



TOUGH JOURNEY

Actor Rashmika Mandana says she has been on the receiving end of a lot of hate since she started her career

LEISURE P2



DEMS DEFY EXPECTATIONS

President Joe Biden's Democratic Party fares well against Donald Trump's Republican Party in US mid-term polls

INTERNATIONAL P10



LOT AT STAKE

India will look for a place in the finals against Pakistan by beating England in the T20 Worlds semifinal

SPORTS P12

'Chhadakhai' sales at ₹1cr-plus

POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar, Nov 9: Prices of non-vegetarian items increased manifold as customers thronged various markets here on the occasion of 'Chhadakhai' festival. With the end of the holy month of Kartik, people once more returned to eating non-veg stuff and sellers of fish, mutton, chicken and other seafood items did brisk business. Sources said that markets in the Odisha capital and Cuttack had done business of more than ₹1 crore by selling non-vegetarian items. The fish market in Unit-IV here was crowded from the morning with customers eager to get good varieties before the supplies got exhausted. Regulars said that the

prices of the various types of fish had gone up by a minimum of ₹25 per cent, but they took it in their stride.

Sources said fish was in huge demand in all the markets and a number of people made a beeline for prawns even though it was sold at ₹500 per kilogram. Country chicken was sold for ₹400/kg while broiler at ₹220/kg. Mutton prices varied between ₹700 to ₹800 at markets, but that did not dampen the spirits of the customers. Everywhere the sellers did brisk business.

This is the day to celebrate 'Chhadakhai' and I am here to buy fish. As compared to other days, the fish sellers are charging ₹10-20 extra per kg. However, that is acceptable," said a buyer at Unit-IV market.



INNOVATIVE PROTEST: Members of Odisha Drivers' Mahasangh demonstrate Wednesday at the PMG Square in Bhubaneswar for fulfillment of various demands including insurance cover and safety

Justice Chandrachud sworn in as 50th CJ

AGENCIES

New Delhi, Nov 9: Justice Dhananjaya Yashwanth Chandrachud, who was part of the Supreme Court benches that delivered several landmark verdicts including the Ayodhya land dispute case, was sworn in Wednesday as the 50th Chief Justice of India (CJI). President Droupadi Murmu administered him the oath at a brief ceremony held at the Rashtrapati



Bhavan here. He took the oath in English and in the name of God. He will head India's Judiciary until November 10, 2024, a day before he completes 65 years.

Justice Chandrachud's name was recommended October 11 by outgoing CJI U.U. Lalit and the former was named India's 50th CJI, October 17.

Body of missing student found

POST NEWS NETWORK

Dabugaon/Papadahandi, Nov 9: The body of a Class-X student of Manigaon Government High School under Dabugaon police limits in this district was found hanging from a tree near the educational institute. The deceased, identified as Shankar Harijan of Baunsabeda village in Dabugaon block of the dis-

trict, had gone missing since Tuesday morning. Sources said that he was resident of the hostel belonging to the school.

As the boy had gone missing since Tuesday, his parents had lodged a police complaint. Family members of the deceased blamed the school authorities for the minor's death. They also blocked a portion of the road in front of the school.

Quake kills 6 in Nepal, rocks north India

New Delhi/Kathmandu: Strong tremors were felt across north India and parts of Nepal in the early hours of Wednesday after a 6.3-magnitude earthquake struck the Himalayan region near Uttarakhand's Pithoragarh along the Nepal border. Six persons were killed in the quake in Nepal while five others suffered injuries. The tremors were felt in Delhi and the surrounding areas of Ghaziabad and Gurgaon and even in Lucknow, jolting people out of their sleep. "Didn't want to tweet but one can safely say it did feel like an earthquake," Union Minister Meenakshi Lekhi wrote on Twitter. Several people rushed out of their homes in the national capital. **MORE P9**

After 101 days, Sena MP Raut gets bail

Mumbai: A special court here Wednesday granted bail to Shiv Sena MP Sanjay Raut in a money laundering case pertaining to the Patra Chawl redevelopment project. Special Judge MG Deshpande, designated to hear PMLA cases allowed the bail plea of Raut after hearing arguments from both sides. The Enforcement Directorate (ED) had arrested Rajya Sabha member Raut in July this year for his alleged role in financial irregularities in connection with the redevelopment of the Patra Chawl (row tenement) in suburban Goregaon. He has been at the Arthur Road Jail here for the last 101 days. Raut in his bail plea had claimed that he was the victim of 'political vendetta'. **MORE P9**

IRREGULAR by MANJUL



I guess we need to launch a one-India ambulance service VIP convoys can make way for

Governors face heat in 3 Southern states

In the history of Indian democracy, the ruling dispensation at the Centre has usually been antagonistic to states where rivals have been in power



Tamil Nadu Governor RN Ravi

AGENCIES

New Delhi/Chennai, Nov 9: The three states of Tamil Nadu, Kerala and Telangana have embarked on a warpath against the respective governors in the state calling them 'puppets of the centre' for violating the Constitution. Incidentally all the three states are ruled by non-BJP parties.

In a major development Wednesday, the ruling DMK in Tamil Nadu has stepped up pressure against Governor RN Ravi. The DMK and its allies have urged President Droupadi Murmu to sack Ravi, alleging that he has violated the oath he took under the Constitution and levelled a series of allegations against him.

Among others, the DMK-led Secular Progressive Alliance (SPA) took exception to Ravi's 'praising Sanatana Dharma' and charged him with 'instigating communal hatred'. The memorandum dated November 2, 2022 has been submitted to the President's office, the DMK said Wednesday.

The petition, signed by SPA members of

Parliament also listed out the pending bills with the Raj Bhavan, including one seeking exemption to the state from the ambit of NEET and questioned the delay for the assent. Meanwhile in a separate development in Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala Higher Education Minister R Bindu said Wednesday that the LDF government through an ordinance intends to replace the Governor with expert academicians as Chancellor of universities in the state. The decision to issue the ordinance was taken in a Cabinet meeting, a source in the Chief Minister's Office (CMO) said. The Kerala government's move comes amidst the ongoing tussle between it and the Governor over functioning of universities, including appointment of vice chancellors.

Earlier Tuesday Tamil Nadu's ruling DMK attacked Telangana Governor Tamilisai Soundararajan for 'poking her nose' in the neighbouring state's politics. Soundararajan, who was a senior BJP leader in Tamil Nadu before taking office, is also under fire in Telangana from Chief Minister K Chandrashekar Rao's TRS over recruitments in state universities.

Ravi and the MK Stalin-led government have been at loggerheads over a number of issues, including the NEET.

"Ravi forgets that he has not won any elections in Tamil Nadu to decide what is good for the people of the state. Clearly, Thiru RN Ravi has violated the oath he took under Article 159 to preserve, protect and defend the Constitution and the law and to devote himself to the service and well-being of the people of Tamil Nadu. Far from it, he has been instigating communal hatred and therefore he deserves to be sacked immediately," the MPs said in the nine-page memorandum. **Continued on P4**

MARKET WATCH		
INDEX		VIATION
SENSEX	61033.55	↓ 151.60
NIFTY	18157.00	↓ 45.80
DOLLAR	81.55	↓ ₹1.27
EURO	81.53	↓ ₹0.42
GOLD	₹51,524	↓ ₹106
SILVER	₹61,765	↓ ₹194

WEATHER		
	BHUB	CTK
TEMP MAX	30.8°C	30.4°C
TEMP MIN	21.9°C	21.2°C
Humidity	74%	71%
Rainfall	Nil	Nil
Forecast	Dry weather likely	

'Oscar' for 'real hero' Zelenskyy

2-TIME ACADEMY AWARD WINNER SEAN PENN GIFTS 1 OF HIS STATUETTES TO UKRAINIAN PRESIDENT

AGENCIES

Los Angeles, Nov 9: Two-time 'Best Actor' winner at the Oscars, Sean Penn has gifted one of his statuettes to Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy for 'being the real hero' in the world.

The 62-year-old actor won the Academy Award for Best Actor in 2004 and 2009 for 'Mystic River' and 'Milk' respectively. He recently visited Zelenskyy in the Ukrainian capital city of Kyiv to hand over the Oscar as a 'symbolic' gesture to the politician and the people of Ukraine,



Sean Penn (left) with President Volodymyr Zelenskyy in Kyiv

femalefirst.co.uk reported Wednesday.

The Ukrainian president has shared the meeting on his

Telegram channel. In it Sean is heard as saying, "It's just a symbolic silly thing, but if I know this is here then I'll feel

better and strong enough for the fights. When you win, bring it back to Malibu, because I'll feel much better knowing there's a piece of me here with the real hero of the world. That feeling is one of confidence."

Officials of Zelenskyy's entourage informed that the statuette will remain in Kyiv till the war ends. They added that Sean was honoured with Ukraine's 'Order of Merit'. While handing over the award to Penn, the president said, "It's not from me, it's from Ukraine. Your visit to this war-torn city is in itself a huge inspiration." **Continued on P4**

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NICK JONAS SPLIT LEFT OLIVIA CULPO WITHOUT AN IDENTITY

Model Olivia Culpo was 'left with no sense of identity' after her split from pop-singer Nick Jonas, who later married Indian actress Priyanka Chopra. The 30-year-old model, who dated Nick from 2013 until 2015, has confessed to being devastated by their break-up.

KANYE LINK HAS IMPACTED MY ACTING CAREER: JULIA FOX

Uncut Gems star Julia Fox says her whirlwind relationship with Kanye West has had a negative impact on her acting career. Speaking to on the High Low with EmRata podcast, she said: "After the big relationship, I definitely noticed a shift in the acting way, not in a good way."



FORTUNE FORECAST

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ARIES
Today the stars advocate that you concentrate on money matters and how to save some, and in this purpose you will remain engrossed. However, Ganesh advises you not to neglect domestic duties lest you encounter a morose spouse. So carry on and make a dash for that movie as planned. Don't cancel it.

TAURUS
You are likely to turn excessively self-centred today, says Ganesh. This could cause you to be very insecure. You will have a tendency to control and dominate others. There is a likelihood that you may, thereby, jeopardize important relationships. You are advised to be sensitive to the needs and feelings of all those you come across.

GEMINI
Ganesh opines that today you might feel a little blue and under the weather. You may harbour feelings of loneliness today. Your repressed emotions and yearnings as well as your intellectual leanings will likely come to the fore today, says Ganesh.

CANCER
Your ideas today are source of your energy. A situation may arise, which will force you to take hard decisions later. A new business or venture may prove beneficial. Your magical touch will bestow success in every endeavour. Ganesh is with you.

LEO
You might be the man of the house, but to make that house a home, you need a family. So keep that in mind, says Ganesh, and remember that your family is the foundation of your success. Make every possible effort to make your family's roots stronger.

VIRGO
Today might just bring those emotions to the fore that have been lying in the closet of your heart since long. You will even develop a bonding – a sentimental attachment – with your belongings. But, if and when you don't find the surroundings to your liking, you shall be like a fish out of the water.

LIBRA
Unleash the artist in you today! Don't be surprised if you happen to discover a love for the fine arts. The stars bestow on you refined aesthetic sense. As a result, your penchant for interior decoration is sure to get a boost. There is also the possibility of you capitalising on the commercial aspect of your newly acquired hobby, says Ganesh.

SCORPIO
Family matters have been screaming for long for your attention now. Your estranged spouse may deal the final blow to sever all ties, foretells Ganesh. But keep calm, and hold that tongue, advises Ganesh. Your priority should be to secure your family's peace.

SAGITTARIUS
The nerd in you will rise to the fore today. Religious literature will catch your fancy. Ganesh also sees you diving deep into pages of detective tomes, murder and science fiction. Au contraire, find some relief from the roller-coaster by listening to some soothing music.

CAPRICORN
The chances of you meeting financial success are few, but they are there nonetheless, says Ganesh. If you really want to improve your account balance and settle all the burgeoning debts, focus on what all needs to be done, and get it done without delay. You will make merry later in the day and will enjoy the company of your loved ones.

AQUARIUS
The day is taxing. You may find that others have dumped their share of work on you. But you are not one to admit defeat, and will deal with the challenge squarely, says Ganesh. You will outwit your opponents, and toast your success by starlight!

PISCES
While your day is unlikely to be very satisfactory, keeping your expectations low will help lessen your disappointment, says Ganesh. However, the evening is likely to be as refreshing as your day was depressing, with all the socialising in store for you. A rollicking party awaits you with good food, wine and music as accompaniments.

When Saiyami took cue from Julia's role

MUMBAI: Wednesday is a crucial day for actress Saiyami Kher as the new season of her web show *Breathe: Into The Shadows* drops on OTT. The actress, who plays the character of Shirley, a confidant to Abhishek's character 'J', shared that she modelled her character on Julia Roberts' Vivian Ward from *Pretty Woman*.
Talking about the same, Saiyami said: "Shirley was a very challenging character and I tried to take care of the smallest details while portraying her. Our director Mayank and I sat and brainstormed a lot. His brief to me was to keep Julia Roberts from *Pretty Woman* in mind. Which gave me great direction."

Bringing Shirley to life had her own set of challenges for the actress. Although Shirley is an escort by profession and is quite strong-headed in her approach, Saiyami was extra careful that the character did not come across stereotypical. "We tend to stereotype characters like these and we paid special attention to not do that. Shirley is hardened by her profession and the world but she is actually very vulnerable and soft. That's what I always kept in mind."

Meanwhile, she is currently busy with *Ghoorm*, which is captained by R. Balki. It tells the story of a coach and his prodigy, where she plays the part of a cricketer.

IANS



'I have been a punching bag for the trolls'

MUMBAI: Actress Rashmika Mandana has been witnessing a steady upward graph in her career but with great adulation also comes a lot of negativity and trolling.

Taking to her Instagram, the *Pushpa: The Rise* actress shared a picture of herself wearing a face mask while she sits in a boat surrounded by serene waters.

She started off her note by writing, "Hi so... I have been on the receiving end of a lot of hate ever since I started my career. Quite literally a punching bag for a lot of trolls and negativity out there (sic)."

She continued, "It's heartbreaking and frankly quite demoralising when I'm being ridiculed and mocked by the internet especially for things that I Have Not Said. I've found that bits of things I've said in interviews are being turned against me. False narratives being spread across the internet that can be very harmful to me and the relationships I have in or outside the industry."

Rashmika concluded her note by acknowledging the love that she receives from different quarters, "That being said, I do recognise and acknowledge all the love I've been receiving from the rest of you. Your constant love and support is what has kept me going and given me the courage to come out and say this."

After she posted the note, she received a lot of support from the members of the fraternity in the comments section.

IANS



Mrunal on her biggest gain from *Sita Ramam*

MUMBAI: Actress Mrunal Thakur made her Telugu debut with *Sita Ramam* and received unanimous praise for her work in the film. But, not everything on the film set was a smooth sail for the actress.

She had to learn a new language and emote in a completely alien territory. But, what kept her going was the reward of playing a 'beautifully written character' of Sita Mahalakshmi, who is revealed to be princess Noor Jahan in the movie.

Elaborating on the same, the actress said: "Being part of an enigmatic story was the biggest lucrative reason for me to be part of *Sita Ramam*. Despite whatever

small hurdles that I had to adapt to and learn from, I was so elated to be part of this film. Learning a new language seemed like a small hike in exchange for this beautifully written character by Hanu sir."

The other reward for her was to share the screen with an actor like Dulquer Salman: "To be with such an incredible team and working alongside Dulquer was rewarding, to see what an impeccable performer he is. I knew we were making something special, and that elevated with the warm and tremendous welcome you got for my Telugu debut."

After its successful theatrical run and dropping on Prime Video, *Sita Ramam* will be released in Hindi on OTT platform Disney+ Hotstar November 18, 2022.

IANS



SRK's career advice that Abhishek swears by

MUMBAI: Abhishek Bachchan and Shah Rukh Khan have been friends for a long time now. The two actors have shared screen space in quite a few movies. Now, in a recent interview, the *Manmarziyaan* actor shared career advice he received from Shah Rukh Khan.

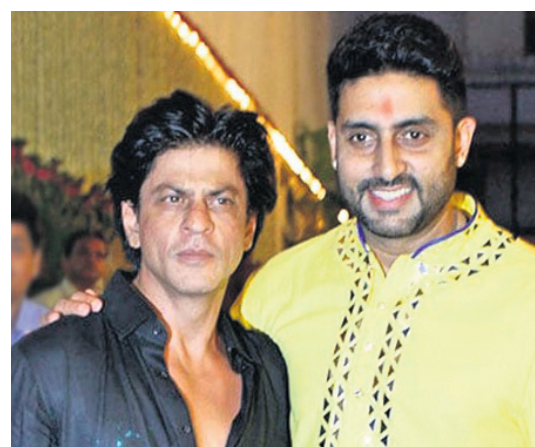
Asked if he is waiting for any new special role or any specific character that he wants to pursue, he said that he is very bad at this and focuses on whatever he is doing currently rather than what he can. He added that in the initial years of his career Shah Rukh Khan

explained this concept to him in the most precise manner.

Abhishek said that one day they were having a conversation and he even popped the same question to him. He added, "Addressing the same, Shah Rukh replied, 'Always remember you're an actor. Ask yourself and introspect, if whatever you are doing right now is not your favourite, then why are you even doing it? Don't focus on what is going to happen in future. Just focus on your present and give your 100% to it.'"

On the work front, Abhishek has R Balki's film *Ghoorm* starring Saiyami Kher in the lead. Besides this, the *Dhoom* actor has also returned with the second season of *Breathe: Into The Shadows*.

AGENCIES



PEANUTS



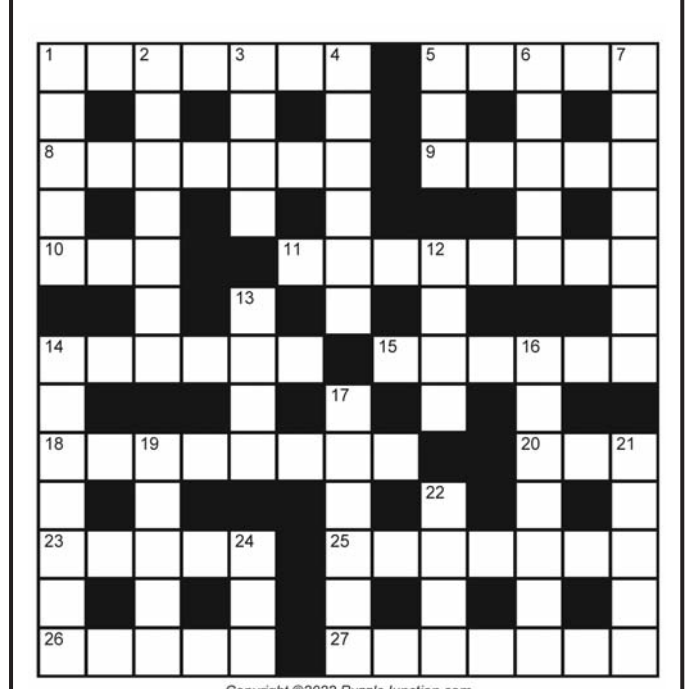
CALVIN AND HOBBS



BREVITY



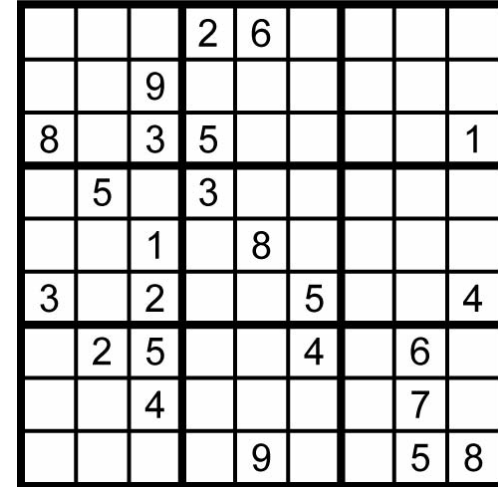
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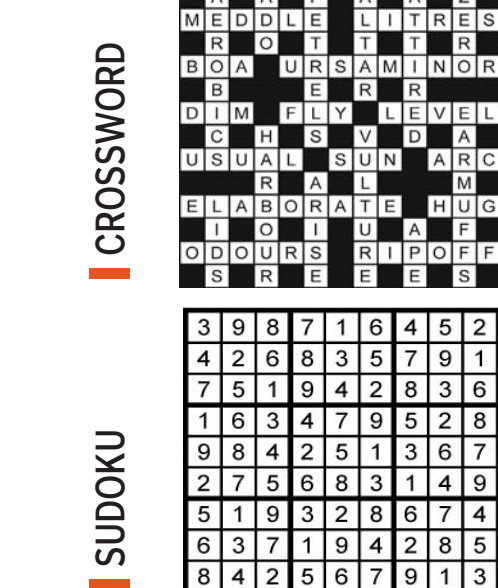
- Across**
- 1 Like some countries after conflicts (3-4)
 - 5 Sites for studs
 - 8 Amble
 - 9 Needle
 - 10 Yellow, for one
 - 11 Replies
 - 14 Evil spirit
 - 15 Capital of Portugal
 - 18 Timetable
 - 20 Band booking
 - 23 Sound, basically
 - 25 Wash
 - 26 Raw fish dish
 - 27 Malady
 - Down**
 - 1 Narrow-waisted stingers
 - 2 Pie filler
 - 3 Pledge
 - 4 Hospital workers
 - 5 Fortune
 - 6 Genius
 - 7 Cowboy hat
 - 12 Twosome
 - 13 Behave
 - 14 Big talkers?
 - 16 Flower with glossy leaves
 - 17 Unruffled
 - 19 Hot spot
 - 21 Skein formers
 - 22 Precious stones
 - 24 Samurai's shash

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.



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Settle pending PMFBY claims pronto, Nayak urges Tomar

POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar, Nov 9: Cooperation Minister Atanu Sabyasachi Nayak Wednesday urged Union Agriculture Minister Narendra Singh Tomar for early settlement of pending claims under Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY).

Nayak met Tomar in New Delhi Wednesday and sought his personal intervention in this issue.

The state government has been implementing PMFBY since 2016. During Kharif 2021, the insurance companies had raised objections to the conduct of crop cutting experiments for paddy in 263 insurance units (gram panchayat/urban local bodies) thus holding up the claims of the farmers, he said during the meeting.

After intervention by the State Level Committee, claims were released only for 38 insurance units. Although the state government had done a detailed analysis of all contested cases but for the rest 225 insurance units, the insurance companies have appealed to the Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) of the Centre against the order of the state government, he pointed out.



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After intervention by the State Level Committee, claims were released only for 38 insurance units

Out of pending 225 cases, the TAC has taken up only 189 cases during its meeting held November 3 last and final report is awaited

Out of pending 225 cases, the TAC has taken up only 189 cases during its meeting held November 3 last and final report is awaited, he said.

The delay in claim settlement has badly affected the farming operations and farmers who were just trying to recover from the shock of Covid-19 pandemic, said Nayak, adding, it has also created a consistent law and order problem in many districts.

Due to the attitude of the in-

urance companies, enrolment of farmers under PMFBY has declined during Kharif 2022.

Against 12.29 lakh farmers enrolled in Kharif 2021 for 10.50 lakh ha area, the number has come down to 11.49 lakh for 9.58 lakh ha in Kharif 2022, he said.

In order to safeguard the interest of the farmers, he urged the Union minister to direct the TAC to consider the proposed view of the state government and act accordingly.

₹52.72cr shot in the arm for schools in 27 dists

POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar, Nov 9: The 37th executive council meeting of Mo School Abhiyan, chaired by School and Mass Education (S&ME) department commissioner-cum-secretary Aswathy S, Wednesday approved proposals worth Rs 52.72 crore for schools in 27 districts.

As many as 45,388 alumni have joined hands with Mo School Abhiyan last month and have contributed Rs 12.56 crore towards the holistic development of their alma mater, said a senior official in know of the development.

During the period, the official said, various agencies have contributed Rs 5 crore to Mo School



Abhiyan from their CSR fund. Coupled with a 2X matching grant for the donors and CSR contribution, the council has approved projects worth Rs 52.72 crore.

The fund will be utilised for the development of 5,146 primary, upper primary and high schools in 27

districts, the official pointed out.

The alumni have contributed Rs 2.44 crore in Balasore, Rs 2.02 crore in Jajpur, Rs 71.29 lakh in Sambalpur, Rs 60.32 lakh in Bhadrak and Rs 54.62 lakh in Bolangir.

So far, as many as 7.51 lakh alumni have been connected with

Mo School Abhiyan, it was learnt.

After the successful inclusion of schools under the ST and SC Development department, the executive council received a proposal for inclusion of special schools under the ambit of Mo School.

During the meeting, the council decided to have a detailed discussion with officials of the Social Security and Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities (SSEPD) department for the final way out. The inclusion will contribute towards holistic development of differently-abled students.

In order to reach out to a greater number of alumni, Mo School team has conducted alumni meetings in 298 blocks of 30 districts.

6 Odisha MPs in 5 Parl panels

New Delhi: Six Lok Sabha MPs from Odisha have been nominated as the members to five parliamentary committees by Speaker Om Birla. Birla has nominated Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) MP Suresh Pujari and Biju Janata Dal (BJD) MP Pinaki Misra as members of the Committee on Subordinate Legislation.

BJP MP Sangeeta Kumari Singh Deo has been nominated to the House Committee. Congress MP Saptagiri Ulaka has been nominated to the Committee on Papers Laid on the Table while BJD MP Chandra Sekhar Sahu was nominated to the Committee on Government Assurances.

BJP MP Aparajita Sarangi was nominated to the Committee on Ethics.

STA bid to dispel LL test fear 'Daman' way

POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar, Nov 9: Riding on the popularity of Babushaan-starrer Odia movie 'Daman', which hit the theatres recently, the State Transport Authority (STA) has come up with a unique way to eliminate fear among the people towards learner's licence (LL) test.

The STA shared a message on the micro-blogging platform Twitter which aims at making people aware of the traps laid by the middlemen.

Taking to Twitter, the STA shared the clip of the flick in which actor Babushaan can be heard saying,

"The biggest enemy of human is fear."

The STA shared the clip with a caption, "Do not fear to appear in the LL Test online. Don't seek help of middlemen and offer them bribe. If required, visit RTO or practice sample test papers at your home just by browsing parivahan.gov.in"

"Let's come together and jointly root out corruption," the STA tweet read.

The STA had earlier used a clip of movie Pushpa-The Rise, starring superstar Allu Arjun, to spread awareness about wearing helmet while riding two-wheelers.



Kidney patients stage dharna

Bhubaneswar: Demanding timely supply of medicine and an experienced doctor at a state-run hospital in Cuttack, a group of kidney patients have launched a dharna in front of the official residence of Health Minister NK Das here. The dharna entered the third day Wednesday. They demanded supply of medicines as prescribed by their consulting doctors and not whatever is available in stock at SCBMCH. "The medicines prescribed by the health department are safe. They (agitators) are demanding a specialist doctor for the treatment and the medicines prescribed by them. We are looking into it," Das said.

Governors face heat in 3 Southern states

Continued from P1

It should be stated here that the ruling party at the Centre has on most times been antagonistic to states not ruled by it. In July 1959, Congress president, the late Indira Gandhi persuaded her father Prime Minister Jawaharlal Nehru to dismiss the EMS Naboodiripad-led CPI (M) government in Kerala. It came to be known as first 'murder of democracy' in India.

In 1980, after the Congress swept to power in the Parliamentary elections, Gandhi found that even though her party had majority in the Lok Sabha, they were a minority in Rajya Sabha. So she dismissed nine state governments including the Janata Party-ruled Bihar, Gujarat, Madhya Pradesh and Rajasthan, the Lok Dal's Orissa and Uttar Pradesh, the AIADMK-run Tamil Nadu, and Maharashtra, run by a coalition headed by the 'Parallel Congress'.

'Oscar' for 'real hero' Zelensky

Continued from P1

In the video, Penn also said that there are three places in the world which will always hold a special place in his heart. "There are three places in the world that all the pride of my life will be. It is place where my daughter was born, the place where my son was born and this (Kiev)."

The actor had previously promised to 'smell' his Oscar if the Academy didn't invite Zelensky to appear at the 2022 Oscars, even though doing so would have violated a rule prohibiting award winners from selling or disposing of the physical prize.

"This is a man (Zelensky) who understands movies and had his own very long and successful career in that. And now he is defending his nation against all odds. So here is the real hero," Penn said.



VOTER AWARENESS: Chief Electoral Officer SK Lohani during a state-level rally on Special Summary of Electoral Rolls 2023 in Bhubaneswar, Wednesday

8 HELD FOR CLASH ON LUNAR ECLIPSE DAY

AGENCIES

Bhubaneswar, Nov 9: Eight persons were arrested on the charge of vandalising and attacking a group of people taking food on the lunar eclipse day at Lohia Academy here Tuesday, police said Wednesday.

The arrests were made based on the FIR by the group who claimed to be rationalists and organised a biriyani feast here and in Berhampur town defying the tradition of fasting during an eclipse. They were opposed by the group of traditionalists and clashes took place in both places.

The Kharavela Nagar police registered a case based on an FIR lodged by the rationalists' group and arrested eight people on the charge of assaulting the rival group members.

Several complaints and counter-complaints were lodged in different police stations in Bhubaneswar, Puri, Berhampur and Khallikote.

The traditionalists in their complaints at Singhadwar police station in Puri and Khallikote police station in Ganjam alleged that the rationalists not only defied tradition but also hurt the religious sentiments of Hindus.

Corpus Fund boost to Capital, BMC hospitals

POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar, Nov 9: With an aim to fill vacant posts of super specialists and specialists in Capital Hospital and BMC Hospital here, the state government has extended the provision of Corpus Fund to the two hospitals in Bhubaneswar.

Following the approval of Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik, the Health and Family Welfare department has issued a notification in this regard, Wednesday.

At present, the state government is providing Corpus Fund to KBK & KBK+ districts and tribal sub-plan areas.

"The existing provision of 'Corpus Fund' provided to KBK & KBK+ districts and tribal sub-plan areas is hereby extended for Capital Hospital, Bhubaneswar for hiring super specialists and specialists on contractual basis at negotiable rates for Capital Hospital, Bhubaneswar and BMC Hospital, Bhubaneswar to provide better healthcare to the people of Capital city as well as that of nearby

Path cleared for hiring super specialists and specialists for Capital Hospital and BMC Hospital on contractual basis

areas," read the notification. The fund will be placed with the Capital Hospital's director. A committee comprising the director of PGIMER, Bhubaneswar, the director of Health Services (DHS) and the director of Capital Hospital under the chairmanship of BMC commissioner will select and hire suitable medical professionals at negotiated salaries.

This will help in expanding speciality and super speciality services available at Capital Hospital and BMC Hospital to provide better healthcare to the people of Odisha.

The move comes in the wake of reports of patients returning disappointed from the Capital Hospital as doctors in Super Speciality departments remain absent.

Time to repay people's debt, says Suraj

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

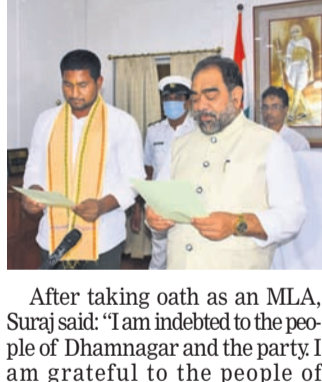
Bhubaneswar, Nov 9: Newly-elected BJP legislator from Dhamanagar Suryabanshi Suraj Wednesday took oath as a member of the Odisha Legislative Assembly.

The 27-year-old Suraj was administered oath by Speaker Bikram Keshari Arukha at a special function held on the Assembly premises and attended by Leader of Opposition JN Mishra and other MLAs. Suraj, a B Tech graduate is the youngest member of the House.

He was elected from the Dhamanagar assembly segment in a by-poll which was necessitated following the demise of his father and sitting BJP MLA Bishnu Charan Sethi.

He retained the Dhamanagar Assembly seat for the BJP by defeating BJD's Abanti Das by a margin of 9,881 votes. While Suraj secured 80,351 votes, Das got 70,470 votes in the bypoll, the results of which were declared Sunday.

Congress candidate Baba Harekrushna Sethy lost his deposit as he got only 3,561 votes.



After taking oath as an MLA, Suraj said: "I am indebted to the people of Dhamanagar and the party. I am grateful to the people of

Apollo Hospitals organises 'The Pink Walk'

POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar, Nov 9: Apollo Cancer Centres, Bhubaneswar organised "The Pink Walk" to show solidarity towards cancer survivors and inked a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with leading women associations to spread awareness on Breast Cancer. The institute also announced monthly free screening camps for women to help detect breast cancer early. The programme was organised in association with FICCI FLO,

Bhubaneswar and Lions Club, Bhubaneswar.

Namrita Chahal, Chairperson FICCI FLO, Bhubaneswar said "Screening programmes for Women carry prime importance and in the recent years is a must due to a stressed work pattern today, food habits and a plethora of other factors. Annual screening programme helps detect any disease in advance. Apollo has been at the helm in healthcare programs and I express my gratefulness on this exclusive programme for Cancer

Screening in Women. FICCI FLO is always committed to the well being of all its members and such standout programmes shall go a long way in making our members aware about their own health."

Alok Srivastava, COO & DMS of Apollo Hospitals, Bhubaneswar said, "A lot of our women can be saved from breast cancer by early detection and prevention. Therefore, Apollo Hospitals has taken the lead to make the screening programme available to all members of FICCI FLO and Lions Club, Bhubaneswar."

Schools, colleges to remain shut after 1pm

The state government Wednesday declared that all government offices, schools and colleges (Government & Private) coming under Bhubaneswar Municipal Corporation will remain closed after 1pm November 10, when the President will arrive here on a two-day visit.

Government Girls High School Unit-II and Kuntala Kumari Sabat Adivasi Girls Hostel Unit-II in Bhubaneswar and interact with students and teachers.

On the same day, she will launch various projects of the Union Ministry of Education at Soochana Bhawan here.



Over 2kg brown sugar seized; 1 held

Bhubaneswar: Acting on a tip-off, a joint team of Special Task Force (STF), Bhubaneswar and Khurda police Wednesday arrested a drug peddler and seized brown sugar weighing around 2kg from his possession. The accused was identified as Rakesh Samantray alias Raka of Andharua-Gopalpur under Ranapur police limits in Nayagarh. The team conducted a raid at Khurda-Jatni bypass over-bridge early Wednesday morning and found Raka in possession of the contraband weighing 2kg 20 gm.

FOR CLASSIFIED ADVERTISEMENTS CONTACT OUR BOOKING STATIONS

- Acharya Vihar-Dayal Agency-9437135727, A.P. Tours and Travel, Maitri Vihar, C.S. Pur- 9861301598, Aurobindo Market-Sai Audio & Electronics-9438304668, Airport Road-Sai Baba Variety Store-9090071530, Anish Infotech- Tankapani Road-9861341488, Bapuji Nagar- Dreamland Studio- 9777517314, Baramunda Rental Colony-Maa Ramchandi Communication-9658821469, Baramunda Housing Board Colony-Pappu Variety Store-9040500106, Cuttack Road-Alishan Snacks-8984236754, District Center (Chandrasekharpur)-Sai Google Mart-9776056507, Forest Park-DTDC Couriers & Services (HB Services)-7381024156, IRC Village-Bapi Xerox-9090090404, Gift Hut(Antriksh Gifts & Decors Pvt. Ltd.)-9954781084, Pruthvi Medicine-9853314816, Janpath-Krupajal Book Store-7978646669, Jaydev Vihar-AK Enterprises-7978116618, Subam Sai Books Store-8895550649, Swain Graphics- 9337121249, Jagannath Mobile Point- Janpath Road, Ram Mandir- 9938475415, Kanan Vihar-Auro Electronics-8260697560, Khandagiri- Swosti Mobile Centre- 7992914045, World Solution- 9938317559, KIIT Road-Jugad Jn-9338545031, Laxmi Sagar-Aditya Mobile-9438191836, Lewis Road-Spider Web-7809186415, Metro Satellite City-Arogya Mitra Medicine Store-9853621640, Madhusudan Nagar-Mohapatra Communication-9124446664, Maa Santoshi travels- Gajapati Nagar- 9777675867, Nayapalli- The Cake Room- 7873660137, Near Mayfair Lagoon-Cookiemana-9439491273, Nigamananda-Omm Sai Travels-9668284823, Nr Cosmopolis Main Gate- Shreeram Medical Store- 8763711714, Net Square- Niladri Vihar (C.S. Pur)- 7205634821, Priyadarshini Market-Astro Point-9938134346, R.N. General Store-Nilakantha Nagar-9438642501, Sahid Nagar- Maa Communication- 9437353424, Sahini General Store- Near Patia Railway Station, Mahavir Vihar- 9937586626, Satya Nagar-Baishnavi Mixture & Sweets-7894821764, Samantapur- Download Point-7504557743, Sailashree Vihar-Harsha Book Store-8093449515, Saheed Nagar-Jagannath Graphics-7978652670, Photo World-7978468191, Sainath Photo Studio-8984436129, Shanti & Co-9937071063, Siripur-Omm Maa Sarala Communication-9777682449, Sushree fashion- Jagmara-9938714347, Shree Vision- Sailashree Vihar-9861476678, Unit-3-LIC of India Premium Point-9337787080, Unit-7- LIC Premium Point- 9338227422, VSS Nagar-Friends Cake & Bake-8658200930, Jeet Infoworld-7205195782, XIMB Square-LD Books-9658061373.**

Middlemen fleece cotton farmers in western dists



dis instead of the millers. He alleged that the farmers are being deprived of actual profit due to apathetic attitude of the state government and the loopholes in the cotton purchase policy," he added.

The selling price of cotton went up last year as the government allowed the outside traders to buy cotton directly from the farmers. This benefited the farmers.

This year, the Cotton Corporation of India (CCI) has fixed the minimum price per quintal of cotton at ₹6,380. Harvest season has started in Bolangir and other districts from first week of November but the meeting of the district level cotton procurement committee is yet to be conducted. With the start of the harvest season, middlemen are moving from village to village transporting cotton outside.

The middlemen and traders have also introduced the system of advance payment like migrant labourers in cotton cultivation. They are paying money in advance to the farmers to buy seeds, fertilizers and pesticides by signing a contract and buying their produce after the harvest. As a result, middlemen are earning more profits than the farmers.

Moreover, the district administrations have not opened any mandi to purchase cotton except through three regulated market committees (RMCs). The CCI is also not intervening as cotton is being sold at prices more than the MSP.

Lack of registration facility for cotton farmers has also hit them. It is difficult to differentiate between an actual farmer and a middleman. Meanwhile, cotton is sold at higher prices in international market than the MSP. It is apprehended that this might soon affect the farmers if the government does not take any preventive steps.

When contacted, Collector Chanchal Rana said that the administration is making arrangements to help the cotton farmers earn more.



JUMBO BATH: A herd of stray elephants was seen taking bath in a waterbody at Bishnupur village under Patana forest range in Keonjhar district after being driven away from human habitats by villagers

Interstate bidders, middlemen and local millers are making the most of loopholes in the system and government policies and eating into the margins of farmers

POST NEWS NETWORK

Bolangir, Nov 9: Cotton cultivation has seen a rise in the western districts of Bolangir, Kalahandi, Nuapada, Subarnapur; Boudh and Bargarh, and also in Rayagada, Koraput and Gajapati districts in state's south. However, what ails the farmers is that the middlemen, commission agents, traders and wholesalers take a major chunk of profit from farmers' produce. Cotton is being grown on 62,433 hectare land in Bolangir district in 2022-23 kharif season. According to available data, cotton used to be grown only on 5,000 hectare in 1980 which has expanded to over 2 lakh hectare by 2022. The government at the Centre decides the minimum support price (MSP) of cotton as the cotton price is fixed on the basis of international market. Nevertheless, cotton is sold at a much higher price in the market than the MSP.

Recovery of ₹700cr penalty likely

POST NEWS NETWORK

Jajpur, Nov 9: The district administration has concluded the mapping of alleged excess stone mining at Rahadpur hill in Jajpur district Wednesday by using drones. It was alleged that large quantities of black stone had been extracted from Rahadpur stone mines beyond the permissible limits.

The administration engaged My World Consultancy agency to assess the plundering of the black stone. Jajpur ADM (Revenue) Akshay Kumar Mallick, Dharmashala tehsildar Swagat Kumar Das and other revenue officials were present during the mapping of the stone mines. In next seven days, the assessment report of the stone mining will be available. After the report comes, action will be taken against the leaseholders and others involved in the scam.

It is said that in 2016-17, the lessees extracted stones exceeding the permissible limits. The excess stones

EXCESS STONE MINING IN RAHADPUR HILL



mined were valued at ₹350 crore. As per legal provision, the administration is expected to recover penalties double its value found after assessment. This has struck fears among the leaseholders. On the other hand, it is alleged that some administration officials, leaseholders and the consultancy agency have struck a secret deal worth ₹20 crore to underestimate the excess stone mining so that those involved in it would have to

pay less penalty amounts. It is alleged that 10 tehsildars, revenue inspectors and six sub-collectors who were earlier found complicit in the case would be free of the taint due to irregularities. In August, four leaseholders had been served with demand notices for recovery of ₹105.87 crore after the satellite survey of the stone mines. Our correspondent tried to contact the tehsildar, but the latter did not pick up the call.

Guesthouse cook held for killing firm manager

POST NEWS NETWORK

Lahunipada, Nov 9: Police Wednesday cracked the murder of a railway siding manager of a mining firm as it arrested the cook of the company's guesthouse at Barsuan in Sundargarh district. The accused identified as Sushil Kumar Tripathy, 37, allegedly killed the railway siding manager Motiram Pal, 59.

He strangled Pal and was absconding after the incident. This was stated here in a press meet by Bonai SDPO Swaraj Debata at Lahunipada police station, Wednesday.

Tripathy was produced in the court after his arrest. He is stated to have committed the crime after Pal asked him to work in the siding as he failed to discharge his work as a cook properly. Tripathy had developed a strained relationship with him. During interrogation, Tripathy confessed to the crime, said a police officer.

₹17L goes down the drain as LI project defunct

POST NEWS NETWORK

Khairia, Nov 9: A lift irrigation (LI) project built at a cost of ₹17 lakh is not coming handy for farmers in Sardang panchayat under Khairia block of Balasore district as crops in hectares of land are affected by water shortage.

Now, farmlands are bone dry when they should have enough water for the plants to grow, farmers said. Crops are expected to ripen in a few weeks, but want of water in the farmlands will spoil the harvest, they added.

This has caused concern among the farmers, who have warned of agitation if the defunct LI project is not made functional in a few days.

Notably, the project was built 10 years ago at a cost of ₹17.30 lakh. After running for a few years, it became defunct. Following repeated pleas and demands from the farmers, the project was repaired eight months ago by spending ₹17 lakh again. However, it has failed to deliver a drop of water to the farmlands despite it being repaired, lamented farmers.

Contacted, assistant engineer of the lift irrigation division, Suresh Chandra Dey said that the project was repaired after the farmers complained. "If it has gone defunct again, steps will be taken to get it repaired," he assured.

Wife, 2 sons hack man to death in Ganjam

POST NEWS NETWORK

Khallikote, Nov 9: A man was hacked to death by his wife and two sons over domestic dispute at Totagaon village under Khallikote NAC area and police limits in Ganjam, late Tuesday night.

The deceased was identified as Surya Pahan, 55, of Totagaon village. The matter came to the fore after some local residents informed police about a body lying in a pool of blood at Totagaon cremation ground.

A police team led by Khallikote IIC Jagannath Mallick rushed to the spot and seized the body from the cremation ground. A scientific team and sniffer dogs were also



pressed into service and the murder weapon was seized.

The body was identified as that of Pahan. A case was registered in this connection and the body was sent for post-mortem.

Police then picked up the deceased's wife Sugyani Pahan, sons Ratna Pahan and Bishnu Pahan and brought them over to the police station. They disclosed to have killed Pahan during interrogation.

His wife alleged that the deceased had been torturing her and her two sons for a long time

His wife alleged that the deceased had been torturing her and her two sons for a long time which shattered the peace in the family. They had even started staying separately for last some days.

His wife and two sons were subsequently detained by police. When contacted, the IIC said that the detainees will be arrested soon and a probe is underway to ascertain the involvement of some other persons in the crime.

13-YEAR-OLD GOES MISSING

POST NEWS NETWORK

Nilagiri, Nov 9: A 13-year-old boy has gone missing from his home at Pratapada village under this police limit in Balasore district, police said Wednesday.

The missing boy was identified as Gopal Giri, son of Somanath Giri of the village. The matter came to the fore after police launched an investigation over a complaint lodged by his father, Wednesday.

Reports said that his father pulled him up for not attending his tuition classes, two days back. The boy left home on the day of Kartik Purnima, Tuesday but never returned home.

EAST COAST RAILWAY
Tender Notice No. ST-OT-TELE-UP-GRAD-288, Dt.: 31.10.2022
Name of Work : UP GRADATION OF BHADRAK, JAJPUR KEONJHAR ROAD, KENDUJHARGARH, PARADEEP, DHENKANAL, TALCHER ROAD, TALCHER, ANGUL, MANCHESWAR, KHURDA ROAD (2ND ENTRY), BALUGAON AND BRAHMAPUR STATIONS OF KHURDA ROAD DIVISION.
Tender Value : ₹ 1,61,29,285.27, EMD: ₹ 2,30,700/-
Tender closing date & time : at 1100 hrs. of 22.11.2022.
No manual offers sent by Post/Courier/Fax or in person shall be accepted against such e-tenders.
Complete information including e-tender documents of the above e-tender is available in website <http://www.reps.gov.in>
Note : The prospective tenderers are advised to revisit the website 15 (Fifteen) days before the date of closing of tender to note any changes/ corrigendum issued for this tender.
Divisional Railway Manager (S&T), PR-677/N/22-23, Khurda Road

Drunk on 'mahua', 24 jumbos sleep for hours



PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Keonjhar, Nov 9: People of a village went inside a forest to prepare 'mahua', a traditional country liquor, but found that a herd of elephants had already devoured the water fermented with the intoxicating flowers and were in deep sleep.

The villagers living near Shilipada cashew forest in Keonjhar district saw that a total of 24 jumbos, who were apparently drunk, were sleeping near the place where mahua flowers were kept in water in large pots for fermentation.

"We went into the jungle at around 6am to prepare mahua liquor and found that all the pots were broken and the fermented water missing. We also found that the elephants were sleeping. They consumed the fermented water and got drunk," Naria Sethi, a villager, said. There were nine tuskers, six females and nine calves.

"That liquor was unprocessed. We tried to wake up the animals but failed. The Forest department was then informed," he said. Forest department personnel after reaching the spot

Forest personnel had to beat drums to wake the herd of nine tuskers, six females and nine calves up

in the jungle under the Patana forest range had to beat drums to wake the herd up.

The elephants then went deep inside the forest, said Ghasiram Patra, the forest ranger. Sethi said the herd left the place at around 10am.

The forest official, however, is not sure whether the elephants got drunk after consuming fermented mahua.

"Maybe, they were just resting there," Patra said. Villagers, on the other hand, insisted that they spotted the elephants sleeping in intoxicated conditions at various places close to the broken pots Tuesday.

The flowers of Mahua tree (*Madhuca longifolia*) are fermented to produce an alcoholic drink also called Mahua. Tribal men and women in various parts of India traditionally make this liquor.

Woman found hanging in cashew orchard

Patana: A 37-year-old woman was found hanging in a cashew orchard under Patana police limits of Keonjhar district Wednesday. Informed, Saharapada ASI Shiba Prasad Aicha seized the body for post-mortem. The deceased was identified as Jangiri Mohant, wife of Kashinath Mohant of Sharanibeda village. Reports said that Jangiri was missing since Tuesday. However, she was found hanging from a tree Wednesday. The reason for her death is not known. Patana police registered a case of unnatural death in this regard. The body was handed over to the family after post-mortem.

PUBLIC NOTICE
Notice is hereby given to all concerned that, Panchanana Panda, S/o-Late Narayan Panda, Resident of Deulmunda, PO- Kamapur, PS-Birmaharajpur, Dist- Subarnapur has sworn an affidavit on dt. 03.11.2022 and has reported to IIC, Birmaharajpur on 03.11.2022 regarding loss of original link Regd. Sale Deed No. 57/04 of Registering Officer, Birmaharajpur.
Panchanana Panda, S/o- Late Narayan Panda has applied to the LIC HOUSING FINANCE LTD. Sambalpur to avail loan on the above property by mortgaging the said property documents.
All concerned therefore, having any claim over the property purchased under the said document Regd. Sale Deed No. 57/04 of Registering Officer, Birmaharajpur is required to file his claim with the undersigned within 15(Fifteen)days from the date of publication of this notice failing which it will be presumed that, the property having link with the said document/s/ is/are free from encumbrances and any claim in respect thereof against the applicant as a mortgagor and the company as the mortgagor shall be void and ineffective after the lapse of 15(Fifteen)days of publication of this notice.
Sd./- A.K. Debta, Advocate, Sambalpur, LIC Housing Finance Ltd, At/Po. - Modipara, Dt. 07.11.2022, Sambalpur, Odisha, Mobile No. 9437158519.

Bank of India POSSESSION NOTICE
[Rule-8(1)] of Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules-2002
Whereas, the undersigned being the Authorised Officer of the Bank of India, Nabakalebar Road Branch under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 and in exercise of powers conferred under section 13(12) read with Rule 8 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 issued Demand Notices calling upon the Borrower/ Co-Borrower/Mortgagor in the loan account given below to repay the amount mentioned in the Notice plus interest & expenses thereon within 60 days from the date of receipt of the said Notice. The Borrower having failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to the Borrower/Co-Borrower/Mortgagor and the public in general that the undersigned has taken possession of the properties described herein below in exercise of powers conferred on him/her under section 13(4) of the said Act read with Rule 8 of the said rules. The Borrower/Co-Borrower/Mortgagor in particular and the public in general is hereby cautioned not to deal with the properties and any dealings with the properties will be subject to the charge of the Bank of India, Nabakalebar Road Branch for an amount mentioned below with interest & expenses thereon. The Borrower's attention is invited to provisions of Sub-Section (B) of Section 13 of the Act, in respect of time available to redeem the secured assets.

NABAKALEBAR ROAD BRANCH / Name & Address of Borrower/ Co-Borrower/Mortgagor	Liabilities due as per Notice	Date of Demand Notice/ Date of Possession	Description of the Immovable Properties
Borrower/Mortgagor : Mr. Debendra Kumar Nayak, At: Matagosein Lane, Chudanga Sahi,Puri, Odisha - 752001	₹ 9,81,454.82 + interest & expenses thereon	02.08.2022 / 04.11.2022	All that part and parcel of the property consisting of Land & Building Situated over Khata No.: 68, Plot No.: 329, Area: Ac.0.018 Dec, KISSAM: Gharabari at Mouza: Dandimal Sahi, P.S.: Puri Town, P.S. No.: 20, SRO: Puri, Municipal Holding No.: 442, standing in the name of Mr. Debendra Kumar Nayak, Bounded by North: Rama Chandra Nayak, South: Rajendra Sahoo, East: Jagannath Ballav Matha, West: Road
Borrower/Mortgagor : Mrs. Chinmayee Nayak (Dei), W/o: Mr. Debendra Kumar Nayak/ Co-Borrower: Mr. Debendra Kumar Nayak, Both are At: Matagosein Lane, Chudanga Sahi,Puri, Odisha - 752001	₹ 14,77,139.90 + interest & expenses thereon	02.08.2022 / 04.11.2022	All that part and parcel of the property consisting of Land & Building Situated over Khata No.: 640/156, Plot No.: 793/1622, Area: Ac.0.020.2 Dec, KISSAM: Gharabari at Mouza: Markandeswar Sahi, P.S.: Puri Town, P.S. No.: 19, SRO: Puri, Chudanga Sahi,Puri, Odisha - 752001 (Tahasil: Puri, Dist.: Puri, corresponding to Sabik Khata No.: 496, Plot No.: 793, Area: Ac.0.020.2 Dec, Municipality Holding No.: 1026/4/1, standing in the name of Mrs. Chinmayee Nayak (Dei), W/o.: Mr. Debendra Kumar Nayak, Bounded by North: Road & Biswajit Senda, south: Chudanga Pokhari, East: Hadibandhu Nayak & Satyabhama Mishra, West: Sasmita Senapati & Bijay Nayak

Place: Bhubaneswar, Date: 10.11.2022
Authorised Officer, Bank of India

27 chromite-laden trucks detained

Anandapur: Amid allegation of illegal mining in parts of Keonjhar district, police officials have detained 27 trucks loaded with chromite in Anandapur area, late Tuesday night. The trucks were carrying the mineral from Kaliapani area of Jajpur district to Maharaja Mineral Pvt Ltd at Soso in Keonjhar. On the way, locals had suspected illegal mineral transportation and then informed the police. Police intercepted the trucks and took them to the police station. Police are examining documents and permits of all these trucks. Police have suspected something fishy in the permits for the mineral transportation. Police communicated with the deputy director of mines, Keonjhar, and the Keonjhar RTO about the detained trucks for document verification.

Vain indeed is all overweening pride in the conquest even of the entire universe if one has not conquered one's own passions.

SRI AUROBINDO



Free Speech for Whom?

How is it that a man who has banned 83 million people from Twitter can freely use the platform to post his messages denigrating women and supporting the brutal attack on the writer Salman Rushdie?

For several years, the Iranian-American activist Masih Alinejad has been calling for Khamenei to be banned from Twitter. Last month, along with Ukrainian president Volodymyr Zelensky, she received the 2022 Oxi Courage Award at the United States Institute of Peace.

As recently as 2019, Khamenei called this verdict "solid and irrevocable," and Iran's foreign ministry refused to reproach Rushdie's attacker, instead blaming Rushdie.

Now that Elon Musk has purchased Twitter, the campaign to ban Khamenei is seeking to influence him. In a recent letter directed to Twitter's advertisers, Musk wrote that he acquired Twitter because "it is important to the future of civilization to have a common digital town square."

I share Musk's concern about what he calls "the woke mind virus" - the readiness to attack people who advocate positions that are perceived as politically incorrect - and the absence of genuine dialogue across the political spectrum.



Peter Singer

Control of a platform like Twitter has put great power - and therefore great responsibility - in the hands of a single individual. Much will depend on Musk, and the members of the content moderation council he appoints, to exercise that responsibility well



Vanessa Nakate & Rachel Kyte

ELECTRICITY FROM SOLAR AND WIND IS NOW CHEAPER THAN ELECTRICITY FROM GAS, AND THE PRICES DON'T UNDERGO DANGEROUS FLUCTUATIONS

SPECTRUM CONSTRUCTION

Three building mistakes to avoid



Dhanada K Mishra

CORROSION OF STEEL REINFORCEMENT EMBEDDED INSIDE CONCRETE IS POPULARLY KNOWN AS 'CONCRETE CANCER'

My mother doesn't think much of me as a civil engineer, notwithstanding a degree from NIT - Trichy, a PhD from the University of Michigan and over 25 years of work experience, including ten years overseas.

For additional protection. However, the problem becomes dangerous when the area affected by corrosion is hidden from view and, therefore, cannot be detected early.

A few weeks ago, there was a near similar incident in one of the busiest metro railway stations in Hong Kong. During the evening rush hour around 6 PM on 20th February earlier this year, a large chunk of concrete fell through the false ceiling near platform 3 at Central station near the escalators.

ity construction and not susceptible to moisture and oxygen penetration that are prerequisites for corrosion.

The second building mistake is a common problem during concrete casting when it is poured from a height. While consulting on a project, double-height reinforced concrete columns were to be cast without joints.

The third problem is using excess water to increase the workability of concrete. It is a common practice which damages concrete more than anything else.

also known as fine aggregate, cement, water and optionally chemical and mineral admixtures. While the popular belief is that amount of cement is the most critical factor determining the strength and hence the quality of concrete, it is not entirely true.

Water content measured in terms of water-to-cement ratio plays a crucial role in determining fresh concrete properties such as workability and hardened concrete properties such as strength and durability.

I am not sure if my mother will change her opinion of my professional competence after reading this article. But I am not in bad company given that she had a similarly poor opinion of my late father's skills as an agricultural scientist.

The author is a Hong Kong-based civil engineer working for a AI start-up for autonomous building inspections.

WISDOM CORNER

Any idiot can face a crisis - it's day to day living that wears you out. Research has shown that the best way to be happy is to make each day happy. Sometimes your joy is the source of your smile, but sometimes your smile can be the source of your joy.

WORDSWORTH

Consilience

Edward O Wilson popularised this rare word when he used it in the title of his best-selling book Consilience: the Unity of Knowledge. It means "a jumping together", and in his book he encourages those who study the sciences, the humanities and the arts to bridge the gaps between their narrow specialisms and so link together all the branches of learning, an aim which goes back to the thinkers of the time of the Enlightenment.

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.

Orissa POST B-15, Rasulgarh Industrial Estate, Bhubaneswar-751010

Focus on Global South

Sir, This refers "PM Modi unveils logo, theme and website of India's G20 presidency" Orissa POST, November 9. Prosperity and peace in the Global South will be the focus of India's presidency of the G20.

Anxious students

Sir, A first-of-its-kind mental health survey conducted by the NCERT has found that examinations and results are a cause of anxiety for over 80 per cent of school students in India at the middle and secondary school levels.

national



Nonetheless, I request everyone to keep their surroundings clean and ensure there is no water accumulation, which causes mosquito breeding that needs to be checked
MAMATA BANERJEE | WEST BENGAL CM

TWITTER ADDS 'OFFICIAL' LABEL FOR PM MODI

An 'Official' label has been added to the Twitter handle of Prime Minister Narendra Modi and some other ministers as the US-based social media platform started rolling out a feature to distinguish between the Twitter Blue account and verified accounts



of the day **QUOTE**

We have to make maximum use of anti-drone technology to stop smuggling of drugs from across the border through drones
AMIT SHAH | UNION HOME MINISTER

The state government will request the Centre to start an air service between Mumbai and Birmingham
EKNATH SHINDE | MAHARASHTRA CM

The BJP's development claims in Himachal Pradesh are "hollow" and the people have made up their mind to bring the grand old party to power in the state
BHUPINDER SINGH HOODA | CONGRESS LEADER

SHORT TAKES

Satish Jarkiholi apologises
Belagavi: Karnataka Pradesh Congress Committee Secretary Satish Jarkiholi Wednesday apologised for his comments on the origin of the word 'Hindu'. "One of my statements has turned into a controversy. It has been distorted and spread. I am taking back my statement so that it should not create confusion among people. I apologise if it has caused pain to anyone," Jarkiholi stated in his letter written to Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai.

Air quality improves in national capital
New Delhi: Air pollution in Delhi ameliorated from "very poor" to the "poor" category Wednesday owing to favourable wind speed at night, sporadic rains in adjoining states and a considerable drop in emissions from stubble burning. The 24-hour average AQI stood at 260, dropping from 372 Tuesday.

SAD candidate Dhama re-elected SGPC chief
Amritsar: Shiromani Akali Dal candidate Harjinder Singh Dhama Wednesday was re-elected as the SGPC president after he defeated Bibi Jagir Kaur in the poll for the apex gurdwara body's top post. Kaur was Monday expelled by the party after she refused to back down from contesting the Shiromani Gurdwara Parbandhak Committee (SGPC) presidential election.

PM to visit four southern states
New Delhi: Prime Minister Narendra Modi will visit Karnataka, Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh and Telangana November 11 and 12 during which he would dedicate and lay foundation stones of projects worth over ₹25,000 crore.

Centre deregulates uplinking of satellite TV channels

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, Nov 9: In a bid to pitch India as an uplinking hub, the government Tuesday announced relaxation in guidelines for compliance for television channels and also made a 30-minute daily public interest broadcast mandatory, mainly for entertainment channels.
 The 'Guidelines for Uplinking and Downlinking of Television Channels in India, 2022', which have been approved by the Union Cabinet, allow limited liability partnerships and companies to allow uplinking of foreign channels from Indian territories for beaming content in countries covered by the satellite footprint.

The move is expected to allow television channels of Bhutan, Bangladesh, Sri Lanka and Nepal to uplink from India, instead of Singapore, the preferred uplinking hub for channels beamed in the subcontinent.
 Currently, only 30 channels are uplinked from India out of the total 897 registered with the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting, officials said.
 "Requirement for seeking permission for live telecast of events has been done away with; only prior registration of events to be telecast live would be necessary," Sanjiv Shankar, Joint Secretary (Broadcasting) said in a presentation to the media here.



He said there would be no requirement of prior permission for change of language or conversion of mode of transmission from Standard Definition (SD) to High Definition (HD) or vice versa.

The channel will only have to inform the ministry about the changes, he said. The guidelines were first issued in 2005 and re-

vised in 2011. The current revision has taken place after 11 years after taking into account the technological advances in the interim period. In case of emergency, for a company/LLP with only two Directors/Partners, changes can be done subject to security clearance post such appointment, to enable business decision making.
 The new guidelines state that a company can use news gathering equipment other than Digital Satellite News Gathering (DSNG), such as optic fibre, back pack, mobile, for which no separate permission would be necessary.
 The guidelines state that electronic news gathering devices can be used.

ED ISSUES FRESH SUMMONS TO HEMANT SOREN



PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Ranchi, Nov 9: The Enforcement Directorate has issued fresh summons to Jharkhand Chief Minister Hemant Soren to appear before it in Ranchi November 17 for questioning in a money laundering case linked to alleged illegal mining in the state, official sources said Wednesday.

Soren, 47, was initially summoned by the federal probe agency November 3 but he did not appear citing official engagements. He had then sought a three-week deferment of the summons.

Official sources said the agency has now asked the CM to appear next week on November 17 at its regional office in state capital Ranchi for questioning and recording of his statement under the provisions of the Prevention of Money Laundering Act (PMLA). The ED has arrested Soren's political aide Pankaj Mishra and two others - local musclemen Bachhu Yadav and Prem Prakash - in this case.
 The agency has said it has "identified" proceeds of crime relating to illegal mining in the state to the tune of more than ₹1,000 crore till now.

Rupani, Patel not to fight Guj polls

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Rajkot, Nov 9: Former Gujarat Chief Minister Vijay Rupani and ex-deputy CM Nitin Patel, both senior leaders of the ruling Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP), Wednesday night announced they will not fight the next month's Assembly elections.

Two other senior BJP leaders, Bhupendrasinh Chudasama and Pradeepsinh Jadeja - who were ministers in the Rupani cabinet - also announced they will not seek tickets for the polls to be held December 1 and 5.

Their statements come at a time when the central Parliament Board of BJP has convened the meeting to finalise the names of candidates in Delhi under the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi. "These four senior leaders of our party have written separate letters to state unit party president CR Paatil, saying they do not want to fight the upcoming elections," Gujarat BJP spokesperson Yamal Vyas said.
 "I have decided not to fight elections this time. The BJP gave me chance to be the chief minister of Gujarat for five years. Now they have made me in-charge of Punjab and as a senior leader, I have declared earlier that I will not fight this election. I have not even demanded

ticket," Rupani told reporters. Rupani (66), a sitting MLA from Rajkot West, was the Chief Minister from August 2016 to September 2021. He and his entire Council of Ministers were replaced by the BJP in September 2021. Patel, in a handwritten letter to Paatil, has said he should not be considered for ticket to contest the Mehsana Assembly seat, currently represented by him, as he has decided not to fight the upcoming elections.

"I have decided not to fight elections. I have been elected as an MLA for six times from Kadi and Mehsana seats," the former deputy CM told reporters later.

Chudasama, the MLA from Dholka, said the party has given tickets to him nine times. "Out of the nine times I won five times and was made a cabinet minister. Now enough is enough, I had earlier told the party that I will not fight the next elections," he said. Jadeja, in a letter to Paatil, said he, too, is not interested in contesting Assembly polls. "I will do whatever work the party assigns to me," he said. The MLA from Vatva in Ahmedabad was home minister in the BJP government led by Rupani.



PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, Nov 9: Presence of a lotus image on the G20 logo, unveiled by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, sparked a political sluffest on Wednesday as the Congress accused the BJP of promoting its poll symbol while the ruling party claimed its rival was denigrating India's national flower.

Congress general secretary in-charge communications Jairam Ramesh said it was shocking that the BJP's election symbol (lotus) was part of the G20 logo, alleging the prime minister and his party would not lose any opportunity to promote themselves.

The BJP hit back, saying the lotus was declared the national flower in 1950 by the then Congress government and asked why the grand old party chooses to "denigrate and undermine" every national symbol. It said the Congress stand was an "insult" to Hinduism as the flower is associated with deities Lakshmi and Saraswati.
 The attack by the opposition party came a day after Modi unveiled the logo, theme and website for India's upcoming presidency of the grouping.

According to the Ministry of External Affairs, the G20 logo draws inspiration from the vibrant colours of India's national flag - saffron, white and green, and blue. It juxtaposes planet Earth with the lotus, India's national flower, reflecting



growth amid challenges.

"Over 70 years ago, Nehru rejected the proposal to make Congress flag the flag of India. Now, BJP's election symbol has become (the) official logo for India's presidency of G20!" Ramesh tweeted.

"While shocking, we know by now that Mr Modi & BJP won't lose any opportunity to promote themselves shamelessly!" Ramesh said. Hitting back at him, Union minister Hardeep Singh Puri said the lotus was declared the national flower in 1950 by the then Congress government and Ramesh was born in 1954. "God alone knows why the Congress party chooses to denigrate & undermine every national symbol even as it is desperately out to 'jodo' (unite) itself," Puri said. The minister added that Congress leaders should carefully listen to Modi on why lotus is part of the G20 logo. "It symbolises India's ancient heritage, faith &

thought - a symbol of hope in such tough times. Lord Buddha's message for freedom from war, Mahatma Gandhi's solutions in the face of violence," Puri said along with a video of similar remarks by Modi at the event where the logo was unveiled.

BJP spokesperson Shehzad Poonawalla also attacked the Congress over its criticism, saying the national flower also happens to be the 'aasan' (seat) of Goddess Lakshmi. BJP spokesperson Sudhanshu Trivedi also took on the Congress for questioning the use of lotus in the G20 logo, saying it was chosen as the national flower during the Congress government.
 India will assume the presidency of the powerful grouping from the current chair Indonesia on December 1. The G20 or Group of 20 is an intergovernmental forum of the world's major developed and developing economies.

Top court adjourns noteban hearing

INDO-ASIAN NEWS SERVICE

New Delhi, Nov 9: The Supreme Court Wednesday adjourned until November 24 the scrutiny of the decision-making process behind the 2016 demonetisation policy as Centre failed to affidavit, saying "it is very embarrassing".

On October 11, the Supreme Court asked the Centre and RBI to file comprehensive affidavits on the 2016 demonetisation decision and also keep the files ready in connection with Centre's letter to the RBI, the decision of the RBI Board, and the demonetisation announcement.

A five-judge constitution bench headed by Justice S.A. Nazeer and comprising Justices B.R. Gawai, A.S. Bopanna, V. Ramasubramanian, and B.V. Nagarathna adjourned the matter after Attorney General R. Venkataramani sought time to file a comprehensive affidavit.

The AG apologised to the bench for not being able to prepare the comprehensive affidavit and sought a week's time. The bench remarked: "Normally a constitution bench never adjourns like this. We never rise like this. It is very embarrassing for the court also." On the aspect of adjournment, Venkataramani said that it was embarrassing for him also.

Lawyers representing the petitioners argued against the submissions for adjournment of proceedings, saying it has never been an accepted practice before a constitution bench. Senior advocate Shyam Divan, representing one of the petitioners, said this was highly unusual to ask a constitution bench for adjournment.

JeM terror module busted

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Jammu, Nov 9: The Jammu and Kashmir Police Wednesday claimed to have busted a terror module of the Jaish-e-Mohammad (JeM) with the arrest of three suspected operatives and seizure of a cache of arms and ammunition in Jammu.

The terror module was busted in a chance operation and the arms and ammunition, including three AK assault rifles, one pistol and six grenades, were recovered from an oil tanker in the Narwal area of the winter capital, a police spokesman said.

He said the module was assigned the task of transporting to Kashmir the weapons sent by a Pakistani handler from across the border.
 According to the police, the driver of the oil tanker, Mohd Yaseen, and his associates - Farhan Farooq



and Farooq Ahmad - were first booked Tuesday night after they got into a scuffle with a police team on being told not to park their truck on road. The police team was managing traffic on the highway.
 All three are residents of Pampore area in south Kashmir's Pulwama district.
 The trio were taken to the Bahu Fort police station and a signal was sent to the police stations from where the accused hailed regarding their involvement in any other case, the spokesperson said.



People belonging to Tiwa community take part in celebrations of Srimanta Sankaradev Kalakshetra in Guwahati, Assam

India has 2.49 lakh voters aged above 100: CEC

ACCORDING TO CEC RAJIV KUMAR, URBAN VOTERS, ESPECIALLY YOUTH, SHOW APATHY TOWARDS VOTING

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Pune, Nov 9: There are 2.49 lakh voters aged above 100 in India, Chief Election Commissioner Rajiv Kumar said Wednesday.
 Besides, 1.80 crore voters are over 80 years of age, Kumar said after flagging off a bicycle rally in Maharashtra's Pune city on Wednesday to create an awareness about voter registration as part of the national level launch of a special summary revision of the voters' list.
 The Election Commission of India's initiative is aimed at increasing the electoral rolls in urban areas.
 Explaining the robustness and

beauty of the Indian electoral rolls, Kumar said the country has voters from the highest peaks of Himalayas, from the 6,000-km coastline in south, deserts in the west and regions from the east.
 "You will be happy to know we have close to 2.49 lakh voters in our rolls who are (aged) 100 plus and what a relief and ecstasy it gives when you interact with them and find that they have been voting all through their lives," he said.
 Besides, there are 1.80 crore voters who are above 80 years of age, he told reporters after the rally.
 The CEC said India's first voter Shyam Saran Negi, who recently died, was 106 years old and voted through postal ballot just three days



before his death. "That is the spirit," he added.
 Kumar said the summary revision takes place every year, but this year they are doing a very focused activity and starting it all over the country from Pune with a specific purpose to increase the participation of cit-

izens from urban areas.
 "What does it mean? Everywhere in the country and the farthest possible states, be it hills, coastal lines, everywhere, inaccessible terrains, deserts, everywhere every single citizen gets enlisted as a voter and strengthens the democracy by not only getting registered but also casting his/her vote," the CEC said.
 Kumar said they want to request all voters in the urban areas, all the youth to come participate, get registered and vote.
 "It is only through your voting that the democratic traditions become absolutely robust and strong," the CEC said.
 "Some of the cities, I am not naming them, do not really do that

kind of voting and there is a whole lot of ground which we have to cover in urban areas, that is why this rally was organised to create awareness," he said.
 Kumar flagged off the bicycle rally at the Shiv Chhatrapati Sports Complex in Pune's Balewadi area.
 He later told reporters that there are some advanced, big metro cities where apathy is seen among the urban voters, but it is expected that these cities should also participate in voting wholeheartedly and help strengthen the democracy.
 "The same applies to the youth also. If they can put forth their views on WhatsApp, they can very well put forth their opinion on casting votes," he said.

OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER
CHHELIGADA HEADWORKS DIVISION
AT/PO: MAHENDRAGADA, VIA: CHANDRAGIRI,
DIST: GAJAPATI, PIN - 761017
 e-mail: eechwd@gmail.com
Auction Sale Notice No. SE-CHWD-01/2022-23
 No.A-709: Bid documents comprising of items for disposal, estimated cost, cost of tender paper, EMD, Time of Completion, Class of Contractor, the set of terms and condition and other necessary documents can be seen in Web portal <http://www.tenderodisha.gov.in>.

1. Type of items for disposal :-	Unserviceable Special T&P materials (Vehicles)
2. No. of LOTS :-	03
3. Upset price :-	Rs. 18000/- to 26550/- (As per DTCN).
4. Cost of tender documents :-	Rs. 400/-
5. Caution money to be furnished :-	5% i.e. Rs. 900/- to 1328/- (As per DTCN).
6. Date & time of availability of bid documents :-	14.11.2022 to 13.12.2022 upto 3.00 PM
7. Date & venue of opening of bid :-	14.12.2022 at 11.00 A.M. in the office of Superintending Engineer, Chheligada Head Works Division, Mahendragada, Dist: Gajapati.
8. Name of the officer Inviting bid :-	Superintending Engineer, Chheligada, Head Works Division, Mahendragada, Dist: Gajapati.

N.B.:- Further details can be seen in the bidding documents and also from Government Web portal <http://www.tenderodisha.gov.in>.
Sd./- Superintending Engineer Chheligada Head Works Division Mahendragada (Gajapati)
 OIPR-32109/11/0008/2223



TWO STATES



Kerala govt to float Ordinance to oust Guv as varsities' chancellor



For long, Khan and CM Pinarayi Vijayan have been engaged in a tussle that started with Khan objecting to Vijayan's private secretary KK Ragesh's wife Priya Varghese at the Kannur University

has stemmed from it. But, with Khan being in no mood to relent, it remains to be seen how he handles the situation. The two Bills sent to him after a hurriedly called special session in September, along with a few others, continue to lie on his table.

According to sources in the know of things, one of the reasons why the Vijayan government decided to bring out an Ordinance is, not long ago, when the tiff started, an angry Khan had mentioned that he should be the chancellor and said if an Ordinance/Bill is brought out, he will happily sign it.

Leader of Opposition VD Sathesnan, on hearing about the Ordinance, said under no circumstances will the Congress-led Opposition be a party to it.

"This cannot happen in Kerala because if this becomes law, then all the appointments including that of vice-chancellor, staff will be made from the CPI-M state party headquarters," he added.

Incidentally, this is the first time that such a law is being moved after Kerala was formed in 1956, when the Assembly through a Bill appointed the governor as the chancellor of universities in the state.

There are 14 universities where the governor is the chancellor.

Cutout war in soccer-crazy Kerala ahead of WC

AS THE MARQUEE TOURNAMENT KICKS OFF IN QATAR LATER THIS MONTH, SOCCER MANIA HAS GRIPPED THIS SOUTHERN STATE

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Kozhikode (Ker), Nov 9: Football frenzy is peaking in 'paradoxical' Kerala ahead of the world cup as huge cutouts of Lionel Messi, Neymar Jr and Cristiano Ronaldo erected alongside a scenic river flowing through this north Kerala district have grabbed worldwide attention.

As the marquee tournament kicks off in Qatar later this month, soccer mania has gripped this southern state and fan pages, largely celebrating South American nations dominating the sport, have started going viral.

Kerala, known for its love for football, caught the global attention last week when a group of Argentinian soccer team fans in Pullavoor village erected a 30-foot-tall cutout of Messi over a small islet in the river weeks ahead of the Qatar World Cup.

If Argentina is there, can Brazil be left behind?

Keralite Brazil fans erected a 40-foot-tall cutout of Neymar Jr along the banks of the river, spicing up the contest between the supporters of the two stars.

Kerala, known for its love for football, caught the global attention last week when a group of Argentinian soccer team fans in Pullavoor village erected a 30-foot-tall cutout of Messi over a small islet in the river weeks ahead of the Qatar World Cup.

Incidentally, FIFA tweeted a picture of the cutouts, saying world cup "fever has hit Kerala."

Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan thanked the world football body for "acknowledging our unmatched passion for the sport." Kerala's love for football is "on full display" with the World Cup around, he said in a tweet.

"These cutouts have been widely shared by the official fan pages of Argentina and Brazil," ET Nibinraj, a resident from a nearby area, told PTI.

Argentina National Football Team, an unverified Facebook page with over over 4.23 lakh Likes and followers, posted the image of Messi's cutout on November 1



Larger-than-life cutouts of football stars Lionel Messi, Neymar Jr and Cristiano Ronaldo erected along a river at Pullavoor, in Kozhikode district, Wednesday.

which went viral. Numerous fan pages, including that of Brazil, have shared the viral images.

According to PV Sreenijan MLA, who is also the president of District Sports Council in Ernakulam and an office bearer of the district football association, said the club football history of the country has greatly influenced the people of Kerala.

"The Mohun Bagan and East Bengal clubs along with the 1973 Santosh Trophy win among other factors attracted a whole generation towards football. Keralites are also big fans of (Diego) Maradona, Pele. The history of Argentina and the literature on Latin American football was readily available to Keralites through

books and newspapers," Sreenijan told PTI, while tracing the Malayali community's love for soccer.

A popular social media handle, @Advaidism, who is an ardent fan of Arsenal club, said the passion for football is so high in Kerala that before each FIFA world cup, half of the state supports Brazil while the other half will root for the Argentinian football team.

"Kerala is a paradoxical Indian state where football is far more popular than cricket. Kerala hosted Santosh Trophy in 1950s and won it in 1970s. Kerala enjoyed a golden age from 1985 to 1995 by making it to Santosh Trophy finals seven times consecutively and football became an iconic sport ever since in the south Indian state," said the social media handler who did not

wish to be identified by his name.

Kerala has produced many talented footballers like IM Vijayan, CV Pappachan, VP Sathyan and CK Vineeth. Today, the 'sevens' tournament football is very popular in Kerala. @Advaidism said.

The cutout mania has its critics too. A lawyer, who claims to be an activist, filed a complaint with the Chathamangalam panchayat to remove the structures claiming they might affect the natural flow of the river.

The location borders Chathamangalam panchayat and Koduvalli Municipality. The Municipal authorities claim it is part of their territory. The local body authorities said they were not planning to remove the cutouts. Kunnamangalam MLA PTA

Rahim said the game of football unites people across countries and languages and they stand with the joy of football fans.

"There is no basis in the argument that the cutouts of Messi and Neymar installed in Pullavur (sic) should be removed. The place where the cutouts were installed is on the border of Chathamangalam GP (gram panchayat) and Koduvalli municipality..Part given by GoK for the drinking water system of NIT," Rahim tweeted.

He said he visited the site and it was confirmed the cutouts installed in the area adjacent to the National Institute of Technology (NIT) Calicut's check dam will not affect the natural flow of the river in any way.

BJP using CAA with eye on Guj polls: Mamata

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Krishnanagar (WB), Nov 9: West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee Wednesday alleged that the BJP was "using" Citizenship Amendment Act (CAA) and National Register of Citizens (NRC) with an eye on the upcoming Gujarat assembly elections.

The TMC supreme asserted that she will never allow the implementation of CAA or NRC in West Bengal. She accused the saffron camp of trying to "bring in its supporters from other states and make them voters of West Bengal, while snatching the rights of the permanent residents of the eastern state."

Iterating that the BJP won't return to power after the 2024 Lok Sabha elections, Banerjee said that the country's political situation was changing fast, and it is very different from that of 2019.

"Whenever any election approaches, the BJP speaks of implementing CAA and NRC. With upcoming Gujarat assembly polls



The BJP is fanning separatism in West Bengal by instigating Rajbanshis and Gorkhas in northern parts of the state. We will never allow the division of West Bengal

MAMATA BANERJEE | CM

later this year, and Lok Sabha elections just a year-and-a-half away, it has again started to flare up the CAA issue. Will the BJP decide who is a citizen and who is not? Matuas are very much citizens of this country," Banerjee said while

addressing party workers in Krishnanagar Matuas, who make up a large chunk of the state's Scheduled Caste population, had been migrating to West Bengal from present-day Bangladesh since the 1950s, ostensibly due to reli-

gious persecution.

"If Matuas are not citizens of this country, then how are they casting their votes in elections? If Matuas are illegal citizens, then the BJP MPs and MLAs who have been elected with Matua votes should resign as their election is also illegal," she said.

"The BJP's plan is to use the CAA to grant citizenship to its supporters from other states and make them residents of West Bengal. They will then snatch away the rights of the permanent citizens residing here thus depriving you of various welfare schemes of the state government such as Lakshmir Bhandar," she said.

The chief minister said the state government has already distributed freehold land title deeds to refugee colonies in the state, thus regularising those.

Banerjee also accused the saffron camp of trying to fan separatism in West Bengal by raking up statehood demands and iterated she will never allow the di-

vision of the state.

"The BJP is fanning separatism in West Bengal by instigating Rajbanshis and Gorkhas in northern parts of the state. We will never allow the division of West Bengal," she said.

Banerjee asserted that the BJP will not return to power in 2024.

"In 2019, the country's political situation was different; the BJP was in power in Bihar, Jharkhand and many other states. But now, its political presence has diminished across the country; it is no longer in control in many states. The BJP has already reached a saturation point in many states. The political situation of the country is changing very fast. That is why it is attacking opposition parties and arresting opposition leaders by maligning them," she said.

Banerjee alleged that the BJP was trying to omit legal voters from the voters' list, and asked her party leaders to be cautious when the revision of electoral rolls starts this week.

Kerala to host conclave on 'drug-free childhood'

AGENCIES

Thiruvananthapuram, Nov 9: A three-day international meet on 'Right to Drug-Free Childhood' organised by an NGO raising awareness on substance abuse in partnership with United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) and World Federation Against Drugs (WFAD), will commence here November 16.

Top international experts on the subject will share their insights at the conclave hosted by NGO Fourth Wave Foundation to work out a concrete action plan to root out the menace of substance abuse to create a safe world for children.

'Children Matter: Right to a Drug-Free Childhood' is the theme of the meet which will take forward the NGO's ongoing 'Project VENDA' to build a substance abuse-free world.

"It is significant to note that



this international forum is happening at a time when the country is grappling with a steady spike in drug abuse among children. The conclave brings together top experts from across the world and representatives of global institutions and civil society organisations to shed light on the causes that lead to substance abuse among children and work out policies and protocols that could be adopted by governments," CC Joseph, Director, Fourth Wave Foundation, told a press conference here Wednesday.

How Bengal women's kitchen gardens are countering anaemia

THE BENGAL GOVERNMENT'S AGRICULTURE DEPARTMENT HAS BEEN PROMOTING THE CULTIVATION OF VEGETABLES BY PROVIDING SELF-HELP GROUPS WITH SEEDS AND GUIDANCE TO BOOST THE CONSUMPTION OF LEAFY VEGETABLES BY WOMEN, MANY OF WHOM ARE MALNOURISHED AND ANAEMIC

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Baharampur (WB), Nov 9: Sanjima Khatun, a 28-year-old home-maker in West Bengal's Murshidabad district, is cultivating traditional vegetables in her kitchen garden to check anaemia besides selling the extra produce in local markets to earn some money.

The West Bengal government's agriculture department has been promoting the cultivation of vegetables by providing self-help groups with seeds and guidance to boost the consumption of leafy vegetables by women, many of whom are malnourished and anaemic.

Leaders of self-help groups distribute the seeds to members like Khatun and they produce vegetables using organic manures as vitamins and other micronutrients needed to check anaemia can be

sourced from seasonal vegetables and fruits grown in kitchen gardens.

"Vegetables like okra, red spinach, bitter melon, sweet gourd, and bottle gourd are grown in my small patch of land. These vegetables are healthier than the ones available in the market as only compost and organic manures are used as fertiliser," said Khatun, a resident of Swarupur village in Hariharpara block of Murshidabad district.

Okra is rich in Vitamin A and C. Bitter melon is a rich source of Vitamin C. Bottle gourd is a good source of Vitamin B and C. Vitamin C helps in the absorption of iron in the body. Most of these self-help group members in the Hariharpara block got training from senior members of their SHG clusters and agriculture officials around a year ago.

In addition to growing fresh vegetables for their families, they sell

the extra produce in local markets. Assistant Director of Agriculture, Mousmita Mazumdar, told PTI.

As per the data available from National Family Health Survey-5 (NFHS-5) conducted in 2020, improving the health of adolescent girls is necessary as nearly 71 per cent of them are anaemic in West Bengal, compared to the national figure of 59.1 per cent. In NFHS-4 conducted five years ago, the figure was 62 per cent.

In Murshidabad district, 73 per cent (NFHS-5) of such women are anaemic, whereas the figure was 53 per cent previously in NFHS-4. "Community nutrition gardens can play an important role in enhancing dietary diversity across age groups. In many parts of India, kitchen gardens have been promoted as one of the approaches to combat hidden hunger: Seasonal



fruits and vegetables are good sources of micronutrients and bring positive nutrition behaviour change in terms of feeding choice and practices," said Jayati Mitra,

Nutrition officer of UNICEF in West Bengal, which gives technical support and other assistance to the government for this project. Apart from providing free seeds

under the aegis of various schemes of the state and the Centre, the agriculture officials train the village women on taking care of the vegetable plants and making bio-pesticides and organic manures, said Mazumdar.

"Apart from seasonal vegetables, seeds and saplings of other big plants like drumstick and papaya are also provided to them for year-long supply of vegetables to their kitchens," the assistant director of agriculture said.

Praising this initiative of the state government, Mitra of UNICEF said that anaemia is complex and in addition to iron, other micronutrients like folic acid, Vitamin A, B-12 and C are essential for combating anaemia.

"Most of the micronutrients can be sourced from seasonal vegetables and fruits of the kitchen gar-

dens. Vitamin C helps in the absorption of iron in the body. So, the plantation needs to be planned in such a way that along with green leafy vegetables, some plants of lemon (for Vitamin C), guava (Vitamin C), drumsticks (Iron, Vitamin A), papaya (Vitamin A) are also there," she said.

The village women also urge their neighbours to grow vegetables. "If our neighbours leave their plots of land fallow, we support them with seed and organic fertiliser to raise a kitchen garden. In our village, you will get seasonal vegetables round the year. It saves us money and the vegetables are healthier than the ones available in the market," Jakiran, an SHG group leader of Swarupur, said.

Gram panchayats are also spending money to develop kitchen gardens.

national

of the day quote

The old pension scheme should be implemented across the country and those saying it will put a burden on the exchequer are not right as it is all about financial management

ASHOK GEHLOT | RAJASTHAN CM

Before Punjab (Assembly) elections, PM (Narendra Modi) said Kejriwal is a terrorist. Home Minister (Amit Shah) set up an inquiry. What happened to it? Now, before the Gujarat and the MCD polls, they are saying Kejriwal is corrupt. If Kejriwal is a terrorist or is corrupt, arrest him, no?

ARVIND KEJRIWAL | DELHI CHIEF MINISTER

People will vote for the AAP in the upcoming municipal polls to clear the garbage of the BJP and if the Arvind Kejriwal-led party comes to power in the MCD, it will make the mountains of trash disappear from the city in five years

MANISH SISODIA | DELHI DEPUTY CM

SHORT TAKES

13-year-old gangraped by 6 minors in Assam

Karimganj: A 13-year-old girl was allegedly raped by six minor boys in Assam's Karimganj district and all the accused have been arrested, police said Wednesday. All the six boys are aged between the age of 13 to 15 years, the police said. Additional Superintendent of Police, Karimganj, Partha Pratim Das said that the incident took place November 1 in the Ramkrishna Nagar area of the district.

Goa cops to accept complaints online

Panaji: Goa Police will soon start receiving complaints online, Chief Minister Pramod Sawant said Wednesday. A dedicated mobile phone app will be launched for this purpose, he said. People should be able to register complaints sitting at home which will help curb the crime rate, Sawant said. He was speaking at the inauguration of a police outpost at Betim near here in the presence of local MLA Kedar Naik and state Director General of Police Jaspal Singh. For filing a complaint online, a person will need to provide identity proof which will prevent the registration of bogus cases, the Chief Minister said.

Woman found dead on roadside

Faridabad: A woman was found dead on a street here, her half-naked body showing signs of rape and brutalisation, police said. Police said the body, spotted Tuesday night by a passer-by on the street next to a park in sector-7, bore several injury marks. It was found with a broom handle inserted in the victim's private parts, they said.

Four die in road mishap

Amroha (UP): Four people were killed after the auto-rickshaw they were traveling in collided with an unidentified vehicle here Wednesday morning, police said. The deceased were identified as Anuj, Naubat Singh, Raj Bahadur Singh and Omprakash, Circle Officer (CO) Arun Singh said.

Soldier killed

Jammu: A soldier was killed in an accidental fire Wednesday in Jammu and Kashmir's Poonch district. Official sources said that an army jawan belonging to the Rashtriya Rifles (RR) received a bullet wound after his service rifle went off accidentally in the Mankote area of Poonch district.



A new line of leadership has already emerged in the Congress and anyone can lead the party
RANDEEP SURJEWALA | CONGRESS GENERAL SECRETARY

BACK TO VILLAGE

About 14,000 dropouts rejoined their schools during the just concluded fourth phase of Back-to-Village (B2V) programme in Jammu and Kashmir, officials said Tuesday



Tremors felt across north India

AGENCIES

New Delhi/Dehradun/Kathmandu, Nov 9: At least six people were killed when a 6.3-magnitude earthquake struck the lower Himalayan region early Wednesday, leading to tremors rippling across north India and parts of Nepal and jolting people out of their sleep in scores of cities and villages.

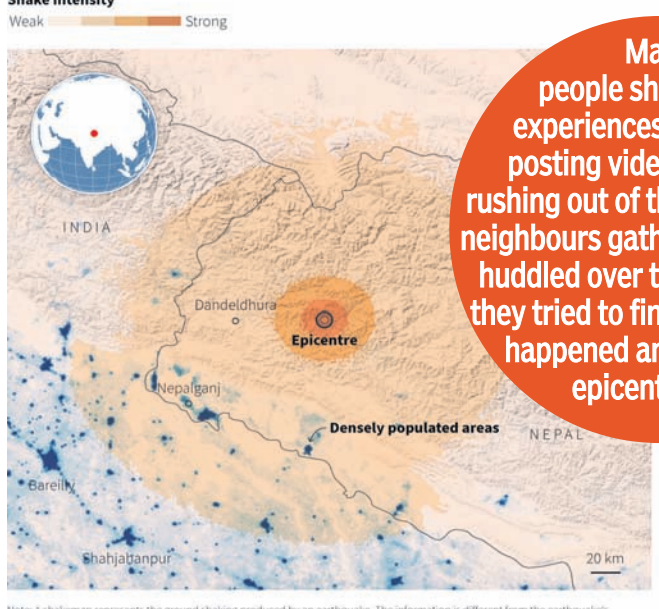
The National Centre for Seismology (NCS) said the epicentre of the 6.3-magnitude earthquake, which struck at 1.57 am, was in Nepal, about 90 km east-southeast of Pithoragarh. The region has been experiencing lower magnitude quakes for the last few days. Mild aftershocks were also felt in the Uttarakhand-Nepal region at 3:15 am and 6:27 am. The NCS said the magnitude of the two tremors was 3.6 and 4.3 respectively.

The National Earthquake Monitoring Centre of Nepal said a 6.6-magnitude quake was recorded at 2:12 am. The epicentre was Doti district. Two moderate earthquakes preceded the stronger tremor that jolted western Nepal, a 5.7-magnitude tremor at 9:07 pm Tuesday and a 4.1-magnitude one shortly after at 9:56 pm. The epicentre was the same, it said.

Six people were killed in the earthquake, Nepal's Home Ministry spokesperson Phanindra Pokharel said. Five people who sustained serious injuries were rushed to the district hospital in Doti, Pokharel told PTI over the phone. The tremors were felt in Delhi

Strong earthquake hits Nepal

A powerful earthquake hit northern Nepal on Wednesday night, tremors of which were also felt in several cities in northern India. Nepal's seismological centre set the earthquake at a magnitude of 6.6. The United States Geological Survey said the earthquake was of magnitude 5.6.



Note: A Shaligram represents the ground shaking produced by an earthquake. The information is different from the earthquake's magnitude and epicentre as it showsmap focuses on the variation in ground shaking produced by the earthquake, rather than describing the earthquake's source or strength. Sources: United States Geological Survey; Natural Earth; Shuttle Radar Topography Mission; WorldPop; Vijayan Mohammad Kavonza | Reuters, Nov. 09, 2022

and the surrounding areas of Ghaziabad and Gurugram and even in Lucknow, jolting people out of their sleep. Many people shared their experiences on Twitter, posting videos of people rushing out of their houses and neighbours gathering in groups, huddled over their phones as they tried to find out what had happened and where the

epicentre was. One video showed a chandelier shaking. Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal took to social media and wrote: "I hope all of you are safe." The resident welfare associations in Delhi said there have been no reports of any kind of damage or casualties in their areas. People ran out of their houses in panic in a number of

Many people shared their experiences on Twitter, posting videos of people rushing out of their houses and neighbours gathering in groups, huddled over their phones as they tried to find out what had happened and where the epicentre was

Sanjay Raut gets bail after 101 days in jail



PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

The ED had arrested Sanjay Raut for his alleged role in financial irregularities in connection with the redevelopment of the Patra Chawl (row tenement) in suburban Goregaon

The Sena MP had in his bail plea claimed the case against him was a perfect example of "abuse of power" and "political vendetta"

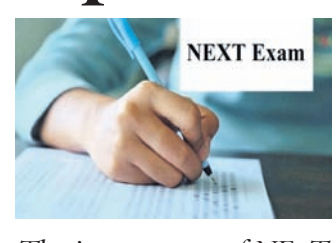
Mumbai, Nov 9: A special court in Mumbai Wednesday granted bail to Shiv Sena MP Sanjay Raut in a money laundering case pertaining to the Patra Chawl redevelopment project. The court rejected the Enforcement Directorate's plea urging it not to give effect to the bail order till Friday, paving the way for the release of Rajya Sabha member Raut, who was arrested July 31 this year and is currently in judicial custody and lodged at the Arthur Road Jail in Mumbai.

The ED then said it would approach the Bombay High Court seeking cancellation of the bail order and an interim order for a stay on the same, even as a lawyer of Raut said they will try to complete the formalities by Wednesday evening to facilitate his release from the prison. The court also granted bail to the parliamentarian's associate and co-accused Pravin Raut. A lawyer representing the ED

said, "We are in the process of filing an appeal seeking cancellation of the bail order. We will be mentioning it before a single bench of the high court this evening, seeking interim stay on the order." Raut's lawyer, however, said they would go ahead with the formalities to ensure the Sena leader walks out of the jail on Wednesday. Earlier, special Judge M G Deshpande, designated to hear cases pertaining to the Prevention of Money Laundering Act (PMLA), allowed the bail plea of Raut after hearing arguments from both sides. The ED, however, pleaded before the court not to give effect to the bail order till Friday.

"We need time to read the order, it is not an unreasonable request. It is the court order, it has the power to give effect to the order on a later date. I must be given some chance and opportunity by the court," Additional Solicitor General Anil Singh, appearing for the ED, submitted before the court. But, the court rejected the ED's plea.

NEET PG to soon be replaced with NExT



The importance of NExT lies in the fact that it will be the same for everyone, whether trained in India or any part of the world, and hence it will solve the problem of foreign medical graduates and mutual recognition

used for admission to postgraduate medical courses from the 2024-2025 batch, they said. According to the NMC Act, NExT will serve as a common qualifying final-year MBBS exam, a licentiate exam to practise modern medicine and for merit-based admission to postgraduate courses and a screening exam for foreign medical graduates who want to practice in India. The government had invoked in September the relevant provisions of the NMC Act to extend the time limit for conducting NExT till September 2024. According to the law, the commission had to conduct a common final-year undergraduate medical examination, NExT, as specified by regulations within three years of it coming into force. The Act came into force in September 2020. The sources said the All India Institute of Medical Sciences, New Delhi may conduct the test instead of the National Board of Examinations in Medical Sciences (NBEMS), but a decision on the matter is yet to be taken. The NBEMS has been conducting the NEET-PG and NEET-Superspecialty so far in multiple choice question format. Conducting NExT requires preparations such as working out modalities, syllabus, type and pattern of the exam, officials said, adding students will have to given adequate time to prepare for it. The importance of NExT lies in the fact that it will be the same for everyone, whether trained in India or any part of the world, and hence it will solve the problem of foreign medical graduates and mutual recognition, officials said.

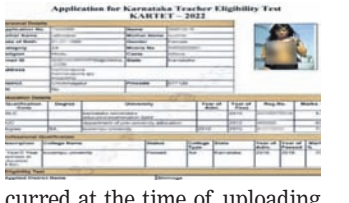
New Delhi, Nov 9: The National Eligibility cum Entrance Test-Postgraduate (NEET-PG) scheduled for April-May next year could be the last such examination as the admission to PG medical courses thereafter will be based on the results of the National Exit Test to be taken by final-year MBBS students, officials have said. At a high-level held Monday, the National Medical Commission (NMC) is learnt to have conveyed to the Union Health Ministry that it intends to conduct the National Exit Test (NExT) in December 2023, official sources said Wednesday. If held in December 2023, MBBS students of the 2019-2020 batch will have to appear for the exam. The results of the exam will also be



Congress leader Rahul Gandhi with supporters during the 'Bharat Jodo Yatra' in Nanded district, Maharashtra. PTI PHOTO

Sunny Leone's photo on exam admit card

Shivamogga (KTK), Nov 9: In a faux pas, Bollywood actress Sunny Leone's image was printed on the hall ticket of a candidate, who appeared for the Karnataka Teachers' Eligibility Test (TET-2022), held November 6. An inquiry has been ordered into the incident by the education department after the screenshot of the admit card has gone viral. The gaffe came to light at the Rudrappa College when a candidate produced her hall ticket carrying the image of the actress, following which the principal of the institution lodged a complaint with the Cyber Crime police. According to police, the goof-up would have oc-



currred at the time of uploading the photograph while filing and submitting the application online. The candidate said she did not fill the application online but asked others to do it on her behalf. The education department said in a statement that candidates have to fill the application online for which a user ID and password is generated, which is exclusive to the candidate and no one else can meddle with it. The department said it has no role in generating the ex-

amination hall ticket because it has to be done by the candidates only. "The department has no role in whatever media is reporting on this issue. Yet we have requested the police to investigate the matter and initiate action against those responsible for the incident," the Public Instruction Department said in its clarification. The gaffe came to light at Rudrappa College when a candidate gave her hall ticket carrying the image of the actress, following which the principal of the institution filed a complaint with the Cyber Crime police. The candidate said she did not fill the application online but asked others to do it. During the hearing, the counsel for the petitioners urged the court to stay the elections till the pleas were heard. However, the bench turned down the request, saying, "Once elections are notified, we can't stay it." The three petitions filed by National Youth Party, a man named Sanjay Gupta and residents welfare association (RWA) of B Block Hari Nagar sought quashing of the October 17 notification issued by the Centre.

HC refuses to stay Delhi municipal polls

New Delhi, Nov 9: The Delhi High Court Wednesday refused to stay the municipal elections scheduled for December 4.

A bench of Chief Justice Satish Chandra Sharma and Justice Subramonium Prasad said the State Election Commission (SEC) has already issued a notification and it will remain unchanged. "The Election Commission's notification is there. We cannot touch it now," the bench said. The SEC announced the election schedule November 4, according to which polling for 250 municipal wards will take place December 4 and the results will be announced December 7. On Wednesday, three petitions challenging the delimitation of wards and their reservation were listed before the high court. The bench issued notices on the petitions and asked the Centre, the Delhi government and the SEC to respond to them, while listing the pleas for further hearing December 15. During the hearing, the counsel for the petitioners urged the court to stay the elections till the pleas were heard. However, the bench turned down the request, saying, "Once elections are notified, we can't stay it." The three petitions filed by National Youth Party, a man named Sanjay Gupta and residents welfare association (RWA) of B Block Hari Nagar sought quashing of the October 17 notification issued by the Centre.



Toxic air linked to cardiovascular disorder risk: Study

HIGHER EXPOSURE TO AIR POLLUTANTS CAN CAUSE NARROWING OF BLOOD VESSELS IN THOSE ALREADY HAVING AN UNDERLYING HEART CONDITION, THUS EXPOSING THEM TO SERIOUS HEALTH RISKS, INCLUDING A HEART ATTACK

New Delhi, Nov 9: Long-term exposure to air pollution is associated with additional risk of cardiovascular disorders in those already having an underlying heart condition, according to a study. The research, published recently in the Journal of the American College of Cardiology (JACC), evaluated the association between long-

term exposure to small particulate matter 2.5 (PM2.5) and 10 (PM10), and coronary vasomotor disorders in patients with nonobstructive coronary artery disease (NOCAD), which is associated with poor cardiovascular outcomes. Coronary vasomotor disorders are characterised by impaired ability to adequately adjust coronary blood flow to oxygen demand due to dysfunctional vasomotor func-



tion. The researchers from Catholic University of the Sacred Heart in Rome, Italy and colleagues studied patients with myocardial ischemia and NOCAD undergoing

coronary angiography and intra-coronary provocation test, an established method for assessment of coronary artery spasm. Both patients with chronic my-

ocardial ischemia and nonobstructive coronary arteries and myocardial infarction with nonobstructive coronary arteries (MINOCA) were enrolled. Based on each case's home address, exposure to PM2.5 and PM10 was assessed. The study included 287 patients with a median age of 62 years. 149 of the participants were male and 161 had myocardial ischemia and nonobstructive coronary arteries while 126 had MINOCA. Higher exposure to PM2.5 and PM10 in patients with myocardial ischemia and NOCAD is associated with coronary vasomotor abnormalities, the researchers said. In particular, PM2.5 is an independent risk factor for the occur-

rence of epicardial spasm and MINOCA as clinical presentation, they said. "Our study shows for the first time an association between long-term air pollution exposure and the occurrence of coronary vasomotor disorders, suggesting a possible role for pollutants in determining myocardial ischemia in patients with NOCAD," the authors of the study noted. "In particular, we show that PM2.5 and PM10 are independently associated with a positive coronary provocation test in these patients, and that PM2.5 is positively related to the occurrence of epicardial spasm as opposed to microvascular spasm," they added.

international



When it comes to India's relationship with Russia, the US has consistently made the point that it is a relationship, that developed and was cemented over the course of decades

POWERBALL JACKPOT

A jackpot-winning Powerball ticket was sold in California for a record \$2.04 billion, authorities said. Lottery officials confirmed in a tweet Tuesday that "California Lottery makes its FIRST EVER Billionaire".



of the day quote

I've made it very clear that dialogue is a good thing, and so if a meeting is arranged with Xi, then that would be a positive thing

ANTHONY ALBANESE | PM, AUSTRALIA

My government was elected just a few weeks ago on a mandate to put law and order first. And this includes countering terrorism and terrorist organizations like the PKK in Sweden

ULF KRISTERSSON | PM, SWEDEN

Let me take this opportunity to thank the government of the United Kingdom for its longstanding support of Taiwan's international participation and for advocating for peace and stability across the Taiwan Strait

TSAI ING-WEN | PRESIDENT, TAIWAN

SHORT TAKES

Man throws egg at King Charles

York: A man was detained Wednesday after an egg was thrown at King Charles and his wife Queen Camilla as they carried out an engagement in northern England.

France sets its military goals

Paris: French President Emmanuel Macron is to unveil Wednesday the country's military strategy through the end of the decade for his nuclear-armed country, in the midst of Russia's war in Ukraine.

NK fires another missile towards SK

Seoul: North Korea fired a short-range ballistic missile toward its eastern sea Wednesday, extending a recent barrage of weapons demonstrations including what it described as simulated attacks on South Korean and US targets last week.

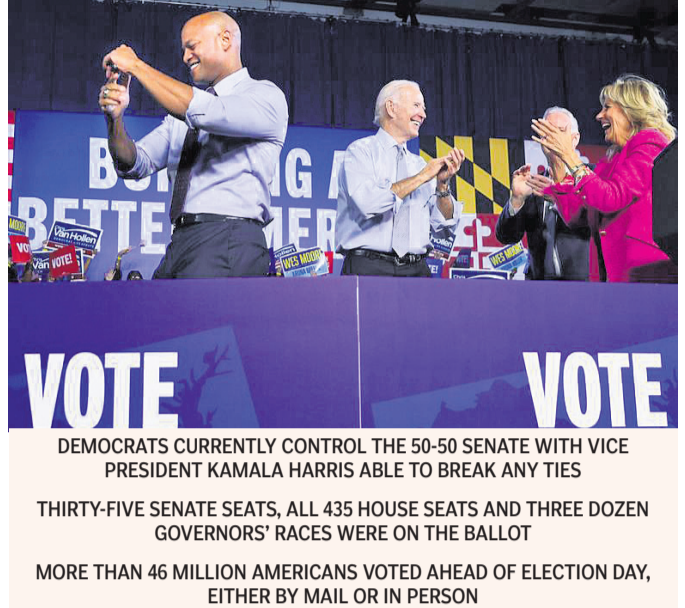
\$4.5 billion IMF loans for B'desh

Dhaka: The International Monetary Fund reached a preliminary agreement Wednesday with Bangladesh to provide \$4.5 billion to help the country weather disruptions caused by the war in Ukraine and manage risks from climate change.

US MIDTERMS VOTE

Republican 'Red Wave' hopes fizzle

With Biden's favorability ratings hovering in the low 40's and Republicans pounding him over inflation and crime, many pundits predicted major losses -- which would raise new questions on whether America's oldest-ever president, who turns 80 this month, should run again



DEMOCRATS CURRENTLY CONTROL THE 50-50 SENATE WITH VICE PRESIDENT KAMALA HARRIS ABLE TO BREAK ANY TIES

THIRTY-FIVE SENATE SEATS, ALL 435 HOUSE SEATS AND THREE DOZEN GOVERNORS' RACES WERE ON THE BALLOT

MORE THAN 46 MILLION AMERICANS VOTED AHEAD OF ELECTION DAY, EITHER BY MAIL OR IN PERSON

Washington, Nov 9: President Joe Biden's agenda hung in the balance early Wednesday as a predicted Republican wave failed to materialize in congressional elections fought against a backdrop of stubbornly high inflation and fears for US democracy.

Tuesday's election saw a clearer verdict in races for states' governors with rising Republican star Ron DeSantis winning by a crushing margin in Florida, cementing his status as a top potential White House candidate in 2024.

Democrats suffered disappointment in Ohio as writer JD Vance, a Trump-endorsed chronicler of working-class white life, won a Senate seat that was already in Republican hands.

But in House races, one Ohio Republican conceded defeat to a Democrat and two Democratic congresswomen in Virginia seen as at risk survived challenges, although a third seat in the eastern state flipped.

The election is "definitely not a Republican wave, that's for darn sure," Senator Lindsey Graham, a top Trump ally, told NBC News. Senator Ted Cruz, who had previously forecast a "red tsunami," still predicted Republicans would win both chambers but said, "It hasn't been as big of a wave as I'd hoped it would be."

The president's party has traditionally lost seats in midterm elections, with Republicans roaring back after the first two years of both Barack Obama and Bill Clinton.

All eyes are on a handful of Senate races including in Georgia, Pennsylvania, Nevada, Arizona and Wisconsin, with a single seat enough to swing control of the Senate -- now evenly divided and controlled by Democrats only through the tie-breaking vote of Vice President Kamala Harris.

Florida swings right On a night of close contests, one of the most decisive wins was for DeSantis, who has made a name in Florida by railing against Covid mitigation measures and transgender rights.

He was projected to have won by up to 20 points against a folksy former governor, four years after squeaking by in his longtime swing state. "We will never, ever surrender to the woke mob," DeSantis told a victory rally, using a derisive term for social justice campaigners. "Florida is where woke goes to die," he said.

But if the 44-year-old views his victory as a mandate for the White House in 2024, he will likely face a stiff challenge from another Florida resident -- Donald Trump.

The former president went to the polls teasing an announcement next week of a potential new

4 Indian-Americans elected to US House

Four Indian-American politicians from the ruling Democratic Party, including Raja Krishnamoorthi, Ro Khanna and Pramila Jayapal, were elected to the US House of Representatives Wednesday and many others won across the country to state legislatures in the highly polarised midterm elections.



Indian-American entrepreneur-turned-politician and Democrat Shri Thanedar became the first Indian American to win the Congressional elections from Michigan, pipping Republican candidate Martell Bivings.

White House run, telling reporters that November 15 "will be a very exciting day for a lot of people."

"I think if he runs, he could hurt himself very badly," Trump separately told Fox News, of DeSantis. Among other gubernatorial races, two solidly Democratic states, Massachusetts and Maryland, elected Democrats to succeed popular moderate Republican incumbents.

In Massachusetts, Maura Healey will make history as the first openly lesbian governor in the United States. And in New York, where recent polls gave Democrats a scare, Governor Kathy Hochul fended off a Republican challenge.

Trump again alleges fraud

Trump, who is facing criminal probes over taking top secret documents from the White House and trying to overturn the 2020 election, has returned to his playbook of airing unsubstantiated claims of fraud. In Arizona, expected to be one of the closest states, Trump

and his chosen candidate for governor, Kari Lake, alleged irregularities after problems with voting machines.

"When we win, and I think we will within hours -- we will turn this around, no more incompetency," Lake -- whose Democratic rival took an early lead -- told supporters gathered at a luxury ranch in the Phoenix suburbs.

Officials in surrounding Maricopa County said about 20 percent of the 223 polling stations experienced difficulties related to printers but that no one was denied the right to vote.

Biden has warned that Republicans pose a dire threat to democracy with more than half their candidates repeating Trump's debunked claims of cheating in the 2020 election.

In his closing pitch, Biden vowed that Democrats would defend pensions, health care and the freedom to have an abortion, after a Supreme Court transformed by Trump rescinded the right to choose.

Be ready to fight, win wars: Xi tells military



PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

The unprecedented changes of the world are moving forward at a faster speed, and the instability and uncertainty in our country's security situation has increased

XI JINPING | PRESIDENT, CHINA

Beijing, Nov 9: President Xi Jinping has said that China's national security is facing increased instability and ordered the PLA to devote all its energies to enhancing capability and maintaining combat readiness to fight and win wars as he took charge of the military for a record third five-year term.

Xi, 69, has been reappointed as the General Secretary of the ruling Communist Party of China (CPC) and head of the Central Military Commission (CMC) -- the overall high command of the People's Liberation Army (PLA) for an unprecedented third five-year term by the party's once-in-a-five-year Congress here last month.

On Tuesday, Xi inspected the joint operations command centre

of the CMC here which provides vital support to the strategic command of the CPC Central Committee and the CMC. Upon arriving at the command centre, the Chinese leader was given a briefing, the official media reported.

In his first address to the two million-strong military -- the largest in the world -- as he kicked off his third term as head of the CMC, Xi said the world is undergoing more profound changes unseen in a century and stressed that China's national security is facing increased instability and uncertainty, and its military tasks remain arduous.

He said the entire military should devote all its energy to carry out all its work for combat readiness, enhance its capability to fight and win, and effectively fulfill its missions and tasks.



LET THERE BE PEACE: A boy stands under a huge rainbow banner as people demonstrate for peace and against Russia's invasion of Ukraine during a protest, in Rome, Italy

UK court allows Nirav Modi's extradition

The 51-year-old fugitive diamond merchant has the option of further appeals in the UK and European courts and the process to bring him back to stand trial in India is unlikely to be a speedy one



PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

London, Nov 9: Fugitive diamond merchant Nirav Modi Wednesday lost his appeal against extradition to

India on mental health grounds as the High Court in London ruled that his risk of suicide is not such that it would be either unjust or oppressive to extradite him to face charges

of fraud and money laundering. Lord Justice Jeremy Stuart-Smith and Justice Robert Jay who presided over the appeal hearing at the Royal Courts of Justice ear-

Island nations want China, India to pay for climate damage

The comments marked the first time the two nations have been lumped into the list of major emitters that island states say should be held to account for damage already being wrought by global warming



GRIM REALITY

To date, climate vulnerable countries have called on historical emitters like the US, UK and the EU to pay climate reparations

China itself has previously supported the creation of a loss and damage fund but has not said it should pay into it. The EU and US have said that China, the world's biggest greenhouse gas emitter, should pay

India, though a top emitter, has per capita emissions that are significantly lower than the world average

AOSIS wants a full commitment to launch a multibillion-dollar fund by 2024

Oil, gas emissions 3X higher than figures being reported

Emissions from oil and gas production worldwide are significantly underreported and are estimated to be three times higher, according to new data released at the UN climate summit (COP27) Wednesday. Climate Trace -- a non-profit coalition of organizations which monitors greenhouse gas emissions and publishes emissions inventories using satellite data, artificial intelligence and machine learning -- said half of the 50 largest sources of emissions across the world are oil and gas production fields and their associated facilities.

biggest greenhouse gas emitters

though still emerging economies - have a responsibility to pay into a fund. Delegates at the conference agreed to put the topic of loss and damage onto the formal agenda for the first time in the history of international climate negotiations.

any country and I don't say this with any acrimony"

In UN climate talks, the phrase "loss and damage" refers to costs already being incurred from climate-fuelled weather extremes or impacts, like rising sea levels. Egypt's lead climate negotiator Mohamed Nasr told Reuters that the goal for the COP27 negotiations was to get some clarity on the way forward for loss and damage, but that there was still a wide range of views.

it is more streamlined and more focused and hopefully by the end of the two weeks we'll have something that would identify the road map, the milestones to deliver," he said.

Over the coming year the goal would be to identify a mechanism for delivering loss and damage funding. "We'll be looking at the different options. Is it a facility? Is it a new fund? Is it the existing funds? I mean there are a lot of options," he said. "What we heard from many countries is that they want to keep their options open."



The demand for coal in India is still to reach its peak and the dry fuel will continue to play a key role in the energy mix till 2040 and beyond. Therefore, shift from coal will not happen in foreseeable future in the country
PRALHAD JOSHI | COAL MINISTER



MORE PAIN FOR CHINA'S ECONOMY

A surge in Covid-19 cases has spurred lockdowns in the southern Chinese manufacturing hub of Guangzhou, adding to financial pressure that has disrupted global supply chains and sharply slowed growth in the world's second-largest economy

of the day quote

We are planning a ₹1,500-1,800-crore IPO by the fourth quarter of 2023 and expected to file the IPO papers with the Sebi by May 2023
THOMAS MUTHOOT | MD, MUTHOOT MICROFIN

We are happy to collaborate with Amazon India, which marks a big milestone in our journey, and contribute to our joint goals of electrifying their mobility services
MANU SAXENA | SENIOR VP, TVS MOTOR

We look forward to bringing sustainable, profitable and efficient EV solutions to accelerate the mass adoption of battery electric vehicles in India, and we are delighted to have joined hands with all our partners for our upcoming range of electric vehicles in India
VEEJAY NAKRA | PRESIDENT (AUTOMOTIVE DIVISION), MAHINDRA & MAHINDRA

SHORT TAKES

Nalco Q2 profit nosedives 83.2%

New Delhi: National Aluminium Company Ltd (Nalco) Wednesday reported an 83.2 per cent decline in consolidated profit at ₹125.43 crore for the quarter ended September 30, on the back of higher expenses and lower income. The company had posted a consolidated profit of ₹747.80 crore in the year-ago period, Nalco said in a regulatory filing. The consolidated income of the company during the July-September period dropped to ₹3,558.83 crore, over ₹3,634.59 crore in the year-ago period.

BoM raises one-yr MCLR by 10 bps

New Delhi: State-owned Bank of Maharashtra Wednesday said it has increased its marginal cost of funds based lending rate (MCLR) for select tenor loans. The benchmark one-year MCLR, used to price most of consumer loans such as auto, personal and home, has been revised upwards to 7.90 per cent from 7.80 per cent, the lender said in a regulatory filing. The revised MCLR has come to effect from November 7, 2022. The one-month MCLR has been raised by 5 basis points to 7.50 per cent.

Tata Motors Q2 net loss narrows

New Delhi: Tata Motors Wednesday reported narrowing of consolidated net loss at ₹945 crore for the second quarter ended September 30, as sales picked up in marquee brand Jaguar Land Rover and across domestic as well as commercial vehicle segments. The auto major had reported a net loss of ₹4,442 crore, attributable to shareholders of the company, in the July-September period of the last fiscal. Consolidated net loss for the second quarter stood at ₹898 crore. It was at ₹4,416 crore in the year-ago period. Total income increased to ₹80,650 crore in the period under review, as compared to ₹62,246 crore in the year-ago period, Tata Motors said in a regulatory filing.

Air India leases six A320 neo aircraft

Singapore: Air India has leased a fleet of six Airbus A320 neo aircraft from CDB Aviation, a wholly owned Irish subsidiary of China Development Bank Financial Leasing Co Limited, to boost the Tata Group-owned company's transformation journey, a statement said Wednesday.

EASING INTERNATIONAL TRADE

DGFT notifies norms for export incentives on rupee receipts



In July, the RBI had asked banks to put in place additional arrangements for export and import transactions in Indian rupees in view of increasing interest of the global trading community in the domestic currency

Amendments in the foreign trade policy and handbook of procedures have been made to allow for international trade settlement in Indian rupees i.e. for invoicing, payment and settlement of exports and imports in Indian rupees

The allowance has been made to allow grant of export benefits, incentives, and fulfillment of export obligation under the foreign trade policy

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, Nov 9: The Directorate General of Foreign Trade (DGFT) on Wednesday notified norms for permitting exporters to avail benefits under the foreign trade policy, even on realisation in rupee.

The DGFT, under the commerce ministry, has already allowed invoicing, payment and settlement of exports and imports in Indian rupee, a move aimed at facilitating trade in the domestic currency.

In July, the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) had asked banks to put in place additional arrangements for export and import transactions in Indian rupees in view of increasing interest of the global trading community in the domestic currency.

The central bank allowed authorised banks in India to open special rupee Vostro accounts of correspondent banks of any partner trading country to facilitate trade in the Indian currency. The move was aimed to boost global trade with focus on shipments from India and to support the interests of the global trading community in Indian currency.

“Given the rise in interest in internationalisation of Indian Rupee, the given Policy amendments have been undertaken to facilitate and to bring ease in international trade transactions in Indian Rupees,” the government said.

The notification said that changes have been introduced in the Foreign Trade Policy (FTP) for grant of export benefits, fulfilment of export obligation, and for export realisations in Indian rupees as per the RBI guidelines released in July.

“Accordingly benefits/fulfilment of export obligation under the Foreign Trade Policy has been extended for realisations in Indian rupees as per the RBI guidelines dated July 11, 2022,” it said.

“The updated provisions for export realisation in Indian rupees have been notified for imports, for exports, export performance for recognition as status holders, realisation of export proceeds under Advance Authorisation (AA) and Duty Free Import Authorisation (DFIA) schemes and realisation of export proceeds under Export Promotion Capital Goods (EPCG) scheme,” it added.

India's FY24 growth to slow to 5.5%: UBS India

THE REPORT SAID INDIA WILL BE AMONG THE “LESSER AFFECTED ECONOMIES” IN THE WORLD, BUT MADE IT CLEAR THAT THE WORLD'S FIFTH LARGEST ECONOMY IS NOT IMMUNE FROM GLOBAL HEADWINDS

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Mumbai, Nov 9: India's GDP growth will slow down to 5.5 per cent in FY24 from the 6.9 per cent expected in the current fiscal 2022-23, a Swiss brokerage said Wednesday.

The slowdown was attributed to slowing global growth and tightening of monetary policies in the report by economists at UBS India.

“Factoring in the delayed impact of monetary tightening on domestic demand, we continue to expect India's growth to remain below consensus in FY24. In our base case, we

expect India's real GDP growth to slow from 6.9 per cent in FY23 to 5.5 per cent in FY24 before settling at the long-run average of 6 per cent in FY25,” the report said.

Responding to high domestic inflation and rate hikes by global central banks, the RBI has already hiked the policy rate by 1.90 per cent since May this year and is only expected to hike more, which can have an impact on growth with a lag.

The brokerage said it expects a normalisation in consumer spending after the spurt seen in the immediate aftermath of the Covid reopening fades, and households'

Meta sacks over 11K; 13% of workforce

The pandemic-led boom that boosted tech companies and their valuations has turned into a bust this year in the face of decades-high inflation and rapidly rising interest rates



Facebook parent Meta is laying off 11,000 people, about 13% of its workforce, as it contends with faltering revenue and broader tech industry woes, CEO Mark Zuckerberg said in a letter to employees Wednesday.

The mass layoffs, first in Meta's 18-year history, follow thousands of job cuts at other major tech companies including Elon Musk-owned Twitter and Microsoft Corp.

ASSOCIATED PRESS

There have been numerous job cuts at other tech companies that hired rapidly during the pandemic. Zuckerberg also said that he had made the decision to hire aggressively, anticipating rapid growth even after the pandemic ended.

Meta, like other social media companies, enjoyed a financial boost during the pandemic lockdown era because more people

Unfortunately, this did not play out the way I expected. Not only has online commerce returned to prior trends, but the macroeconomic downturn, increased competition, and ads signal loss have caused our revenue to be much lower than I'd expected. I got this wrong, and I take responsibility for that

MARK ZUCKERBERG | CEO, META

stayed home and scrolled on their phones and computers. But as the lockdowns ended and people started going outside again, revenue growth began to falter.

An economic slowdown and a grim outlook for online advertising — by far Meta's biggest revenue source — have contributed to Meta's woes.

This summer, Meta posted its first quarterly revenue decline in history, followed by another, bigger decline in the fall. Some of the pain is company-specific, while some is tied to broader economic and technological forces.

Last week, Twitter laid off about

half of its 7,500 employees, part of a chaotic overhaul as Musk took the helm. He tweeted that there was no choice but to cut the jobs “when the company is losing over \$4M/day,” though did not provide details about the losses.

Meta has worried investors by pouring over \$10 billion a year into the “metaverse” as it shifts its focus away from social media.

Zuckerberg predicts the metaverse, an immersive digital universe, will eventually replace smartphones as the primary way people use technology. Meta and its advertisers are bracing for a potential recession.

Govt may trim spending for first time in three yrs

Total expenditure for the 2022/23 fiscal year could come in ₹700bn to ₹800bn below the budgeted ₹39.45trn, the sources said

REUTERS

New Delhi, Nov 9: Spending by the Indian government this fiscal year could be less than budgeted for the first time in three years, two sources with direct knowledge of the matter told Reuters, amid a push to meet a fiscal deficit target of 6.4% of gross domestic product.

Total expenditure for the 2022/23 fiscal year that started April 1 could come in ₹700 billion to ₹800 billion (\$8.59 billion to \$9.82 billion) below the budgeted ₹39.45 trillion, the sources said, requesting anonymity.

The government is keen to rein in the fiscal deficit as it is well above the historical levels of between 4% and 5%, having shot up to a record of 9.3% during the first year of the Covid-19 pandemic in 2020/21.

Though tax cuts on fuel, aimed at reducing the impact of soaring global energy prices, could reduce



revenues by more than ₹1 trillion, one of the sources said total revenues were still expected to increase by over ₹1.5 trillion to ₹2 trillion this year.

The rise in revenues would still not be enough to cover anticipated additional expenses with, for example, the government potentially having to provide additional food and fertiliser subsidies of ₹1.5 trillion to ₹1.8 trillion, according to the sources.

Despite those pressures, the government remains intent on achieving its deficit target, according to one of the sources. “The government is not going to budge from the fiscal deficit target,” the source said, noting that an “expenditure rationalization” would be required.

The sources did not say which sectors were likely to be affected by

Framework for sovereign green bonds finalised

The Finance Ministry has finalised the framework to issue sovereign green bonds in line with global standards, according to sources. The government intends to mobilise ₹16,000 crore from the issuance of green bonds during the second half of the current financial year. It is a part of the borrowing programme for the second half of this fiscal. The framework is ready and it would be approved soon, the sources said. These rupee-denominated papers will have long tenure to suit the requirement of green infrastructure projects, they added. The government is planning a total borrowing of ₹5.92 lakh crore during the October-March period of the current fiscal. The government had in the Budget for 2022-23 projected a gross market borrowing of ₹14.31 lakh crore. Of this, it decided to borrow ₹14.21 lakh crore during 2022-23, ₹10,000 crore lower than the Budget estimate.

expenditure cuts as discussions over revised budget estimates were ongoing and a final call would be taken by the end of December.

Thermal coal imports grow at slowest pace in 5 months in Oct

REUTERS

Chennai, Nov 9: India's imports of thermal coal grew at the slowest pace in five months in October, data from Indian consultancy Coalmint showed, as higher domestic production slashed demand for seaborne coal.

Imports of the power generation fuel rose for the fifth straight month in October to 12.03 million tonne, up by 11.5% compared with the same period last year, Coalmint data showed.



Imports in the January-October period rose over 14% to 139.5 million tonne, the data showed. Output by state-run Coal India (COALNS), which accounts for 80% of domestic output, rose 11.5% in the same period.

Coal India's production rose for the seventh straight month in October, while supplies fell for the first time in 20 months, as utilities had increased inventories to the highest ever level in October, barring in 2020 when inventories rose to a record due to artificially low power demand because of lockdowns.

The share of South African thermal coal imports rose to the highest levels in recent months as sponge iron makers switched back amid Russian blend concerns, Coalmint said in a report this week.

Still, October imports from Russia were higher than imports from South Africa for the fourth straight month, while Australian imports had gained at the expense of shipments from Indonesia, the data showed.

PhonePe first player to enable UPI activation with Aadhaar

With 41.5 crore registered users, one in four Indians are now on PhonePe. The company has also successfully digitised 3.3 crore offline merchants, covering 99 per cent pin codes in the country

INDO-ASIAN NEWS SERVICE

New Delhi, Nov 9: Leading fintech platform PhonePe Wednesday announced it has enabled UPI activation using Aadhaar-based OTP authentication.

PhonePe is the first UPI Third Party Application Provider (TPAP) App to roll out the Aadhaar-based UPI onboarding flow that will now enable several crore Indians to become a part of the UPI ecosystem,

seamlessly and securely for the first time, the company said in a statement.

Under the previous UPI onboarding flow, a valid debit card was mandatory to set up a user's UPI PIN during the UPI registration process, restricting access for a large number of Indian bank account holders who didn't have a debit card handy.

The addition of Aadhaar onboarding for UPI will do away with



purchasing power is impacted by tight monetary policy, the depletion of accumulated pandemic savings and an incomplete labour market recovery.

This will lead companies to defer investment plans as there is un-

certainty on demand, leading to a moderation in the capital expenditure (capex), it noted.

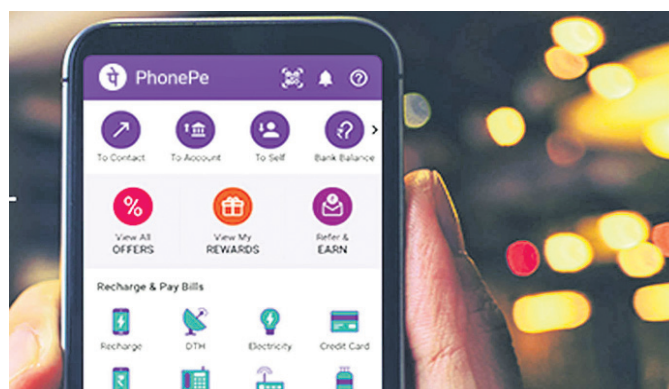
The government will continue to boost public capex, which could help mitigate some of the adverse impact and encourage private capex, albeit with a lag, it said, adding that export will also come under pressure due to the global cues.

The brokerage, however, said India's structural growth story is intact but the country needs to manage macro stability risks in the near term the key priority now.

“India is seeing elevated inflation, a deteriorating current ac-

count deficit (CAD) and a stretched fiscal position. This poses a dilemma for India's policymakers on how to judiciously use monetary and fiscal policy tools to reduce growth downside risks while maintaining financial stability,” it said.

The RBI will respond by taking the middle path by allowing for gradual depreciation in the rupee while keeping the rate actions in sync with global central banks. The government will go slow on fiscal consolidation by opting to support growth in FY24, given that it will be facing a general election in 2024, it said.



tech platform to offer Aadhaar-based authentication for our users, making the UPI onboarding flows even more simple and inclusive. We believe this is a very progres-

sive move by RBI, NPCI and UIDAI and is a great example of the digital financial inclusion that UIDAI's Aadhaar program has been able to drive,” said Deep Agrawal, Head of Payments, PhonePe.

We believe this is a very progressive move by RBI, NPCI and UIDAI and is a great example of the digital financial inclusion that UIDAI's Aadhaar program has been able to drive

DEEP AGRAWAL | HEAD OF PAYMENTS, PHONEPE

phonePe App. Users choosing this option will only need to enter the last 6 digits of their Aadhaar number to initiate the onboarding process.

They will then receive an OTP from UIDAI, and their respective bank to complete the authentication process. Post this, customers will be able to access all UPI features such as payments and balance check on the PhonePe App.

“This will help expand the overall UPI ecosystem, and also on-board new customers to the digital payments fold. UPI has become a global exemplar, and countries across the world are looking to implement it. Going forward, we are closely working with NPCI to take UPI international,” said Agrawal.

India look to break 'KO' jinx



PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Adelaide, Nov 9: Only two steps away from the ultimate glory, India cannot afford to put a foot wrong as they square off against a formidable England on a tricky Adelaide Oval track in the T20 World Cup semifinal Thursday.

While India have had better performances in the group stage compared to England, a high stakes, 'winner takes it all' contest like this always starts on an even keel.

England's premier all-rounder Ben Stokes has already admitted

that they have not play their best cricket and the Indian team needs to ensure that a Jos Buttler and Stokes himself don't choose the semifinal to bring their A game to the fore.

History is also a bit against India when it comes to results at the business end of the ICC events. Post 2013, Indian teams have struggled to cross the final two hurdles on multiple occasions - 2014 T20 World Cup final, 2016 T20 World Cup semifinals, 2017 Champions Trophy final and 2019 ODI World Cup semifinal.

Even though Rohit Sharma played in all those games, he wasn't leading the side back then and hence doesn't carry any baggage of disappointment as he enters the most critical phase of his full time captaincy.

Rohit (89 runs in 5 games) would like to forget the physical pain of being hit in the forearm as he wouldn't shy away from playing one pull shot too many if a fit Mark Wood or his likely replacement Chris Jordan digs it short.

The India skipper needs an innings of substance in the compe-

dition and there couldn't be a bigger match than a semifinal to shut his detractors.

Virat Kohli would have a battle at hand against his old nemesis Adil Rashid, while Suryakumar Yadav's skills against Sam Curran's cutters will be an enticing match-up.

Stokes' all-round abilities will find its match in Hardik Pandya, who has done his bit with the bat and ball in various games. The intrigue of sub-plots embedded in the main narrative makes up for a heady build up as World No.1 India meets its ideal match in second-ranked

India to host eves' WBC next year: BFI



PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, Nov 9: India will host the women's world boxing championships in 2023 in New Delhi, two years after the country was stripped of the hosting rights of the men's event for not paying the requisite fee to the global governing body.

India has never conducted the men's World Championship but it will be the third time that the elite women's competition will be held in the country having conducted the championships in 2006 and 2018 in New Delhi. India also hosted the women's youth world championships in 2017.

The Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) was signed between the International Boxing Association (IBA) and the Boxing Federation of India (BFI) in the presence of IBA President Umar Kremlev and BFI President Ajay Singh here on Wednesday.

"The women's world championship will be held in Delhi in March 2023," Singh told reporters. "Women's boxing has shown massive improvement, we are among the top countries in the world. Last edition we were No.3 and we aim to improve that. We are expecting participation from about 75-100 countries, about 1,500 boxers and coaches."

The championship will also see the introduction of a historic bout review system. "The world championship in India will be the first event in which the review system based on technology will be used. That is any dispute can be reviewed during the bout itself," Singh said.

The event will also increase in prize money with a total prize pool of approximately ₹19.50 crore (USD 2.4 million). The gold medallists

will be awarded with approximately ₹81 lakh (USD 100,000).

The hosting rights of the event to India comes as a significant development as BFI had lost the hosting rights of the 2021 event to Serbia after failing to pay the host fee, prompting the International Boxing Association, then known as (AIBA), to terminate its agreement.

The IBA has developed a new review system based on artificial intelligence which will be used for the first time during the women's world championship next year.

"It will be based on artificial intelligence, we will have four cameras, doing analysis from every corner of the punches. It will be monitored by an evaluator and if something is unclear they can come while the bout is going," IBA Secretary General George A Yerolimpos told PTL. "We will have a lot of officials monitoring it, so no one can bypass the system," he added.

The IBA Secretary General said one of the reasons India was picked as the host was because it is a digital country.

Mercedes for Nikhat!

In a light moment, Nikhat Zareen said if she defends her world championship title next year she will buy a Mercedes with the prize money and invite IBA President Kremlev to her home city of Hyderabad.

"With the cash prize I wanted to buy a new house in Hyderabad and hopefully I will win next year and then with that money I will buy a Mercedes and will invite IBA President to Hyderabad and we will go for a ride," Nikhat said.

The Russian sports functionary was quick to reply: "If Nikhat wins the world championship I will gift Nikhat a Mercedes," Kremlev said.

Musetti gets off to a strong start

ASSOCIATED PRESS

Milan, Nov 9: Tournament favorite Lorenzo Musetti got off to a strong start at the Next Gen ATP Finals with a 4-2, 4-2, 4-2 win over Tseng Chun-hsin.

Musetti is the highest-seeded player for the year-ending tournament for 21-and-under players after Paris Masters champion Holger Rune withdrew to be an alternate for the ATP Finals.

World No.23 Musetti is also the only player in the eight-man field ranked in the top 40.

NEXT GEN ATP FINALS

Also, Jiri Lehecka beat Francesco Passaro 4-1, 4-3(7), 4-1; and Brandon Nakashima defeated Matteo Arnaldi 2-4, 4-3 (7), 4-3 (4), 3-4 (4), 4-2.

This is the fifth edition of the event, which features shorter sets of first to four games and other experimental format changes.

New rules for this edition include no changeovers after the first game of each set and only one sit-down per set after three games; a 15-second serve clock after aces, double-faults and unreturned serves; and coaching during an opponent's medical time out or toilet break.

10-man Barca rally past Osasuna

ASSOCIATED PRESS

Madrid, Nov 9: With an improbable win, Barcelona made sure they will go into the World Cup break at the top of the Spanish league standings.

Robert Lewandowski was shown his first red card in nearly a decade and Gerard Pique was sent off from the bench in his last career match, but Raphinha scored late as Barcelona rallied to defeat Osasuna 2-1 and secure the Spanish league lead ahead of the World Cup stoppage.

Lewandowski's second career red card came in the first half of Tuesday's victory, which left the Catalan club five points ahead of Real Madrid. Madrid, which has a game in hand, endured their first league loss of the season, 3-2 at Rayo Vallecano Monday.

The defending champions will host relegation-threatened Cadiz Thursday.

Pique was sent off for complaining to the referee following the halftime whistle. The veteran Spain defender had made Xavi Hernandez's squad even though he bid farewell at the Camp Nou at the weekend after announcing his retirement from soccer.

Lewandowski, who hadn't been sent off since 2013 while still playing for Borussia Dortmund, was shown his second yellow card in the 31st minute after going hard into



SUPER SUB: Raphinha goes airborne while heading in Barcelona's winner against Osasuna, Tuesday

the body of Osasuna defender David Garcia away from the ball.

Garcia had opened the scoring for the hosts with a header in the sixth minute. Pedri Gonzalez equalised in the 48th with a strike from inside the area after the Osasuna defense failed to fully clear a cross by Jordi Alba, and substitute Raphinha netted the winner in the 85th with a

header after a long cross by Frenkie de Jong. The Brazilian forward had entered the game seven minutes earlier.

Barcelona seemed beaten but Raphinha scored after breaking free from the defenders to get to De Jong's long ball, with his header from the edge of the area going over the goalkeeper and into the net.

FAN VIOLENCE

A group of radical Barcelona fans attacked Osasuna supporters at a bar before the match in Pamplona. The Barcelona fans reportedly used knives and sticks in the attack, leaving a few Osasuna supporters with minor injuries. There were no reports of arrests. Both clubs condemned the incident.

Lovlina, Alfiya march into Asian Elite Boxing finals

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, Nov 9: Olympics bronze medallist Lovlina Borgohain and Elordja Cup champion Alfiya Pathan produced power-packed performances to enter their respective finals at the ASBO Asian Elite Boxing Championships in Amman, Jordan Wednesday.

Up against Seong Suyeon of South Korea in her semifinal bout, Lovlina (75kg) effectively utilised her clever techniques and strategies to clinch a 5-0 victory by unanimous decision. Lovlina, who has two Asian Championships bronze medals, is now guaranteed a silver in this edition, confirming her best-ever performance in the competition.

Alfiya (81+kg) was also commanding in her semifinal win as she cruised past the 2016 world champion Lazzat Kungeibayeva of



LOVLINA BORGOHAIN
Kazakhstan in a 5-0 win. This is the second time this year

that Alfiya has defeated Lazzat, having stunned the Kazakh on her own turf in the Elordja Cup, in what was her senior international debut competition. Lovlina will take on the 2021 Asian Championships silver medalist Ruzmetova Sokhiba, while Alfiya faces Islam Husailli of Jordan in the final.

In the other semifinal, Ankushita Boro (66kg) lost 1-4 to Khamidova Navbakhor of Uzbekistan to secure a bronze medal. The 2017 Youth Boxing Champion started well with her energetic approach and landed quick punches to have an edge over Khamidova but the Uzbek boxer rebounded well in the next two rounds to earn the win as well as her place in the final.

Later, Minakshi (52kg), Preeti (57kg), Parveen (63kg), and Saweety (81kg) will compete in their respective semifinal bouts. India's



ALFIYA PATHAN
total medal count of 12 in this edition is the third highest among all

competing nations.

Thursday, five Indian men boxers including six-time Asian medallist Shiva Thapa (63.5kg) and two-time Commonwealth bronze medallist Mohammad Hussamuddin (57kg) will be competing in the semifinals.

Thapa, who became the most successful Asian champion in the competition's history with six medals, will be involved in a match-up against two-time Asian medallist Bakhodur Usmonov of Tajikistan, while Hussamuddin will face 2021 World Championship silver medalist Serik Temirzhanov of Kazakhstan.

Other men pugilists in action will be Narendar (92+kg), Sumit (75kg) and Govind Kumar Sahani (48kg). The competition is witnessing participation of 267 boxers from 27 top boxing nations.

Pak storm into final, end 13-year hiatus



DEADLY DUO: Mohammad Rizwan and Babar Azam run between the wickets during their opening stand against New Zealand, Wednesday

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Sydney, Nov 9: A rejuvenated Pakistan lifted their game when it mattered the most and stormed into the T20 World Cup final with a convincing seven-wicket win over New Zealand here Wednesday.

Pakistan first restricted New Zealand to 152/4 on a slow SCG track and then chased down the target with consummate ease, riding on skipper Babar Azam (53, 42b, 7x4) and Mohammad Rizwan's (57, 43b, 5x4) attacking fifties to book their place in the final after 13 years.

This will be Pakistan's third appearance in the T20 World Cup final. They had finished runners-up to India in the inaugural edition in 2007 before claiming the title two years later.

The win over New Zealand, last edition's runners-up side, also kept the prospect of a mouth-watering India-Pakistan final in Melbourne Sunday alive, provided Rohit Sharma's men beat England in the second semifinal in Adelaide Thursday.

Chasing 153, Babar rode on his luck to register his highest score in the tournament while Rizwan played anchor's role as Pakistan romped home with five balls to spare.

Babar and Rizwan got Pakistan off to a blazing start, going hammer and tongs against the Kiwi bowlers. Unlike New Zealand, the

Pakistani openers looked at ease with the pace of the surface. Known for their brilliant fielding, the Kiwis looked a different side Wednesday as they struggled on the field.

The duo didn't give the likes of Trent Boult, Tim Southee and Lockie Ferguson the chance to settle down, racing to 55 for no loss in powerplay.

New Zealand finally got the breakthrough in the 13th over when Babar was holed out by Daryll Mitchell at long-on off Boult but by then Pakistan were comfortably placed at 105. Rizwan couldn't finish off the game, holing out to Mitchell off Boult but it was all but over by that time.

Earlier, Mitchell (53 n o, 35b, 3x4, 1x6) hit a timely unbeaten fifty to help New Zealand post a decent 152/4 on a slow SCG pitch. Opting to bat, New Zealand batters found the going tough on a used SCG track as they struggled to connect the ball due to the slow nature of the surface.

Mitchell and skipper Kane Williamson (46, 42b, 1x4, 1x6) resurrected New Zealand's innings after early jolts to take their side past the 150-run mark.

Brief scores: New Zealand 152/4 (Daryll Mitchell 53 n o, Kane Williamson 46; Shaheen Afridi 2/24) lost to Pakistan 153/3 (Mohammad Rizwan 57, Babar Azam 53, Trent Boult 2/33) by 7 wickets.