



DEFIANT KRITI

Actor Kriti Sanon opens up about the criticism of the teaser of her upcoming movie *Adipurush*

LEISURE P2



KIM'S NUCLEAR NARRATIVE

North Korean leader Kim Jong-un pledges to counter nuclear threats by United States with nuclear weapons

INTERNATIONAL P10



MANIKA SCRIPTS HISTORY

Manika Batra becomes the first Indian paddler to win a medal in the ITTF-ATTU Asian Cup winning her bronze play-off tie

SPORTS P12

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No end to ragging

Despite directions from Supreme Court and UGC, the incidents of ragging continue unabated in state, largely due to lack of proper compliance of guidelines

POST NEWS NETWORK

Bherhampur, Nov 19: Two days after 12 students were rusticated from a government-run college in Ganjam on charges of ragging a girl student, another such incident has allegedly taken place at Khallikote Higher Secondary School here Saturday. The Plus II first-year girl student Saturday lodged a written complaint with the school's principal alleging ragging by Plus II second year boys.

The complainant alleged that girl students are being humiliated by the boys frequently. She also sought exemplary punishment against the accused students.

When asked, Khallikote Higher Secondary School principal Radhakanta Nayak said that he has forwarded the complaint to the anti-ragging committee of the school to conduct necessary inquiry into the matter.

Action will be taken as per the recommendation of the committee, he added. For the last two months girl students have been alleging



■ **A first-year girl student of Khallikote Higher Secondary School alleged that some 2nd-year boys have been humiliating her and her friends frequently**

■ **She also sought exemplary punishment against the students harassing them**

that they had been subject to misbehaviour from their male counterparts on the school premises. Six days ago, some students had busted crackers and had shown obscene gestures towards a lady guest lecturer, he added.

"Despite Supreme Court's direction for constitution of anti-ragging committees, squads, anti-ragging cells and adequate publicity for these measures through various media, the incidents of such spiteful incidents continue unabated," said an intellectual.

The apex court had also ordered for a clear mention of anti-ragging warning in the institution's prospectus and information booklets/brochures.

In pursuance to the Judgement of the Supreme Court dated 08.05.2009 in Civil Appeal No. gg7/2009, in exercise of the powers conferred by clause (g) of sub-section (1) of section 26 of the University Grants Commission Act, 1956, the UGC has notified "Regulations on Curbing the Menace of Ragging in Higher Educational Institutions, 2009", said sources.



HEALTH FIRST: People with renal ailments blocked the AG Square-Raj Bhawan road in Bhubaneswar, Saturday, demanding better treatment and medicines for the patients in the state

OP PHOTO

EOW FREEZES ₹1.45CR IN ILLEGAL LOAN APP CASE

PNN/ AGENCIES

Bhubaneswar, Nov 19: The Economic Offences Wing (EOW) of Odisha police has frozen an amount of ₹1.45 crore of one of the accused in illegal digital loan app scam.

The money is lying in the accounts of accused Nitin Malik. Good Start Business Private Limited and Right Start Business Pvt Ltd

of which Nitin is the director are not registered as Non-Banking Financial Companies (NBFCs) with RBI, a police official said Saturday.

The companies are illegally operating as digital lenders. It is suspected that Nitin is a part of an international gang, which runs at least 10 such illegal loan apps, the police official said.

The main objective of said com-

■ **The companies are illegally operating as digital lenders**

■ **It is suspected that the arrested Nitin Malik is a part of an international gang, which runs at least 10 such illegal loan apps**

pany is to purchase and run virtual phone numbers from BSNL, Airtel and Vodafone to be used for running

and facilitating the lending and recovery through different loan apps. Nitin was in direct and regular touch with at least three Chinese nationals and used to get a huge sum/salary for this job.

Nitin was arrested July 13, 2022 and is still in judicial custody. Another accused Neerav Gupta has also been arrested in the case and now in judicial custody.

Covid norms withdrawn

Bhubaneswar: With improvement in Covid-19 situation, the state government Saturday withdrew all Covid-19 related restrictions and penalties imposed on gatherings, wearing masks, spitting and others in 2020. "In view of substantial decline in Covid-19 cases over the past several months, the Govt after careful consideration has been pleased to repeal the Odisha Covid-19 Regulations, 2020 as amended from time to time," said a Health department notification.

IRREGULAR by MANJUL



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WEATHER		
	BHUB	CTK
TEMP	29.6°C	28.0°C
MAX	16.8°C	15.4°C
MIN	73%	66%
Humidity	Nil	Nil
Rainfall	Partly	cloudy

ROW OVER SATYENDAR'S 'MASSAGE' IN TIHAR JAIL



PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, Nov 19: The Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) Saturday drew flak as videos purportedly showing its jailed Delhi minister Satyendar Jain receiving massage and meeting visitors in his prison cell emerged, with the opposition BJP and Congress demanding his sacking and questioning the "silence" of Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal.

AAP leader and Deputy Chief Minister Manish Sisodia defended Jain, claiming he was receiving physiotherapy following a spinal injury, and accused the BJP of doing "cheap" politics on his health issues by il-

legally leaking CCTV footage.

Sisodia, who is currently in charge of the Prison department that was earlier held by Jain, alleged his colleague has been framed in false case and that the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) is resorting to such "theatrics" as it is "losing the MCD and Gujarat polls".

BJP MP Parvesh Verma along with his party colleagues Manjinder Singh Sirsa and Tajinder Pal Bagga lodged a police complaint against Jain and Kejriwal, accusing them of carrying out "illegal" activities in the jail. Bagga took a dig at Sisodia for defending Jain, saying he has fought with his physiotherapist as to why he was not given foot and head massage for his spinal injury.

A video purportedly from Jain's cell was played in a press conference by the BJP where the party's national spokesperson Gaurav Bhatia termed the AAP as a 'Spa Massage' party. Several other videos were also shared on social media.

Continued on P4

Parl Winter Session from Dec 7

New Delhi: The Winter Session of Parliament will begin December 7 and conclude December 29, with sources saying it is likely to be held in the old building as the new one is still under construction. In separate notifications, secretariats of both Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha notified the dates. The Winter Session is likely to be held in the old parliament building.

Export duty on steel slashed

New Delhi: Six months after imposition of the levy, the Centre has cut the export duty on steel products and iron ore with effect from Saturday. As per a finance ministry notification, exports of specified pig iron and steel products as well as iron ore pellets will attract 'nil' export duty.

P11

Love stories gone awry behind 3K murders

From 2017 to 2021, homicides due to love affairs or illicit relationships rose from 2,706 to 3,139 across the country, says NCRB data

INDO-ASIAN NEWS SERVICE

New Delhi, Nov 19: Aftab Ameen Poonawalla was in a relationship with Shraddha Walkar since 2018 but he strangled her after a fight between them May 18. He then chopped her body into several pieces and disposed of the parts in various locations before being arrested six months after the crime.

The duo had been in a live-in relationship since 2019 and had moved to Delhi May 8. They stayed in a hotel in Paharganj for seven days and then shifted to a rented house May 15, just three days before Shraddha was murdered.

Investigators claimed that in such 'crimes of passion', the



In such 'crimes of passion', the killer remains distressed for at least a month and only then starts getting back to normal

killer remains distressed for at least a month and only then starts getting back to normal, though it is remarkable that Aftab worked for months to erase any evidence of his crime.

'A crime of passion', you may have heard of the term but you may not be sure what that means in a legal sense. In simple terms a crime of passion or 'crime passionnel' derived

from French refers to a violent crime, particularly homicide, in which the culprit executes the act against someone out of a strong grudge, such as sudden passion, rather than as a premeditated crime.

According to the National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB) data, from 2017 to 2021, homicides due to love affairs or illicit relationships rose from 2,706

to 3,139 across the country.

The country's first case of a crime of passion was reported in 1959. Naval commander Kawas Manekshaw Nanavati, April 27, 1959, killed his wife Sylvia's businessman lover, Prem Bhagwan Ahuja in a Bombay flat. Nanavati fired three shots that killed Ahuja. He then went to a police station and confessed his crime.

He was initially declared not guilty by a jury, whose verdict was dismissed by the then Bombay High Court. In 1960, Nanavati was found guilty and sentenced to life in prison. In 1964, he was pardoned by the then Bombay Governor and Jawaharlal Nehru's sister Vijayalakshmi Pandit.

Continued on P4

IT'S TIME FOR THE YOUTH TO TAKE ACTION

24TH NOVEMBER BHUBANESWAR

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ARIES

You are likely to remain careful and watchful today, foretells Ganesha. And because you'll be invited to parties and other social events, your enthusiasm will remain buoyant. You will also strike the right balance between business and pleasure, says Ganesha.

TAURUS

In all probability, you will discuss certain sacred issues with your beloved today, predicts Ganesha. In the evening, you will be possibly visiting holy places. You had better make up for the lost time to finish pending work in the afternoon. Think twice before you act, warns Ganesha.

GEMINI

A fun and frolic filled day awaits you. You will have a lot of fun with your family members, especially children. You will help your children with their work. Marital life will be blissful. Relations with your spouse will be romantic today.

CANCER

There is a chance today to benefit from womenfolk. Though you are methodical and disciplined in your work, you will feel rudderless. Yet you will get relief from this monotony and feel jovial, says Ganesha.

LEO

You will not be able to reap the rewards of your hard work fully today. You will take all matters very seriously today. You will feel a sense of responsibility and will try to find lasting solutions to problems today. It is a good day to put to rest some worries that have been haunting you for some time now, says Ganesha.

VIRGO

A cocktail of business and pleasure is on the house today. Parties will run till dawn. You will also take the correct route to success by making important decisions. People will stand to gain if they involve you in their do, says Ganesha.

LIBRA

Somebody in a position of power at your workplace may decide to pick on you, just for fun. But your luck is strong, and no one but your own thoughts and misgivings can harm you. You shall find it relatively easy to come out of these troubles; much to the chagrin of those who wish otherwise, predicts Ganesha.

SCORPIO

It is about time you learn to deal with frustration in a more healthy manner. The right choice is always the hardest to make. Do not let sentiments sway you into hasty choices because they may feel right, but might also be extremely impractical. There may some strain on your relationship with near and dear ones. Learn to be patient and calm in the face of adversity, advises Ganesha.

SAGITTARIUS

You may have to make important decisions of life today, says Ganesha. Remember, haste makes waste, so take every decision only after thinking about its long-term consequences or end results. Be patient.

CAPRICORN

Print and electronic media will attract your attention, if you're just planning to begin your career. Your spiritual and philosophical approach give you inner peace, and also inspire you to visit a holy place. Overall, you will have a balanced day, today, says Ganesha.

AQUARIUS

You will spend the day introspecting, but the mental peace will still seem distant. Some unavoidable circumstances will force you to handle the situations with diligence, feels Ganesha. Due to your devotion to the Almighty and spiritualism, you will be able to deal with problems pretty well.

PISCES

It is difficult for you to be part of one team and to work as a member on two teams, but today you can do anything you want. You will be able to show your expertise to your team today and will be praised by all. Women will make a profit today and will feel encouraged.



HONOUR FOR SHANIA TWAIN AT PEOPLE'S CHOICE AWARDS

Grammy award-winning singer and songwriter Shania Twain who is known for hits as *Man! I Feel Like a Woman!* and *That Don't Impress Me Much* will be honoured with the music icon award at this year's People's Choice Awards. The announcement was made by *NBC and E!*

TARANTINO: NEVER KNEW ABOUT WEINSTEIN'S SEXUAL ASSAULT

Filmmaker Quentin Tarantino when asked by the host on his relationship with Harvey Weinstein in a press tour for his new book, *Cinema Speculation*, said at the time that he was aware of Weinstein's behaviour to a certain degree, but he stressed to Wallace that he never knew such behaviour included sexual assault.



Rakul goes all praise for Ayushmann

Mumbai: Actress Rakul Preet who also actively works down south credits her *Doctor G* co-star Ayushmann Khurrana for risking it by taking up characters that are strikingly varied from one another.

She says, "I give him credit for the fact that he is a risk taker. It is always tough when you are told a lot of things to take the path less travelled. He always loves to experiment with his choice of films. Be it *Vicky Donor*, *Bala* or *Andhadhun* these are not the conventional heroic roles. He has managed to do them and do them well and connect with the audience, which I think is great".

As she teamed up with him in *Doctor G*, where he plays a gynecologist, the actress says they bonded well over their roots. She elaborates saying, "Ayushmann comes with an abundance of energy on set and is such a happy co-star to be around you. He improvises the scenes and is very easy to work with. I had a blast working with him so much that I would love to work with him again".

AGENCIES



Samantha on cloud nine over Yashoda success

Mumbai: Actress Samantha Ruth Prabhu who's basking in success of her latest release *Yashoda*, penned a thank you note and said that she is on cloud nine over the love pouring in for her film.

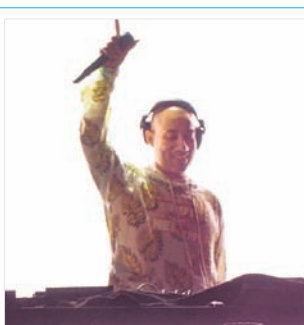
She took to Twitter to thank that audience for the support.

She wrote: "Dear audience, Your appreciation, and love for *Yashoda* is the greatest gift and support that I could have ever asked for. I am overwhelmed with joy and gratitude. Hearing your whistles and seeing the celebrations at the theatres is proof

that all the hard work that the entire team of *Yashoda* put in was all worth it!"

"I am on cloud nine. And I want to take this opportunity to thank everyone, who were involved with the making of *Yashoda*."

The actress also expressed her gratitude to the film's director and co-stars. **ANS**



The star in action

It is a matter of pride to host Nucleya in Bhubaneswar, said Sameeksha Uniyal - Senior Manager, Brand BACARDÍ

Bhubaneswar: Music lovers had a unique experience here as influential independent artiste Nucleya held them on thrall here, Saturday. Presented by Well-known beverage brand BACARDÍ, the show 'Casa Bacardi On Tour' was organised at Embassy Concerts, Symphony Mall which commenced at about 5 pm.

Before Nucleya's performance, the audiences were treated with the beats of DJ Ayush, DJ Karan Verma, DJ Deep and one of the most popular DJs Gurbax who

NUCLEYA FEVER GRIPS CITY



Fans at the venue

mesmerized attendees with chart topping remixes of songs.

After that Nucleya aka Udayan Sagar made people groove on foot tapping beats. Audience in large numbers thronged the venue to witness the maiden show of the indie performer.

For the uninitiated, Nucleya has single-handedly established a lexicon of bass music unique to India. His tracks *Let's Nacho* and *Paintra* have featured in mainstream Hindi movies like *Kapoor and Sons* and *Mukkabaaz*. With over 1.48M sub-

scribers on YouTube, he's garnered a unique audience for his music.

Sameeksha Uniyal - Senior Manager, Brand BACARDÍ, said, "It is a matter of pride for us to host Nucleya to Bhubaneswar as the City has a crowd that adores music. We could sense the excitement amongst locals ever since the event was announced. The response has been absolutely phenomenal, and we can't wait to bring more such experiences to the city with CASA BACARDÍ on Tour." **PNN**

Kriti defends Adipurush teaser

Mumbai: Actress Kriti Sanon has opened up about the criticism of the teaser of her upcoming film *Adipurush* co-starring Prabhas and Saif Ali Khan.

The Om Raut directorial faced criticism over the quality of VFX and visuals since its teaser dropped in October.

Defending the teaser, the *Mimi* actress said the film's team is 'extremely proud of' the product it has created.

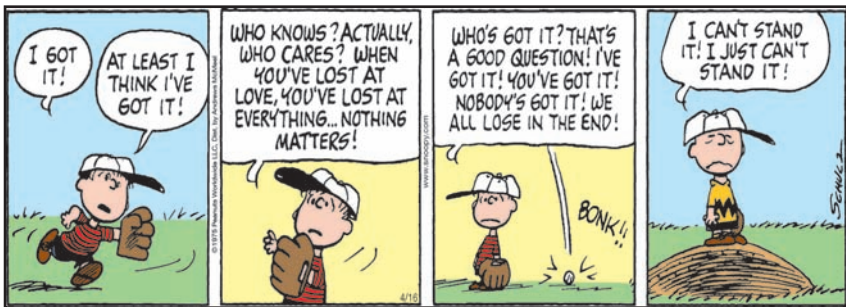
Quizzed over the issue at a recent event, Kriti stated that what was shown in the teaser was limited. She said, "It's just a teaser of over a minute. There is a lot more to the film that he (Om) needs to work upon, and needs time. We all want to give it the best shot because this is an opportunity to get our history, to get our religion globally out there. It is a story that we all are proud of, so it needs to be done in the best possible way."

"And I think

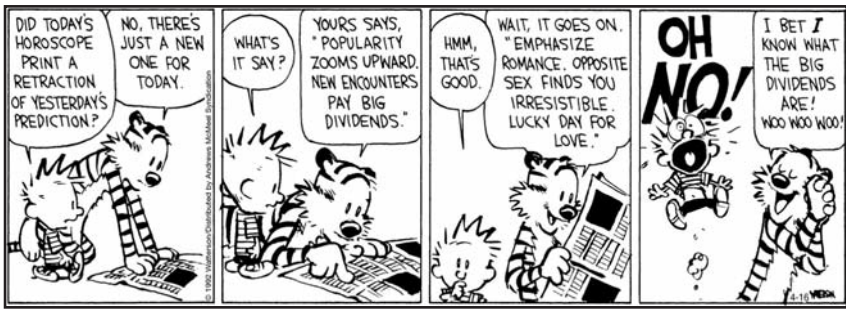
he is going to give it all the talent that it needs, and all the effort it needs because the heart and the soul are in the right place," added the *Luka Chuppi* actress. **AGENCIES**



PEANUTS



CALVIN AND HOBBS

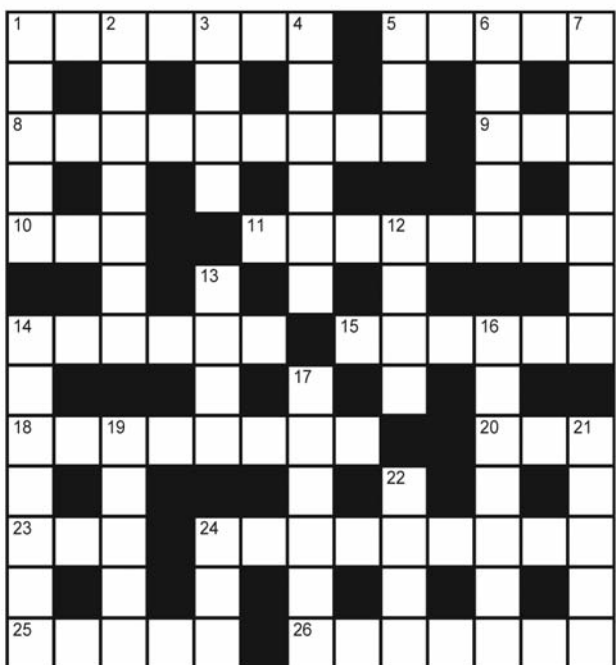


BREVITY



FUN post

CROSSWORD



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Across

- 1 Idiotic
- 5 Free-for-all
- 8 Crumbled
- 9 Quarry
- 10 Took the gold
- 11 Military action
- 14 Guru's forte
- 15 Ill-tempered
- 18 Small celestial body
- 20 River inlet
- 23 Possess

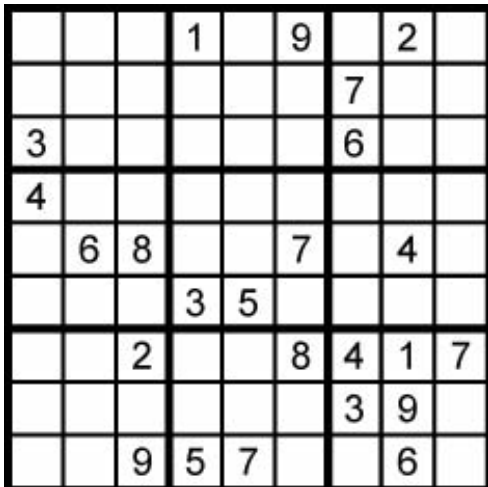
Down

- 1 Cousin of a cockatoo
- 2 Gives in
- 3 Orderly
- 4 Royal home
- 5 Flower starter
- 6 Top dog

- 7 Numbers game
- 12 Stopper
- 13 Tusked animal
- 14 Munitions
- 16 UFO inhabitant?
- 17 Movie theatre
- 19 Ballroom dance
- 21 Argus-eyed
- 22 Tower site
- 24 Bakery offering

SUDOKU

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

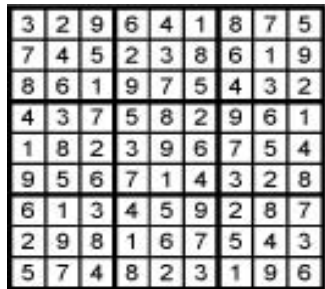


SOLUTIONS

CROSSWORD



SUDOKU

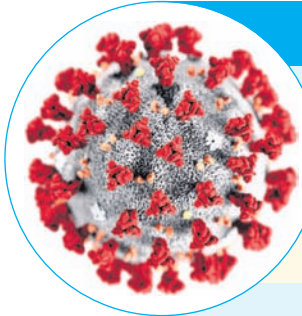


CHECK FOR SOLUTIONS OF THE PUZZLES TOMORROW



FILM FEST

Dignitaries pose for a photo op during short film festival Kallola-2022 at a City hotel, Saturday



COVID-19 TRACKER

	INFECTED	RECOVERED	DEAD
World	64,27,39,052	62,19,47,630	66,25,250
India	4,46,68,523	4,41,31,171	5,30,570
Odisha	13,36,304	13,26,915	9,204

State mulls seaplane network

POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar, Nov 19: In a bid to provide seamless connectivity and boost marine tourism, the state government is planning to develop seaplane network under the new Odisha Port Policy, 2022, an official said, Saturday.

Odisha is a land of white sand and the blue sea. The spectacular coastal features, pristine beaches and idyllic lagoons offer an unparalleled experience to the tourists.

Sources said the state has planned to start seaplane operation under the Odisha Port Policy, 2022. The Odisha Maritime Board (OMB) will carry out a pre-feasibility study for the locations decided by the board or in collaboration with relevant state and Central government agencies.

Developing a seaplane network would provide seamless connectivity and boost the tourism sector. Thus, the possibility of seaplane connectivity in Odisha can also be explored, sources said.

The funding/grant for develop-



■ The Odisha Maritime Board (OMB) will carry out a pre-feasibility study for the locations decided by the board or in collaboration with relevant state and Central government agencies

■ Odisha State Maritime Museum at Cuttack would be brought under the purview of the Odisha Maritime Board to showcase the state's rich maritime history and shipbuilding legacy

ment of viable sites can be sought under the Regional Connectivity Scheme (RCS) – UDAN (Ude Desh ka Aam Naagrik), the sources said.

Under the purview of the UDAN scheme, there are provisions for viability gap funding (VGF) and concessions by Central government, state governments and airport operators to the Selected Airlines Operators (SAOs), they said.

For promotion of marine tourism, the Odisha Maritime Board in coordination with the Tourism department will also prepare a coastal tourism master plan to identify the possible sustainable interventions in different coastal areas.

The Odisha State Maritime Museum at Cuttack would be brought under the purview of the Odisha Maritime Board to showcase Odisha's rich maritime history and shipbuilding legacy.

The State Maritime Museum will be redeveloped on par with the international standards. Revision of guidelines for adventure water sports would be done in order to encourage and promote leisure-cum-water sports activities, the official source informed.

The Odisha Port Policy, which was approved by the state Cabinet Friday, will remain in force for five years.

Soumya Ranjan on a mission

Young climate activist **Soumya Ranjan Biswal** from Odisha needs no introduction. One of the six UN India YuWaah Advocates by the United Nations (UN) in India, Biswal has been at the forefront of a mission to protect Olive Ridley Sea Turtles. He will attend 'Dharitri Youth Conclave 2022 on Climate Change: The Power of Youth' to be held in Bhubaneswar, November 24 as an expert panellist.

It was in August 2022 when young climate activist Soumya Ranjan Biswal was appointed as one of the six UN India YuWaah Advocates by the United Nations (UN) in India.

A resident of Astaranga in Puri, Biswal, who has been at the forefront of a mission to protect Olive Ridley Sea Turtles, was selected as a part of the cohort for his work towards saving the endangered sea turtles and restoration of mangroves, salt marshes and sand dune plants on Odisha's coastline.

About half of the world's population of Olive Riddleys comes to the Odisha coast for nesting. While Rushikulya and Gahirmatha are better known and hence are better protected,

Devi river mouth does have that advantage. It is being degraded, thanks to the increasing pollution levels and steady decline in the number of mangrove plants in the coastal stretch over the years due to several reasons.

The 25-year-old green crusader has been voluntarily raising the mangroves near the stretch of Devi river mouth with the help of the local community. Locally known as Rai,

Harakancha, Sundari, Bani, Guan and Keruan, these plants are integral to the coastal habitat and livelihood of local fishermen.

Biswal, who was one among the UN's 17 young climate leaders from India in September 2021, said they have been doing this voluntarily as their livelihood depends on the sea and the habitat around it. These plants will grow up to provide a habitat for both avian and marine lives, he believes. The young environmentalist has estab-



lished Odisha Paryavaran Sanrakshan Abhiyan—a voluntary organisation that has been focusing on conservational issues.

A few years back, Soumya and his friend Dilip undertook a 1,200 km cycle journey in Odisha, dressed as Olive Riddleys, to create awareness about protecting the endangered turtles.

EKAMRA VATIKA INAUGURATED

POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar, Nov 19: Governor Ganeshi Lal Saturday inaugurated Ekamra Vatika, a new school for play group and nursery kids in the City. On the occasion, the school announced starting of admissions for play group and nursery for the academic year 2023-24.

In a virtual message, Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik said that children are the best creation of God and it is necessary to create a nice environment for their natural growth and development which helps in creating good citizens of the

country. Ekamra Vatika will provide the children with that good environment, Naveen said.

Inaugurating the school, Governor Ganeshi Lal said every child is unique. "Children are the purest in nature but that purity slowly vanishes away. Parents and teachers must try to preserve that pure nature and stop it from vanishing completely. For that to happen, the parents and teachers should first be educated properly," he said.

Ekamra Vatika chairperson Meghna Singh Deo shared her vision and philosophy, highlighting the importance of investment in early child-



Dignitaries during the inauguration (L) and panellists at the discussion

hood education in preparing the children for the new world. She said, "It is scientifically proven that around 85 per cent of children's brain develops by the age of six. So, early childhood

teaching is really crucial."

A panel discussion was organised on the occasion with the theme of 'Education for a New World –Reimagining where and how to learn.'



OP PHOTOS

Speaking on the occasion, **Dharitri** and **Orissa POST** Chief Executive Adyasha Satpathy said that as the mother of a teenager and a toddler she has felt that in early

childhood children observe and learn many things on their own. Therefore, at that stage, they should be given their space to learn all things they could by observing.

Actor Chandrachur Singh highlighted the importance of the environment and how it leads to a child's growth. The environment of Ekamra Vatika makes it a perfect place for children's creative growth, he added. **Dharitri** and **Orissa POST** Editor Tathagata Satpathy and former MPs Ananga Udaya Singh Deo and Kalikesh Narayan Singh Deo were among the dignitaries present on the occasion.

Naveen among BJD star campaigners

Bhubaneswar: Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik along with his select cabinet colleagues will campaign for BJD candidate Barsha Singh Bariha in the December 5 bypoll to Padampur Assembly constituency in Bargarh. The BJP named union ministers Dharmendra Pradhan, Ashwini Vaishnaw, Arjun Munda and Bishweswar Tudu as star campaigners for its nominee Pradip Purohit for the byelection. The Congress also released its star campaigner list, which included AICC state in-charge A Chella Kumar.

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Odia boy felicitated at UNICEF event

POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar, November 19: Seventeen-year-old Odia boy, Bablu Munda, who is an International Wushu (A Chinese Martial Art form) player, represented Odisha in a national level festive event organized by UNICEF at Thyagaraj Indoor Stadium in South Delhi on World Children's Day. In the event, a friendly futsal match was organized for the children where Bablu along with other children from across the nation were felicitated by legendary cricketer and UNICEF Regional goodwill ambassador, Sachin Tendulkar and Bollywood star and UNICEF's celebrity advocate, Ayushmann Khurrana.



Bablu Munda, who lost his parents when he was one year old, is from Sialjoda village under Joda block of Keonjhar district in Odisha. Despite all grievances and difficulties, Bablu completed his Primary education in 2016. He had at least 10 medals (7 Gold, 1 Silver, 4 Bronze). He got into the National team after winning a silver medal in the 17th Sub-Junior Wushu National Championship held in 2018 at Jammu & Kashmir.

Expressing his feelings, Bablu said, "I am very proud to represent my state in the national level and feel delighted that I could meet and play football with Sachin Tendulkar and Ayusmaan Khurana and made so many friends there." Giving a message to millions of children facing hardships, Bablu said, "I dared to dream. I wish all kids too do so and realize their dreams."

CLASSIFIED

AFFIDAVIT

By virtue of an affidavit before the Notary Public, Angul, I Ignatious Toppo, aged about 53 years , S/o . Late Elias Toppo of At: Qtr. No. B-1799, Nalco Nagar, P.O./P.S. Nalco Nagar; Dist.: Angul, Odisha, That I am the father and Satein Sarojini Pyari Brajo is the mother of our daughter Shradha Toppo. In the pass certificate of my daughter Shradha Toppo issued by Council for the Indian School Certificate Examination, New Delhi my wife's name has been wrongly mentioned as Satein Sarojini Pyari B Rajo instead of Satein Sarojini Pyari Brajo. That my wife SATEIN SAROJINI PYARI BRAJO @ SATEIN SAROJINI PYARI B RAJO, W/o Ignatious Toppo is one and same person.

LOST

By an affidavit before the Notary Public, Padampur, Dist.- Bargarh, date 05.11.2022. I, Bibhuti Bhusan Panda, S/o-Nityananda Panda, At/P.O.- Jagalpat, P.S.- Gaisilet, Dist.- Bargarh declared that I have lost my (1) ROR bearing No.- 137/93 and (2) Sale Deed bearing (RSD) No.-1594 of dated 20.12.1996. I declared that, I have lost the ROR and RSD is beyond recovery. I have also lodged an FIR in this regard before Gaisilet P.S. Any complicity or litigation arises in future regarding the same, I will solely be responsible. Contact: Advocate Mr. Asutosh Pattnaik, Mob. number-7008869118.

BID TO CURB ROAD MISHAPS

State plans to set up truck terminals along highways

PNN/AGENCIES

Cuttack, Nov 19: The state government has decided to set up truck terminals along the highways in order to reduce accidents caused by the parking of heavy vehicles on the roads, an official said Saturday.

Out of 5,081 road fatalities in 2021, nearly 25 per cent were due to collision of vehicles with illegally-parked trucks on the highways, said Additional Transport Commissioner Lalmohan Sethi.

For curbing such accidents, the State Transport Authority (STA) has decided to construct truck terminals to streamline vehicle parking on the highways, he said.

The STA has invited an expression of interest (EoI) for the construction, development and maintenance of truck terminals on Public-Private Partnership (PPP) mode.

The Commerce and Transport department has already identified land at Sundargarh, Balasore, Kendrapada, Angul, Bhadrak and Nabarangpur for the construction of such terminals, the official said.

"The core objectives of developing the integrated truck terminals on PPP basis is to reduce accident and fatalities due to parking on roads, to make the best use and effective utilisation of resources, to provide best class facilities for parking of trucks, to prevent encroachments, to provide direct and indirect employment, to encourage redevelopment of neighbourhoods and to achieve foster greater economic health," the STA said.

The terminals will have warehouses and cold storage facilities, restaurants, weighing bridges, loading and unloading areas, dormitories, bathrooms, ATMs, health clinics and other facilities, he said.

The broad scope of work of the bidder would include financing the total project cost, construction of the truck terminal, and operation and maintenance of the developed facilities. The six identified locations will provide modern and controlled manner truck parking besides generating revenues from commercial establishments developed on the PPP model, the official said.



Horticulture can enhance farmers' income: CM

POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar, Nov 19: As many as 34 Assistant Horticulture Officers Saturday joined the state government in the Agriculture and Farmers' Empowerment department. 21 of these officers are women.

Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik, joining virtually an orientation programme organised for the joining officers at the state convention centre, called upon the officers to act like a connecting bridge between the people at last mile and the government.

Congratulating them, he said, "You have to come out of the comfort-zone, and even remain prepared to scale over the inaccessible hilly-terrains of tribal hamlets

to interact with the tribal people and address the challenges people facing in farming. As career horticulturists, your role in about next 30 years will be crucial for the development of horticulture sector in the state."

Under the 5T initiative, he added, the officers are expected to discharge duty in time with teamwork and transparency envisioning the transformation through technology. The Mo Sarkar mandate requires them to think themselves as Sevaks of people, the CM reminded.

Naveen said that he expects them to prove to be the assets of the state by realising the mission of transformation of the state's horticulture sector.

The CM further said that development of agriculture sector



RAZING DOWN: An excavator engaged by BDA is demolishing an illegally constructed house at Pandra in Bhubaneswar, Saturday

OP PHOTO

Parija to appear before ED in sextortion case

POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar, Nov 19: Noted movie and web series producer Akshay Kumar Parija Saturday sought more time to appear before the Enforcement Directorate (ED) in the sextortion case. The ED has been investigating the money laundering angle in the high profile sextortion racket operated by Archana Nag, her husband Jagabandhu Chand and other associates by targeting influential and affluent persons.

Advocate Akash Bhuyan Saturday appeared before the ED on behalf of Parija. "Popular movie producer of Odisha, Akshaya Parija was Friday summoned by the ED to appear today (Saturday). As you know, he returned from Bangkok Friday and his health is not well since then. He is under home isolation as per the doctor's advice. We apprised the ED officials about the development and applied for more time for the appearance," Bhuyan told the media persons.

Parija has been suffering from cold and flu so the doctors advised him to get quarantined. He said that Parija will soon appear before the ED in the sextortion case.

Videos of Satyendar....

"Where is Kejriwal hidden now? Jain can be seen enjoying massage and meeting visitors in his cell in total violation of rules and the prison manual. This VVIP culture in jail is dangerous for democracy," Bhatia said

Delhi BJP president Adesh Gupta who had earlier demanded Jain's transfer to any jail outside Delhi has written a letter to LG VK Saxena requesting a high-level inquiry into facilities given to the AAP minister in jail.

The Delhi Prisons department comes under the Delhi government. In light of the new revelations, the allegations made by

Love stories gone ...

In the infamous tandoor murder case of 1995, Sushil Sharma, the then Youth Congress leader, had shot dead his partner Naina Sahni in Delhi over suspicions of her having an affair. He chopped her body into parts, and then tried to dispose of the pieces by burning them in a tandoor (clay oven) on the roof of a popular restaurant that was managed by his friend.

In India, this was a landmark case in which DNA evidence and a second autopsy were used to prove the accused's guilt. The pun-

CONTINUED FROM P1

ished conman Suresh Chandrashekhar against Jain should be probed, leaders of the BJP and the Congress said. Chandrashekhar had written to the Lieutenant Governor alleging that Jain 'extorted' Rs 10 crore from him in 2019 to ensure his safety in prison.

Gupta also demanded Kejriwal sack Jain from his Cabinet.

Jain, who is in judicial custody at Tihar over money laundering charges, for the last five months, can be seen in the purported videos from his cell getting back and foot massages, reading some documents and talking to visitors while lying on a bed. Mineral water bottles and a remote are also seen. In one video, he is seen getting a

head massage while sitting on a chair Earlier this week, a Tihar jail superintendent was suspended for alleged involvement in providing special treatment to Jain in the prison. The Enforcement Directorate (ED) had claimed in a court that Jain was getting special treatment inside the Tihar Jail including massage and special food, and provided CCTV footage to substantiate the claim.

Sisodia accused the BJP of leaking Jain's videos from Tihar jail and claimed that he was undergoing physiotherapy for a spine injury.

He went on to add that the Enforcement Directorate (ED) was directed by the court to not leak the video in question.

ishment was life imprisonment given by the Delhi High Court.

In 2003, Madhumita Shukla, a rising poet, was killed at her home. Madhumani Tripathi, wife of politician Amaramani Tripathi, who disliked Shukla's involvement with her husband, planned the murder as a contract killing. Both the conspirator and the murderers were given life imprisonment.

In yet another incident of a crime of passion, May 7, 2008, Neeraj Grover, a senior executive at TV production firm Synergy Adlabs, was stabbed to death at Kannada actor Maria Susairaj's apartment allegedly by her fiancé,

Emile Jerome Mathew, an ex-navy officer in Mumbai.

Jerome had flown from Kochi naval base to Mumbai May 7 and went to Maria's flat that night where he heard a man's voice. Consumed by jealousy he killed Neeraj using a knife from Maria's kitchen.

The couple then chopped the body into pieces, stuffed them into two bags and drove to the Manor jungles in Thane to burn the body.

Maria was imprisoned for 3 years while Jerome was sentenced to 10 years in jail. The Mumbai Sessions Court decided that the murder of Neeraj was not planned.

Apollo Hospitals holds SRS workshop

POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar, Nov 19: The department of Radiation Oncology at Apollo Cancer Centre, Bhubaneswar organised a Stereotactic Radiosurgery (SRS) workshop recently in its premises in association with the Indo oncology cancer summit. The workshop is a first-of-its-kind advanced training course in Odisha. Radiotherapy is a deep technology driven treatment modality in the cancer care. It's used to treat tumors in the brain, lungs, spine, liver, kidney and bones. This helps us in delivering tumor ablative doses without affecting the normal tissue.

To conduct the workshop, prominent experts were roped in from different Apollo Cancer Centres,



Chennai and across cancer centres from our state. The event was conducted under the expert supervision of Shankar Vangipuram, Senior Radiation Oncologist from Apollo Cancer Centre, Chennai, SN Senapati, HOD, Radiation Oncology, AHPGIC, Cuttack, BK Mohanty, Director, KIMS, Cancer centre, Dilip Parida , HOD, Radiation Oncology, AIIMS, Bhubaneswar and Saroj Das Majumdar, Additional Professor, Radiation Oncologist, AIIMS, Bhubaneswar.

Calamities to rise manifold in India due to climate change

The frequency of extreme weather events such as floods and heatwaves is projected to rise manifold in India in the future due to climate change, according to a study by researchers at the Indian Institute of Technology, Gandhinagar.

The research team studied the period from 1951 to 2020 to quantify India's risk of sequential extremes -- heatwaves in the summer and extreme rainfall in the following summer monsoon season over the same regions.

One of the examples of sequential extremes is the heatwave and flood in Pakistan this year that affected millions of people.

Similar extremes occur in India with large implications for agricultural production, public health, and infrastructure, the researchers said. The study, published in the One Earth journal on Friday, found

that the risk will increase significantly under the warming climate and variability in the El Nino-Southern Oscillation (ENSO) -- a recurring climate pattern involving changes in the temperature of waters in the central and eastern tropical Pacific Ocean.

The frequency of sequential extremes is projected to rise manifold in the future due to climate change. Vimal Mishra, Professor, Civil Engineering and Earth Sciences, IIT Gandhinagar in Gujarat, told PTI.

The fraction of the total population and urban area exposed to sequential extremes will increase rapidly if the global mean temperature rises above 1.5 degrees Celsius from the pre-industrial level, Mishra said.

The researchers noted that climate mitigation and reduction in vulnerability could help in re-



RESEARCHERS NOTED THAT INDIA'S LARGE POPULATION EXPERIENCES ADAPTATION CHALLENGES DUE TO SEVERE HEAT WAVES IN THE SUMMER AND EXTREME RAINFALL DURING THE MONSOON SEASON

ducing the risk.

The study highlighted that mega-heatwaves occurred during the summer of 1995 and 1998, with 20 per cent and 8 per cent of the country being affected by sequential extremes.

The area affected by the sequential extremes is significantly

higher during the positive phase (El Nino) than the negative phase, the researchers said.

Going forward, the study found that the fraction of the total population and urban area exposed to sequential extremes will increase rapidly if the global mean temperature rises above 1.5 de-

■ THE STUDY, PUBLISHED IN THE ONE EARTH JOURNAL FRIDAY, FOUND THAT THE RISK WILL INCREASE SIGNIFICANTLY UNDER THE WARMING CLIMATE AND VARIABILITY IN THE EL NINO-SOUTHERN OSCILLATION

■ THE HEATWAVE DURATION IS PROJECTED TO INCREASE FROM, ON AVERAGE, 3 DAYS IN THE CURRENT CLIMATE (1981-2010) TO 11 DAYS BY THE END OF THE 21ST CENTURY (2071-2100) UNDER LOWEST EMISSION SCENARIO

However, the duration of heatwaves is projected to rise to 33 days by the end of the century under the highest emission scenario, they said. The study found that the fraction of the population of India exposed to sequential extremes will rise considerably with an increase in global mean temperature above the pre-industrial level.

For instance, median population exposure increases from 27 per cent at 1.5 degrees Celsius to 36 per cent and 45 per cent at 3 and 4 degrees Celsius global warming levels, respectively, it said.

The researchers noted that a considerable reduction in vulnerability by improving socioeconomic livelihood and infrastructure will be needed to maintain the same risk (at 1.5 degrees Celsius global warming level) at higher global warming levels.

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PADAMPUR BYPOLL

STAKES HIGH FOR MAJOR PARTIES
FARMERS HOLD KEY TO TILTING POLL EQUATION



POST NEWS NETWORK

Padampur, Nov 19: With the bypoll to the Padampur Assembly seat in Bargarh district slated for December 5, the district administration has made elaborate security arrangements to ensure peaceful, free and fair election. Police too are on their toes putting all necessary arrangements in place.

Addressing a presser here at the district police headquarters, Collector Monisha Banerjee and SP Smith P Parmar informed that there are 319 polling booths in the Assembly constituency out of which 152 have been identified as sensitive and hyper sensitive. All necessary security arrangements have been made at these booths, said the SP.

He also said that three poll observers on duty for the bypoll inspected the police control room at the district headquarters.

On the other hand, there are 11 candidates in the fray with the bypoll predicted to be a three-cornered contest among the BJD, BJP and Congress candidates.

BJD nominee Barsha Singh Bariha, BJP candidate Pradip Purohit and Congress candidate Satyabhusan Sahoo have intensified their campaign along with their supporters and party workers.

Sahoo has been holding hectic parleys with his party workers and supporters in different villages while leaders like PCC president Sarat Patnaik, Santosh Singh Saluja, Adhiraj Panigrahy, Jaineswar Babu,

11 candidates are in fray with the bypoll predicted to be a three-cornered contest among the BJD, BJP and Congress

Hardip Singh and Ranjan Mahanand have hit the campaign trail. Sahoo sounded confident of his win in the bypoll.

BJD nominee Barsha Singh Bariha is well ahead of her rivals in the campaigning along with party stalwarts like Prasanna Acharya, Devi Mishra, Sushant Singh, Souvik Biswal, Deviranjan Tripathy, Anubhav Pattnaik and Srimayee Mishra. They have campaigned at Jamla, Palsapali, and various villages of Melchhamunda panchayat.

Several other BJD leaders like Pratap Jena, Debesh Acharya, Pradip Majhi, Sangram Pattnaik and Bijay Nayak have been campaigning for Barsha. BJD leaders are upbeat about retaining the seat.

On the other hand, BJP candidate Pradip Purohit has intensified the door-to-door campaign in Chhetagaon, Kutrapal under Paikamal block and Sankti, Pradhanpali, Tumuripani, Baitali, Tuhungipadar and Gothuguda under Jharbandh block. Purohit said that people of Padampur have lost faith in the present dispensation and will vent their ire in the bypoll against the ruling party.

On the other hand, the people of Padampur have raised the farmers' issues like lack of irrigation, procurement blues and their long pending demand of district status to the area. After Centre's direction to the states to claim farmer insurance money as soon as possible, a few days ago, the state government wasted no time and announced input subsidy of ₹200 crore for the farmers.

Bargarh district farmers are said to play a crucial role in deciding the fate of political parties. Despite this, the leaders of farmers' organisations have clearly stated that they will continue with their stir until crop insurance claims and drought input subsidy are credited in their bank accounts.

Earlier, BJP candidate and former legislator Pradip Purohit had not filed nomination as a move to express solidarity with the protesting farmers.

BJD candidate Barsha Singh Bariha had earlier gone to the agitation site and urged the farmers to call off their stir. "Now input subsidy has been given and Bijju Krushak Kalyan has been implemented. People very well know that only BJD can resolve the issues of the farmers," said BJD vice-president, Debi Prasad Mishra. Meanwhile, the BJP has launched an indefinite 'satyagraha' in Bhubaneswar to highlight farmers' issues. "BJD sent its candidate for filling nominations while its leaders went to hold talks with the farmers. Farmers' votes will be decisive and BJP is hopeful of gaining their trust," said BJP MLA, Nauri Nayak.

Amidst the ongoing mudslinging between the BJD and BJP, Congress is also trying to take advantage of the situation. "No matter how much drama BJP and BJD do in Padampur; they cannot stand with the farmers. Around 95 per cent farmers have faced a lot of hardship and our party has stood with them," said Nihar Ranjan Mahanand, Bargarh district Congress president.



RALLY FOR RIGHTS: Primary teachers took out a rally, demanding pension at Jeypore in Koraput, Saturday

OP PHOTO

IRREGULARITIES IN POND RENOVATION

Lokayukta directs Vig to probe scam

POST NEWS NETWORK

Dharmasala, Nov 19: The Vigilance department will investigate the alleged large-scale irregularities committed in pond renovation works in Taranjia panchayat under this block of Jajpur district.

According to reports, the Jajpur minor irrigation division had carried out the renovation of a pond at an estimated cost of ₹24.99 lakh at Taranjia panchayat in 2019-20. In the same financial year, the block administration had also renovated the same pond at a cost of over ₹3.50 lakh. This was shown in official records.

RTI activist Sarbeswar Behura came to know about the irregularities and sought information about details of the renovation works under RTI Act from the Jajpur minor irrigation



division office and the Dharmasala block office.

Alleging massive irregularities in the pond renovation work, Behura took up the issue with the Lokayukta. Taking serious note of the issue, the Lokayukta had carried out investigation and checked official records in the block office.

The pond is under the Minor Irrigation department while the panchayat/block administration was not supposed to carry out any

Lokayukta had earleir served notices to then block executive engineer, a JE, the PEO and then sarpanch to submit their replies on irregularities

work there, Behura sought to know.

At that time, the Lokayukta had served notices to then block executive engineer Prashant Kumar Mohanty, junior engineer Brahmananda Panda, PEO Maheswar Mohanty and then sarpanch Sushant Sethi to submit their replies regarding the irregularities. However, their replies were not satisfactory. Hence, the Lokayukta has directed the Vigilance department to look into the irregularities.

5-year RI to disabled man for raping minor

POST NEWS NETWORK

Berhampur, Nov 19: A fast track POC SO court Friday sentenced a 56-year-old man to five years of rigorous imprisonment after convicting him for the rape of a minor.

The convict was identified as Bhaskar Nahak, a disabled man and a native of Rambha area in Ganjam district. Judge Ganeshwar Pati also slapped a penalty of ₹10,000 on him apart from the punishment. In default, he has to undergo additional three months of imprisonment.

The judge also directed the secretary of district legal services authority (DLSA) to pay ₹4 lakh compensation to the survivor, public prosecutor Mohan Singari said.

According to the case diary, Nahak had lured the minor girl to his house and raped her. The girl narrated her ordeal before her mother. Later, her mother lodged a complaint at Rambha police station leading to the arrest of Nahak.



Khushi scheme left in doldrums in Bhadrak

Over several lakhs of sanitary napkins have been rotting in Bhadrak as expiry date draws near

POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhadrak, Nov 19: The state government's ambitious Khushi scheme aimed at providing free sanitary napkins to school going girls has gone haywire in this district as lakhs of napkins were found counting their days with their expiry dates coming to an end in December.

The scheme aims at providing menstrual hygiene care to the adolescent girls from Class-VI to Class-X in the state through supply of free sanitary pads. The scheme has provision for supply of 72 pieces of napkin for a period of three months to these adolescent girls. However, due to mismanagement in distribution system the napkins have failed to reach the intended beneficiaries.

In such situation, girl students are now being forced to buy the napkins from medicine shops by shelling out substantial sums of money. The napkins have been left to rot at the stock points of every block with their expiry scheduled for December.

Reports said a total of 37,37,943 girls in the district were included under the Khushi scheme. An agency involved in mid-day meal (MDM) distribution in the district distributed the napkins from August September 6 in 2016. The delivery charge of the napkin was 14 to 16 paise while the agency demanded ₹83,74,838 towards the delivery of napkins. The DHH refused to pay the bill as the bill was beyond the limits. As a result, agency filed a case in the court for realisation of



the bill amount.

Chief District Medical Officer (CDMO) Dr Santosh Kumar Patra said that the bill was stopped for payment as the agency demanded over ₹83 lakh instead of ₹5 lakh to ₹7 lakh.

Later, in a meeting held at the Sadhabana conference hall of the district Collectorate the district education officer (DEO) was given the charge of distribution of napkins. Collector Siddheswar Baliram Bondar has also written a letter to the district education officer in this regard, the CDMO said.

DEO Mishra said that the napkins are being distributed through the teachers under the direct supervision of the cluster resources centre coordinators (CRCC). However, a verification of the napkins at the stocks points in each block tells a different story. While some schools are receiving the napkins, girls in many schools have been deprived of the same. As a result, lakhs of napkins were found rotting in the stock points without being distributed to the school girls.

2 passengers fall off train; locals stage stir

POST NEWS NETWORK

Jajpur, Nov 19: Tension flared up at Dulakhapatna station under Korei block in Jajpur district, Saturday after two passengers fell off a train and were critically injured. The two passengers were boarding the train when the mishap occurred.

Sources said the passengers were trying to board the Palasa DMU passenger train when the mishap took place. The train was en route to Bhubaneswar from Balasore and had a halt at Dulakhapatna station. Eyewitnesses said the duo slipped and fell due to heavy rush when the train was leaving the station. As they suffered serious injuries, they were immediately rushed to a nearby hospital for medical assistance.

Meanwhile, irate locals gathered at the spot and blocked the train. They attributed frequent accidents due to rush and demanded the addition of more coaches. Later, Railway Police Force (RPF) personnel along with the Panikoi police rushed to the spot and tried to pacify the protesters, who relented after they were assured of action.

PEOs suspended in Balasore


POST NEWS NETWORK

Bahanaga, Nov 19: The district Collector has suspended two panchayat extension officers (PEOs) for disobeying the orders of their higher-ups and dereliction of duty in Bahanaga block of Balasore. The suspension order of the Collector has been issued to the Bahanaga BDO. Besides, one of the PEOs - Binod Singh of Talakurunia panchayat - has been asked not to leave the block headquarters for anywhere else or go on leave. The other PEO Nilambar Mahalik of Kalyani panchayat was told to work in the block during the suspension period.


10 Cong workers join BJP

POST NEWS NETWORK

Keonjhar, Nov 19: Congress received a jolt in Keonjhar as 10 of its frontline leaders crossed over to the BJP, Friday. They joined the saffron party on the sidelines of its fourth executive body meeting at Sanskruti Bhawan. BJP leader Mohan Majhi, Sunandini Bhanjadeo, municipality chairperson Niku Sahoo and other leaders welcomed the neophytes in the party by giving them bouquets.



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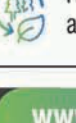
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SRI AUROBINDO

Print Losing Ground

A newspaper earlier this year reported that print media advertising had grown to Rs.16,000 crore in 2021, rising from Rs. 12,000 crore in 2020. This year, it would be Rs. 18,000 crore, the report said, with newspapers and magazines getting a share of 20% of the overall advertising market. This was also higher than the global share of 5%, because elsewhere newspapers were dying. All of this is good news, but what the report did not say was that in 2022, print would get as much advertising as it got in 2019. Newspapers and magazines got 53% of all advertising in 2005. In 2022, digital will get 45% and television 40%. Print and radio and outdoor will have to go after that remains, which is not much.

This is not unique to India of course. In the United States, print advertising has halved in just the last five years. It is a much larger market than India's but even so total advertising fell from \$20 billion (app Rs. 160,000 crore) in 2017 to half of that this year, having fallen each year in the interim. The price of newsprint, and paper on which newspapers are printed, meanwhile has risen. This is important because it is the single largest component of cost for a newspaper, especially in India where the reader only pays about a fifth of the value of the paper and 80% is paid for by advertisers.

The question is what is to be done and how. The easiest answer is that if India's economy shows strong growth over the next few years, newspapers and magazines should be fine for now. That is because people selling consumer products and services will want to send more advertising their way. If it is the case that growth is weak, then this money will not come to print and the long term decline it has seen will continue.

This is actually a matter of great concern. Those who understand how journalism happens know that the largest sets of reporters are all in print. To give you an example, my last job was in a Gujarati newspaper which had 300 reporters. They were spread out across the state and its cities and had regular beats such as corporation, education, crime and so on. This is not how television channels are structured. They do not require either the number of reporters print has, or the kind of reporting print does. The TV channel's staple is what is called the debate and here it is the outside experts and guests including political leaders who provide the content. To know what is happening in your local government school and hospital or the magistrate's court one has to turn to the newspaper, which is the only source.

It is true that some fine websites have come up that are doing journalism of a sort that was not done before. However they are not structured like newspapers either and do not have the numbers to replicate them particularly of reporters. If you do a census of journalists in India (or indeed South Asia) the majority will be in print and the majority will be reporters.

Now consider that along with advertising, even employment in the media has been declining. A report citing data from the Centre for Monitoring the Indian Economy said that the total number of people employed in media and publishing in India was a little over 10 lakh in September 2016. By August 2021, this number was 2.3 lakh. This is in line with trends that showed that in the same period jobs in manufacturing had also halved.

The numbers will not be surprising to those working in media who have seen colleagues go and publications shut down. The larger question is what this decline means for our democracy. Print reporting is the largest source of factual material on the government. It is not replaceable by another medium, even if the other medium were willing. TV and the rise of digital will not and cannot replace print. Newspapers are like a public good, providing a service to society.

What happens to a democracy when the basic information about the performance of the government and the state of institutions declines to the point of vanishing? When citizens do not know what is going on in schools, hospitals, police stations and government offices, how do they hold the state to account?

These are the questions to consider when we examine the rapidity with which print is losing ground, first to TV as it did and now to digital.

WISDOM CORNER

When I write an original story I write about people I know first-hand and situations I'm familiar with.

The more successful the villain, the more successful the picture.

A work of art doesn't exist outside the perception of the audience.

WORDSWORTH

Waywiser

It consists of a wheel at the end of a handle, with a counter to measure the number of turns the wheel makes. It's a quick way of measuring a distance and has been known in various forms since antiquity — the Roman architect and military engineer Vitruvius described one in detail in the first century BCE. To name it, British surveyors of the seventeenth century borrowed a German word, Wegweiser, meaning literally something that shows the way, a signpost, but changed its sense. Waywiser was also given to what we now call a pedometer, which measures distances by counting the number of steps a person takes. Today the road version is usually given the trivially accurate name of surveyor's wheel. It has had others — clickwheel, trundle wheel, cyclometer (on a bike) and odometer (sometimes hodometer) — though this last one turns up today more often for the closely related device in your car that indicates how far you've driven. In earlier times there was yet another name for it: perambulator. This has only a limited connection with the carriage for conveying babies. The waywiser sense derives from the old meaning of perambulator for somebody who walks about for leisure. In the seventeenth century a perambulator was a person who carried out a formal circuit on foot to record the boundaries of an area (a perambulation), hence a type of surveyor. The term later shifted from the person to the measuring device or pedometer he used.

LOL

Will you marry me?

An elderly widow and widower were dating for about five years. The man finally decided to ask her to marry. She immediately said "yes". The next morning when he awoke, he couldn't remember what her answer was! "Was she happy? I think so, wait, no, she looked at me funny..." After



about an hour of trying to remember to no avail, he got on the telephone and gave her a call. Embarrassed, he admitted that he didn't remember her answer to the marriage proposal. "Oh", she said, "I'm so glad you called. I remembered saying 'yes' to someone, but I couldn't remember who it was."



SN Misra

CHIEF JUSTICE OF INDIA DY CHANDRACHUD, BY VIRTUE OF HIS PEDIGREE, INTELLECT, AND INDEPENDENT-MINDEDNESS, SEEMS TO BE THE MAN OF THE MOMENT WHO CAN KINDLE THE LAMP OF TRANSPARENCY AND ENSURE JUDICIAL MAJESTY THROUGH IMPARTIALITY AND OBJECTIVITY



Aakar Patel

Print reporting is the largest source of factual material on the government. It is not replaceable by another medium, even if the other medium were willing. TV and the rise of digital will not and cannot replace print

FOCUS JUDICIARY

THE COLLEGIUM DEBATE



In a throbbing democracy like ours, the Supreme Court and the Government are often at loggerheads as the legislative bodies feel that since they represent the voice of the people, they have the natural right to amend the Constitution to translate the will of the people

It would be worthwhile to mention that one of the major recommendations of NCWRC under the Chairmanship of JusticeVenkatachaliah was the creation of a National Judicial Commission, where there would be three judges headed by the CJI, The Law Minister and an eminent person nominated by the President would be the other two members. The judiciary would have a majority say in the selection process. Fali Nariman, who was arguing against the NJAC Act, in fact suggested to the court to approve the NJC composition as suggested by NCWRC. CJI (Retired) Sabharwal also was of the opinion that in the matter of appointment of judges, the government being the biggest litigant, with large number of human rights violations must not dominate in the selection of judges, as they would recommend those names, who will be pro-government. One clearly remembers how Indira Gandhi during the emergency years (1975) was of the view that the judiciary should be committed to the policies of the government, instead of defending and upholding the rule of law. She brought in the 42nd amendment (1976), which proposed to make Parliament omnipotent and obliterate the power of judicial review. It is thanks to the Minerva Mills judgment (1980), that these toxic additions to Article 368 were struck

down. Gandhi was also not pleased when the Supreme Court struck down the 39th amendment(1975) which tried to insulate any challenge to election of PM from the purview of judicial challenge. In a throbbing democracy like ours, the Supreme Court and the Government are often at loggerheads as the legislative bodies feel that since they represent the voice of the people (Vox Populi), they have the natural right to amend the Constitution to translate the will of the people.And the judiciary believes that as custodians of the Constitution, they will uphold the rule of law, and defend fundamental rights from arbitrary intrusion by the state. The role of the court becomes even more critical when the party in power has an overwhelming majority and they represent the voice of the dominant religious community. Minority bashing and cultural homogenization become major agendas of the government. After the land in Ayodhya has been given to the Hindus, the clamour is now to take a fresh look at the disputed sites of Kasi and Mathura and set up Hindu temples. Such moves clearly violate the secular spirit that the Constitution upholds. Never in the history of India, have the citizens been confronted with such a unipolar idea of India, cultural homogenization by a majoritarian party, throwing into the

dustbin ideas like celebrating multiculturalism, fostering brotherhood, eschewing obscurantism, and promoting a secular ethos. It's, therefore, of utmost importance that judges to the High Court and Supreme Court, who will adjudicate challenges to constitutional violation by the state, are chosen on the basis of merit and not judicial nepotism and proximity to powers that be. CJI DY Chandrachud's moment of reckoning and his litmus test has come, for displaying the courage of conviction, without pursuing personal agenda.

Fali Nariman writes in his eminently readable autobiography Before Memory Fades: It is not enough that the judges are independent of the executive, but are of noble mind and above all courage.CJI DY Chandrachud may also like to recall what MC Setalvad, the first Attorney General had said when the Supreme Court was inaugurated in 1950: "The Supreme Court, like all human institutions, will earn reverence through truth." There is a justifiable perception that the present government has been misusing institutions like the ED, CBI & Income Tax to settle political scores and vendetta. The Supreme Court as an institution is the last lamppost of hope for the dispensation of justice by all citizens, particularly the minority who are at the receiving end of lumpen elements because of the diet they choose, the dress they wear and partners they choose. It's therefore of utmost importance that the selection process brings up the most meritorious and independent-minded judges, who carry credibility and pursue truth, without fear, favour or ill will. Shakespeare wrote: Cometh the Hour, Cometh the Man. CJI DY Chandrachud, by virtue of his pedigree, intellect, and independent-mindedness, seems to be the man of the moment who can kindle the lamp of transparency and ensure judicial majesty through impartiality and objectivity.

The writer teaches Constitutional Law. Views are personal

SPECTRUM HUMAN RIGHTS



Martin Ignacio Diaz Velásquez

THIS IS A FIGHT WITH NO WINNERS. THE ONLY WAY OUT IS TO EMBRACE A NEW APPROACH FOCUSED ON SAVING LIVES, ALLEVIATING SUFFERING AND MAINTAINING HUMAN DIGNITY

Former US President Richard Nixon launched the "war on drugs" June 18, 1971. But, instead of improving public health and well-being in the United States by cracking down on drug use, he destroyed the lives of millions of people, both at home and abroad, especially in Latin America, Central Africa, and Southeast Asia. The question now is how to repair the damage. Nixon's approach to drug use was fundamentally punitive. It thus puts great pressure on law enforcement and the penal system, while sending millions to prison for non-violent offences. In 2020, US law enforcement recorded more than 1.1 million drug arrests, the majority for simple possession. Non-white people have been disproportionately affected, despite having similar rates of drug use and sales as white people. Globally, around one in five people in prison are serving sentences principally tied to drug-related offences. Moreover, the war on drugs has precluded effective regulation of drug production and distribution. This makes it easier for minors to access prohibited substances, and generates exorbitant profits for the criminal organisations that terrorise local communities. The war on drugs is a boon for corruption

and a disaster for the rule of law. Moreover, all this devastation has not prevented drug use: an estimated 271 million people worldwide use drugs that are prohibited under international treaties, while stigma and criminalisation make users' lives more perilous and unhealthy. Today, some 35 million people who use drugs need mental and physical health care, with seven million suffering from infectious diseases linked to intravenous drug use (HIV and viral hepatitis). More than 500,000 people die each year from overdose or adulteration, and the rates of overdose deaths are on the rise. Nowadays, the futility and destructiveness of the war on drugs is well established and widely acknowledged, with experts, public officials, and civil-society organisations worldwide revising their positions. A growing number of countries are moving to implement drug-policy reforms. In October, US President Joe Biden pardoned thousands of people who had been convicted on federal charges of marijuana possession since the war on drugs began. While these steps are undoubtedly welcome, they are just the beginning. Reforming international models for drug control and undoing some of the damage of the war on drugs will require a humanitarian ap

proach, focused on non-pathologising interventions that advance individual and public health. This includes mental health, which is closely linked to drug use. Efforts to update and homogenize criteria for mental-health assessment and standards of care are essential. Only then can inequalities in health-care access across regions be identified and addressed. More broadly, national drug policies should be aligned with international efforts. International organisations, including the Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies, which have been working for decades to address the health consequences of drug abuse and the war on drugs, have long advocated such an approach. In 2005, the Italian Red Cross, the International Council on Security and Development, and the Rome-based Fondazione Villa Maraini came together to advance a framework for dialogue and co-operation on the development and implementation of humane and effective drug policies. The set of principles this effort produced — the Rome Consensus for a Humanitarian Drug Policy — was signed by 121 National Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies. In 2020, the Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies — together with

the C4 Recovery Foundation, the Levenson Foundation, the Police, Treatment, and Community Collaborative, and the Knowmad Institut — built on this achievement with the Rome Consensus 2.0. The goal was to recruit new signatories from around the world and provide a blueprint for policy and best practices for the coming decade. The Rome Consensus 2.0 recognizes that success can be achieved only if we "advocate at all levels to ensure more investments and public awareness to implement more humane and effective drug policies." Ending the stigma and discrimination faced by people who use drugs is thus vital to progress. By fostering a more accurate, nuanced, and holistic understanding of drugs and drug use among the public — including, crucially, health-care professionals — education campaigns can go a long way toward advancing this goal. The war on drugs is a fight with no winners. The only way out is to embrace a new approach focused on saving lives, alleviating suffering, and maintaining human dignity. Nobody's human rights, whether they use drugs or not, should be in doubt.

The writer is co-founder and CEO of the Knowmad Institut. ©PROJECT SYNDICATE

Inject transparency

Sir, The BCCI has done well to reconstitute the five-member senior national men's cricket selection committee. India's poor T20 record in recent times, and the public outcry after the manner in which India was crushed by England in the semis meant the knives were out for the selectors. It is not clear whether the Cricket Advisory Committee (CAC) that selects the selection committee had indeed reviewed the performance of the selectors after the Asia cup debacle. As of now, a national senior selector should have played seven test matches or 30 first class matches or 10 one day internationals and 20 first class matches. Whether or not the above criteria need to be modified is a subject of conjecture. However, the selection panel should be well balanced; former batsmen as well as bowlers should find their way into the committee in a fair proportion. Responsibility should be thrust upon the selectors; terms of the selectors should hinge on the on-field performance of the players. Without injecting transparency and accountability into the selection committee, its proceedings will tend to become the favourite pastime of former cricketers.

Ganapathi Bhat, AKOLA

Passport to states

Sir, In a historic event the Indian Council of Cultural Relations (ICCR) inked one-of-a-kind Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) November 11, 2022, with 23 states to strengthen and promote cultural diplomacy abroad. The objective is to make the partnership between the state and ICCR more meaningful, bringing in active involvement and institutionalising the same. The collaboration with states would lead to more resources both financially and socially. It will help states to boost their culture, tourism, economy and education while facilitating the organisation in fulfilling its mandate of cultural exchanges with foreign countries. The state government will be able to send its focal troops abroad to spread the local cultures. States can now showcase their traditional art and artists to create awareness about rapidly declining art forms of each state and bring less-talked-about areas such as regional literature and textiles to a larger platform. The initiative will help take the global community and international culture to the states of India and act as a gateway to Indian states.

Bhagaban Nayak, BERHAMPUR

Letters

TO THE EDITOR

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

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

of the day quote

India became independent after thousands of freedom fighters laid down their lives. But the Congress never recognised their sacrifice and taught people that only one family helped India gain independence

SHIVRAJ SINGH CHOUHAN | MP CM

It is tender, transfer and timepass. There is dictatorship and autocracy in the BMC and officials are working under pressure

AADITYA THACKERAY | SHIV SENA (UDDHAV BALASAHEB THACKERAY) LEADER

The young boys and girls of Kerala are going to various states and foreign countries looking for jobs and here the public money is being spent on these people who are party cadre

ARIF MOHAMMED KHAN | KERALA GOVERNOR

SHORT TAKES

Arun Goel appointed as EC

New Delhi: Arun Goel, a 1985 batch IAS officer of the Punjab cadre who took voluntary retirement from Friday, has been appointed as an Election Commissioner (EC). He was to retire on December 31, 2022 after completing 60 years of age. Once he joins his new responsibility, Goel would be in line to be the next chief election commissioner after incumbent Rajiv Kumar demits office in February 2025. He will join CEC Kumar and Election Commissioner Anup Chandra Pandey on the poll panel. There was a vacancy in the EC following the retirement of Sushil Chandra as CEC in May this year.

Two sisters kidnapped, raped

Guna: Two minor sisters were allegedly kidnapped and raped in Madhya Pradesh's Guna district, police said Saturday. The police have apprehended two of the accused, one of them a minor, for the crime that took place at a village on the intervening night of November 10 and 11, an official said.



I prefer a resolution of conflicts as for any problem there is a solution and we should arrive at the right solution. We should be able to keep all actors in the game together. Therefore I would say what the Constitution expects - that the governor has to know the way, show the way and go the way

C V ANANDA BOSE | WEST BENGAL GOVERNOR

NAVLAKHA RELEASED

Gautam Navlakha, an accused in Elgar Parishad-Maoists links case, was released from prison Saturday and taken to a building in Navi Mumbai where he will be living under house arrest for a month



Massive searches over threat to journalists

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Srinagar, Nov 19: In a major crack-down on terror nexus, the Jammu and Kashmir Police Saturday conducted massive searches at 12 locations in connection with The Resistance Front, an LeT shadow organisation, issuing threats to journalists.

The early morning searches were conducted in Srinagar, Anantnag and Kulgam districts of the Valley. The premises where the searches were conducted included residences of several journalists as well as some suspects, they said, adding that some suspects were questioned as well.

The police had on November 12 filed a case against militants and handlers belonging to the Lashkar-e-Taiba (LeT) and The Resistance Front (TRF), a shadow organisation of LeT, for issuing threats to journalists in Kashmir.

"Police today conducted simultaneous searches at 12 locations in connection with the recent threat issued to journalists of the Valley," said an official.

They said the houses of fugitives like Sajjad Gul, Mukhtar Baba, all



terrorists of LeT/TRF and other suspects were raided in Srinagar, Anantnag and Kulgam districts early morning.

Baba - a Turkey-based terror operative - and six of his contacts in Jammu and Kashmir are suspected to be behind the threats.

The officials said police teams have seized mobile phones, laptops, memory cards, pen drives and other digital devices, documents, bank papers, rubber stamps, passports, papers, cash and some Saudi currency.

Each search team, comprising four to five members, was led by an inspector/sub-inspector rank officer monitored by the sub-divi-

sional police officer (SDPO) concerned, the officials said. The raids were supervised by Superintendent of Police (South city) Lakshya Sharma, they added.

Consequent to the searches, some suspects have been brought for examination and questioning, the officials said.

A case under section 13 of Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act, and sections 124A, 153B, 505 and 506 of IPC has already been registered at Shergari police station here against handlers, active terrorists and OGWs (over ground workers) of LeT and TRF for online publication and dissemination of direct threat letters to journalists

Baba -- a Turkey-based terror operative -- and six of his contacts in Jammu and Kashmir are suspected to be behind the threats

Consequent to the searches, some suspects have been brought for examination and questioning, the officials said

and reporters based in Kashmir.

The TRF had issued the threat to a few media houses in the Valley for their "traitorous acts" and "nexus with the fascist Indian regime". Following the threat, several journalists had resigned from local publications.

Baba (55) used to work for various newspapers in Kashmir. He was a resident of Srinagar in the 1990s and is believed to have escaped to Turkey, an intelligence dossier said. Baba, who often visits Pakistan, has emerged as a mastermind responsible for grooming youngsters in the Valley to join the TRF, the dossier said.

Baba has built a network of informers in the journalist community and used their inputs to prepare a list of scribes to threaten, it said.

ABG SHIPYARD FRAUD CASE

CBI files charge sheet against ex-chairman

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, Nov 19: The CBI Saturday filed a charge sheet against former ABG group chairman Rishi Agarwal and other individuals and entities in connection with the alleged Rs 22,842-crore bank fraud in the ABG Shipyards Ltd, officials said Saturday.

In its charge sheet filed before the special CBI court here, the agency has named as accused Agarwal and five individuals and 19 companies including three Singapore-based firms, they said.

"It was found during investigation that the accused conspired with others & got incorporated several entities both within India and outside India with the help of his employees and continuously kept on diverting and siphoning off bank funds," a CBI spokesperson said in a statement.

The charge sheet has alleged the accused siphoned off huge amount of bank and business funds of the ABG Shipyards and created large number of personal assets in the form of immovable properties including luxurious flats, multi-storied buildings and lands (having present value in crores).

4 held for gangrape of model in moving car



PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Kochi, Nov 19: Kerala police Saturday said they have recorded the arrest of four people, including a woman, in connection with the alleged gangrape of a 19-year old model in a moving car, police said.

Three men, natives of Kodungallur, allegedly sexually assaulted the teen, hailing from Kasaragod, in their vehicle on Thursday night, city police commissioner C H Nagaraju said. The police said the accused woman, who is a known person to the victim, hails from Rajasthan and also works as a model here.

Police said they have arrested Vivek, Sudhi and Nithin and said they were investigating into the background of the accused and produce them before court tonight.

The police commissioner, who spoke to reporters here, said there was an element of trafficking also involved in the incident. "There is an element of trafficking in this. Section 370 involving anti-human trafficking has also been added in the FIR as a person has been moved from one place to another for this purpose," the police said.

They said they have added various provisions including sections for criminal conspiracy, rape and kidnapping, among others. The victim, who was staying at Kakkanad in the city, was invited to a DJ party by her friend, a Rajasthani woman, and was introduced to the men, police had said on Friday after taking the accused into custody. The accused took the model in their vehicle after she got drunk at a bar and allegedly gangraped her on Thursday, the police said.

GOVERNMENT OF ODISHA
OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER, RURAL WORKS DIVISION - II, BALASORE
No. O-1288
e-Procurement Notice for Road Works
Bid Identification No. e-procurement Notice No. 06/EERW-II/BLS/2022-23

1. Name of the Work	: Road Work
2. Total No. of Works	: 29 Nos.
3. Estimated Cost	: As specified in column 3 of Annexure
4. Class of Contractor	: As specified in column 4 of Annexure
5. Time of Completion	: As specified in column 5 of Annexure
6. Cost of Tender Paper through online	: As specified in column 6 of Annexure
7. Other details	: As per DTCN

Procurement Officer	Bid Identification No.	Availability of Tender Online for Bidding	Last date & time of seeking tender clarification	Date & Time of Opening of Tender in O/o. Executive Engineer, R.W. Divn.-II, Balasore	
1	2	From 3 To 4	5	6	
Executive Engineer, R.W. Division-II, Balasore	E TCN-06 of 2022-23	23.11.2022 at 5.00 P.M.	30.11.2022 upto 5.00 P.M.	29.11.2022 upto 4.00 P.M.	01.12.2022 at 11.00 A.M.

Further details can be seen from the website www.tendersorissa.gov.in.
OIPR-25052/11/0010/2223 Sd./- Executive Engineer, R.W. Division-II, Balasore

GOVERNMENT OF ODISHA
OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER
RURAL WORKS DIVISION, DHARMAGARH
Tel.: 06672242823, Email: rw_dharmagarh@yahoo.com
BID IDENTIFICATION NO. DMGH/ Online-08 OF 2022-23 Date: 16.11.2022
"e" PROCUREMENT NOTICE

No.O-1280:- Bid documents consisting of Work, Estimate cost, Cost of tender paper, Bid security, Time of completion, Class of contractor and the set of terms and conditions of contract and other necessary documents can be seen in Govt. website i.e. www.tendersorissa.gov.in

1. Name of the work: Bridge works in the District of Kalahandi as mentioned in DTCN. 2. Total No. of works: 02 Nos. 3. Estimated cost: Rs.33.63 lakhs. 4. Period of completion: 03 calendar months. 5. Other details:

Availability of tender online for bidding	Last date & time seeking tender clarification	Date & time of opening of tender	
From To			
23.11.2022 at 10.00 A.M.	05.12.2022 upto 5.00 P.M.	03.12.2022 upto 5.00 P.M.	06.12.2022 at 11.00 A.M.

Further details can be seen from the website www.tendersorissa.gov.in
Sd./- Executive Engineer, Rural Works Division, Dharmagarh
OIPR-25100/11/0008/2223

SBI STATE BANK OF INDIA
STRESSED ASSETS RECOVERY BRANCH (SARB),
Plot No.: 778, 1st Floor, Maharshi College Road, Sahid Nagar, Bhubaneswar-751007, Ph. No.: 0674-2549663, 2549621, Fax No.: 0674-2549713, E-mail ID: sbi.05174@sbi.co.in

SALE OF IMMOVABLE/MOVABLE ASSETS CHARGED TO BANK UNDER SECURITISATION AND RECONSTRUCTION OF FINANCIAL ASSETS AND ENFORCEMENT OF SECURITY INTEREST ACT, 2002.
The undersigned as Authorized Officer of **State Bank of India** has taken over Possession of the following property/ies u/s 13(4) of the SARFAESI Act. Public at large is informed that e-auction (under SARFAESI Act, 2002) of the charged property/ies in the below mentioned cases for realisation of Bank's dues will be held on "AS IS WHERE IS", "AS IS WHAT IS" and "WHATEVER THERE IS" basis on **22.12.2022** and on the terms & conditions specified hereunder.

Date & Time of E-Auction: 22.12.2022 from 10.30 A.M. to 12.30 P.M. (For Lot No. 1) and from 1.00 P.M. to 3.00 P.M. (For Lot No. 2) with unlimited extensions of 10 minutes each.

Sl. No.	Name & Address of Borrower(s) / Guarantor(s) / Legal Heirs of Deceased Guarantor	Property Details & Name of the owner of the property/Nature	Outstanding dues for recovery of which property/ies is/are being sold / Demand Notice date	Reserve Price EMD BID Increment Amount
1.	Borrower: M/s. Ganapati Cashew Industries, Prop.: Mr. P. Rajesh Kumar, At: Bentaguda, P.O.: Kotpad, Dist.: Koraput-764058 / Guarantor: Late P. Gopal Rao, Legal Heir of Late P. Gopal Rao: 1) Mr. P. Dillip Kumar, S/o-Late P. Gopal Rao, 2) Mr. P. Rajesh Kumar, S/o-Late P. Gopal Rao, 3) Mrs. P. Aliveni, All are At: Soura Street, Kotpad, PO: Kotpad, Dist.: Koraput-764058, 4) Mrs. K. Purnima, W/o- K. Srinivas Rao, 100 Feet Ring Road, Vijayanagar, 20-20, 1 Virgo Classic Avenue, Krishnarajapuram, Vijayanagar, Andhra Pradesh-535001	Lot-1: (i) Land & Building at Mouza/ Tahasil/P.S.: Kotpad, Dist.: Koraput, Khata No.: 555/1157, Plot No.: 850/1558/2093, Area: Ac.2.20dec., KISSAM: Gharabari, stands in the name of M/s. Ganapati Cashew Industries, (ii) Land & Building at Mouza/Tahasil/P.S.: Kotpad, Dist.: Koraput, Khata No.: 555/633, Plot No.: 850/1558/2093/2475, Area: Ac.0.30dec., KISSAM: Gharabari, stands in the name of Mr. P. Rajesh Kumar, (iii) Plant & Machinery of M/s Ganapati Cashew Industries situated at Kotpad.	₹1,38,67,274/- including interest up to 08.09.2022 with further interest & incidental expenses, costs, charges etc. / 14.12.2021	₹5,34,43,000/- ₹53,44,300/- ₹1,00,000/-
	Lot-2:			₹1,25,74,000/- ₹12,57,400/-
	(i) Plant & Machinery of M/s Ganapati Cashew Industries situated at Kotpad.			₹1,00,000/- ₹28,97,000/- ₹2,89,700/- ₹50,000/-
	(ii) Land & Building at Mouza/Tahasil/P.S.: Borigumma, Dist.: Koraput, Khata No.: 372/3493, Plot No.: 810/4234, Area: Ac.0.04dec., KISSAM: Gharabari, in the name of P. Gopal Rao.			

Note: Keeping in the view of totals dues of ₹1,38,67,274/- as on date, we propose for auction as above. In case Lot-1 success, there is no auction for Lot-2 and similarly in case Lot-1 fails, there will be Auction for Lot-2 as proposed.

Date & Time of E-Auction: 22.12.2022 from 1.00 P.M. to 3.00 P.M. with unlimited extensions of 10 minutes each.

2.	Borrower: M/s. Shreetex Commercial Pvt. Ltd., Represented through its Managing Director: Arun Kumar Kar, S/o- Late Anukal Kar, Directors: 1) Mrs. Saraswati Panda, W/o-Baikuntheswar Panda, 2) Mrs. Yeshashree Panda, W/o- Ayesha Kanta Bastia, All are at Plot No.: 1330/6429, Palasuni, GGP Colony, Rasulgarh, Bhubaneswar-751025	All that part and parcel of the property consisting of Land and Building situated at Dist.: Sundargarh, Tahasil: Rourkela, P.S.: Rourkela, Mouza: Rourkela Town, Unit No. 27, Jhiripani, Khata No.: 171/635, Plot No.: 211/1281, Area: Ac.0.055dec., KISSAM: Gharabari, standing in the name of Arun Kumar Kar.	₹39,91,651/- including interest up to 09.11.2022 with further interest & incidental expenses, costs, charges etc. / 27.01.2020	₹1,47,83,000/- ₹14,78,300/- ₹1,00,000/-
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Date & Time of inspection of the properties: 16.12.2022 between 11.00 AM to 04.00 PM
STATUTORY 30 DAYS SALE NOTICE TO BORROWER/GUARANTORS FOR SALE UNDER RULE 8(6) & 9(1) AS PER SARFAESI ACT 2002

For detailed Terms & Conditions of the sale, please refer to the link provided in the State Bank of India, Secured Creditor Website: www.sbi.co.in, <https://bank.sbi/web/sbi-in-the-news/auction-notices/sarfaesi-and-others>, <https://ibapi.in> and for auction login into: <https://www.msstcecommerce.com/auctionhome/ibapi/index.jsp>

For further details and any query please contact : **Sri Suresh Chandra Panda (Authorised Officer): Mob.: 9810562803, CCO: Sri B. Meher, Mob.: 8895333411**

Date : 19.11.2022 Place : Bhubaneswar
Sd/- Authorised Officer, State Bank of India

बैंक ऑफ इंडिया 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** 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 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 issued a Demand Notice calling upon the Borrowers in the loan Account given below to repay the amount mentioned in the Notice plus interest within **60 days** from the date of receipt of the said Notice. The Borrowers having failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to the Borrowers and the Public in general that the undersigned has taken **POSSESSION** of the property described herein below in exercise of powers conferred on him/her under Sub-Section (4) of Section 13 of the Act read with Rule 8 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002. The Borrowers in particular and the public in general are hereby cautioned not to deal with the property and any dealings with the property will be subject to the charge of the **Bank of India, Raghunathpur Branch** for an amount mentioned below plus interest & expenses thereon. **The Borrowers attention is invited to provisions of Sub-Section (8) Section 13 of the Act, in respect of time available to redeem the Secured Assets.**

BRANCH / Name and Address of the Borrowers	Liabilities due as per notice	Date of Demand Notice / Date of Possession	Description of the Immovable Property
RAGHUNATHPUR BRANCH Borrowers: (1) M/s. Uplamma Trading, Prop.: Mr. Rashkachula Veera Venkata Seshadri, At: Shop No.: 4 & 5, Nayabazar, Rourkela, Dist: Sundargarh, PIN-769001. (2) Mr. Rashkachula Veera Venkata Seshadri, Address 1: At: Plot No.: 1008, IRC, Village, Nayapalli, Bhubaneswar-751015, Address-2: At: Rudra Vihar, Hanspal, Bhubaneswar Date: 16.11.2022, Place: Bhubaneswar	₹ 36,73,861.64 as on 21.06.2022 + interest & expenses thereon	21.06.2022 / 15.11.2022	All that part and parcel of the land consisting of Plot No. 495/3052 / in survey No. 771/557, Area: Ac. 0.080 dec. i.e. 3484.80 Sqft., KISSAM: Gharabari at Mouza: Chandama, P.S.: Korai, SRO/Tahasil: Vyasaganagar, Dist: Jaipur, standing in the name of Mr. Rashkachula Veera Venkata Seshadri , bounded by North: Govt. Road, South: 25 links wide road for vendor & vendee, East: Plot No. 495, West: 25 links wide road for vendor & vendee

Sd/- Authorised Officer, Bank of India

इंडियन बैंक Indian Bank
ZONAL OFFICE: SAMBALPUR
At: Shyam Arcade, Khetraipur, Sambalpur - 768003
POSSESSION NOTICE
(for Immovable property)

Whereas, the undersigned being the Authorised Officer of **Indian Bank** 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 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002, issued a Demand Notice calling upon the Borrower/Guarantor to repay the amount mentioned in the notice 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 following Borrower/Guarantor and the public in general that the undersigned has taken **Symbolic Possession** of the property described here-in-below in exercise of powers conferred on him/her under section 13(4) of the said Act read with Rule 8 & 9 of the said Rules. The Borrower/Guarantor in particular and the public in general are hereby cautioned not to deal with the property and any dealings with the property will be subject to the charge of the **Indian Bank** for an amount mentioned herein below with interest & other expenses thereon. **The Borrower's attention is invited to provisions of Sub-section (8) of the section 13 of the Act, in respect of time available, to redeem the secured assets.**

CHATUANKA BRANCH / Name & Address of Borrower/Guarantor	Amount Payable as on specified date	Date of Demand / Possession Notice	Description of the Immovable Property
Borrower: Mr. Manish Agrawal, S/o.: Sri Kamal Kishor Agrawal, At: Kantabanji, PO.: Kantabanji, Dist.: Bolangir - 767039/ Guarantor: Mr. Kamal Kishor Agrawal, S/o.: Late Jayanarayan Agrawal, At: Kantabanji, PO.: Kantabanji, Dist.: Bolangir - 767039 Place: Sambalpur, Date: 19.11.2022	₹40,21,701.18 as on 27.06.2022 + interest & cost thereon	27.06.2022 / 16.11.2022	All that part and parcel of Land and Building recorded in the name of Sri Kamal Kishor Agrawal, S/o.: Late Jayanarayan Agrawal , bearing Khata No.: 227/237, Plot No.: 777/1164, Area: Ac.0.032 Dec., at Mouza: Kantabanji (Ka), Tahasil: Kantabanji, PS.: Kantabanji, PS. No.: 7, Dist.: Bolangir, Bounded by North: NAC Drain, South: PWD Road, East: Pawan Kumar Agarwal, West: Khubchand Agrawal

Sd/- Authorised Officer, Indian Bank

PEOPLE, POLLS, PROMISES

Gujarat salt pan workers hope for a better future

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

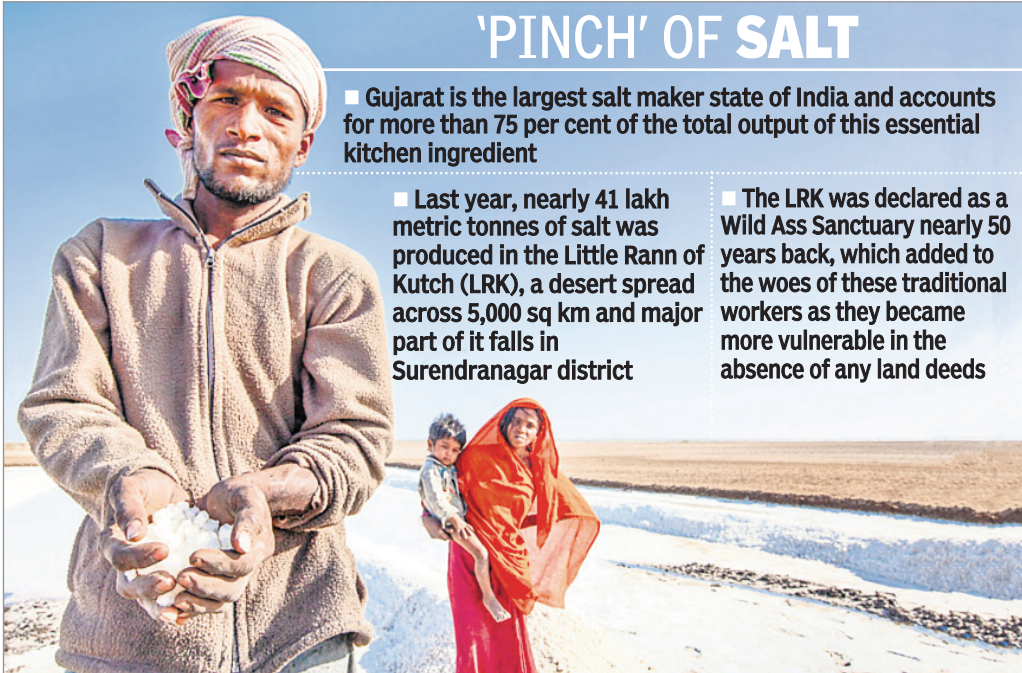
Ahmedabad, Nov 19: The salt pan workers in Gujarat, locally known as agariyas, have to work in one of the harshest environments to eke out a living by battling several basic issues, and the Congress's poll promise of improving their condition can just give hope for a better future to members of this marginalised section of the society.

The agariya families toil away in remote salt pans in unfavourable weather conditions of the Little Rann of Kutch (LRK), located in the north of Gujarat, for eight months a year by staying in makeshift huts to harvest salt. During this period, they are virtually cut off from the mainstream, as they stay 30 to 50 kms away from human habitats.

Over the past few years, the state government introduced several schemes for the welfare of the salt pan workers. But leaders and activists from the community feel these programmes have not helped the agariyas much and their condition has remained largely unchanged as they still have to fight for their basic rights, including health care and education.

They now hope that whichever party comes to power in Gujarat after the next month's Assembly elections, takes steps for improving their living conditions. The opposition Congress has prominently mentioned agariyas in its poll manifesto and has promised to make their lives better if it comes to power in the state, while the ruling Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) assures to bring more funds for the uplift of the community.

As part of his poll campaign in Gujarat for the 2014 general elections, Congress leader Rahul



'PINCH' OF SALT

- Gujarat is the largest salt maker state of India and accounts for more than 75 per cent of the total output of this essential kitchen ingredient
- Last year, nearly 41 lakh metric tonnes of salt was produced in the Little Rann of Kutch (LRK), a desert spread across 5,000 sq km and major part of it falls in Surendranagar district
- The LRK was declared as a Wild Ass Sanctuary nearly 50 years back, which added to the woes of these traditional workers as they became more vulnerable in the absence of any land deeds

Gandhi had interacted with salt pan workers of Gujarat to understand their problems.

Since then, several government schemes were introduced for the welfare of the community, including 80 per cent subsidy on buying solar-powered pumps and permanent deployment of modified buses, which were discarded by the state transport department, to be used as classrooms in the desert.

In 2017, the Gujarat government came up with a scheme wherein solar-powered pumps were given at 80 per cent subsidised rate. On an average, one horsepower pump of Rs 1 lakh would cost agariyas Rs 20,000. This scheme brought many agariyas out of debt and extreme poverty as they saved fuel cost, which was nearly 70 per cent of

the total production cost, said activist Harinesh Pandya, who is president of NGO 'Agariya Hit Rakshak Manch'.

To quench the thirst of salt pan workers, water tankers are sent inside the desert by the government, he said, adding that medical van having a doctor and a nurse also visit designated spots.

Old and discarded buses were modified into smart classrooms and deployed permanently inside the desert at 43 locations to provide education to children from the community studying in Class 1 to 8. Government teachers are sent daily from the villages to take classes and even exams for eight months, said Pandya.

During four months of monsoon starting June, agariyas stay

in their villages located on the periphery of the desert. Eighty per cent of the salt pan workers belong to the 'Chuvaliya Koli' community, a de-notified tribe (DNT).

According to Pandya, nearly 10,000 agariya families, comprising nearly 40,000 members, are involved in salt harvesting in the LRK. Most of these families belong to Patdi and Dhrangadhra talukas of Surendranagar district, while others belong to Banaskantha, Patan, Morbi and Kutch district.

However, leaders from the community feel that despite the introduction of various schemes over the years, the salt pan workers' condition has not improved much.

"Health van service is not at all regular and does not cover each spot. We still face acute shortage of

water because government-hired tankers fail to cover all the families in time. Even the buses being used as classrooms are just for show because one teacher can't teach all the students of Class 1 to 8 at once," said Chakuji Thakor, an agariya leader.

Since LRK is a sanctuary and the government has stopped giving us the land on lease long back, banks do not give us loans because we don't have the leased land to show. As a result, we have to sell our harvest in advance at a lower price to those who lend us capital to start our work every year, he added.

Thakor said that the members of the community feel that after the next month's Gujarat elections their condition will change positively and they will not have to fight for basic issues any more, irrespective of which party comes to power.

Kharaghoda-based activist Ambubhai Patel said the salt pan workers do not have any legal backing because the area where they harvest salt is a protected sanctuary and the government has stopped issuing leases many years ago.

In its manifesto for the upcoming Assembly polls, the Congress has promised that the party, if voted to power, will extend benefits of all the schemes meant for the unorganised workers to agariyas.

Other promises include RO kiosks for providing drinking water to salt-pan workers in the desert and Rs 5 lakh accident insurance cover and free treatment up to Rs 10 lakh at any government hospital.

BJP's candidate for Dhrangadhra seat, Prakash Varmora, said he will try to get maximum funds from various sources for the overall uplift of salt pan workers and their families.

Bulldozing of houses in name of probe not given under law: HC

Chief Justice of Gauhati HC equates the bulldozing of the houses to an act in a 'gang war'

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Guwahati, Nov 19: The Gauhati High Court has stressed that bulldozing of a house is not provided under any criminal law, even if an agency is investigating a very serious matter.

Chief Justice RM Chhaya made this observation while hearing a suo motu case taken up by the high court regarding the demolition of the house of an accused in an arson case in Nagaon district of Assam.

The Batadrava Police Station was set on fire May 21 by a mob following the alleged custodial death of a local fish trader, Safikul Islam (39), who was picked up by police the night before.

A day later, the district authorities had demolished at least six houses, including Islam's, using a bulldozer purportedly in search of weapons and drugs hidden beneath the structures.

Even if a very serious matter is being investigated by an agency, bulldozing of a house is not provided under any criminal law, Justice Chhaya observed.

Emphasising that it requires permission to even search a house, he said, "Tomorrow if you need something, you will dig up my courtroom."



Tomorrow if you need something, you will dig up my courtroom. Nobody will be safe if pulling down anyone's house is permitted in the name of an investigation. We are in a democratic set-up

RM CHHAYA | CHIEF JUSTICE, GAUHATI HC

"Nobody will be safe if pulling down anyone's house is permitted in the name of an investigation. We are in a democratic set-up," he added.

Pointing out that one 0.9 mm pistol was recovered by demolishing the house, as submitted in the government affidavit; Chief Justice Chhaya also raised apprehension that it could have been planted.

He maintained that incidents of such bulldozing of houses are done in movies, and even in those, the search warrant is shown before the act.

The chief justice equated the bulldozing of the houses to an act in a 'gang war' and asked the Home department to find better ways of carrying out their investigation.

There is a purpose why 'law and order' words are used together...this is not the manner in which law and order is controlled, he said in his observation Thursday.

Arunachal gets 1st greenfield airport



The 600 MW Kameng hydropower project in Arunachal's West Kameng district was also dedicated to the nation by the PM

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Itanagar, Nov 19: Amidst chanting of incantations by tribal priests, the spanking new Donyi Polo Airport, the first greenfield facility in Arunachal Pradesh, was inaugurated by Prime Minister Narendra Modi Saturday.

The airport located at Hollongi, around 15 km from state capital Itanagar, will link the border state to other Indian cities with commercial flights as well as other parts of Arunachal Pradesh through helicopter services.

Modi asked political commentators to stop seeing everything through the prism of politics.

The airport's foundation stone

was laid by Modi in February 2019.

"Political commentators had claimed (in 2019) that the laying of the foundation stone for the airport was an election gimmick. But today when there are no elections due, we are launching this airport. This airport is a slap on their face," the prime minister said in his address.

He also highlighted the government's efforts to develop all border villages under the Vibrant Border Village Programme which will give a boost to tourism and reduce migration in the region.

Earlier, hamlets in border areas were considered the "last village" but now they are considered the "first village" he said.

For long, Northeast was neglected while today, the region gets top priority when it comes to development, be it tourism or trade, telecom or textiles, he said.

Seven airports were built in the Northeast in the last eight years, he said. "Policy makers earlier only wanted to win elections while we only work for the development

of the nation," Modi said.

Modi also dedicated to the nation the 600 MW Kameng hydropower project in the northeastern state's West Kameng district.

The Kameng hydropower project has been developed at a cost of more than Rs 8,450 crore in an area spread over more than 80 sq km.

It is expected to make Arunachal Pradesh a power-surplus state and benefit the national grid in terms of stability and integration.

He said the central government is going to spend Rs 50,000 crore in the near future for the infrastructural development of Arunachal Pradesh.

"Connectivity and energy infrastructure will bring a new dawn of development for the northeastern region," Modi said.

He stressed the need for proper connectivity to remote areas of the state and said that 85 per cent of villages in the hill state are linked with Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojna.

The development of the new airport will create huge opportunities in the field of cargo services. As a result, farmers of the state can now sell their produce to bigger markets, he said.

He said the farmers are reaping the benefits of PM Kisan Nidhi in the state.

"We are working on mission mode to carry the development forward to every house and village in the state," the PM said.



TRIBAL TOUCH: Cultural activists of Garo tribe take part in Congress 'Bharat Jodo Yatra-Assam', in Guwahati

PTI PHOTO

Rare stamps, FDCs on display at Mizopex 2022

Aizawl: Rare British-era stamps with King George V's images and first day covers on events associated with Mahatma Gandhi and the golden jubilee of Sir Edmund Hillary and Tenzing Norgay's ascent of Mount Everest are part of an ongoing philatelic exhibition in Aizawl. First day covers (FDCs) on the birth bicentenary of Louis Braille, stamps on the British royal family, including the longest reigning British monarch Queen Elizabeth II, and on famous Indian cinema icons and others have also been displayed. Philatelic exhibition Mizopex 2022 is being hosted by India Post at the RB McCabe Hall of the historic Aijal Club in the heart of the capital city of Mizoram.

Vivek Exp, India's longest train, to ply twice a week

Guwahati: The services of the country's longest train, Vivek Express, that connects Assam with the southernmost tip of Tamil Nadu will be available twice a week beginning November 22, a Northeast Frontier Railway (NFR) said Saturday. Vivek Express, which was flagged off November 19, 2011, covers a distance of 4,189 km and traverses through nine states in over 80 hours. Train no. 15906 (Dibrugarh - Kanyakumari) Vivek Exp which previously used to run Saturdays, will now operate additionally every Tuesday from Nov 22. Train no. 15905 (Kanyakumari - Dibrugarh) which currently runs only Thursdays, will now be available even Sundays.

Manipur set to host Femina Miss India '23 Grand Finale

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Imphal, Nov 19: The Manipur government has signed a partnership agreement with the Times group to host the 59th edition of the grand finale of Femina Miss India 2023 in April next year.

Manipur Chief Minister N Biren Singh and Vineet Jain, managing director of Times group were present at the partnership agreement signing event.

This is the first time that the prestigious competition is going to be held in the North East and reflects the growing interest in the region especially by investors in Manipur; the chief minister said Thursday after the signing of the agreement at the CM Bungalow.

The agreement was signed between the Department of Tourism of Government of Manipur and Miss India organisers.

It shows the growing confidence



in the state regarding security scenario and opportunities for investment, Singh said.

The main purpose of this agreement is to celebrate the diverse and inclusive Indian culture and to inspire and empower the local youths by welcoming the best of India talents, and provide an opportunity to showcase the state's rich cultural heritage, the chief minister added.

Contesting daily wager pays ₹10K deposit to EC in ₹1 coins

Patni was one of the residents of the slum which was twice displaced, first in 2010 for construction of the Dandi Kutir museum and then in 2019 so that a hotel can be constructed on the land

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Ahmedabad, Nov 19: A daily wage worker whose slum colony in Gujarat capital Gandhinagar was razed in 2019 to make way for a hotel, raised Rs 10,000 in Re 1 coins from his supporters and deposited that amount with the Election Commission so that he can contest the next month's Assembly polls.

Mahendra Patni, who is fighting the election from the Gandhinagar North seat as an independent candidate, paid the security deposit



in coins earlier this week.

He said the displaced residents of 521 huts in a slum near Mahatma Mandir in Gandhinagar that were demolished three years ago asked him to contest the election as their representative.

Patni was one of the residents of the slum which was twice displaced, first in 2010 when the gov-

ernment constructed the Dandi Kutir museum dedicated to Mahatma Gandhi not far from the hotel and then in 2019 when slum-dwellers were again forced to shift to a nearby area so that the hotel can be constructed on the land.

"I am contesting as an independent. I belong to a family of labourers and make my living as

a daily wage. There were 521 huts which were razed to make way for a big hotel. Many of them were rendered jobless. We shifted to a nearby area, but have no water or electricity supply," he told PTI.

Aggrieved by the government's apathy, the residents of the slums as well as other daily wagers in the area collected Rs 10,000 in Re 1 coin and offered the money to him so that he can pay it as security deposit to contest the upcoming election, he said.

"Before being displaced, we had electricity in our slum. After we were forced to relocate to another area near the hotel, there is no water or electricity and no politician comes to our aid," Patni said.

He said the local authorities were forcing them to leave their current place as well.

"When elections are round the corner, some government representatives and politicians visit and give us some assurance which they conveniently forget later. This has

been going on since 1990s," the independent candidate said.

He said he is being supported by the people who want just a few demands fulfilled from the government.

"If the government fulfils our demands, then I have no interest in contesting the election. We want the government to provide us a permanent space to live so we do not have to face another displacement," he said.

"We also demand from the government to address the issue of regular harassment that daily wagers are subject to by civic authorities. They seize carts used for running small business and make poor people shell out Rs 2,500-3,000 to release them. This should stop," he added.

Patni said there should also be a BPL list of slum residents so that those who are taken by contractors for jobs in government offices get a permanent job and a proper salary and middlemen are removed.

of the day **quote**

All the departments would have to work together to eradicate the menace of drugs. Drugs have not only become an interstate menace, but also an international problem

MANOHAR LAL KHATTAR | HARYANA CM

Gujarat underwent tremendous change and became a riot-free and "top rated" state under Narendra Modi's rule as chief minister and the successive BJP governments have continued the good work

ANURAG THAKUR | UNION MINISTER

The students' learning space must go beyond the classroom. In the age of acceleration, students are not just the numbers but our future, and they should reflect the fine balance of excellent professionals with empathy, compassion and mindfulness

MANOJ SINHA | JAMMU AND KASHMIR LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR

SHORT TAKES

Five IEDs seized

Chalbasa: Security personnel seized five Improvised Explosive Devices (IEDs) planted by CPI(Maoists) in Jharkhand's West Singhbhum district, a police officer said. A massive operation against ultras by CRPF and district armed police was undertaken in the naxal infested Kolhan area of West Singhbhum district. In course of the operation, a police statement said the security personnel detected five IEDs planted by CPI (Maoists) to target them in Banki Luia forest on Friday.

Man duped

Vijayapura: A man was allegedly duped of over ₹40 lakh by a woman on the pretext of marriage in Vijayapura district of Karnataka, police said Saturday. The accused lured the man by saying that she has become an IAS officer, and made him transfer ₹41,26,800 through multiple transactions. Victim Parameshwar Hipparagi, a resident of Bagaluru village has lodged a case with the cyber police.

Pak intruder killed

Jammu: A Pakistani intruder was killed as the Army foiled an infiltration attempt by terrorists along the Line of Control in Rajouri district of Jammu and Kashmir, a defence spokesman said Saturday. The infiltration bid was scuttled on the intervening night of November 17 and 18 in Kalal area of Nowshera sector, he said.



Inclusive development is essential for a democracy and it can be achieved through discussion, dialogue and deliberation

OM BIRLA | LOK SABHA SPEAKER

DALAI LAMA FELICITATED

Governor Rajendra Vishwanath Arlekar Saturday felicitated Tibetan spiritual leader the Dalai Lama with the Gandhi Mandela Award at a ceremony in Dharamshala



MP govt ensures foolproof security for Bharat Jodo Yatra

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Bhopal, Nov 19: A day after an anonymous letter threatened bomb blasts in Indore during the Bharat Jodo Yatra, Madhya Pradesh Home Minister Narottam Mishra Saturday said it was the state government's responsibility to provide security to Congress MP Rahul Gandhi, who is leading this foot-march.

The anonymous letter threatened that bomb blasts would be carried out in that city if the Bharat Jodo Yatra made a scheduled night halt at Khalsa Stadium here on November 28. The letter, which referred to the 1984 anti-Sikh riots, also threatened assassinations of Rahul Gandhi and Madhya Pradesh Congress chief Kamal Nath. "The government is responsible for the foolproof security of Rahul Gandhi during the Bharat Jodo Yatra in Madhya Pradesh. I want to assure them that it is our commitment as far as providing security is concerned," Mishra told reporters in response to a query about the threat letter.

The minister, however, accused Kamal Nath of rubbing salt to the wounds of victims of the 1984 anti-Sikh riots by going to the Khalsa Stadium for a function earlier this month.

"Perhaps Nath does not want



The anonymous letter threatened that bomb blasts would be carried out in that city if the Bharat Jodo Yatra made a scheduled night halt at Khalsa Stadium on November 28

The Indore police had said Friday that the anonymous threat letter was received at a sweets-snacks shop in Juni area of the city Thursday evening

Rahul Gandhi's yatra to come to the state," Mishra said.

The Indore police had said Friday that the anonymous threat letter was received at a sweets-snacks shop in Juni area of the city Thursday evening. A First Information Report (FIR) was registered on Friday under section 507 (criminal intimidation by unknown person) of the Indian Penal Code.

Khalsa Stadium in Indore was in news earlier this month after there

was a controversy over Nath being felicitated at a function held there on the occasion of Guru Nanak Jayanti on November 8. Kirtan singer Manpreet Singh Kanpuri had referred to the 1984 anti-Sikh riots, regarding which Nath had faced allegations in the past, and blasted the organisers for felicitating Nath. The BJP has already announced that if Nath enters the stadium during the Bharat Jodo Yatra, it will be shown black flags.

Autorickshaw explodes, cops begin probe

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Mangaluru, Nov 19: A moving autorickshaw exploded here Saturday, causing fire and heavy smoke, and the driver and a passenger were among those who sustained burn injuries.

While CCTV visuals from the location, shared by police, showed the autorickshaw catching fire following what appeared to be a minor explosion, a police official, however, did not confirm if it was a 'blast'.

City police commissioner N Shashi Kumar rushed to the spot and told reporters after inspection that there was 'a fire' in the autorickshaw and there is no need for panic. He appealed against spreading rumours.

Kumar said fire was noticed by people in the autorickshaw and the passenger and driver were among those who sustained injuries and they were rushed to a hospital. When asked whether it was a blast, he said: "We don't know anything prima facie."

If he had information, he would have shared with journalists, the official said.

"We have called the Special team and the FSL (Forensic Science Lab) team to verify the reasons behind the incident. Some people have got injuries. They are being treated for burns," the police commissioner said.

MEHRAULI KILLING

Cops fail to find murder weapon



PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Gurugram, Nov 19: The Delhi Police investigating the gruesome killing of Shraddha Walkar searched for the murder weapon at a forest here using a metal detector on Saturday, but returned empty-handed after one-and-a-half-hours, sources said.

The search at the forest in DLF Phase 3 area began on Friday after the police suspected that accused Aaftab Amin Poonawala, 27-year-old Walkar's live-in partner, disposed the weapon here after allegedly killing her.

Friday, the police had recovered some items from the forest in a black polythene bag. Police sources in Delhi said they were some of Walkar's body parts and that her head is still missing. This, however, could not be confirmed.

Meanwhile Saturday, the police recovered a sharp object from Poonawala's house at Mehrauli in South Delhi and it will also be sent for examination to find out whether it was used to chop Walkar's body.

They also took possession of all the clothes in the house and they will be sent for forensic examination. However, these do not include the clothes Poonawala and Walkar wore on May 18, the murder day, police sources said.

Aaftab's office colleagues, whom Shraddha used to call and narrate her ordeal, are likely to be interrogated next, they said. 'Delhi Police has taken possession of all the clothes present in

Saturday, the police recovered a sharp object from Poonawala's house at Mehrauli in South Delhi and it will also be sent for examination to find out whether it was used to chop Walkar's body

Poonawala's house. These include Walkar's clothes too. They will be sent for forensic examination," a source in the police department said.

Poonawala allegedly strangled Walkar and sawed her body into 35 pieces which he kept in a 300-litre fridge for almost three weeks at his house before dumping them across the city and outside over several days past midnight.

The police have so far recovered 13 body parts, which are mostly skeletal remains. Poonawala is currently being taken to different locations in south Delhi to locate more body parts, the source said. The Delhi Police had on Friday sent teams to Maharashtra, Haryana and Himachal Pradesh to hunt for evidence in the case.

According to officials, after leaving Mumbai, Walkar and Poonawala had travelled to several locations, including Himachal Pradesh, and police are visiting these places to ascertain whether any development during those trips triggered Poonawala to kill his partner.

TRS MLAs' 'poaching': BJP leader summoned

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Bangalore, Nov 19: The Telangana Special Investigation Team (SIT) probing the alleged attempt to poach TRS MLAs has summoned BJP national general secretary B L Santhosh to appear before it for questioning on November 21.

In his notice to Santhosh, served at the BJP's Karnataka headquarters at Malleswaram in Bengaluru, the investigating officer B Gangadhar cautioned the BJP leader that failure to appear before the SIT for interrogation



The Telangana government November 9 ordered the setting up of a seven-member SIT to probe into the alleged poaching of the MLAs

could lead to his arrest as well. The BJP national general secretary was not available for comment.

"During the investigation, it is revealed that there are reason-

able grounds to question you to ascertain facts and circumstances from you, in relation to the present investigation," the police officer said in his notice issued on

November 16.

The BJP national general secretary (organisation) has been directed not to commit any offence in future and, no tampering with the evidences, threatening, inducing or promising anyone acquainted with the fact of the case.

He has also been asked to appear before the court and join the investigation as an when required and cooperate with the investigation. Santhosh has also been restricted from travelling abroad without prior permission of the SIT.

A complaint was lodged by TRS

MLA Pilot Rohith Reddy, among four legislators, against three persons - Ramachandra Bharati alias Satish Sharma, Nanda Kumar and Simhayaji Swamy - on October 26. As per the FIR copy, Rohith Reddy alleged that the accused offered him ₹100 crore and in return the legislator had to leave the TRS and contest as a BJP candidate in the next Assembly election.

The Telangana government on November 9 ordered the setting up of a seven-member SIT to probe into the alleged poaching of the MLAs.

Election symbols not exclusive property of parties: Delhi HC

THE PETITIONER, IN ITS APPEAL, SAID THAT THE SINGLE JUDGE HAD DISMISSED ITS PLEA ON THE VERY FIRST DATE OF HEARING WITHOUT ISSUING NOTICE TO THE EC, SHIV SENA AND MAHARASHTRA CHIEF MINISTER EKNATH SHINDE

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, Nov 19: The Delhi High Court has held that political parties cannot consider election symbols as their "exclusive property" and the right to use a symbol can be lost if a party's performance is dismal.

The high court's observation came while dismissing an appeal by Samata Party challenging a single judge's order which had rejected its plea against allotment of 'flaming torch' election symbol to the Uddhav Thackeray faction of the Shiv Sena.

The appellant party claimed

that the 'flaming torch' symbol belonged to it and that it had contested elections on it. A bench of Chief Justice Satish Chandra Sharma and Justice Subramonium Prasad also referred to a previous verdict of the Supreme Court in Subramaniam Swamy vs. Election Commission of India case and said the judgment further stated that a symbol is not a tangible thing nor does it generate any wealth.

"It is only the insignia which is associated with the particular political party so as to help the millions of illiterate voters to prop-



erly exercise their right to franchise in favour of the candidate of their choice belonging to a particular party.

The parties concerned cannot consider the symbol as its exclusive property. The Election Symbols (Reservation And Allotment) Order, 1968 makes it

very clear that the right to use the symbol can be lost with the dismal performance of the party," the bench said in its order.

It said even though Samata Party members were permitted to use the flaming torch symbol, the symbol has become a free symbol with the party having been de-

recognised in 2004 and it was within the domain of the Election Commission to allot the same to any other party.

"No fault can be found with the communication-cum-order dated October 10, 2022 issued by the Election Commission of India allotting the symbol of 'flaming torch' to 'Shiv Sena (Uddhav Balasaheb Thackeray)' and the Order dated October 19, 2022, passed by the single judge..." it said.

The bench said a reserved symbol is the one which is reserved for a recognised political party for exclusive allotment to contesting candidates fielded by that party and Samata Party was de-recognised as a state party in 2004.

Earlier in October, the single judge had dismissed the petition saying that in the absence of any right demonstrable before the court, the petitioner cannot seek a mandamus for quashing the

EC's order and that the party has not demonstrated any right over the symbol.

It had noted that the party was de-recognised in 2004.

The petitioner, in its appeal, said that the single judge had dismissed its plea on the very first date of hearing without issuing notice to the EC, Shiv Sena and Maharashtra Chief Minister Eknath Shinde.

The petitioner has assailed the October 10 order of EC on the grounds that 'flaming torch' was a "reserved" symbol and could not have been given to Shiv Sena (Uddhav Balasaheb Thackeray) without first issuing a notification that it had been made a "free" symbol.

In its plea, the petitioner stated it was formed in 1994 by George Fernandes and Nitish Kumar as an "offshoot of the Janata Dal" and was given the 'flaming torch' symbol by the EC.



"Few days ago, she was admitted to a hospital. She had gastro problem and we went there for check-up. She suffered two cardiac attacks at 8.40 pm and 8.42 pm. She passed away peacefully on Friday night," Hoshang said. A prayer meeting in her memory will be held here Monday evening, the family informed.

Born in 1944 in Mumbai to Ayodhyanath Sachdev and Asghari Begum, Tabassum started her career as a child artiste with the 1947 movie "Nargis".

At that time, she was known in the industry as 'Baby Tabassum' and went to feature in many other movies such as "Mera Suhaag" (1947), "Manjhdhar" (1947) and "Bari Behen" (1949).

international

of the day quote

With rampant offenses amounting to crimes against humanity in recent months in countries such as Myanmar, Ukraine and Ethiopia, the movement towards negotiating a treaty to prevent these crimes is a positive though overdue step

RICHARD DICKER | LEGAL ADVISER (ADVOCACY), HUMAN RIGHTS WATCH

I greeted President Xi before the APEC Leaders Retreat. I noted a key message that President Biden emphasised in his November 14 meeting with President Xi: we must maintain open lines of communication to responsibly manage the competition between our countries

KAMALA HARRIS | VICE PRESIDENT, US

I urge the leaders to push ahead with APEC's agenda of promoting free trade in the Pacific region. We have to give priority to turning this plan into action

PRAYUTH CHAN-OCHA | PM, THAILAND

SHORT TAKES

FM: Pak no longer faces default risk

Islamabad: Pakistan is not facing default risk, the country's junior finance minister has said, amid claims by former prime minister Imran Khan that default is staring the cash-strapped nation and there is a delay in formal talks with IMF on the ninth review of \$7 billion loan programme. Minister of State for Finance and Revenue Aisha Ghaus Pasha assured the nation Friday in the National Assembly when Mussarat Rafiq Mahesar of Pakistan Peoples Party (PPP) put a direct question to her, "if Pakistan is going to default?" Dawn newspaper reported Saturday

Beijing reels under semi-lockdown

Beijing: The coronavirus situation in China has become grim again with the number of Covid-19 cases rising to over 25,000, including more than 500 in Beijing, prompting the city officials to advise millions of residents to stay home this weekend and undergo daily testing.

Explosion kills at least 9 in Russia

Moscow: A gas explosion in an apartment building Saturday killed at least nine people, including four children, on the island of Sakhalin in far eastern Russia, according local authorities. A section of the five-story building in the town of Tymovskoye collapsed after a gas cylinder exploded in one of the apartments, authorities said. Some of the 33 people known to have lived in the building remained unaccounted for.

Leaders reach deal on climate compensation at COP27

Financing or a new fund for addressing loss and damage -- for example money needed for relocating people displaced by floods -- has been a long-pending demand of poor and developing countries, including India

ASSOCIATED PRESS

Sharm El Sheikh, Nov 19: Negotiators say they have struck a potential breakthrough deal on the thorniest issue of United Nations climate talks, creation of a fund for compensating poor nations that are victims of extreme

NK'S MISSILE MANIA

Kim vows more N-weapons

NORTH KOREAN LEADER WARNS WASHINGTON AND ITS ALLIES THAT MILITARY MOVES AGAINST PYONGYANG WOULD LEAD TO THEIR "SELF-DESTRUCTION"

REUTERS

Seoul, Nov 19: North Korean leader Kim Jong Un pledged to counter US nuclear threats with nuclear weapons as he inspected a test of the country's new inter-continental ballistic missile (ICBM), state media KCNA said Saturday. The Hwasong-17 is nuclear-armed North Korea's biggest missile yet, and is the largest road-mobile, liquid-fuelled ICBM in the world. The isolated country tested the missile Friday a day after warning of "fiercer military responses" to Washington beefing up its regional security presence including nuclear assets.

Kim said threats from the United States and its allies pursuing a hostile policy prompted his country to "substantially accelerate the bolstering of its overwhelming nuclear deterrence."

"Kim Jong Un solemnly declared that if the enemies continue to pose threats ... our party and government will resolutely react to nukes with nuclear weapons and to total confrontation with all-out confrontation," the official KCNA news agency said.

The launch of the Hwasong-17 was part of the North's "top-priority defence-building strategy" aimed at establishing "the most powerful and absolute nuclear deterrence," KCNA said, calling it "the strongest strategic weapon in the world."

The missile launched Friday flew nearly 1,000 km for about 69 minutes and reached a maximum altitude of 6,041 km, state news

■ N Korea launches new ICBM, calls it the strongest strategic weapon in the world
■ The launch of Hwasong-17 ICBM was North Korea's largest missile ever
■ ICBMs are N Korea's longest-range weapon, and Friday's launch was its eighth ICBM test this year

■ Japanese Defence Minister said the weapon could reach the continental United States
■ US deploys bombers over S Korea after North's missile launch

Our party and government should clearly demonstrate their strongest will to retaliate the hysteric aggression war drills by the enemies. The more the US imperialists make a military bluffing ... while being engrossed in strengthened offer of extended deterrence to their allies and war exercises, the more offensive the DPRK's military counteraction will be

KIM JONG UN | LEADER, NORTH KOREA

agency KCNA reported Saturday.

Japanese Defence Minister Yasukazu Hamada said the weapon could travel as far as 15,000 km (9,320 miles), enough to reach the continental United States.

South Korea's military said its F-35A fighters and US F-16 jets es-

corted American B-1B bombers as they conducted joint drills Saturday, designed to improve their ability to quickly deploy US extended deterrence assets.

On Thursday, North Korea's foreign minister, Choe Son Hui, denounced a trilateral summit Sunday of the

We're not going to have discussions with the Russians about ending this war in Ukraine, without Ukraine being a part of that conversation

JOHN KIRBY | NATIONAL SECURITY SPOKESMAN, WHITE HOUSE

MUSK'S TWITTER POLL FOR TRUMP

Elon Musk started a Twitter poll late Friday asking followers to vote on whether to reinstate former US President Donald Trump's account on the platform, with early results showing roughly 60% voting yes. "Vox Populi, Vox Dei," Musk tweeted, a Latin phrase that roughly means meaning "the voice of the people is the voice of God"

FRANCE SUPPORTS INDIA, OTHERS FOR PERMANENT UNSC SEAT

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

United Nations, Nov 19: France has reaffirmed its support for India, Germany, Brazil and Japan as permanent members in an expanded UN Security Council, underlining the need to take into account the emergence of new powers willing and able to assume the responsibility of a permanent presence in the powerful world body.

"France's position is constant and well known. We want the Council to be more representative of today's world, in a way that further strengthens its authority and effectiveness," Deputy Permanent Representative of France to the UN Nathalie Broadhurst said Friday.

North Korean leader Kim Jong Un revealed his daughter to the world for the first time Saturday in striking photos showing the pair hand-in-hand before the launch of the nuclear-armed country's largest ballistic missile the day before. A surprising addition to the launch was the presence of Kim's daughter, whose existence had never been publicly confirmed before. Her unexpected appearance raises the prospect that leadership of the totalitarian state could pass to a fourth generation of Kims, and suggests that nuclear weapons will be part of that inheritance, analysts said. KCNA did not name the girl, who is seen in photographs in a white puffy coat holding hands with her father as they looked at the massive missile.

■ Among the five permanent members of the 15-nation Council, the US, UK, France and Russia have supported a permanent seat for India in the UN body

■ India's current two-year term as a non-permanent member of the Security Council will end next month after it has presided over the 15-nation Council

She was addressing the UN General Assembly plenary meeting on the 'Question of equitable representation on and increase in the membership of the Security Council and other matters related to the Security Council'.

"We must indeed take into account the emergence of new powers that are willing and able to assume the responsibility of a permanent presence in the Security Council," Broadhurst said.

Broadhurst said that to preserve its executive and operational nature, an enlarged Council could have up to 25 members.

"France supports the candidacy of Germany, Brazil, India and Japan as permanent members. We would also like to see a stronger presence of African countries, including among the permanent members. The remaining seats should be allocated in order to achieve equitable geographical representation," she said.

She added that the question of the veto is "eminently sensitive", and it is up to the States requesting the granting of a permanent seat to determine themselves.

"In this reflection, the objective must remain twofold: on the one hand, to consolidate the legitimacy of the Security Council; on the other hand, to strengthen its capacity to fully assume its responsibilities in the maintenance of international peace and security," she said.

"It is in this spirit that France proposed, as early as 2013, that the five permanent members of the Council voluntarily and collectively suspend the use of the veto in case of mass atrocities. This voluntary approach does not require a revision of the Charter but a political commitment by the permanent members," she added.

The United Kingdom also voiced support for India, Germany, Japan and Brazil to sit as permanent members in an expanded UN Security Council.



YOUNG CADETS

Young military cadets take part in a ceremony to receive their shoulder marks, amid Russia's attack on Ukraine, in Kyiv, Ukraine

REUTERS PHOTO

THORNIEST ISSUE



gotiations parlance — developed countries would be "urged" to contribute to the fund, which would also draw on other private and public sources of money such as international financial institutions

At the talks, the world's poorest nations, which contributed little to historic emissions of heat-trapping

gases, have been unified in insisting on such a fund. "We managed to make progress on an important outcome," said Wael Aboulmagd, who heads Egyptian delegation. "I think we're getting there."

Two drafts released by the Egyptian presidency, on efforts to step up emissions cuts and the

The proposal does not suggest that major emerging economies such as China have to contribute to the fund, which was a key ask of the EU and US

It also does not tie the creation of the new fund to any increase in efforts to cut emissions, or restrict the recipients of funding to those countries that are most vulnerable, which had been an earlier proposal from the Europeans

overarching decision of this year's talks, barely build on what was agreed in Glasgow last year.

Loss and damage has been the all-consuming issue at the two weeks of talks. The meeting known as COP27 opened two weeks ago and had been scheduled to wrap up Friday but looks set to drag on through the weekend.

Malaysia votes in general polls; Anwar seen leading

REUTERS

Kuala Lumpur, Nov 19: Malaysians voted Saturday in a general election that may fail to end the recent phase of political instability in the Southeast Asian nation as polls have predicted no clear winner.

The alliance led by veteran opposition leader Anwar Ibrahim is forecast to take the most seats in parliament but fail to reach the majority needed to form a government.

Prime Minister Ismail Sabri Yaakob's ruling Barisan coalition and another bloc led by former premier Muhyiddin Yassin are other leading contenders. Muhyiddin's alliance was a junior partner in Ismail's coalition government, and the two could come together again to block Anwar



Without a clear winner, political uncertainty could persist as Malaysia faces slowing economic growth and rising inflation.

It has had three prime ministers in as many years, including 97-year-old Mahathir Mohamed, who ruled Malaysia for more than two decades during two stints in power, and has roused himself for one last fight, though he is not considered a leading contender.

of the day quote

In the era of internet and social media platforms, there is a need to leverage them and evolve suitable mechanisms and means for the two way communication between the stakeholders and auditors, of course via the audit committees

AJAY BHUSHAN PRASAD PANDEY | CHIEF, NFRA

One of the best practices on FPS transformation was demonstrated by the Secretary, Government of Tamil Nadu highlighting multiple initiatives undertaken such as selling of commodities, minor millets, grocery items, ISO certification of FPSs during his presentation

SANJEEV CHOPRA | UNION FOOD SECRETARY

We had witnessed the usual pre-Diwali buzz as factories in India rushed to complete export orders in time for Thanksgiving and Christmas. The temporary closure of units, and absence of workers during Diwali usually results in a decline in exports post Diwali

VIPUL SHAH | CHAIRMAN, GJEP

SHORT TAKES

Nexus files for \$500 million IPO

Mumbai: Global investment firm Blackstone-sponsored Nexus Select Trust has filed the draft paper with market regulator Sebi to launch India's first public issue of retail REIT to raise around \$500 million, sources said. Nexus Select Trust has a portfolio of 17 operational shopping malls across 14 major cities, covering about 10 million square feet of area valued at around \$3 billion. As per the sources, Nexus Select Trust has Thursday filed the Draft Red Herring Prospectus (DRHP) with the Securities and Exchange Board of India (Sebi) and is looking to hit the capital market with India's first retail REIT (Real Estate Investment Trust) public issue in the first half of the 2023 calendar year. The size of the initial public offer (IPO) of Nexus Select Trust REIT will be around \$500 million, they added.

Yatra Online gets nod to float IPO

New Delhi: Yatra Online Inc said its Indian subsidiary Yatra Online Ltd has received capital markets regulator Sebi's clearance to float an initial public offering (IPO). The proposed IPO comprises a fresh issue of equity shares worth up to ₹750 crore by Yatra Online and an offer for sale (OFS) of up to 9,328,358 equity shares, according to the draft red herring prospectus (DRHP). As part of the OFS, THCL Travel Holdings Cyprus Ltd and Pandara Trust - Scheme I through its trustee Vistra ITCL (India) would offload shares. Yatra Online Ltd has received the final observation letter dated November 17 from Sebi in connection with its DRHP filed in March, the Nasdaq-listed Yatra Online Inc said.

JetSetGo refutes Delhi liquor scam

New Delhi: JetSetGo's owner Kanika Tekriwal Reddy Saturday said its aircraft were not used for carrying cash or liquor, amid reports that the planes of the chartered flight service provider were involved in the alleged Delhi liquor scam. Reddy is the wife of Sarath Chandra Reddy, a director of Aurobindo Pharma who is now in the custody of the Enforcement Directorate for his alleged involvement in the scam. Sarath Chandra Reddy is alleged to be one of the conduits for the kickbacks given to the public servants and politicians in the Delhi government.



We are in deep discussion with Boeing, Airbus and engine manufacturers for a historic order of the latest generation aircraft that will power Air India's medium- and long-term growth

CAMPBELL WILSON | CHIEF EXECUTIVE, AIR INDIA

FTX BITES ITS OWN TAIL

Cryptocurrency exchange FTX, which recently filed for US bankruptcy court protection, has fired some top executives, including co-founder Gary Wang, the Wall Street Journal reported, citing an FTX spokeswoman. Other terminated executives include engineering director Nishad Singh and Caroline Ellison, who ran FTX's trading arm Alameda Research



Disgraced CEO sent to prison for over 11 yrs

Forbes dubbed Holmes the world's youngest female self-made billionaire in 2014, when she was 30 and her stake in Theranos was worth \$4.5 billion. Theranos collapsed after a series of Wall Street Journal articles in 2015 questioned its technology

INDO-ASIAN NEWS SERVICE

San Francisco, Nov 19: Elizabeth Holmes, the founder of US-based blood-testing company Theranos, has been sentenced to 135 months, or over 11 years, in prison. She faced sentencing after being found guilty of defrauding investors and endangering patients. According to media reports, she will have to report to prison on April 27, 2023, and will have an additional three years of super-

THERANOS FRAUD



vised release once she's out from the prison. Judge Edward Davila declared

that the charges she had been found guilty of made her responsible for defrauding 10 victims out of \$121 million, according to The New York Times.

Holmes' refusal to accept responsibility for the fraud counted against her in his sentencing decision, according to the judge.

Meanwhile, Holmes' former boyfriend and Theranos' former president, Ramesh "Sunny" Balwani, is scheduled to be sentenced December 7 after being con-

victed on 12 counts of fraud against investors and patients.

Balwani was found guilty in a separate trial of 10 counts of wire fraud and two counts of conspiracy to commit wire fraud.

Holmes was convicted for persuading investors that she had developed a revolutionary medical device before the company flamed out after an investigation. Unlike Holmes, Balwani was found to have misled both investors and patients.

Google brings fresh rules for HQ guest speakers after row over Indian historian

REUTERS

Oakland, Nov 18: Alphabet Inc's Google this week introduced rules for inviting guest speakers to its offices, days after it canceled a talk by an Indian historian who has disparaged marginalized groups and their concerns, according to company emails seen by Reuters.

Workers at Google and other big tech companies in recent years have clashed and protested over politics and racial and gender equity. Also, Alphabet, Apple and Amazon all face union organizing drives whose demands include that the firms adopt progressive policies.

The policy released Thursday is Google's latest effort to preserve an open culture while addressing divisions that have emerged as its workforce has grown.

The Google speaker rules, seen by Reuters, cite risk to the brand from certain talks and asks workers to "consider whether there's a business reason for hosting the speaker and if the event directly supports our company goals."

It calls for avoiding topics that could be "disruptive or undermine Google's culture of belonging" and reiterates that speakers are barred from advocacy of political candidates and ballot measures.

"We've always been proud to host external speakers at Google, as they provide great opportunities for learning and connection for our employees," Google spokesman Ryan Lamont told Reuters. The updated process will "ensure these events are useful and contribute to a productive work environment."

An email introducing the policy to managers said it unifies and clarifies a patchwork of guidelines.

Greater scrutiny threatens the free-flowing, university-like culture Google has prized since its inception. But a workplace viewed as more inviting could attract a more diverse workforce that might help Google develop products with broader appeal.

In recent years, internal disputes spilling into public view led Google to increase content moderation on workplace message boards and cut the frequency of company-wide meetings.

EXPORTS PLUNGE

No export duty on iron ore, steel

The Finance Ministry had in May hiked the export duty on pig iron and steel products to 15 per cent from 'nil', a move which was intended to discourage exports and increase domestic availability to help lower prices

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, Nov 19: The government has cut the export duty on steel products and iron ore with effect from Saturday in order to provide a fillip to the domestic steel industry and boost exports.

Besides, import duty on anthracite, coking coal and ferronickel -- used as raw material in the steel industry -- has been hiked, as per a finance ministry notification issued late Friday.

The export duty concessions and import tax have been restored after a gap of six months. In May, the tariffs were tweaked in the wake of a sharp and steady rise in prices of steel and in order to augment the availability both of finished steel as well as raw materials required for steel manufacture.

With effect from Saturday, exports of specified pig iron and steel products as well as iron ore pellets will attract 'nil' export duty. Also, export duty on outward shipment of iron ore lumps and fines with less than 58 per cent iron content will be 'nil'.

In the case of iron ore lumps and fines with more than 58 per cent iron, the rate of duty will be 30 per cent.



The Chinese market is not very buoyant now. Let us see how much we are able to export. Once you disturb the trade, to recover is very difficult

RK SHARMA | SECRETARY-GENERAL, FEDERATION OF INDIAN MINERAL INDUSTRIES

India exported less than half as much steel in the seven months to October as it did a year earlier

Indian producers of low-grade ore depend largely on foreign markets, because most major domestic steel producers use high-grade iron ore

Steel industry has been demanding a rollback of the duties, saying local demand was not sufficient for domestic production

As per the notification, import duty on anthracite/PCI, coking coal and ferronickel has been hiked to 2.5 per cent, while for coke and semi-coke it has been raised to 5 per cent, from 'nil' earlier.

The duty cut follows a meeting of Steel Minister Jyotiraditya Scindia with Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman earlier this week. The meeting was attended by Revenue Secretary designate Sanjay Malhotra, among other senior officials.

The finance ministry had in

May hiked the export duty on pig iron and steel products to 15 per cent from 'nil', a move which was intended to discourage exports and increase domestic availability to help lower prices.

The tax on export of iron ores and concentrates was hiked to 50 per cent from 30 per cent, while on iron pellets a 45 per cent duty was imposed.

Steel industry has been demanding a rollback of the duties, saying local demand was not sufficient for domestic production.

Oct gem, jewellery exports decline 15%

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Mumbai, Nov 19: The gem and jewellery exports declined 14.64 per cent in October at ₹25,843.84 crore due to seasonal trend as manufacturing activities are limited or closed during Diwali, GJEP said Saturday.

In October 2021, the exports stood at ₹30,274.64 crore, the Gem and Jewellery Export Promotion Council (GJEP) said in a statement.

India's robust gem and jewellery export performance in the first 6 months of 2022-23 helped maintain growth for the period April-October, despite a sharp dip in exports last month, GJEP noted.

The decline in exports in October or November is a seasonal trend as



manufacturing activities are either limited or units are closed because of Diwali, it stated.

"We had witnessed the usual pre-Diwali buzz as factories in

India rushed to complete export orders in time for Thanksgiving and Christmas. The temporary closure of units, and absence of workers during Diwali usually results in a

decline in exports post Diwali," GJEP Chairman Vipul Shah said.

The upcoming holiday season in the West and the Chinese New Year will give a boost to exports in November and December, he said.

"Also, trade shows like IIJS Signature 2023, Hong Kong Show 2023, and VicenzaOro Winter 2023 will aid in exports of gems and jewellery to key markets. I am confident that we are on course to achieve our export target of \$45.7 billion for 2022-23," he stated.

The positive impact of the India-UAE CEPA was offset by gold supply hurdles, which impacted exporters, Shah said adding that GJEP has sensitised the government regarding this issue and they are working on resolving the same.

Happy days now, but challenging times ahead for PSBs

In order to contain inflation, the RBI has hiked the repo rate by 190 basis points in the recent quarters. While the banks passed on their increased cost to the borrowers, the same benefit was not offered to the depositors and thereby, increased their net interest margin

INDO-ASIAN NEWS SERVICE

Chennai, Nov 19: Arbitrage between the lending and deposit rates, higher credit demand, and lower loan provisions resulted in public sector banks (PSB) posting handsome profits during Q2FY23 and H1FY23, say experts.

However, the happy times for the government banks may not

continue for much long as competition will soon emerge for deposits, and loans, which, in turn, would increase the cost of funds and reduce the margins, the experts added.

Further maintaining good employee relations by the PSB management will also be a key factor.

"The PSB's reported significant levels of profitability were aided by robust credit demand, arbitrage between rising lending rates and lagging deposit rates, lower credit costs due to reduced loan provisions, and reducing NPA (non-performing asset) levels," Saurabh Bhalerao, Associate Director - BFSI Research, CARE Ratings, told IANS.

He also said the impact of rising yields was not as severe as witnessed in Q1FY23.

"Further, this performance has come against a backdrop of higher bad loans, capital infusions by the government, and loss of market share in business (deposits as well as credit)," Bhalerao added.

The gross NPA ratio is expected to decline below five per cent in FY23 and reach pre-Asset Quality



We believe PSBs have reported strong profit in 2Q mainly due to meaningful improvement in credit growth, margins on the back of asset repricing and lower loan loss provisions as banks are well provisioned on the old NPAs, whereas new NPA formation has been lower due to better recovery trends

ANAND DAMA | SENIOR RESEARCH ANALYST, EMKAY GLOBAL FINANCIAL SERVICES

Review (AQR) levels of approximately 4.3 per cent in FY24 due to economic expansion, higher recoveries, and proposed transfer of NPAs to various asset reconstruction companies (ARCs), CARE Ratings said.

On November 7, Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman said

12 PSBs registered handsome net profits during Q2FY23 and also H1FY23.

"The continuous efforts of our govt for reducing the NPAs & further strengthening the health of PSBs are now showing tangible results. All 12 PSBs declared net profit of ₹25,685 cr in Q2FY23 &

Profits may not set off divestment process

The impressive profits posted by public sector banks (PSBs) during Q2FY23 and H1FY23 and indications of good times ahead may not accelerate government divestment, experts contend. Arbitrage between the lending and deposit rates, higher credit demand, and lower loan provisions resulted in PSBs posting handsome profits this fiscal, as per experts. Will there be an accelerated move on the part of the government to go in for divestment? The government had earlier said it would privatise two of its banks. "The good numbers may not trigger the government to go in for divestment. The government banks are big and there are not many who can afford them. Secondly, the regulations do not allow corporate groups to acquire banks," a sectoral analyst told IANS preferring anonymity. According to the analyst, first, the IDBI Bank divestment has to happen before any other bank can be considered for sale. The government has invited expression of interest (Eoi) for strategic disinvestment in IDBI Bank. As per plan, 60 per cent stakes held jointly by the Life Insurance Corporation of India and the Central government will be sold. The LIC will cut its stake in IDBI Bank to 19 per cent from 49.2 per cent, while the government will cut its share to 15 per cent from 45.5 per cent at present. According to the conditions of the Eoi, private sector banks, non-banking finance companies (NBFCs), foreign banks and even alternative investment funds registered by the SEBI can bid for IDBI Bank.

total ₹40,991 cr in H1FY23, up by 50% & 31.6%, respectively (y-o-y)," she said in a tweet.

According to the Reserve Bank of India (RBI), the share of CASA

deposits in total deposits has been increasing over the last three years (42 per cent, 43.8 per cent, and 44.5 per cent in June of 2020, 2021 and 2022, respectively)

India face Bhuvi dilemma

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Mount Maunganui, Nov 19: Bhuvneshwar Kumar faces an arduous challenge of remaining relevant in shortest format as a young Indian team, seeking some game time, is expected to face tough resistance from New Zealand in the second T20I here Sunday.

The series-opener in Wellington was abandoned due to inclement weather and the Indian players must be itching to get onto the park which, inarguably, has the most scenic backdrop.

Ironically, the region where the ground is located is known as 'Bay of Plenty' and Indian cricket at this point has plenty to ponder as far as its approach in T20 format is concerned.

While the Sky Stadium was shorter in terms of dimensions, the Indian team will have to make adjustments as the 'Bay Oval' ground has bigger side boundaries and is an open ground unlike Wellington.

The Bhuvi conundrum

On this tour, the presence of a near 33 year-old Bhuvneshwar is one such dilemma that the team management might have to handle. There are some probing questions and quicker the answers are sought, better it would be for Indian cricket.

Is Bhuvneshwar going to be around for the T20 World Cup in 2024 with a sharp decline in his pace? Does he have enough time to work around his issues as he is not potent enough on good batting tracks? Not many T20Is are lined-up next year and he is largely becoming a single-format player, so where does it leave him?

At this moment, all the answers seem to be in negative and hence a question arises whether playing the senior-most pacer would be



Bhuvneshwar Kumar (L) speaks to Shardul Thakur during India's training session

akin to taking away an opportunity from a youngster to get into the groove.

It is a double-edged sword that interim head coach VVS Laxman and captain Pandya will be facing. Not playing Bhuvneshwar when he is on the cusp of a personal milestone (4 more wickets for highest tally of 40 in a calendar year) might leave him demoralised.

Most of his 36 wickets have come in bowler-friendly conditions and against lesser opponents. On slightly flatter wickets and against better batting attacks, Bhuvneshwar has come a cropper.

But playing him will be a missed opportunity for the team management to check out on how the pair of Umran Malik and Mohammed Siraj would match up

against the might of players like Finn Allen, Glenn Phillips and Devon Conway in pressure situations.

Umran, India's fastest bowler by a distance, needs to be groomed. Pakistan has shown with Haris Rauf, Shaheen Shah Afridi and Naseem Shah as to what extreme pace can do.

The choice of opener

Glenn Phillips heaps praise on Suryakumar



PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Mount Maunganui, Nov 19: He is a T20 ace in his own right but New Zealander Glenn Phillips says he can't even "dream" of pulling off some of the incredible shots that Suryakumar Yadav plays with ease.

Surya, world No. 1 T20 batter, will square off against Phillips' New Zealand in the second game here at the Bay Oval, a ground where the Black caps dasher has fond memories of scoring a 46-ball hundred.

"He (Surya) is absolutely incredible. The things that he does I wouldn't even dream of doing. I would love to try but we have very different games. The wrist strength that he's got to be able to hit balls for six in extremely awkward areas is a talent you rarely see," Phillips was quoted as saying in stuff.Co.Nz.

Phillips also mentioned that the "high risk-high reward game" that is played by him and Surya also keeps opposition in the game as they have the danger of getting out if some of those adventurous

shots aren't executed properly.

"I have got my strengths and he has got his and we go about our jobs in different ways. And the way we both play presents opportunities for the opposition to get us out as well. It's part of the risk and reward of middle order cricket in T20."

Surya has been world's top run-getter in the 2022 calendar year with whopping 1040 runs at an average of 43 and a magnificent strike-rate of 186. Phillips is eighth in the ICC's T20I batters' list and has scored 650 runs at a strike-rate of 158 pluses.

Phillips is fearing that on good batting tracks like Bay Oval (Mt Maunganui) and McLean Park (Napier), Surya's strike-rate would soar even higher.

"I could easily see (Surya's) strike rate being even higher here than it was in Aussie, with the slightly smaller grounds and the pitches very similar, potentially a bit bouncier with a bit more grass on them. It's going to be very interesting what sort of strike rates we see here."

MANIKA SECURES HISTORIC BRONZE AT ASIAN CUP TT

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Bangkok, Nov 19: Manika Batra became the first Indian paddler to win a medal in the ITTF-ATTU Asian Cup after shocking world number six Hina Hayata of Japan in the bronze play-off here Saturday.

The World No.44 defeated Hayata 4-2 (11-6, 6-11, 11-7, 12-10, 4-11, 11-2) to achieve the incredible feat. Besides the historic bronze, Manika will also carry home USD 10,000 for her efforts. Earlier in the day, Manika lost 2-4 (8-11, 11-7, 7-11, 6-11, 11-8, 7-11) to the second-seeded Mima Ito in the semifinals.

Despite Ito beginning shakily, the Japanese ended strongly and subdued the Indian player with a percentage play befitting her reputation and rankings. Manika's fighting qualities came to the fore in the fourth game of the bronze-medal playoff when she was down in the dumps, with the fourth-seed Hayata holding the upper hand with four game points at 10-6.

That was when Manika launched herself, using all the tricks in her bag, attacking the flanks with crispy forehands, including some counters that brooked no challenge, and using the backhand punches to good effect and with precise placement.



ments.

At deuce, the Japanese had the service, but an unforeseen fault – Hayata's service hit the net, and the ball dropped on her side to go down – enabled Manika to go up with a luck point (11-10) and take the winning point when she had the service back with her.

However, the Japanese ran with a good lead in the next to reduce the margin. But Manika changed her strategy in the sixth game, attacking from the word go and allowing her opponent the first point at 3-1. She claimed another point at 5-2, but that was all she could manage. With frustration setting in, the Japanese became more error-prone, unable to keep the ball on the table even as Manika went from strength to strength to finish the game 11-2.

On her way to the bronze, Manika upset World No.7 Chen Xingtong from China in the round of 16, then accounted for 23-rd ranked Chen Szu-Yu 4-3 of Taipei in the quarterfinals.

Manika, Friday, ensured the best finish by an Indian in the 39-year-old history of the Asian Cup after Achantia Sharath Kamal and G Sathiyam had finished sixth in 2015 and 2019 respectively.

ASSOCIATED PRESS

Doha, Nov 19: Given the level of focus on the Qatari regime, its attitudes toward human rights, immigrant workers, the LGBTQ community — and beer — the World Cup host's football team has slipped under the radar.

Qatar open the tournament against Ecuador Sunday, but even the buildup to that match has been overshadowed by Friday's announcement that the sale of beer will be banned inside the stadium grounds. The World Cup is a source of immense national pride for Qatar in its attempt to raise its profile on the global stage and drive toward modernization. But what about the team?

Qatar has never before appeared in a World Cup and faces a major challenge just to emerge from Group A, which also includes Senegal and the Netherlands. South Africa in 2010 is the only host nation to fail to get beyond the group stage, so to avoid sharing that distinction would be success in itself.

Sunday may be Qatar's best hope for a victory against an Ecuador team that is only five places above it at No.44 in the FIFA rankings.

Qatar's preparation for this tournament has been going on for several years, including involvement in the 2019 Copa America and 2021 CONCACAF Gold Cup. But it was victory in the 2019 Asian Cup that provided evidence of the country's potential to provide a shock over the next few weeks.

That continental title was masterminded by coach Felix Sanchez, who has been in the position since 2017 and before that was in charge of the under-19 team. The 46-year-old Spaniard learned his trade at



Qatar players go through their training drills during their practice session ahead of their FIFA World Cup opener against Ecuador, Sunday

Barcelona's famed academy and his impact has been remarkable, with the Asian Cup success his standout moment.

But the World Cup is another level entirely. "We try to maintain normality," Sanchez told Spanish sports newspaper Marca.

"We already know that there is that pressure, and we don't have to add to it. We have our routine. We try to isolate ourselves from the noise around us and focus on getting our best performance.

"It's difficult because then you go onto the pitch, you see 60,000

people. It's the first World Cup match and there's so much expectation that it's hard, but that experience will help them."

Ecuador will hope to spoil the party — and has been talked about as a potential surprise package. But the team heads to the World Cup on the back of doubts about whether it would even be allowed to compete after claims it fielded an ineligible player during qualifying.

Chile and Peru argued that defender Byron Castillo was actually Colombian and illegally played in qualifying matches. That claim

was rejected by the Court of Arbitration for Sport.

Ecuador kept its place at the World Cup, but will be deducted three points before the start of qualifying for the 2026 competition because of the use of false information on Castillo's birthday and birthplace in its proceedings to grant him a passport.

Castillo was then left out of coach Gustavo Alfaro's 26-man squad for Qatar. With so much focus away from the field for both teams, Sunday's opener will bring the conversation back to football.

Harmanpreet sees Australia tour as a chance to reassess

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Bengaluru, Nov 19: The upcoming tour of Australia is a good opportunity for the Indian men's hockey team to reassess its strengths and weakness ahead of the FIH World Cup at home in January, said seasoned dragflicker Harmanpreet Singh.

A 23-member Indian team left for Australia Saturday for a five-match series beginning in Adelaide on November 26 as part of preparation for next year's World Cup in Bhubaneswar and Rourkela from January 13 to 29.

"I think this is a great opportunity for us to test ourselves and the level we are at ahead of the World Cup. Australia is one of the top contenders for the title, and playing against them will definitely help us in the lead up to the tournament," Harmanpreet, who will lead the side in Australia, said in a Hockey India release.

"I think we haven't gone back to Australia after the Gold Coast Commonwealth Games in 2018. As a team, we are excited and happy to play in Australia which offers unique playing conditions."

India will play back-to-back matches November 26 and 27, followed by games November 30, December 3 and 4. "These matches will be a true test of our fitness levels. Every game will be high in intensity and will draw focus on recovery process after each game. Every player will be looking to bring his A game against Australia ahead of the final team selection for the World Cup," said defender Amit Rohidas.

Ravina, 2 others reach quarters

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, Nov 19: Reigning Asian youth champion Ravina (63kg) showed her class and prowess to sail into the quarterfinals of the IBA Youth Men's and Women's World Boxing Championships in La Nucia, Spain.

Ravina defeated Hungary's Varga Franciska Rozi in the round of 16. The Indian pugilist dictated the terms right from the start and landed punches throughout the first round.

The second round began in the same manner as Ravina kept on dominating her opposition. As a result, the referee had to stop the contest and the Indian boxer emerged victorious.

The other women boxer in action – Kunjarani Devi Thongam (60kg) – also moved into the last-



RAVEENA

eight stage after blanking Spain's Horche Martinez Maria 5-0 in a lop-sided affair.

Among the men boxers, Mohit (86kg) moved into the quarterfinals after his opponent Tomas Lemanas of Lithuania got disqualified in the second round.

Sahil Chauhan (71kg) entered the pre-quarterfinals after comfortably defeating Azerbaijan's Daniel Holostenco 5-0 in a round of 32 bout.

Nikhil (57kg) and Harsh (60kg) lost their respective round-of-32 bouts. The former lost 1-4 to Kazakhstan's Kalinin Ilya while the latter had to suffer a referee stopping the contest (RSC) defeat against Erik Lsravelyan of Armenia.

Nine Indians, including three women, will be in action in the last-16 stage Sunday. Vishvanath Suresh (48kg), Jadumani Singh (51kg), Ashish (54kg), Vanshaj (63.5kg), Aman Rathore (67kg) and Deepak (75kg) will fight in the men's section.

Bhawna Sharma (48kg), Tamanna (50kg) and Huidrom Griviya Devi (54kg) will take the ring in the women's quarterfinals.

ERIGAI SI BEATS GIRI AT MCT FINALS CHESS

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

San Francisco, Nov 19: Indian Grandmaster Arjun Erigaisi scored a 2.5-1.5 win over Dutch GM Anish Giri in the fifth round of the Meltwater Champions Tour (MCT) Finals here Saturday.

Teenage GMR Pragganandhaa was involved in an intense battle with Poland's Jan-Krzysztof Duda with the match ending 3.5-3.5 after the players shared honours in the four rapid games, two blitz and an armageddon game.

Erigaisi's win over Giri was his second and took him to six points along with 17-year old Indian compatriot Pragganandhaa. He won the first game in 56 moves with white pieces and the second in 44 with black. A 36-move draw saw Erigaisi sealing his second win, a day after beating Azerbaijan's Shakhriyar Mamedyarov 3-1.



The Pragganandhaa-Duda encounter was a thriller: The highly-rated Pole won the first game before the teenaged Indian star levelled by taking the second in 53 moves.

A similar pattern was repeated with Duda and Pragu taking the third and fourth games respectively with black pieces. The Indian won the first blitz tie-break game

only to see his opponent level things with a 41-move win.

In the Armageddon (sudden-death game), Duda and Pragu battled it out for 90 moves before peace was signed.

Meanwhile, Norwegian World No.1 Magnus Carlsen, who had been in cruise control till round four, had to bring out his best to tame

Vietnam's Quang Liem Le 4-3 via the sudden tie-break.

They were level at 2-2 after the four rapid games and honours were shared in the blitz before Carlsen prevailed in the Armageddon.

In the other match of the day, American Wesley So crushed Shakhriyar Mamedyarov of Azerbaijan 3-0, winning three straight games.

Carlsen is on top of the standings with an all-win record with 15 points. Duda is second with nine points followed by So (9). Pragganandhaa and Erigaisi have six points each and are placed fifth and sixth respectively.

In the sixth round Sunday, Pragganandhaa will take on Carlsen in a much-awaited clash while Erigaisi will meet Liem Le. Eight players qualified for the Finals after a series of events in the Meltwater Champions Tour.