPANY IN Q2

State Bank of India has become the country's most profitable corporate with ₹14,752 crore of consolidated net income in the second quarter of FY23, beating Reliance Industries having net earnings of ₹13,656 crore. On a standalone basis too, with Rs 13,256 crore of net profit, the nation's largest lender has beaten the Mukesh Ambani firm which remained the most profitable corporate for decades



INDIA'S LARGEST CARRIER

Challenges loom for IndiGo

AS AVIATION INDUSTRY BRACES FOR MORE COMPETITION, INDIGO IS GRAPPLING WITH A SUDDEN RISE IN DELAYS AND IS STRUGGLING TO FILL EMPTY SEATS

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, Nov 6: It is the country's largest airline and has been ruling the Indian skies for long. But as the aviation sector slowly claws back to normalcy after two years of pandemic-induced carnage, IndiGo is facing heat from competition which has been compounded by staff woes, changes in top management and a fleet diversification.

Just as it managed to put behind a public feud among its promoters, IndiGo is now grappling with employees leaving for better offers, slippages on its On-Time Performance (OTP) and a handful of technical snags denting its image, according to analysts.

IndiGo had a domestic market share of 57.7 per cent in September, more than 1,600 daily flights and 279 planes but, late, the OTP has slipped to 84.1 per cent in September from 90.1 per cent in April this year. In February 2020, before the pandemic, the airline had a market share of 48 per cent.

Just as the Indian skies opened up and air traffic began to rise, IndiGo saw a change in CEO with Ronojoy Dutta stepping down ahead of his tenure which was to end in January 2024. Now, Pieter Elbers is at the helm as CEO.

While there has been no official word on attrition at the budget carrier, people in the know said many employees are quitting, especially

COMPETITIVE SKIES

IndiGo started its journey in August 2006 and during this more than 16 years-journey, quite a few airlines have also gone out of business, including Jet Airways and Kingfisher Airlines

with opportunities coming up as the global aviation space recovers after the pandemic.

IndiGo had 26,164 permanent employees, which included 3,791 pilots and 6,398 cabin crew, at the end of March 2022. In July, dissatisfaction among certain sections of the airline's employees came to the fore as a large number of staff called in sick, resulting in massive flight delays. During the pandemic, the airline had slashed salaries of pilots by up to 30 per cent.

The airline's loss in the September quarter widened to ₹1,583.34 crore on higher fuel costs and forex losses.

In the last three-four years, IndiGo was having prime slots and there was little competition. Also, the industry as a whole is facing issues with respect to OTP as more aircraft are flying and air traffic has increased.

With Air India set to consolidate its low-cost airlines -- Air India Express and AirAsia India -- into one entity, and Akasa Air also flying, the skies are getting more competitive for IndiGo

The re-launch of Jet Airways will add to the competition in the aviation industry, which is also the fastest growing sector in India



which was not the case before the pandemic, claimed the employee who was quoted earlier: "There is also an overhang of the feud between IndiGo founders -- Rahul Bhatia and Rakesh Gangwal -- which was out in the public in 2019. On September 8, Gangwal and his wife sold 2.74 per cent stake in the airline for ₹2,005 crore."

In February 2022, Gangwal resigned from the board of IndiGo's parent InterGlobe Aviation and also said that he would gradually reduce his shareholding over the next five years. There have also been multiple changes in the top management.

A former IndiGo staff, who had served at a senior position, said the carrier had two strong pillars -- Rahul Bhatia and Rakesh Gangwal -- but when the tussle between them happened, the whole management set up at IndiGo was impacted and around the same time, the coronavirus pandemic happened.

Aviation consultancy CAPA

TURBULENT TIMES

In recent times, there have also been incidents of misbehaviour involving IndiGo staff. In May, then IndiGo CEO Ronojoy Dutta expressed regret for an incident that happened at the Ranchi airport where a specially-abled child was barred from boarding his flight to Hyderabad as he was in "a state of panic".

In the wake of the pandemic, many staffers had to leave and now, there are concerns over job security

INVESTORS TURN NET BUYERS

FPIs invest ₹15,280cr in equities

TOTAL OUTFLOW BY FPIs IN EQUITIES HAS REACHED ₹1.53L-CR IN 2022



PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, Nov 6: After withdrawing funds in the last two months, foreign investors came back strongly in the first week of November and infused ₹15,280 crore in Indian equities in hopes that US Federal Reserve would go soft on rate hikes.

Going forward, Foreign Portfolio Investors (FPIs) flows are expected to remain volatile in the near term given the headwinds in terms of monetary tightening, geo-political concerns among others, Shrikant Chouhan, Head of Equity Research (Retail), Kotak Securities, said.

According to the data with depositors, FPIs invested ₹15,280 crore in equities during November 1-4. This came following a net outflow of just ₹8 crore last month and ₹7,624 crore in September.

Prior to these outflows, FPIs were net buyers in August to the tune of ₹51,200 crore and nearly ₹5,000 crore in July. Before that, foreign investors were net sellers in Indian equities for nine months in a row which started in October last year. So far this year, the total outflow by FPIs in equities has

The fact that FPIs are buying in India even when the US bond yields and dollar are rising, is important. This is the reflection of FPIs' confidence in the Indian economy, particularly when the global economy is slowing down

VK VIJAYAKUMAR | CHIEF INVESTMENT STRATEGIST, GEOJIT FINANCIAL SERVICES

reached ₹1.53 lakh crore.

FPIs were sellers in October initially but the sell-off had slowed drastically on the back of some improvement in the sentiments in the global markets.

Amongst global recessionary conditions, India is slightly better placed due to its domestic demand for consumption. The Diwali festive season also added some cheer.

On the other hand, foreign investors have pulled out ₹2,410 crore from the debt market during the period under review. Apart from India, FPI flows were positive for South Korea, Thailand and Philippines so far this month.

Musk's Twitter updates app to start charging \$8 for blue tick

Twitter Blue will roll out in India in hopefully less than a month, says Musk

REUTERS

Mumbai, Nov 6: Twitter Saturday updated its app in Apple's App Store to begin charging \$8 for sought-after blue check verification marks, in Elon Musk's first major revision of the social media platform.

The change comes a week after Musk took over the social media company in a \$44 billion deal. The billionaire entrepreneur and CEO of electric car maker Tesla cut half the staff at Twitter and has vowed to start charging users more.

In an update to Apple iOS devices, Twitter said those who "sign up now" for \$7.99 a month can receive the blue checkmark next to their user names, "just like the celebrities, companies and politicians you already follow."

Before Musk took over, blue check marks next to a person's user name meant Twitter confirmed the account belonged to the person or company claiming it. It was not immediately clear how or if Twitter planned to verify the identity of the user beyond charging a fee.

According to the iOS notification, other benefits in the update include "half the ads", the ability to post longer videos to Twitter and priority ranking for quality content.

Twitter's new boss flagged the updates earlier this week in his push



to monetize the social media network and make it less reliant on ads. Twitter is currently free for most users. Twitter's update said the new service with verification will be available in the United States, Canada, Australia, New Zealand and the United Kingdom.

"As soon as we confirm it's working well in the initial set of countries and we have the translation work done, it will roll out worldwide," Musk said in a tweet Saturday.

In a separate tweet, Musk also added that "fixing search is a top priority" on Twitter. "We can beat that," he replied in another tweet when a user pointed out that YouTube gives creators 55% of ad revenue.

"Twitter will soon add ability to attach long-form text to tweets, ending absurdity of notepad screenshots. Followed by creator monetization for all forms of content," Musk added in a tweet.

United Airlines is the latest major brand to pause advertising on Twitter. It joined the growing list of big companies pausing ads on Twitter, including General Motors, REI, General Mills and Audi

Twitter co-founder took blame for mass layoffs

Facing trolls on social media, former Twitter CEO Jack Dorsey Saturday apologised to sacked Twitter employees, saying that he grew the micro-blogging platform too quickly. Reports earlier said that several Twitter employees hate Dorsey for their current sad status after the hostile takeover by Elon Musk who has fired almost 50 per cent of the Twitter workforce. "Folks at Twitter past and present are strong and resilient. They will always find a way no matter how difficult the moment. I realize many are angry with me. I own the responsibility for why everyone is in this situation: I grew the company size too quickly. I apologize for that," Dorsey posted.

As of Saturday, the update to Twitter Blue remained at the old price of \$4.99.

WORLD'S BEST EMPLOYERS RANKINGS 2022

Reliance India's best employer; in top 20 globally: Forbes

THE GLOBAL RANKING WAS TOPPED BY SOUTH KOREAN GIANT SAMSUNG ELECTRONICS, FOLLOWED BY US GIANTS MICROSOFT, IBM, ALPHABET AND APPLE

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

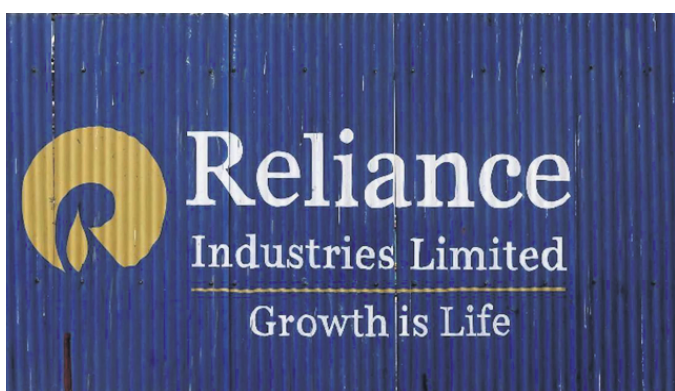
New Delhi, Nov 6: Billionaire Mukesh Ambani's Reliance Industries, the country's largest company by revenues, profits and market value, is India's best employer and the world's 20th best firm to work with, according to Forbes' World's Best Employers rankings 2022.

The global ranking was topped by South Korean giant Samsung Electronics, followed by US giants Microsoft, IBM, Alphabet and Apple. US companies occupy rankings

from 2nd to 12th, followed by German automaker BMW Group at 13th. The world's largest online retailer Amazon is ranked 14th in the list and French giant Decathlon is at 15th rank.

Oil-to-telecom-to-retail conglomerate Reliance, with 2,30,000 employees, is ranked 20th - the highest ranked Indian firm. It is ranked above Mercedes-Benz of Germany, US beverage maker Coca-Cola, Japanese auto giants Honda and Yamaha, and Saudi Aramco.

There is no Indian company other than Reliance in the top 100. HDFC



Bank is ranked 137th. Bajaj (173rd), Aditya Birla Group (240th), Hero Motocorp (333rd), Larsen & Toubro (354th), ICICI Bank (365th), HCL Technologies (455th), State Bank of India (499th), Adani Enterprises (547th) and Infosys (668th) are the other companies on the list.

US FIRMS OCCUPY RANKINGS FROM 2ND TO 12TH	WORLD'S LARGEST ONLINE RETAILER AMAZON RANKED 14TH
GERMAN AUTOMAKER BMW GROUP AT 13TH	FRENCH GIANT DECATHLON IS AT 15TH RANK

NO INDIAN FIRM OTHER THAN RELIANCE IS IN THE TOP 100

higher salaries, better benefits and advancement opportunities and work-life balance, employees say purpose-driven work is a top priority. And their bosses are paying close attention," Forbes said in its ranking released last month.

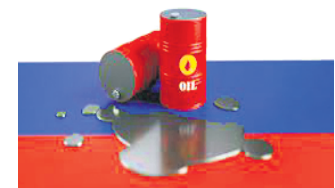
Against this backdrop, Forbes has compiled its sixth annual World's

Russia becomes country's top oil supplier in Oct

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, Nov 6: Russia has become India's top oil supplier in October, surpassing traditional sellers Saudi Arabia and Iraq, according to data from energy cargo tracker Vortexa.

Russia, which made up for just 0.2 per cent of all oil imported by India in the year to March 31, 2022, supplied 935,556 barrels per day (bpd) of crude oil to India in October -- the highest ever. It now makes up for 22 per cent of India's total crude imports, ahead of Iraq's 20.5 per cent and Saudi Arabia's 16 per cent.



India's appetite for Russian oil swelled ever since it started trading on discount as the West shunned it to punish Moscow for its invasion of Ukraine. According to Vortexa, an energy intelligence firm, India imported just 36,255 barrels per day of crude oil from Russia in December 2021 as compared to 1.05 million bpd from Iraq and 952,625 bpd from Saudi Arabia.

There were no imports from Russia in the following two months but they resumed in March, soon after the Ukraine war broke out in late February.

India imported 68,600 bpd of Russian oil in March while it increased to 266,617 bpd in the following month and peaked to 942,694 bpd in June. But in June, Iraq was India's top supplier with 1.04 million bpd of oil. Russia in that month became India's second biggest supplier.

Imports dipped marginally in the following two months. They stood at 876,396 bpd in September before rising to 835,556 bpd in October, according to Vortexa.

Iraq slipped to No 2 slot with 888,079 bpd of supplies in October, followed by Saudi Arabia at 746,947 bpd. The Indian government has been vehemently defending its trade with Russia, saying it has to source oil from where it is cheapest.

RBI Bhub to organise awareness programme with Union Bank

Bhubaneswar: Reserve Bank of India Bhubaneswar is organizing an "Awareness Programme on Grievance Redressal Mechanism of RBI Regulated Entities & Reserve Bank Integrated Ombudsman Scheme" in association with Union Bank of India Bhubaneswar at Bhanja Kala Mandap November 7 at 10:30 am. The general public may attend the event and get to know about their rights from the Reserve Bank of India officials themselves.



Best Employers.

Forbes said it partnered with market research company Statista to compile the ranking by surveying 1,50,000 full-time and part-time workers from 57 countries working for multinational companies and institutions to determine which ones excel in corporate impact and image, talent development, gender equality and social responsibility.

"Participants were asked to rate their willingness to recommend their employers to friends and family and to evaluate other employers in their respective industries that stood out either positively or negatively. This year's list comprises 800 companies that received the highest scores," it said.

Companies were rated on aspects such as image, economic footprint, talent development, gender equality and social responsibility.

SURYA HELPS INDIA TOP GROUP

MEN IN BLUE TO MEET ENGLAND AT ADELAIDE NOVEMBER 10 FOR PLACE IN THE FINAL



AMONG WICKETS: Ravichandran Ashwin bowled a tidy spell for India

The last five overs bowled by Zimbabwe yielded 79 runs and bulk of them was scored by the Mumbaikar.

The casual ramp shot to guide left-arm pacer Richard Ngarava's full toss behind third-man, the slog sweep behind square using the pace of the delivery or the imperious inside out loft over extra cover off Tendai Chatara, Surya oozed class with each and every shot. But certainly, the unforgettable ones were the last over slog sweeps off Ngarava as Surya fetched the deliveries from outside the off-stump and deposited them behind deep fine leg.

Zimbabwe's slow bowlers - left-arm spinners Wellington Masakadza (0/12), Sikandar Raza (1/18) and Sean Williams (2/9) did a terrific job between overs seven to 15 as they literally bottled up the peerless Virat Kohli (26, 25b, 2x4). But Surya and Hardik Pandya (18) added 65 in just 5.5 overs to negate the good work done by Craig Ervine's slow bowlers. The Zimbabwe pacers Blessing Muzarabani (0/50), Ngarava (1/44) and Chatara (0/34) gave 128 runs in the 12 overs between them.

The good thing for India despite skipper Rohit Sharma's early dismissal was the form of KL Rahul (51, 35b, 3x4, 3x6) who got his second successive half century in the competition. The worrying factor however, was Rishabh Pant (2) who played his first game of the competition. He definitely looked jaded both in front and behind the stumps.



BRIEF SCORES

India 186 for 5 (Suryakumar Yadav 61 n o, KL Rahul 51, Sean Williams 2/9) beat **Zimbabwe 115 in 17.2 overs** (Ryan Burl 35, Ravi Ashwin 3/22, Mohammed Shami 2/14, Hardik Pandya 2/16) by 71 runs.

PAKISTAN SEAL LAST 4 SPOT

Adelaide: Pakistan defied all odds to make a dramatic entry into the T20 World Cup semifinals with a clinical five-wicket win over Bangladesh after being handed a fresh lease of life by the Netherlands, who stunned South Africa here Sunday. Bangladesh opting to bat could only manage to post 127 for eight as left-arm pacer Shaheen Afridi (4/22) achieved career best T20 figures. Only Najmul Hossain Shanto (54) managed to offer some resistance. When Pakistan batted Mohammad Rizwan (32), Mohammad Haris (31), Babar Azam (25) and Shan Masood (24 n o) made useful contributions and helped their team's entry into the semifinals. Pakistan won with 11 balls to spare.

AGENCIES

Melbourne, Nov 6: Suryakumar Yadav (61 n o, 25b, 6x4, 4x6) re-affirmed his status as a short-format magician with another magnificent effort as India crushed Zimbabwe by 71 runs here Sunday to set up a T20 World Cup semifinal date with England. Riding on Surya's knock, India posted 186 for the loss of five wickets in their 20 overs and then bowled out Zimbabwe for 115 in 17.2 overs to top Group 2, after South Africa's shocking loss to the Netherlands. Among the Indian bowlers

Ravichandran Ashwin (3/22), Mohammed Shami (2/14) and Hardik Pandya (2/16) enjoyed a good day at the office. India will now play their fourth T20 World Cup semifinal (after 2007, 2014, 2016) against Jos Buttler's England at Adelaide, November 10.

If Kohli lit up the MCG October 23, with a knock for the ages, November 6 resembled a rock concert where the length of Surya's shadow grew with every passing stroke. Indian cricket has seen a lot of supple wrists but malleable ones coupled with brute power are a rarity. Surya is indeed a rare breed.

SHORT TAKES

Double crown for Ashutosh

Bhubaneswar: Ashutosh Padhy continued his unbeaten run to win the State snooker title at the Cuttack Club, Sunday. In the final, Ashutosh dominated proceedings right from the start to defeat Kunal Agarwal 6-1 (65-64, 48-10, 61-45, 30-55, 64-15, 73-10, 50-28). Ashutosh had also won the billiards title a few days back and thus emerged the winner of the double crown. This is the third time that Ashutosh has achieved the double in the state-level meet.

Srikanth bows out

Saarbrücken (Germany): Star shuttler Kidambi Srikanth and women's doubles pair of Tressa Jolly and Gayatri Gopichand lost their respective semifinal matches in contrasting fashion to end India's challenge at the Hylo Open Super 300 tournament here late Saturday evening. Srikanth looked inconsistent and went down to World No. 6 Anthony Ginting of Indonesia 18-21, 15-21 in a match that lasted 38 minutes. Earlier in the day, the doubles duo of Tressa and Gayatri conceded a 18-15 lead in the decider to lose to eighth seed Thai sisters, Benyapa Aimsaard and Nuntakarn Aimsaard 21-17, 14-21, 18-21.

Points shared

Mumbai: Mumbai City FC and ATK Mohun Bagan were involved in a high-octane 2-2 draw in a game of the ISL here Sunday. Lallianzuala Chhangte's screamer for Mumbai in the fourth minute was nullified by Joni Kauko's deflected equaliser three minutes into the second half. Rostyn Griffiths put the hosts in front again in the 72nd minute before Carl McHugh scored four minutes after coming on in the 89th minute. It was an exciting encounter with both teams playing an aggressive brand of football. Even though Mumbai City FC had more of the ball, the Kolkata side always looked dangerous in counter-attacks. PNN & AGENCIES

SL cricketer arrested on charges of sexual assault

Gunathilaka was nabbed as the Sri Lankan team was about to leave for the airport

AGENCIES

Sydney, Nov 6: Sri Lanka cricketer Danushka Gunathilaka, who was with the national squad for the T20 World Cup in Australia, was arrested on charges of sexual assault here Sunday. Sources informed that the 31-year-old Gunathilaka was arrested and taken to Sydney City police station in the wee hours of Sunday following an investigation into alleged sexual assault of a woman November 2.

"Danushka Gunathilaka has been arrested for an alleged rape. The Sri Lankan team have left Australia without him," a source aware of the developments informed. Sri Lanka were eliminated from the tournament after losing Saturday to England.

In a statement, Sri Lanka Cricket said it will take strict action against the player if found guilty. "In consultation with the (International Cricket Council), (we) will expeditiously initiate a thorough inquiry into the matter and take stern action against the player if found guilty," the statement said.

The left-handed batter played against Namibia in the first round



match of the ongoing T20 World Cup and was out for a duck. Later, he was ruled out of the tournament due to an injury even as the team qualified for the Super 12 stage.

The 'Sydney Morning Herald' reported that Gunathilaka and the woman were in touch for a number of days after connecting via an online dating app. The paper also said that the arrest was made from a hotel here before 1.00am local time as the Sri Lankan team were preparing to leave the airport for a 6.00am flight back home.

New South Wales Police Child Abuse and Sex Crimes Squad Detective Superintendent Jayne Doherty said the woman took enough precautions before going on a date with Gunathilaka. "It was just unfortunate," Doherty said.

Brilliant Pathak ensures victory

INDIA OVERCOME STUBBORN SPANISH RESISTANCE IN FIH PRO LEAGUE GAME

POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar, Nov 6: Krishan Bahadur Pathak rose to the occasion under the bar as India defeated Spain 3-1 in shootout after both the teams were locked 2-2 at regulation time in their FIH Pro League match here Sunday.

Captain Harmanpreet Singh (12th, 32nd minutes) scored a brace from penalty corners for India while skipper Marc Miralles (43rd) and Pere Amat (55th) found the net for Spain in regulation time. India had lost 2-3 against Spain in the first match of the two-leg tie.

In the shootout Harmanpreet, Rajkumar Pal and Abhishek scored for India, while Pathak made excellent saves to deny Joaquin Menini, Rafael Vilallonga and Miralles to hand India the bonus point. Only Gerard Clapes found the net for Spain from the one-on-one situation.

India currently lead the Pro League standings with eight points from four games.

Spain started brightly and earned a penalty corner inside the first four minutes of the match, but failed to utilise the opportunity.

India got their act together and secured their first penalty corner in the 10th minute, but Jugraj Singh's flick went inches wide of



FIRST STRIKE: The Indian players celebrate after Harmanpreet Singh's first goal against Spain at the Kalinga Stadium in Bhubaneswar

the goal. However, two minutes later India were ahead when skipper Harmanpreet found the back of the Spanish net from a penalty corner earned by Shamsheer Singh.

Spain made an attacking start to the second quarter, but failed to breach the Indian defence.

The Indians started on an aggressive note after the interval and doubled their lead two minutes after the change of ends, again through Harmanpreet after Hardik Singh earned a penalty corner. Harmanpreet failed to collect the

Pramod successfully defends world title

Odisha para shuttler bags gold in singles and a silver medal in doubles

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Tokyo, Nov 6: Paralympic champion Pramod Bhagat and promising Manisha Ramadass emerged champions as India finished with a total of 16 medals at the BWF Para Badminton World Championships here Sunday.

Taking the court first, Bhagat defended his men's singles SL3 title in style as he defeated compatriot Nitesh Kumar 21-19, 21-19 in 53 minutes to clinch the gold medal. For Ramadass, it was a dream come true moment, as she beat local star Mamiko Toyoda 21-15, 21-15 in the women's singles SU5 finals. Having started playing senior international only in March this year, it was definitely a milestone for the 17-year-old from Chennai, who stayed dominant throughout the match.

"This has been the biggest moment of my life. I have waited for this moment and worked hard for the past few months for this. It feels awesome to be the world champion. I hope I can continue with such results and make my country proud

in future events," said Ramadass. Bhagat now has 11 medals, including six gold, two silver and three bronze medals in the World Championships. He has the distinction of reaching the finals in all the editions, barring 2007 and 2017 World Championships.

However, Bhagat and Manoj Sarkar had to settle for silver in the men's doubles SL3-SL4 event after the duo squandered a one game advantage to lose to Indonesia's Hikmat Ramdani and Ukun Rukaendi 21-14, 18-21, 13-21.

"It feels nice to become the world champion again. This year has been decent for me. I am glad that I am ending the year with another milestone. However, I am tad unhappy that I could not win the doubles gold," said Bhagat. "The match wasn't easy as we knew each other's game and strategies. Nitesh was making a comeback in the second game but I am happy to pull it off. This win is huge for me as I have been working very hard. This win tells me that I am moving in the right direction," the Odia para shuttler added.



I am happy that all the hard work has paid off and I am ending the year with a milestone

PRAMOD BHAGAT

Cash incentives for hockey teams

Decision to inspire players ahead of World Cup

AGENCIES

Bhubaneswar, Nov 6: Indian players received a big boost ahead of a busy season with Hockey India (HI) announcing Sunday a new policy under which both the men's and women's team members and support staff will be given annual cash incentives.

According to the policy, HI will give away cash award of ₹50,000 to the playing members of both the men's and women's squads and ₹25,000 each to the support staff for every win the Indian teams register.

"I strongly believe this announcement will boost the morale of the Indian teams as they prepare for the prestigious World Cup in January and the Asian Games. While every player in the core group is employed, an incentive like this will attract more youngsters to play hockey," HI president Dilip Tirkey said in a release.

The hockey governing body had announced ₹2 lakh for each player and ₹1 lakh for each support staff of the Indian junior men's team following their title win at the 10th Sultan of Johor Cup.

Describing it as a 'landmark decision', HI secretary general Bholanath Singh said, "It will not only lift the spirit of the Indian teams to vie harder for victories but it will also make young aspiring hockey players believe that hockey can be a financially viable sport. I wish the Indian teams the very best in their endeavours."

Overall, India had a good outing at the FIH Pro League here with the men's team winning both their matches against New Zealand. They also won one match against Spain while losing the other. Officials said that the financial boost will come in very handy for the players and they will train doubly hard because of the incentives on offer.

India will be hosting the 2023 men's hockey World Cup January 13 to 29 in the Odisha capital and in Rourkela.

Thapa punches to unique feat

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, Nov 6: India's Shiva Thapa became Sunday the first-ever male boxer in the history of Asian Championships to win six medals after he out-punched Minsu Choi of South Korea to progress to the semifinals in Amman, Jordan. The seasoned Thapa (63.5kg) prevailed 4-1 over Choi in the light welterweight quarterfinal to secure his sixth consecutive medal. The 28-year-old dominated from the start to the end, using his jabs to great effect.

With the win, Thapa is assured of at least a bronze medal in the ongoing edition, bettering his own position as the most suc-



cessful Indian boxer in the tournament. Thapa's haul includes a gold (2013), two silver medals (2017 and 2021) and as many

bronze medals (2015 and 2019). Thapa overtook Kazakh legend Vassiliy Levit, an Olympic silver medallist and two-time world

bronze medal winner, who was the only other male pugilist with five Asian Championships medals.

Two-time Commonwealth Games (CWG) bronze medallist Mohammad Hussamuddin (57kg) and Govind Kumar Sahani (48kg) also progressed to the semifinals as India's medal count continued to swell.

Up against South Korea's Haengseok Lee in the quarterfinal bout, Hussamuddin fell behind early with his rival landing clean punches in the opening round. With the prospects of an upset looming, Hussamuddin utilised his experience to make a comeback. He went all out in the next two rounds to dominate his way

to a 5-0 win and guarantee yet another medal for India.

Hussamuddin will face the 2021 World Championships silver medallist Serik Temirzha in his semifinals bout November 10.

In the other quarterfinal, Thailand Open gold medallist Ananta Chopade (64kg) bowed out of the competition after suffering a 0-4 loss to Seidekmatov Sanzhai of Kyrgyzstan.

Earlier late Saturday night, Anikushita Boro (56kg) and Lovlina Borgohain (75 kg) prevailed over Tsubata Arsia of Japan and Valentina Khalzova of Kazakhstan, respectively, to progress to the semifinals, thereby assuring India of two medals.

1ST INDIAN MALE BOXER TO WIN 6 ASIAN CHAMPIONSHIPS MEDALS