



BITTER PAST

Actor Nora Fatehi, while participating in a reality show, recalls how she was betrayed in love

LEISURE P2



GRIM SITUATION

Afghans on the brink of starvation are giving their hungry children medicines to sedate them as winter approaches

INTERNATIONAL P10



MESSI LIFTS ARGENTINA

Lionel Messi scores one and sets up another in Argentina's 2-0 win over Mexico at FIFA World Cup

SPORTS P12

Massive teachers' stir chokes Capital streets

POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar, Nov 27: Thousands of teachers from across the state gathered Sunday at the Lower PMG in the Capital calling for fulfillment of their multiple demands including abolition of contractual system. The massive protest led to long hours of traffic jam on the streets near Janpath Road area in the City.

The demonstration was staged by teachers under several banners including United Primary Teachers' Federation, Odisha Secondary School Teachers' Association and Odisha School College Teachers' and Employees' Coordination Committee protesting against the government's contractual recruitment process.

Their other demands included increment to teachers who were appointed since 2001 and the re-implementation of the old pension scheme.

They alleged that the state government had promised them to do away with the contractual appointment system and regularise the jobs of all the teachers at the higher secondary schools who had joined after 2004. But the

government went back on its promise. The notification of the General Administration department lacks transparency, protesters said.

The agitating teachers have warned the state government of disrupting the Matriculation Summative-1 test scheduled November 23, if it doesn't come up with any concrete steps regarding job regularisation of appointees between 2004 and 2013-14.

The teachers had protested in the past multiple times alleging that the benefit is not being passed on to them despite serving as contractual employees for years.

Similarly, hundreds of Anganwadi workers under the banner of All Odisha Anganwadi Ladies Workers' Association also have been protesting for the last seven days at Lower PMG. The workers are agitating against the state government's inordinate delay in fulfilling their demands.

Their demands include government employee status, monthly pension of Rs 5,000 after retirement and compensation of Rs 5 lakh to the kin of Anganwadi worker in case of her death.



SEA OF PROTESTERS: A huge crowd of teachers staged a demonstration holding placards at Lower PMG in City, Sunday

OP PHOTO

IRREGULAR by MANJUL



Your wife called, sir. You are going to be fourth time father soon!

Xi's Covid vs Blank Paper

Blank sheets of paper have become the symbol of defiance against stringent curbs under Xi's Zero Covid policy in a rare, open outpouring of public dissent that has gone beyond social media to China's streets and top universities

REUTERS

Shanghai/Beijing, Nov 27: Crowds of demonstrators in Shanghai shouted and jostled with police holding blank sheets of papers Sunday evening, as protests over China's stringent Covid restrictions flared for a third day following a deadly apartment fire in the country's far west.

The wave of civil disobedience, which has included protests in cities like Beijing and Urumqi, where the fire occurred, is unprecedented in mainland China



WIDESPREAD PUBLIC PROTEST IS EXTREMELY RARE IN CHINA, WHERE ROOM FOR DISSENT HAS BEEN ALL BUT ELIMINATED UNDER XI, FORCING CITIZENS MOSTLY TO VENT ON SOCIAL MEDIA, WHERE THEY PLAY CAT-AND-MOUSE WITH CENSORS

since Xi Jinping assumed power a decade ago.

In Shanghai, China's most populous city, residents had gathered Saturday night at Wulumuqi Road - which is named after Urumqi - for a candlelight vigil that turned into a protest in the early hours of Sunday.

As a large group of police looked on, the crowd held up blank sheets of paper in silent protest, a tactic used in part to evade censorship or arrest. Later on, they shouted, "Lift lockdown for Urumqi, lift lockdown for Xinjiang, lift lockdown for all of China!" according to a video circulated on social media.

Later, a large group chanted "Down with the Chinese Communist Party, down with Xi Jinping," according to witnesses and videos, in a rare public protest against the country's leadership.

Later Sunday, police kept a heavy presence on Wulumuqi Road and cordoned off surrounding streets, making an arrest that triggered protests from onlookers, according to unverified videos seen by

China has adhered to Xi's signature Zero-Covid policy even as much of the world has lifted most restrictions

Covid-19 cases have hit record highs for days together in China, with nearly 40,000 new infections Saturday

Frustration is boiling just over a month after Xi secured a third term at the helm of China's Communist Party

Reuters. By evening, hundreds of people had gathered again near one of the cordons, some holding blank sheets of paper. "I am here because of the fire accident in Urumqi. I am here for freedom. Winter is coming. We need our freedom," a protester told Reuters.

At Beijing's prestigious Tsinghua University, dozens of people held a peaceful protest against Covid restrictions during which they sang the national anthem, according to images and videos posted on social media. **Contd...4**

Avoid antibiotics for mild fever, flu: ICMR

An ICMR survey suggests that a big chunk of patients in India may no longer benefit from the use of some powerful antibiotics as they have developed anti-microbial resistance to it

AGENCIES

New Delhi, Nov 27: The Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) has issued guidelines warning against the use of antibiotics for conditions such as low-grade fever and viral bronchitis while advising doctors to follow a timeline while prescribing them.

The ICMR guidelines stated that antibiotics should be prescribed for a duration of five days for skin and soft tissue infections, five days in case of community-acquired pneumonia and eight days for hospital-acquired pneumonia.

"A clinical diagnosis most often helps us predict causative pathogens fitting into a clinical syndrome which would tailor the correct antibiotic rather than blindly relying on fever, procalcitonin levels, WBC counts, cultures or radiology to make a diagnosis of infection," the guidelines said. **Contd...4**



It stated limiting empiric antibiotic therapy to seriously ill patients. Generally, empiric antibiotic therapy is only recommended for a select group of patients suffering from severe sepsis and septic shock, community-acquired pneumonia, ventilator-associated pneumonia and necrotizing fasciitis.

Hence, it is important to start smart and then focus, i.e., evaluate if empiric therapy can be justified or de-escalated and then make a plan with regard to the duration of therapy, the guidelines said.

An ICMR survey conducted between January 1 and December 31, 2021 had suggested that a big chunk of patients in India may no longer benefit from the use of carbapenem, a powerful antibiotic administered mainly in ICU settings for the treatment of pneumonia and septicemia, etc., as they have developed anti-microbial resistance to it. **Contd...4**

WEATHER	
BHUB	CTK
MAX 30.0°C	29.0°C
MIN 14.0°C	14.8°C
Humidity 68%	69%
Rainfall 0.0mm	0.0mm
Forecast: Mainly clear sky	

Decrying Hindi imposition, man immolates self

AGENCIES

Coimbatore (TN), Nov 27: A senior DMK cadre Saturday died of self-immolation near the party office in Thazhaiyur near Mettur in nearby Salem District. He took the extreme step to show his protest against 'Hindi imposition', police said.

Thangavel (85), a former DMK farmers' wing functionary arrived at the party office Saturday morning.

He raised slogans against 'Hindi imposition' and allegedly poured kerosene on his body, set himself on fire with the help of a matchstick.

Though the party workers and public tried to save him, Thangavel died on the spot, they said.

Police recovered a paper addressing the Central Government which read there is no need for imposing Hindi when Tamil language is here.

Expressing grief over the incident, Tamil Nadu Chief Minister MK Stalin said he was saddened to hear about the tragic demise of Thangavel.

ALL ABOUT AUTONOMY

Single women farmers become entrepreneurs

The single women of the tribal Dengasargi village in Rayagada are the main decision makers who farm, market and sell their produce to earn their livelihood

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Rayagada, Nov 27: Vivid orange marigolds, dense purple aubergines and luminous green cabbages... Not just farm produce but the colours of freedom for the women of Rayagada who defied a society

unwilling to accept their status as single women to collectively find independence.

Out to regain control over their lives and break free of societal shackles, more than 30 widows, divorced or unmarried women formed the Ekal Naari Sangathan (single women collective) in 2019. It was the starting point for a profitable business venture that over time included more women, and the turning point in their lives.

As they move through their fields tending to their crops, the song is back in their lives. Quite literally. Women working as helpers in farms alongside men is a common sight across India. But look carefully, hear closely and the difference is clear.

The women of the tribal Dengasargi village in Rayagada, who break into song in Kui language, are the main decision mak-



ers who farm, market and sell their produce to earn their livelihood.

The Sangathan began with three acres to grow marigold as well as vegetables such as bitter gourd, aubergine and cabbage. In the three years since, the land

being cultivated has grown to 40 acres. The women's families own land between 0.5 acre to 2 acres on which they grow flowers and vegetables. The collective sells it in the market. The amount earned goes directly in their bank ac-

counts every week. "We had a turnover of Rs 47 lakh last year and this season we have made Rs 76 lakh. Of this, each woman farmer gets between Rs 80,000-1.5 lakh profit depending upon the size of land they are carrying out the cultivation on," said Morepingidhi.

She is a board member of Annapoorna, the collective formed with the help of the government and NGOs, to sell their produce. There are 98 women in the company right now.

The marigold cultivated here is transported to different temples in Odisha and Andhra Pradesh and also used in family functions. "The company is now planning to extend its operations to other southern states," Morepingidhi said.

For these women, most from the Kondha tribe, who didn't or couldn't get married, got divorced or were widowed, the financial

independence has translated to not just autonomy but also respect and equal status in their families and in society.

"We were abused, called names for stepping out of our homes to farm. But when the money started coming in, our status not just in society but also in our own family changed," Morepingidhi told PTI.

The 35-year-old said she could not get married due to a leg injury and didn't get a chance to study because of her family's financial condition. She worked all her life in a farm where she grew rice and millet, just enough for the family to survive with nothing left to sell in the market.

When her brothers got married, Morepingidhi was left alone and reached out to other women in a similar predicament. And the Ekal Naari Sangathan was born. **Contd...4**

leisure



JLO CLEARS UP HER INSTAGRAM HANDLE

Celebrated singer-actress Jennifer Lopez has left her fans and followers shocked after deleting her entire posts on her official Instagram page. Later, the 53-year-old icon changed her profile picture into a black circle but soon she changed it with a photoshoot image.

BOB DYLAN SAYS HE REGRETS NOT HAVING SIGNED BOOKS

Pop culture icon Bob Dylan has issued a rare public statement to admit that he regrets having made an error in judgment in using machine technology to affix duplicate signatures to artwork and books advertised and retailed as hand-signed over the past three years, reports *Variety*.



FORTUNE FORECAST

GaneshSpeaks.com
 accuracy • reliability • trust
 FOR ASTROLOGY DIAL \$5181*

ARIES
 ♈
 Boy! Are you ambitious today or what! You plan meticulously and perform impeccably. However, you will progress at snail's pace. But don't lose heart, as Ganesh shows his blessings on you, dear one.

TAURUS
 ♉
 You are going to be exceptionally intense in the way you communicate your emotions and feelings. You will, no doubt, succeed in making the impact, the impression you are striving to make, says Ganesh. You will be so involved in this that you are likely to get caught in the mysterious and magical web of relationships.

GEMINI
 ♊
 You may come up with a precise understanding of others today, says Ganesh. You will please your sweetheart with both your presence and presents. You will browse through dozens of showrooms for that perfect, and expensive, gift for your beloved. You will also work towards achieving your long-term goals. Ganesh wishes you good luck.

CANCER
 ♋
 Today, you and your soul mate will be rolling in the hay; there will be little time or inclination to do anything else. In fact, you will show such single-minded devotion to the act of rolling as if the future of the world lies in the haystack. Your mind can think of nothing more, and nothing less.

LEO
 ♌
 Try and put on some protective gear today – maybe a suit of armour should do fine, says Ganesh. For, you may find some need for it on this day of mixed fortunes as you miss out the expected and come face-to-face with the unexpected. Manage through the day somehow, since the day's distress will eventually give way to an evening of ecstasy and a night of pleasant surprises, portends Ganesh.

VIRGO
 ♍
 Today, you will be aspire to be a master of your own destiny. You have the ability to see through the façade that people put up to shield their true self. You will choose your company wisely and plan for success. Polish your presentation skills and you may need to work an extra bit to get your ideas approved, says Ganesh.

LIBRA
 ♎
 Ganesh feels the day will be beneficial for you when it comes to transactions with the government. But you already expect that. It is more than likely that public servants will have encouraging and optimistic achievements lined up for their efforts. Your expertise may be put to test and it is your experience that will come in handy.

SCORPIO
 ♏
 Ganesh feels that you may be confronted with vital decisions at work. You will need to trust the opinions of your close friends and peers so that you may take informed decisions. Keep your mind away from negative thoughts and delegate responsibilities accordingly.

SAGITTARIUS
 ♐
 It is not your nature to warm the bench, but you will wake up feeling lazy and laid-back today, says Ganesh. This may be due to the fatigue of some recent endeavours. For a change, you will try and delegate your work and responsibility to those around you.

CAPRICORN
 ♑
 Plans for expanding business may require you to take risks, leaving you in a dilemma on more than one occasion. In such desperate circumstances, following your instincts can lead you to success, advises Ganesh.

AQUARIUS
 ♒
 The cupid may strike you today. You don't want make a wrong first impression, so wear something nice and be presentable all the time. Professionally, the day will be favourable for you to make some important decisions.

PISCES
 ♓
 An auspicious time for starting new projects, today will see you make substantial investments in your future. Your family is the foundation of your success, and keeping that in mind will provide you with some vital insights. Your smile wins many a heart today, says Ganesh.

'Can't keep it a secret for long'

Mumbai: When it comes to Hindi film industry's most happening couples, Sidharth Malhotra and Kiara Advani are the talk of town. The duo, who on more occasions than one have made their relationship 'almost official', often shell out couple goals and are seen together at events and parties.

Recently, rumours have been rife that the duo will tie the knot early next year, reportedly in Chandigarh, however, there has been no official confirmation from both parties. To add to the buzz, earlier Sunday, Kiara posted a video of herself on her IG handle and hinted at an announcement soon. In the video, Kiara is seen smiling and blushing as the wind blows past her hair. She captioned the video as, "Can't keep it a secret for long! Announcing soon... stay tuned... 2nd December."

As soon as she posted the video, fans started speculating that it might be related to her upcoming nuptials. One fan wrote, "Pre-wedding shoot is it?" while another said, "She's getting married or what?." A third comment read as, "I guess it's a wedding announcement."

Another user tagged Sidharth in the post and said that their relationship is an open secret now. The user wrote, "@kiaraaliaadvani am expecting a wedding with handsome @sidmalhotra."

AGENCIES



Sarika feels bad for child actors

Mumbai: Actor Sarika who was last seen in Sooraj Barjatya's *Uunchai* started her career as a child artiste in 1967. Her first film was *Hunraaz*.

The actress did three films back-to-back as a child actor. But Sarika believes, it was her calling card since she was a cinema person. In a recent interview, Sarika said that she started work so early as life took her on that path and it was her destiny. But she feels bad about the fact that she didn't have a regular childhood and that she never went to school. Sarika also feels bad when she sees child actors working so hard and not getting to go to school. She added that not school, but a film set was her learn-

ing ground. Sarika added that the good part was that the film industry became her school and college. The directors she worked with, became her teachers. She also did other things in the industry hence, kept hopping from one thing to another. Meanwhile, it's really been a good journey for her, she admits and she wouldn't want to change anything.



Nora recalls being betrayed in love

Mumbai: Nora Fatehi who is a self-taught dancer has come a long way. Nora is currently seen judging reality dance shows on Television. Recently, the actress was overwhelmed upon seeing one of the contestants act on *Bada Pachtage*.

The actress couldn't hold her emotions and tears started rolling down her cheeks. Nora, who generally doesn't talk much about her personal life, spoke about it after seeing the act. The actress shared that his performance touched her heart and her emotions were on point. She further stated that this is her song, and she could totally relate

to it as she was personally going through a situation back then.

For the unversed, the *Bada Pachtage* song is about being betrayed in love and Nora Fatehi was in a relationship with Angad Bedi back then. Meanwhile, on the work front, Nora was last seen in *Thank God*. Next, she has *100 Percent* with John Abraham, Riteish Deshmukh, and Shehnaaz Gill in important roles.

AGENCIES



IFFI-2022

Jackie, Remo make pitch for a garbage-free planet

Panaji: Jackie Shroff Sunday stated that mother earth will bless us if we take care of her and keep the surroundings clean.

The actor, who's also an avid organic farmer, appealed to young people to participate in a 'Clean-a-thon' being organised at the Miramar Beach in Panaji Monday morning. "The way we keep our house clean, we need to take care of our mother earth. It should be kept clean. It is very simple. We can't consider ourselves wise if we spoil mother earth," Shroff said at the International Film Festival of India (IFFI) underway in Goa.

"We have to manage garbage. Every future generation should get to see the pristine mother earth. Beaches should



not be littered with bottles and other things. We need to respect mother earth," he emphasised.

A collaborative effort of the Government of Goa, IFFI, Divyaj Foundation and Bhamla Foundation, 'Clean-a-thon' will be attended by other film personalities.

Choreographer Remo D'Souza also appealed to people to participate in the event. "We need to take this initiative forward and protect our mother earth," he said.

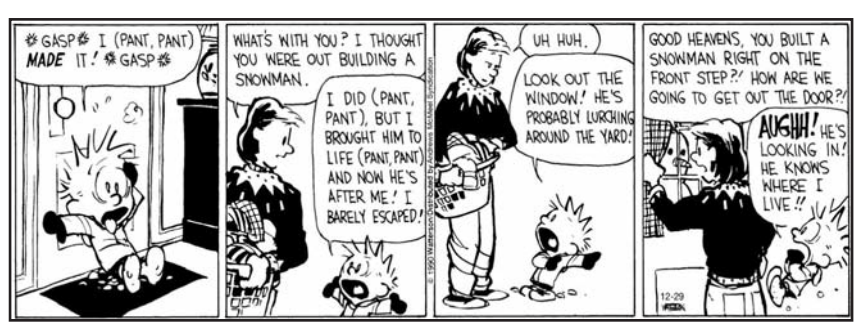
Union Minister for Information and Broadcasting Anurag Singh Thakur will also be present at the event.

IANS

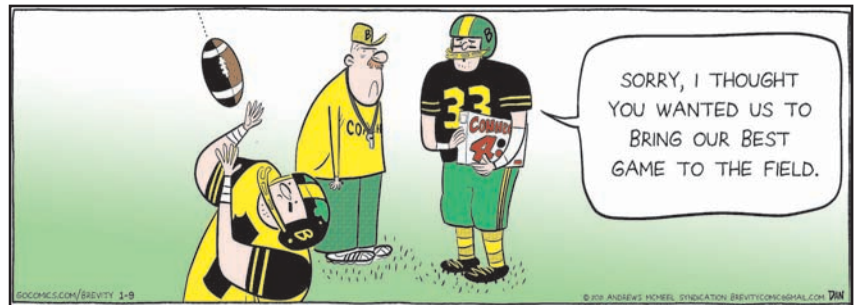
PEANUTS



CALVIN AND HOBBS

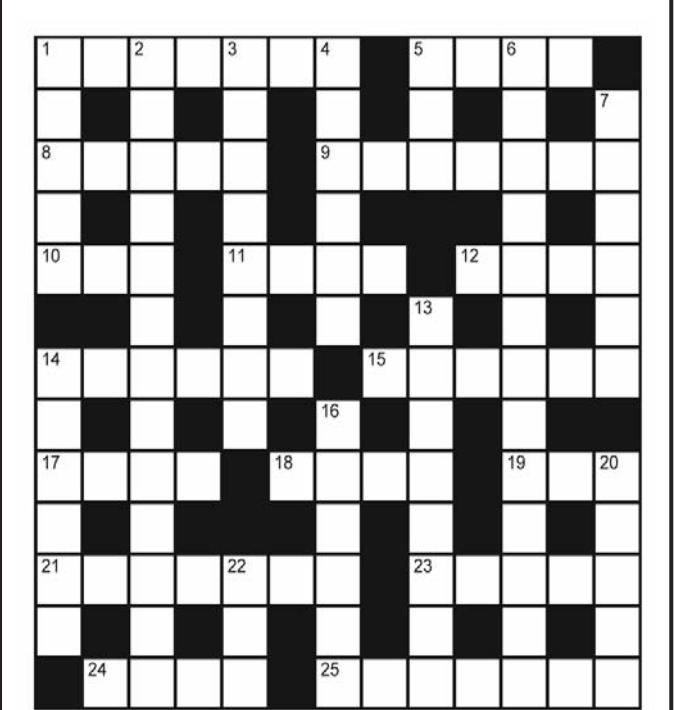


BREVITY



FUN post

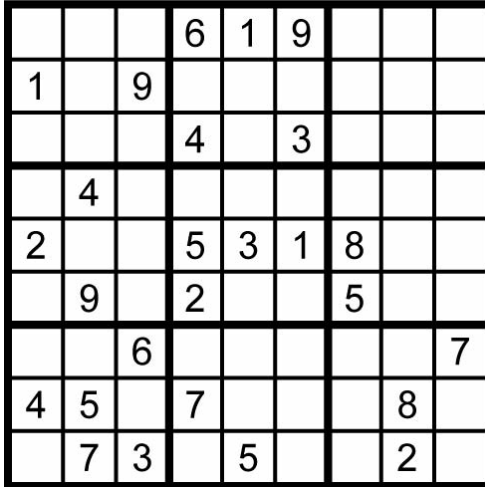
CROSSWORD



- Across**
- 1 Pergolas
 - 5 Matterhorn locale
 - 8 Dental appliance
 - 9 Burrows
 - 10 Lend a hand
 - 11 Small brook
 - 12 Hot rock
 - 14 Cup holder
 - 15 Prickly pear
 - 17 Lymph bump
 - 18 Combust
 - 19 Lab eggs
 - 21 Leaping insect
 - 23 Lacking zest
 - 24 Hideous
 - 25 Passed along
- Down**
- 1 Capital of Ghana
 - 2 Like a scream in a horror film
 - 3 Rattled
 - 4 Put down roots
 - 5 Beard of grass
 - 6 Like some advice
 - 7 Hollywood's laurels
 - 13 Carthaginian general
 - 14 Nero's tutor
 - 16 Zither's cousin
 - 20 Increased
 - 22 Critical

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.

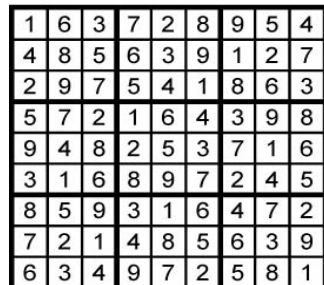


SOLUTIONS



CROSSWORD

SUDOKU



CHECK FOR SOLUTIONS OF THE PUZZLES TOMORROW

Padampur bypoll: Farmers hell-bent on voting for NOTA

Paikamal, Nov 27: As issues of farmers, so far unaddressed, hold the key to electoral fortune of candidates in the upcoming Padampur bypoll in Bargarh district, they have decided to cast their votes in favour of NOTA (None of the Above), a report said.
With political temperatures soaring high for the bypoll, the candidates in the fray are trying to out-wit each other on various issues, mainly farm issues. A blame game has been going on among the three major parties like BJD, BJP and Congress. The problem of agriculture and farmers remains a vexed issue in the Assembly segment with resentment spreading among the latter over non-payment of crop insurance claims and input subsidy. Erratic paddy procurement has also left the farmers fuming in many pockets of the as-



sembly segment.
This has provided the opposition candidates a scope to lambast the ruling party and cash in on disgruntlement among farmers. Farmers alleged that they are yet to get their crop insurance claims for the 2021 kharif season as well as the input subsidy.
In this context, a group of farmers held a meeting at Paikamal recently and decided

not to vote for any particular candidate but instead cast their votes for NOTA in the electronic voting machines during the bypoll. In the meeting presided over by Biswanath Rana, farmers expressed concern that they are yet to receive their claims under Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana. In protest against such disregard towards the farmers, they have decided to cast their votes for NOTA (None of the Above) in the bypoll instead of any particular candidate in the bypoll.
The farmers and their representatives attending the meeting were asked to spread the words and make others aware about their decision. Farmers like Balakrushna Banchhor, Rahasbihari Sahoo, Shiba Prasad Pradhan, Kishore Sahu and Mahesh Pradhan attended the meeting and unanimously voiced their support for the decision.



SKILLED PERFORMANCE: Students formed a human pyramid during NCC Days celebration at Sundargarh Government College, Sunday. OP PHOTO

Campaign acquires feverish pitch

Mudslinging match continued on farm issues. Union ministers have hit the campaign trail, accused BJD leaders of peddling lies; ruling party dismissed all allegations as baseless



Tomar claimed that slow pace of work by the BJD government led to delayed disbursement of crop insurance in the state.
Both the ruling BJD and the opposition BJP in the state had been blaming each other for the delay in payment of crop insurance to farmers affected by drought. "The Centre has long released funds for crop insurance under Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana. The farmers here did not get the money due to the Odisha government's slow pace of work. Instead of settling all claims, the state government is now misleading people with fake allegations," Tomar observed, adding that no party should politicise issues that affect farmers' interests.
Appealing to people to cast their votes in favour of BJP candidate Pradipt Purohit, Tomar said that farmers would have never suffered



had the saffron party formed government in the state.
"Padampur bypoll, if won by the BJP, will send a clear message to the people of Odisha that winds of change are blowing in the state," he maintained. Notably, bypoll to Padampur was necessitated by the

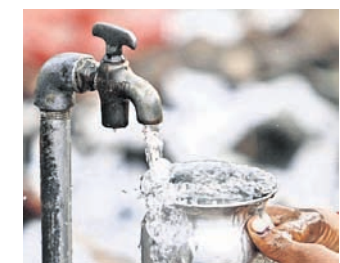


death of MLA Bijay Ranjan Singh Baraha in October.
Union Railways Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw claimed at the public meeting that BJD leaders had been "misguiding people with lies" about a proposed rail line project in Bargarh district. "State's

Commerce and Transport Minister, Tukuni Sahu, and ex-MP Prasanna Acharya have been wrongly blaming the Centre for the non-implementation of the Bargarh-Nupada rail line project," he said.
"I openly challenge the Odisha government that if it provides land for the rail line tomorrow, we will start work the very next day," he asserted. "While the previous UPA government had allotted 800 crore in annual budget for railway development in Odisha, PM Modi enhanced it to 10,000 crore," he noted.
Rejecting the assertions of Union ministers, BJD vice-president Prasanna Acharya said the responsibility of building a rail line lies with the Centre. He added that in 2019, the railway ministry had said that building this rail line was not viable following a survey and announced that the project has been shelved.

Drinking water projects caught in tardy pace; deadline extended

Saraskana, Nov 27: Works of several drinking water projects taken up under BASUDHA scheme have been caught in tardy pace in 17 panchayats under Saraskana block of Mayurbhanj district. Meanwhile, their deadlines have been extended, but locals alleged that with extension of their deadlines, there would be a cost escalation of the projects, a report said.
According to the report, the state government has awarded contract of the construction works of these drinking water projects and water supply to JMC and Montecarlo agencies.
JMC is looking after the works of the drinking water in three panchayats like Bhurusani, Jalda and Dhangudishola while the works in the remaining 14 panchayats are being taken care of by Montecarlo.
The drinking water projects



were supposed to be completed by October 2022. Since the works could not be completed in time, their deadlines were extended to March 2024, said an official, adding that the works of these projects are being expedited.
However, given the rate at which the works are progressing, people of the 17 panchayats are not sure of getting drinking water by 2024.
They alleged that inordinate delay will only lead to cost escalation, giving a good chance to the contractors and some officials concerned to gain financially.

2 killed in accident

G Udayagiri: Two women were killed after their scooter collided with a bike at Nilungia under G Udayagiri police limits of Kalahandi district here, Saturday. The deceased were identified as Pradipta Sahu (34) of Nayagarh, a teacher at Lingargarh Government Girls High School here and Bimala Pradhan (46), a clerk of the same school. He is a resident of Kupuguda village under Maalikapadi panchayat here. The two were on their way to the school when a bike coming from Lingargarh collided with their scooter.

Cyber fraudster dupes man of ₹3.44 lakh

Berhampur, Nov 27: A cyber fraudster fleeced a man of ₹3.44 lakh in Silk City on the pretext of taking his house on rent whose advertisement the latter had posted on the OLX website.
The fraudster identifying himself as an armyman called the house owner K Rohit of

Rangunibandha Sahi in the city on the phone number which he had shared in the OLX advertisement and won his trust during the conversation.
Later, instead of giving him advance money for the house rent, he defrauded him of ₹3.44 lakh. The caller said that he had been transferred to the Army AD College at Rangeilunda for which he wanted

to take a house on rent. He also asked Rohit to give his bank account and KYC details as required in the Indian Army. Believing him, Rohit shared his bank account and KYC details and was soon defrauded. The matter came to the fore after Rohit realising that he has been duped lodged a complaint at the Cyber police station in Berhampur, Sunday.

NRCs combatting malnutrition among kids in Sundargarh

Sundargarh, Nov 27: Binita is mother of an undernourished child. She had taken her kid for treatment at the Nutrition Rehabilitation Centre (NRC) at the district headquarters hospital in Sundargarh after the child was identified with Severe Acute Malnutrition (SAM) condition.
"I was concerned for my 2-year-old daughter who was underweight. As advised by the Anganwadi Didi, I came here for the treatment of my child. The doctors have given her medicines after conducting necessary tests. She was also provided with a healthy diet at this centre. Now, her appetite and overall health is improving," says Binita Magar from Barpali village under Hemgir block.
Anis Tharminz of Jhariatoli village under Nuagaon block has a similar tale to tell. "My son was weak and frail. I took him to the NRC in Rourkela where I stayed with him for a fortnight during which he was given various medicines and nutritional care. There they routinely measured his weight and height. He is healthier now," said Anis, the father of another undernourished child.
Like the kids of Binita and Anis, scores of children in the district with symptomatic of SAM condition are being given necessary treatment and nutritional food at the NRCs in Sundargarh, Rourkela and Bonai which function under the aegis of the National Health Mission (NHM). Regular health check-up is also done to assess the change in the children's condition during their stay at the centres.



Till October 2022, a total of 3,723 children have been benefited by the special health care services provided at the NRCs being run in the district headquarters hospital, Government Hospital at Rourkela and at the Sub-divisional hospital at Bonai.
When contacted, Chief District Medical Officer (CDMO and PHO) Saroj Kumar Mishra said that children having disproportionate height and weight ratio of significant measure are categorised under SAM.
He said that any deficiency in the nutrition of children can severely impact their physical and mental growth. In many cases, this can lead to various health issues in the later part of their life thus affecting their productivity. The NRCs in Sundargarh are playing an important role in the identification of the problem and nutritional rehabilitation of children suffering from malnutrition, he added.
All the three NRCs in the district are equipped with 10 beds each

No vehicle owner turns up to take subsidy

SUBSIDY MONEY FOR E-VEHICLES LIES IDLE AT BHANJANAGAR RTO

Bhanjanagar, Nov 26: In order to encourage faster adoption of e-vehicles in the state, the government has announced to provide 15 percent subsidy on the purchase cost of electric vehicles, a report said.
The decision was taken as per the Odisha Electric Vehicle Policy 2021. The subsidy for two-wheelers is ₹5,000 which is 15% of the cost of the vehicle; for three-wheelers, the subsidy is ₹10,000 and for four-wheelers, it stands at ₹50,000. The subsidy is applicable to the people those who have purchased e-vehicles from September 1, 2021.
However, lack of awareness has hit the plan. Reports said that subsidy money worth several lakhs are lying idle at the regional transport office (RTO) in Bhanjanagar without being distributed to the people who have bought electric vehicles.
A quick examination of e-vehicles registered at the RTO in Bhanjanagar reveals some anom-



alies. Reports said that 87 e-vehicles have been registered at the RTO in Bhanjanagar out of which only 15 vehicle owners have received their subsidy money from the office by Thursday while the rest 72 owners are yet to receive the same.
The vehicle owners who had not taken their subsidy amounts after purchasing e-vehicles after September 2021 are required to log into the link of Odisha Motor Vehicle Department website under State Transport Authority (STA) and apply for payment of the money.
They do not have to pay any fee for availing the subsidy money.

The vehicle owners while applying will have to submit the copy of the first page of their bank passbooks along with the registration number. The subsidy amounts will be credited into the bank accounts of the beneficiaries by the RTOs where the vehicles have been registered after completing the online verification of documents. The scheme will be in place till December 31, 2025.
When contacted, Subhendu Ray, regional transport officer (RTO) in Bhanjanagar said that the two-wheeler and three-wheeler e-vehicles are being done without any registration fee. The vehicles also

do not require any road permits. Moreover, e-vehicles under 250-watt capacity also do not require any registration, he said.
He said that those vehicle owners who have not received their subsidy money will be paid immediately after filing their applications online.
He said that the verification of vehicles will be intensified in the days to come.
On the other hand, the state government has formed a solatium fund to provide financial assistance to the kin of the dead or critically injured persons of road mishaps caused by unknown vehicles.
The kin of persons dying in road mishaps due to unknown vehicles will receive ₹2 lakh as financial assistance. The kin of the critically injured persons will receive ₹50,000 as financial assistance.
The RTO office here has provided ₹2 lakh assistance to the next kin of six deceased persons by Thursday while efforts are on to provide the assistance to kin of three more deceased. No critically injured persons have not yet applied to receive the financial assistance, the reports added.

of the day quote

I fear that Karnataka is going to the polls next year and Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai has staked claim to Akkalkot and Solapur (in Maharashtra). Next year, these two places may be handed over to Karnataka




UDDHAV THACKERAY | SHIV SENA LEADER

More than 95 per cent of the households in the state will get zero electricity bill in the coming months



BHAGWANT MANN | PUNJAB CM

Terror attacks were rampant when Congress was in power and terrorists from Pakistan used to kill Indian soldiers but the then ruling party never condemned them due to 'vote bank' politics



AMIT SHAH | UNION HOME MINISTER

SHORT TAKES

Speeding BMW mows down man

New Delhi: A speeding BMW car mowed down a 50-year-old man riding a cycle on Delhi-Gurgaon road Sunday. The onlookers said that the BMW hit the cycle at full speed from behind, throwing the rider off his bike. The driver of the car took the critically injured victim to the Safdarjung Hospital, where he was declared brought dead. The deceased has been identified as Shubendu Chatterjee, a resident of Gurugram.

Three children crushed to death

Rupnagar (Punjab): Three children were crushed to death by a passenger train near Sri Kiratpur Sahib here on Sunday, police said. The Punjab government has ordered an inquiry into the incident. The incident took place when four children of migrant labourers were playing near the railway track close to a bridge over Sutlej river, they said. The fourth child was injured in the incident and was admitted to a hospital, said police. The boys were in the age group of 7 to 11 years, police added. Punjab School Education Minister Harjot Singh Bains expressed grief and said an inquiry has been ordered into the incident.

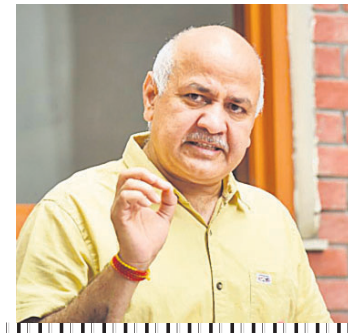
8-yr-old boy dies

Hyderabad: In a tragic incident in Telangana's Warangal town, an eight-year-old boy died after choking on a chocolate his father brought him from abroad. The chocolate stuck in Sandeep Singh's throat. He was rushed to MGM Hospital, where he succumbed.

J&K elections would be no cakewalk for any party

Srinagar, November 27: Politics and priorities underwent a paradigm shift after the abrogation of Article 370 in J&K as political parties are preparing their course correction for the forthcoming Assembly elections. There are perceptible changes in the general attitude of local as well as the national mainstream political leaders towards the people in J&K now. Before August 5, 2019, everything else had to wait because all local mainstream politicians were busy 'working for more internal autonomy'. This campaign was projected differently by different political parties and yet the proclaimed objective was the same. What the National Conference (NC), the Peoples Democratic Party (PDP),

Peoples Conference (PC) and some other Kashmir-centric parties differed on was the means to achieve that goal. The NC called it the 'autonomy document', PDP called it 'self-rule' and the PC called it the 'vision document'. The clamour for internal autonomy vanished after the very article of the Indian Constitution that gave special status to J&K was abrogated by the country's Parliament. Those 'fighting' for more internal autonomy were shocked beyond words when the abrogation of the special status came together with the downgrading of the state into a UT. The NDA government at the Centre had, in a single stroke, taken away the wind from the sails of the local political parties. This resulted in a storm of sorts for the 'internal autonomy' seek-



People will choose the Aam Aadmi Party in MCD too to fasten the pace of development work across Delhi. The BJP extorted money from the common man and emptied their pockets. People are fed up with the BJP's incompetence and hence, they will vote for the AAP in the upcoming civic body polls

MANISH SISODIA | AAP LEADER

SMOG ENVELOPS DELHI

Delhi was enveloped with a layer of smog Sunday morning and the air quality index (AQI) in the national capital continued to be in 'very poor category' at 315



Tourists at Gulmarg ski resort in Jammu and Kashmir

PTI PHOTO

Nadda to launch 'Jan Aakrosh Yatra'



PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Jaipur, Nov 27: BJP chief J P Nadda will on December 1 launch the party's 'Jan Aakrosh Yatra' in Congress-ruled Rajasthan to corner the state government on issues related to farmers and governance. Nadda will flag off 51 'Jan Aakrosh Rath's' at Jaipur that will travel to different assembly constituencies across the state. BJP state president Satish Poonia told reporters at a press conference here. The rath yatras in all 200 assembly constituencies will start from December 3 and 4. The objective of the movement is to corner the state government on its fourth anniversary, he said.

The Ashok Gehlot-led Congress government is completing four years on December 17. Attacking the government, Poonia alleged that people of the state are fed up with the Congress rule due to its misgovernance and want a change in which the Jan Aakrosh movement will play a crucial role.

Congress had promised loan waiver for farmers but in the last four years of its rule, they have been in distress and committed suicide, Poonia said, adding that lands of 9,000 farmers were attached by the Gehlot government. "Law and order has deteriorated under Congress rule and women are not safe. Even priests are being burnt alive," he said. He said the BJP aims to reach out to two crore people across all assembly constituencies through the yatra. Each rath will have a box in which people can drop their complaints. Based on the complaints and feedback, the party will prepare its manifesto for the 2023 assembly elections, he said. In addition, nearly 20,000 nakkad natak will be performed, and public meetings in each constituency will be held by party leaders.

G20 presidency big opportunity: PM

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, Nov 27: As India reads to assume the presidency of the "powerful" G20, Prime Minister Narendra Modi Sunday said the country should focus on global good during its term and asserted that it has solutions to the challenges related to peace, unity, environment and sustainable development.

India will officially assume the G20 presidency from the current chair Indonesia on December 1. Noting that assuming G20 presidency is a "big opportunity" for India, Modi said the theme that India has given is "One Earth, One Family, One Future" which shows its commitment to 'Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam' (world is one family). "The G20 has a partnership comprising two-thirds of the world's population, three-fourths of world trade, and 85 per cent of world GDP. You can imagine - India is going to preside over such a big group, such a powerful group, from December 1," he said during his

monthly Mann Ki Baat radio programme.

"What a great opportunity has come for India, for every Indian! This becomes even more special because India was awarded this responsibility during 'Azadi Ka Amrit Kaal (75th year of India's Independence)," the prime minister said.

The presidency of the G-20 has arrived as a big opportunity for India and it has to make full use of this opportunity and focus on global good and welfare of the world. "Whether it is peace or unity, sensitivity towards the environment, or sustainable development, India has solutions to challenges related to these," he said.

In his 95th Mann ki Baat broadcast, Modi hailed a "unique gift" from a weaver from Telangana, Hariprasad, who sent the PM a G20 logo woven with his own hands. The G20 comprises Argentina, Australia, Brazil, Canada, China, France, Germany, India, Indonesia, Italy, Japan, the Republic of Korea, Mexico, Russia, Saudi Arabia,



South Africa, Turkey, the UK, the US and the European Union.

Talking about India's upcoming G20 presidency, Modi said there should be welfare of all, peace to all, fulfillment to all and well being for all. In the coming days, many programmes related to G-20 will be organised in different parts of the country, he noted.

"During this period, people from different parts of the world will get a chance to visit your states. I

Egypt President to be R-Day chief guest

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, Nov 27: Egypt's President Abdel Fattah al-Sisi will be the chief guest at the Republic Day celebrations in January, the Ministry of External Affairs said Sunday.

"This is the first time that the President of the Arab Republic of Egypt will be the Chief Guest at our Republic Day," the MEA said in a statement. Prime Minister Narendra Modi had sent a formal invitation to al-Sisi which was handed over to the Egyptian president by External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar on October 16.

Both countries are celebrating the 75th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations this year. Egypt has been invited as a 'Guest Country' during India's Presidency of G-20 in 2022-23, the statement said.

"India and Egypt enjoy warm

and friendly relations based on civilisational and deep-rooted people-to-people ties," the statement said. Leaders of friendly nations have graced the Republic Day celebrations since 1950, when the then Indonesian President Sukarno was invited as the chief guest.

In 1952, 1953 and 1966, the Republic Day celebrations were held without a foreign leader as chief guest. In 2021, the then British Prime Minister Boris Johnson was invited as the chief guest but his visit had to be cancelled due to the rising COVID-19 cases in Britain.

This year, India had invited leaders of the five Central Asian Republics, who were to visit Delhi for the India-Central Asia Summit, as chief guests for the Republic Day celebrations. However, the visit was cancelled due to rising COVID-19 cases in India. The India-Central Asia Summit was held in the virtual format.

MANGALURU BLAST CASE

K'taka cops conduct searches in TN

INDO-ASIAN NEWS SERVICE

Chennai, Nov 27: A special team of Karnataka police have searched multiple places in Tamil Nadu and summoned a few persons as part of its investigation into the Mangaluru blast case.

The police reached Tamil Nadu to investigate into key accused Mohammed Shariq's travel and stay in the state. They have summoned Kamaraju, the owner of the mansion in Coimbatore where Shariq had stayed.

According to the police, Shariq had used a fake identity and stayed at the mansion. Kamaraju is to appear before the Mangaluru police within three days. The police team



has also questioned the manager of the lodge at Nethaji Road in Madurai where the perpetrator of the Mangaluru blast had stayed. The police identified the lodge tracing the phone details of the accused.

The police reached Tamil Nadu to investigate into key accused Mohammed Shariq's travel and stay in the state

A source in the Tamil Nadu police, who was also involved in searches and raids at various places along with the Karnataka police, said that he had met a few people in Madurai and Nagercoil. It may be noted that the accused had made a call from a phone number of an Assamese migrant worker at Tamil Nadu's Kanniyakumari district. The police detained and questioned

the migrant worker but was let off as he had no relation with the accused.

The police is also probing as to why Shariq had kept the photograph of Coimbatore's iconic Adiyogi statue as a WhatsApp display picture (DP) on his mobile phone. The question arises whether it was for misleading the police or whether it was his way of communicating to the world about his target.

After the ban of the Islamist outfit Popular Front of India (PFI) in India, the two incidents of lone wolf attacks at Coimbatore and Mangaluru have made the intelligence agencies focus in detail on individuals who were earlier let off in past incidents of violence.

1 dead, 12 hurt after part of foot over-bridge falls

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Nagpur/Chandrapur, Nov 27: A 48-year-old woman died and 12 persons were injured as they fell on a railway track after some part of a foot over-bridge (FOB) collapsed at a railway station in Chandrapur district of eastern Maharashtra on Sunday, officials said.

The incident occurred at Balharshah junction railway station in Ballarpur town, located around 150 km from Nagpur, at 5.10 pm, they said. The FOB where the incident took place is connected to platform number 1 and 2 of the station under Nagpur division of the Central Railway (CR).

"A large number of passengers were using the FOB in order to catch a Pune-bound train when a part of it suddenly caved in. As a result, 13 people fell around 20 feet down on the railway track," an official of the Government Railway Police (GRP) said.

The injured were taken to the Ballarpur Rural Hospital and some of them were later shifted to Chandrapur Government Medical College and Hospital (GMCH) and a private hospital, the district information office said.

"Of the two seriously injured, Neelima Rangari, a 48-year-old woman, died at a private hospital while undergoing treatment and another person is in the intensive care unit (ICU) there," Chandrapur district collector Vinay Gowda said. Five are being treated at the GMCH, while others were discharged after preliminary treatment, he said.

Rangari, a local resident, was a teacher, police said. According to the CR, the pre-cast slab of the FOB connecting platform number 1 and 2 of the railway station collapsed, but the remaining portion of the bridge is intact.



Illegal has become legal because the fringe has now become mainstream. The foremost tangible spirit of our democracy is being distorted and disrespected by people who are using it as a means to push a completely contrasting agenda

MALLIKARJUN KHARGE | CONGRESS PRESIDENT

MILITARY EXERCISE BEGINS

The bilateral military training exercise between the contingents of the Indian Army and the Australian Army is scheduled to take place from Monday at Mahajan Field Firing Ranges in Rajasthan



of the day quote

Under Prime Minister Narendra Modi, giant strides are being taken in the field of Information Technology and new age technologies for better delivery of governance to citizens

JITENDRA SINGH | UNION MINISTER

Aam Aadmi Party was established 10 years ago on this day. In these 10 years, with the immense love of the public and efforts of the workers, the party created many histories in Indian politics. Today, the Aam Aadmi Party has become the new hope of the people of the country. We are trustworthy

ARVIND KEJRIWAL | DELHI CM

Karnataka has ranked top in the registration of health professionals and stood second in the enrollment of health facilities in the entire country under the Ayushman Bharat Digital Mission

K SUDHAKAR | KARNATAKA HEALTH MINISTER

SHORT TAKES

4 injured in blast

Kolkata: Four persons were injured, one of them seriously, when several bombs exploded at Jagaddal area in West Bengal's North 24 Parganas district early Sunday triggering panic in the area. An official of Barrackpore Police Commissionerate said as per information, an altercation took place between some wedding party members and a local resident over playing music at the marriage hall on Saturday night. Several crude bombs exploded before the marriage hall injuring four wedding party members early Sunday, the official said. Five persons were detained in connection with the incident as police conducted raids in the area. Two more unexploded bombs were seized from the area during raids.

Three killed as car hits tree

Khandwa (MP): Three staffers of the Madhya Pradesh forest department were killed while another person was injured Sunday when their car rammmed into a tree in Khandwa district, officials said. The incident occurred near Kumtha village under the Pipold police station limits, about 40 km from the Khandwa district headquarters, in the afternoon, said Superintendent of Police (SP) Vivek Singh.

Over 40 mobile phones stolen

Mumbai: More than 40 high-end mobile phones were stolen by unidentified persons during a concert at the Bandra-Kurla Complex (BKC) here, police said Sunday. Many concert-goers approached the police with complaints that their mobile phones were misplaced or stolen during the concert that took place at MMRDA ground on Saturday night, an official from BKC police said. Hundreds of people had attended the concert after booking their tickets online and the venue was packed, he said.

Three cow smugglers held

Saharanpur (UP): Three alleged cow smugglers were arrested after an encounter and a quintal of beef was seized from their car in Qutubshah area, police said here Sunday. Superintendent of Police (Rural) Suraj Rai said that the Qutubshah police station team nabbed three criminals Nadeem, Ballu and Rihan after an encounter on the information of an informer.

GEHLOT-PILOT TUSSELE

CONGRESS HINTS AT TOUGH DECISIONS

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Indore, Nov 27: Amid the power tussle between Rajasthan Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot and his former deputy Sachin Pilot, senior Congress leader Jairam Ramesh Sunday said if needed, the party will not shy away from taking "tough decisions" to strengthen the organisation in that state.

For the Congress, its organisation in Rajasthan is most important, Ramesh, the party's general secretary in-charge of communications, told reporters in Indore during the Bharat Jodo Yatra.

Gehlot Thursday told a TV channel that Pilot is a 'gaddar' (traitor) and cannot replace him, drawing a sharp response from his

- Gehlot said Pilot had revolted against the Congress in 2020 and alleged that he tried to topple the state government
- Pilot had hit back at Gehlot to say it was unbecoming of his stature to use the kind of language to attack him and make completely false and baseless allegations



former deputy who said such "mud-slinging" would not help, in an escalation of their rift days ahead of the entry of Rahul Gandhi's Bharat Jodo Yatra into the desert state.

Gehlot also said Pilot had revolted against the Congress in 2020 and alleged that he tried to top-

ple the state government. Pilot had hit back at Gehlot to say it was unbecoming of his stature to use the kind of language to attack him and make completely "false and baseless" allegations.

Asked about the tussle between Gehlot and Pilot, Ramesh Sunday

said, "The organisation is most important for us. On the issue of Rajasthan, we will decide on a solution which will strengthen our organisation." "For this, if we have to take tough decisions, we will take. If a compromise has to be made (between the factions of Gehlot and Pilot), then it will be done," he said.

Ramesh also said the Congress leadership is considering a proper solution to the Rajasthan issue. "But, I cannot fix any time frame for this solution. Only the Congress leadership will decide the time frame for it," he said. Ramesh further said the Congress needs both Gehlot and Pilot. He also said the Rajasthan CM should not have used certain words in his interview.

Smoke on train triggers panic

INDO-ASIAN NEWS SERVICE

Amaravati, Nov 27: Smoke in one of the coaches of Duronto Express near a railway station in Andhra Pradesh's Chittoor district Sunday sent panic among passengers. However, there were no casualties.

The smoke was noticed in one of the coaches of Sir M Visvesvaraya Terminal-Howrah Duronto Express when it was approaching Kuppam Railway Station. As soon as the train was stopped, some passengers deboarded in panic.



However, South Western Railway (SWR) has clarified that there was no fire on the train and the smoke was due to friction of the brake block.

"On train no 12246, Sir M Visvesvaraya Terminal-Howrah Duronto Express while approaching Kuppam Station, Chittoor Dist (Bengaluru division/SWR), the Train Manager (Guard) noticed smoke coming in from one of the coaches at about 12.50 p.m.," SWR said in a statement.

"As per standard SOP, the train was stopped and checked by the train crew. It was found that there has been a brake binding and smoke had come due to friction of the brake block in coach SE LWSCN 193669/S9," it added.

The railway officials said the train crew attended it immediately and the train resumed its journey at 1.33 p.m. "There has been no injury/casualty to any passenger," they said.

Not upset or angry: Tharoor

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Kochi, Nov 27: Congress MP Shashi Tharoor Sunday said he was not upset or angry with anyone in the Kerala unit of the party and has no reservations in speaking to anyone as "we are not in kindergarten to refrain from talking to each other".

Speaking to media in the port city of Kochi, where he came to attend a state-level conclave of the All India Professionals' Congress, the Thiruvananthapuram MP said he has not spoken against anyone in the party or acted against its directives and has no clue why such a controversy has been created.

"I am not upset or angry with anyone. I have not blamed or accused anyone. There are no complaints or issues from my end. I have no problem seeing everyone as one and neither do I have any reservations about speaking to anyone," he said before the event.

On being asked whether he would



"I am not upset or angry with anyone. I have not blamed or accused anyone. There are no complaints or issues from my end. I have no problem seeing everyone as one and neither do I have any reservations about speaking to anyone

SHASHI THAROOR | CONGRESS MP

be speaking to Leader of Opposition (LoP) in the state assembly V D Satheesan and Kerala PCC (KPCC) president K Sudhakaran at the event, Tharoor said that the latter was not well and would be participating via video conference.

Regarding Satheesan, he said that "if we see each other at the venue, then we will see". "If they talk to me, will I not respond? We are not in kindergarten to refrain from talking or speaking to each other. But if we are not in the same place at the same time, how will we talk

or speak to one another?" he asked.

Satheesan, without naming Tharoor, had recently said that any kind of sectarianism or parallel activities would not be allowed in the party and warned that such moves would be dealt with "seriously".

It was one of several remarks made by the LoP in the wake of Tharoor's Malabar tour which seems to have rattled a significant section in Congress in the state with a few of them sensing an "agenda" behind his move.



Congress leader Rahul Gandhi rides a bike during the Bharat Jodo Yatra in Mhow, Indore

PTI PHOTO

Mehbooba, 7 ex-MLAs served eviction notices

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Srinagar, Nov 27: Authorities in Anantnag district of Jammu and Kashmir Sunday asked PDP president Mehbooba Mufti and seven former legislators to vacate government residential quarters within 24 hours failing which action would be taken, officials said.

Mufti was served an eviction notice for her 'Fairview' residence at the high security Gupkar area of the city here last month as well.

Sunday's eviction notice, by the executive magistrate First class on the orders of the Anantnag deputy commissioner was issued to Mufti and others for the government quarters located in Housing Colony at Khanabal in the south Kashmir district, the officials said. "They said other than Mufti, the notices were issued to ex-MLAs Mohammad Altaf Wani, Abdul Rahim Rather, Abdul Majeed Bhat, Altaf Shah, and Abdul Kabir Pathan, ex-MLCs Bashir Shah and Choudhary Nizamuddin.



Gearing up

Without waiting for the outcome of the Assembly polls in Gujarat, the BJP leadership has put its machinery in top gear in nine other states which will go to polls in the run up to the 2024 Lok Sabha polls. The Assembly polls in Himachal were held on November 12. Prime Minister Modi has conveyed to the BJP leadership to put the winning plan in operation in these nine states and BJP's core group meeting was held earlier this month. It was decided that Assembly polls will be fought under Modi's leadership. The BJP has already ordered internal surveys in these states. A BJP win in these states will increase party numerical strength in Rajya Sabha too. Nine other states which are to go to polls in February 2023 include Tripura, Meghalaya and Nagaland while

Karnataka will go to polls in May 2023.

Nitish losing his moorings

Lately, Bihar Chief Minister Nitish Kumar has been nicknamed as a 'history book'. This is because he often speaks for 40-45 minutes and talks about the work he has done in the state during his rule since 2005. The common people find this very boring. He is behaving like a retired old man, who fondly remembers the days gone by. He should talk about what he would do now and what plans he has for the country. People are also trying to find another adjective for him because they noticed that he speaks incomplete, incoherent and unfinished sentences of late. He starts in earnest, but pauses like the former PM Atal Bihari Vajpayee, and then starts using meaningless syllables and phrases.

Five in race

With the Winter Session set to commence from December 7, speculation about the new Leader of Opposition (LoP) has picked up speed. Mallikarjun Kharge had quit his post the day he filed the nomination papers for Congress president's post. The names of P. Chidambaram,

Digvijaya Singh, Jairam Ramesh and Pramod Tiwari are being mentioned for the LoP's post. All of them have long experience in public and legislative life. It is said that if a new LoP is to be chosen he should be from North India as Kharge is from Karnataka and Adhir Ranjan Chowdhury is from West Bengal. P Chidambaram hails from Tamil Nadu and Jairam Ramesh also from Karnataka. Therefore, they may not make the cut. It is learnt that legal luminary and Rajya Sabha MP Abhishek Manu Singhvi has thrown his hat in the ring. If at all he is picked up for the post, he will have to quit his roaring legal practice as LoP holds Cabinet rank.

When Modi played tough

Modi is known for going against the grain and doesn't hesitate to take hard decisions. Though he had to withdraw some of his decisions like the Land Acquisition Act, Farm Bills, he has always been firm in not to dole out incentives having far reaching financial consequences. The last example was during the Himachal Pradesh Assembly polls when Congress promised to restore the Old Pension Scheme (OPS) if it came to power.

In Himachal, government employees traditionally have been playing a crucial role in the outcome of elections. Senior state BJP leaders conveyed to the party high command that the party should adequately respond to the Congress' googly. BJP Chief JP Nadda who camped in Himachal until the polling day on November 12, promised to discuss it in the core committee meeting. But there was no luck as Modi refused to relent.

Nadda prevails, Jairam survives

It is no secret that Union Minister for Information & Broadcasting, Anurag Singh Thakur, wants to be the Chief Minister of Himachal Pradesh. His father, Prem Kumar Dhumaal, had ruled the state for two terms. He couldn't become the Chief Minister in 2017 even after BJP won the elections as he lost his own seat. Dhumaal's supporters now want that mantle to lead the state should now fall on the shoulders of Anurag Thakur. However, BJP president, JP Nadda, declared that the saffron party will fight the polls under the leadership of the incumbent CM, Jairam Thakur. Though there was anti-in-

cumbency against Jairam Thakur and the high command had made up its mind to remove Jairam Thakur before the elections, it transpires that Nadda threw his weight behind Jairam Thakur and convinced the high command that he should be retained at this juncture.

Kishor in search of a role

Former poll strategist, Prashant Kishor is trying hard to search for a political role after he fell out with the Bihar Chief Minister Nitish Kumar. After working with the BJP in 2014 polls and being dumped, Kishor didn't look back. He is a success story as he has a long list of parties and leaders he worked for and chalked out winning strategies for polls. The DMK, YSR-Congress, TMC, Samajwadi Party and many others. During this journey, he developed his own political ambitions and joined the JD (U) but couldn't survive and quit. He decided to take out a 3,500 kilometres-long-march in Bihar to create an alternative to the BJP, RJD and JD(U). He is bitterly attacking them day-in and day-out. Indeed, people have started wondering why the poll strategist is not as aggressive about the BJP as he is about other parties.

international



The country's problems with the US will not be solved through negotiation

AYATOLLAH ALI KHAMENEI | IRAN'S SUPREME LEADER

KIM'S DAUGHTER APPEARS AGAIN

North Korean leader Kim Jong Un's daughter made a public appearance again, this time with missile scientists and more honorific titles as her father's "most beloved" or "precious" child. She's only about 10, but her new, bold photos are deepening the debate over whether she's being primed as a successor



of the day quote

Violence kills the future, interrupting the lives of the youngest and weakening the hopes for peace



POPE FRANCIS | HEAD OF THE CATHOLIC CHURCH

I will not dissolve parliament early until the economic crisis can be resolved



RANIL WICKREMESINGHE | PRESIDENT OF SRI LANKA

Greenhouse gas emissions keep growing. Global temperatures keep rising. And our planet is fast approaching tipping points that will make climate chaos irreversible



ANTONIO GUTERRES | UNITED NATIONS SECRETARY GENERAL

EXPLORING A MEMORY

Designer re-creates a dress for Diana

ASSOCIATED PRESS

London, Nov 27: This is a dress with a story, and Elizabeth Emanuel wants to tell it.

Shocking pink with a plunging, ruffled neckline and body-hugging shape, the gown was designed by Emanuel for Lady Diana Spencer to wear at a Buckingham Palace party a few days before her marriage to Prince Charles in 1981.

It was a visual coming-out event for the future princess, until then largely known for her conservative sweater-and-pearls look. "This was definitely not a wallflower dress," said Emanuel, who also co-designed Diana's wedding gown. "This was a dress to be seen in and celebrated."



It was also soon forgotten. In an era before smartphones put a camera in everyone's pocket and social media made private events public, the dress was mostly seen by the party guests, including Queen Elizabeth II, Princess Grace and Nancy Reagan, but no one else. Emanuel doesn't know where it is, or even if it still exists.

So she has re-created it, out of bolts of shiny, satin taffeta cut and stitched to match the dramatic sketches she made more than 40 years ago. Acting on an idea that took shape during Britain's long coronavirus lockdowns, she did it for herself, for her archive.

But also because she wanted to show another side of Diana, who Emanuel believes has been misrepresented by "The Crown," the popular Netflix series that has brought the story of the princess and her ill-fated marriage to a new generation.

Indian student in Canada dies after truck rams cycle

TORONTO: A 20-year-old Indian student was killed after he was hit and dragged by a pickup truck while crossing a road on a cycle in Canada's Toronto, according to a media report. Though the police have not yet identified the victim, news website cbc.ca in a report published Friday quoted the victim's cousin Parveen Saini as saying that Kartik Saini came to Canada from India in August 2021. Parveen Saini spoke from Karnal, Haryana, where their family is from, the report said. The family is hoping that Kartik's body will be sent to India as soon as possible for proper burial, Parveen said. Sheridan College has confirmed that Kartik was a student there, the report said. According to police the fatal collision happened at the intersection of Yonge Street and St Clair Avenue at about 4:30 pm Wednesday evening.

Monkeys in central Thailand city mark their day with feast

ASSOCIATED PRESS

Lopburi, Nov 27: A meal fit for monkeys was served Sunday at the annual Monkey Feast Festival in central Thailand.

Amid the morning traffic, rows of monkey statues holding trays were lined up outside the compound of the Ancient Three Pagodas, while volunteers prepared food across the road for real monkeys — the symbol of the province around 150 kilometers (93 miles) north of Bangkok

Throngs of macaque monkeys ran around, at times fighting with each other, while the crowds of visitors and locals grew.

As the carefully prepared feast was brought toward the temple, the ravenous creatures began to



Monkeys enjoy fruit during the feast

SUCH HARMONY COULD BE SEEN IN THE LACK OF SHYNESS EXHIBITED BY THE MONKEYS, WHICH CLIMBED ON TO VISITORS, VEHICLES AND LAMPPOSTS

AT TIMES THE CURIOUS ANIMALS LOOKED BEYOND THE ABUNDANT FEAST AND TOOK AN INTEREST IN OTHER ITEMS

MONKEYS WERE SOON DEVOURING THE LARGELY VEGETARIAN SPREAD.

While the entertainment value of the festival is high, organizers are quick to point out that it is not just monkey business. "This monkey feast festival is a successful event that helps promote Lopburi's tourism among international tourists every year," said Yongyuth Kitwatanusont, the festival's founder.

The delighted onlookers were largely undeterred by the risk of petty theft, although some were content to exercise caution.

"We have to take care with them, better leave them to it. Not too near is better," said Carlos Rodway, a tourist from Cadiz, Spain, having previously been unceremoniously treated as a climbing frame by one audacious monkey.

The festival is an annual tradition in Lopburi and held as a way to show gratitude to the monkeys for bringing in tourism. This year's theme is "monkeys feeding monkeys," an antidote to previous years where monkey participation had decreased due to high numbers of tourists, which intimidated the animals.

Snowy Kyiv grapples with power outages

REUTERS

Kyiv, Nov 27: Snow fell in Kyiv and temperatures hovered around freezing Sunday as millions in and around the Ukrainian capital struggled with disruptions to electricity supply and central heating caused by waves of Russian air strikes.

The cold weather is gradually pushing up the energy needs of consumers even as repair workers race to fix wrecked power facilities, grid operator Ukrrenergoh said.

Electricity producers are still unable to resume full power supply after Russia's missile attacks Wednesday and have no choice but to conserve energy by imposing blackouts, it said.

"The consumption restriction regime is still in place due to a capacity deficit, which currently stands at around 20%," Ukrrenergoh said on Telegram.

Moscow has targeted vital infrastructure in recent weeks through waves of air strikes that have sparked widespread power outages and killed civilians. Fresh strikes last Wednesday caused the worst damage so far in the nine-month conflict, leaving millions of people with no light, water or heat even as temperatures fell below 0 Celsius (32 Fahrenheit).

David Arakhamiya, the head of President Volodymyr Zelenskyy's party predicted Russia would carry out new infrastructure attacks this coming week and said the week could be "really difficult".

Zelenskyy said Saturday evening that there were restrictions on the use of electricity in 14 out of

UKRAINE RACING TO REPAIR INFRASTRUCTURE HIT BY RUSSIA WINTER SETTING IN WITH AROUND 20% ENERGY CAPACITY DEFICIT PARTY BOSS SAYS COMING WEEK COULD BE 'REALLY DIFFICULT'

Ukraine's 27 regions. The restrictions affect more than 100,000 customers in each of the regions, he said. Affected regions included the capital Kyiv and the surrounding region.

"If consumption increases in the evening, the number of outages may increase," Zelenskyy said in his nightly video address, reiterating an appeal to citizens to save power.

"This once again shows how important it is now to save power and consume it rationally."

Weather forecasters expected continued snowfall in Kyiv, a city that had 2.8 million residents before the war, until midweek while temperatures are forecast to stay below freezing.

FOUR HOURS OF POWER A DAY

Sergey Kovalenko, chief operating officer of YASNO, which provides energy to Kyiv, said on Saturday evening the situation in the city has improved but still remained "quite difficult." He indicated that residents should have at least four hours of power per day.

"If you haven't had at least four hours of electricity in the past day, write to DTEK Kyiv Electric Networks, colleagues will help you figure out what the problem is," Kovalenko wrote on his Facebook page.



GRIM SITUATION

FAMILIES DRUG HUNGRY KIDS TO SLEEP IN AFGHAN

Ever since the Taliban took over the country, with no international recognition for the new de-facto government, foreign funds flowing into Afghanistan were frozen, triggering an economic collapse that left citizens with no work



ticide shortages and disease outbreaks among their livestock.

Abdul Wahab, speaking to the BBC, said "Our children keep crying, and they don't sleep. We have

no food, so we go to the pharmacy get tablets and give them to our children so that they feel drowsy." Abdul lives just outside Herat, the country's third-largest city, in a

settlement of thousands of little mud houses filled with people displaced and affected by war and natural disasters. Nearly a dozen men from the settlement replied in the affirmative when they were asked if sedating the children was a common practice there.

Another man, Ghulam Hazrat felt in the pocket of his tunic and pulled out a strip of tablets. They were alprazolam - tranquilisers usually prescribed to treat anxiety disorders. The cost of 5 alprazolam pills is around the same as a piece of bread Ghulam has six children, the youngest a year old. "I even give it to him," he said.

Citizens sell kidney Jobless, debt ridden, and struggling to feed his children, Nooruddin felt he had no choice but to sell a kidney — one of a growing number of Afghans willing to sacrifice an organ to save their families. The practice has become so widespread in the western city of Herat

that a nearby settlement is bleakly nicknamed "one-kidney village." Noorudin was among eight people AFP spoke to who had sold a kidney to feed their families or pay off debt — some for as little as \$1,500. It is illegal to sell or buy organs in most developed nations, where donors are usually related to the recipient or are people acting out of altruism.

In Afghanistan, however, the practice is unregulated. Mohamad Bassir Osmani, a surgeon at one of two hospitals where the majority of Herat's transplants are performed, confirmed "consent" was the key. In developed nations, donors and recipients usually go on to lead full and normal lives, but their after-surgery health is usually closely monitored — and also dependent on a balanced lifestyle and diet.

That luxury is often not available to poor Afghans who sell a kidney and still find themselves trapped in

poverty — and sometimes in ill-health. "I sold my five-year-old daughter for 1,00,000 Afghans," a citizen named Nizamuddin said. That's less than half what a kidney is worth. The dignity that people here led their lives with has been broken by hunger: Hazratullah's daughter Nazia has been sold to be married to a boy from a family in the southern province of Kandahar. At 14, she will be sent away. So far the father has received two payments for her.

What does the Taliban have to say?

Speaking on the situation, Hameedullah Motawakil, spokesman of the Taliban's provincial government in Herat, said "The situation is a result of international sanctions on Afghanistan and the freezing of Afghan assets. Our government is trying to identify how many are in need. Many are lying about their conditions because they think they can get help," he said.

Deuba's ruling Nepali Congress emerges as single largest party

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Kathmandu, Nov 27: The ruling Nepali Congress led by Prime Minister Sher Bahadur Deuba on Sunday maintained its lead as the single largest party by winning 53 seats in the parliamentary polls held to end the prolonged political instability that has plagued the Himalayan nation.

Elections to the House of Representatives (HOR) and seven provincial assemblies were held November 20. The counting of votes started Monday.

The Nepali Congress has won 53 seats and the Communist Party of Nepal (Unified Marxist-Leninist) (CPN-UML) secured 42 seats in the elections. The CPN-Maoist has emerged as the third largest party with 17 seats while the CPN-Unified Socialist has bagged 10 seats.

The newly-formed Rastriya Swatantra Party (RSP) and pro-Hindu Rastriya Prajatantra Party have won 7 seats each. Independent and other smaller parties have emerged victorious on 21 seats. Out of the total 165 seats under direct voting, the results on 8 seats are still awaited.

The ruling five-party alliance has won 85 seats, against 55 seats won by the alliance led by CPN-UML. The ruling alliance includes the Nepali Congress led by Prime Minister Deuba, CPN-Maoist led by Pushpakamal Dahal Prachanda, CPN-Unified Socialist headed by Madhav Nepal, Mahantha Thakur's Lokatantrik Samajwadi Party and Rashtriya Janamorcha led by Chitra Bahadur.

Under the proportionate voting method, the CPN-UML got the first position, securing more than 2.5 million votes and the Nepali Congress received 2.3 million votes. The CPN-Maoist and RSP have secured one million each.



MESSI SHOW SINKS MEXICO

Morocco pull off another upset



Biggest FIFA WC crowd in 28 years

LUSAIL (QATAR): Lionel Messi played in front of 88,966 spectators on Sunday when Argentina beat Mexico 2-0, the largest attendance at a World Cup match in 28 years. The Lusail Stadium north of Doha, which will stage the final December 18, hosted the most people at the World Cup since the 1994 final in the United States, according to FIFA. There were 91,194 people at the Rose Bowl in Pasadena, California, to see Brazil beat Italy in that penalty shootout after a 0-0 draw. Saturday's attendance was several hundred more than the figure for the two previous games at Lusail Stadium, when Brazil beat Serbia and Argentina lost to Saudi Arabia. Qatar's attendance figures do not rank in the top 30 of all-time World Cup matches. The largest crowd was 173,850 inside the Maracanã Stadium in Rio de Janeiro in 1950 for Uruguay's 2-1 victory over host Brazil in the final game of that tournament.

Pele and Maradona as soccer's greatest ever players. Thanks to this win, it could still happen. Until his goal, Messi was enduring a frustrating match, finding himself with two defenders on him each time he received the ball. Argentina coach Lionel Scaloni made five changes from the Saudi Arabia game in a bid to inject some more energy into the team but they initially made little difference. The momentum of the game changed completely after Messi's goal, his 93rd in internationals and his second of the tournament after a penalty against Saudi Arabia.



NIGHT TO REMEMBER: Morocco players celebrate a goal in front of their fans during their match against Belgium

ASSOCIATED PRESS

Doha, Nov 27: Morocco pulled off yet another World Cup shock, and it was Belgium's aging 'Golden Generation' that took the hit this time. The 0-2 upset left Kevin de Bruyne and the 2018 semifinalists in peril of a group-stage exit at what is likely the final World Cup for numerous players on a team that hasn't been able to win a major title. Morocco substitute Abdelhamid Sabiri gave his team the lead by whipping in a free kick from a tight angle on the left in the 73rd minute that got under the body of goalkeeper Thibaut Courtois — for many, the best in the world at his position.

Zakaria Aboukhalil then guided a shot into the roof of the net off a pass from Hakim Ziyech in stoppage time as Courtois was beaten again. Belgium, the World No.2, had won their last seven group games at the World Cup before the upset. It was Morocco's first win at a World Cup since 1998 and only their third ever. Belgium would have become the second team after defending champions France to qualify for the knockout stage if they had beaten the Moroccan but now will play 2018 finalists Croatia in what will be a crucial final group game. Morocco, who thrived off the deafening support provided by their fans

Brussels sees riots

BRUSSELS: Police had to seal off parts of the centre of Brussels, deploy water cannons and fire tear gas to disperse crowds following violence during and after Morocco's upset win over Belgium. Dozens of rioters set steps on fire and pelted cars with bricks. Police moved in after one person suffered facial injuries, said Brussels police spokeswoman Ilse Van de Keere. Brussels mayor Philippe Close urged football fans to stay away from the city center and said authorities were doing their utmost to keep order in the streets. Even subway and tram traffic had to be interrupted on police orders.

ASSOCIATED PRESS

Lusail (Qatar), Nov 27: Lionel Messi came up with another crucial goal for Argentina in a 2-0 win over Mexico Sunday that ignited the team's World Cup chances. Messi took a touch from Angel Di Maria's pass across the face of the area and drove a low shot from 25 meters (yards) into the bottom corner in the 64th minute. He ran towards Argentina's fans with his arms outstretched before getting mobbed by his jubilant teammates. He looked emotional as he grabbed and shook his jersey, then blew a kiss to the crowd before whirling his arms. Substitute Enzo Fernandez added a second goal in

the 87th minute. Argentina bounced back from a shocking 1-2 loss to Saudi Arabia in its opening match. The team is in second place in Group C ahead of its last match against Poland on Wednesday and might need to win it to advance. The 35-year-old Messi is likely playing in his last World Cup, which is the only major title missing from his collection. It was an eighth World Cup goal for Messi — the same number scored in the tournament by rival Cristiano Ronaldo and also Diego Maradona, the Argentina great with whom he is so often compared. For some, Messi needs to win the World Cup to join the ranks of

LEO STEALS THE MAGIC THAT OCHOA HAD

Doha (Qatar): Guillermo Ochoa's World Cup magic didn't work against Lionel Messi and Argentina. Mexico's goalkeeper, known for big saves in soccer's biggest tournament, had stopped Robert Lewandowski's penalty attempt in El Tri's World Cup opener. But he was helpless against Messi's second-half blast from distance in the 64th minute Saturday night. At the final whistle, Ochoa and Messi grasped hands, and the goalkeeper known

by his nickname Memo affectionately patted a gloved hand on his opponent's head. Ochoa did not speak to reporters after the game. It might be the final World Cup for both men, who in Qatar each joined an exclusive club of players who have been to five editions of the tournament. Like Argentina depends on Messi, El Tri have looked to Ochoa because their offense is sputtering and they have yet to score in Qatar.

Ochoa's save of Lewandowski's penalty attempt preserved a scoreless draw for Mexico against Poland, adding to a World Cup mystique that started when he fended off six Brazilian shots — including a dangerous header from Neymar — in a group-stage draw against the hosts in 2014. Then in Russia four years ago, Ochoa had nine saves in Mexico's 1-0 victory over defending champion Germany in the group opener. Ochoa was first tested by Messi

in the 33rd minute, when he punched away a free-kick from the corner. Though the chances are slim, Mexico is still vying for an eighth straight trip to the World Cup's knockout round. El Tri were looking to advance past the round of 16 and play in an elusive "quinto partido" — a fifth game. It's something that has eluded the team since hosting the 1986 tournament. El Tri have never beaten Argentina in four attempts at the World Cup.

at Al Thumama Stadium, also had a goal from a free-kick by Ziyech disallowed in the first half for offside. Belgium reached the semifinals at the 2018 World Cup in Russia, but lost to eventual champions France. The Belgians were also impressive early at last year's European Championship, eliminating Portugal before losing to eventual champions Italy in the quarterfinals. Belgium labored to a 1-0 win over Canada in their opening game in Qatar. Morocco drew confidence from a 0-0 draw with Croatia in their first game and boosted their chances of reaching the knockout round for first time since 1986 — the only time they have ever advanced.

Fuller strike leads Costa Rica past Japan Govers helps Oz thrash India

ASSOCIATED PRESS

Al Rayyan, Nov 27: Keysher Fuller scored in the 81st minute to lift Costa Rica to a 1-0 victory over Japan Sunday, leaving both teams with three points after two games in Group E of the World Cup. Fuller took advantage of a defensive error when Japan failed to clear the ball and hit the net from 18 meters just off the fingertips of leaping Japan goalkeeper Shuichi Gonda. The match at Ahmad Bin Ali stadium was tactical and largely lackluster, particularly in a first half that did not yield a single shot on goal. The second half was slightly better with Japan pressing throughout until Costa Rica broke through. Costa Rica keeper Keylor Navas came up with several rapid fire saves in the final minutes to ensure the victory. Japan has one Group E game remaining with Spain, and Costa Rica faces Germany in its final group match. With a victory, Japan could have all but wrapped up a place in the knockout stage after a 2-1 upset of Germany in its opener. Costa Rica was pounded by Spain 7-0 in its first game and just trying to survive. Japan had the edge in corners, shots, and possession but could not find the net. The first half might have been one of the worst of the tournament that has already seen



SAVING THE DAY: Keysher Fuller goes airborne in celebration after scoring the winner against Japan, Sunday

four 0-0 draws. Neither team had a shot on goal in a tactical stalemate. Ritsu Doan, who scored one of Japan's goals in the 2-1 win over Germany, looked the most threatening early with runs down the right side looking to cut in crosses. Costa Rica's most menacing player always looked like Joel Campbell, trying to use his speed on the left flank. There was more action in the first two minutes after the break

than in the entire first half. Hidemasa Morita tested Navas with a blistering shot in the first minute, and Takuma Asano forced another save a minute later. Despite Japan's attacking intent, the late defensive error cost the team, which seemed headed for a draw and a valuable point. Japan, which is appearing in its seventh straight World Cup, has reached the knockout stage on three occasions, losing each time in the

Kramaric brace helps Croatia down Canada

AL RAYYAN (QATAR): Andrej Kramaric scored a pair of goals and Croatia crushed Canada's hopes of advancing at their first World Cup in 36 years with a 4-1 victory Sunday. Alphonso Davies scored Canada's first-ever World Cup goal seconds into the match but the team's trip to football's biggest tournament will end Thursday against Morocco, the Group F leaders after a surprise 2-0 victory over Belgium earlier in the day. Marko Livaja and Lovro Majer also scored for Croatia, the runners-up to France at the 2018 World Cup in Russia. Captain Luka Modric, 37, was still looking for his first goal of the tournament in what is likely his final World Cup. Morocco's win meant that the Canadians needed a win against Croatia for a chance to reach the knockout stage.

round of 16. Costa Rica reached the quarterfinals in Brazil in 2014. Japan may not win the World Cup, but it's winning goodwill with its tradition of cleaning up fan areas and player dressing rooms after the match. This dates from Japan's first appearance in the World Cup in 1998. This time Japanese team officials have arrived with 8,000 trash bags with thank-you greetings in Arabia, Japanese, and English.



Australian players celebrate a goal by Blake Govers (No.13)

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Adelaide, Nov 27: India could play well only in patches as Blake Govers slammed a brilliant hat-trick to guide Australia to a dominating 7-4 win in the high-scoring second hockey Test here Sunday. Skipper Harmanpreet Singh struck even before the home team could settle, firing India to a third-minute lead with his precise and powerful penalty corner conversion. India looked threatening up front and Harmanpreet almost converted a second one but the home team began to call the shots soon with Govers and Jack Welch leading the govt spree. The Men in Blue dished out an inspiring show in the third quarter and trailed by just one goal at 3-4,

but were blown away in the final 15 minutes due to a sloppy defense. India endured its 12th straight loss to the world number one side and now need to win the next two games to keep the five-match series alive. The third Test of the World Cup build-up series will be played Wednesday. Having scored the winning goals in their close 5-4 victory in the first Test, Govers was once again in the thick of action. He scored his goals in the 12th (PC), 27th and 53rd (penalty) minutes, while Welch secured his brace with his strikes in the 17th and 24th minutes. Jake Whetton (49th) and Jacob Anderson (48th) were the other goal scorers for the Kookaburras led by Eddie Ockenden, who became the only seventh player in

history to make at least 400 international appearances. Hardik Singh (25th) and Mohammed Raheel (PC 38th) struck the other two goals for India, while Harmanpreet completed his brace in the final minute (60th) of the match from a penalty. India had a counter-attacking start to their game with Mandeep Singh winning the first penalty corner in the third minute. Skipper Harmanpreet made no fuss about it as the dragflick specialist smashed to the bottom left corner with his powerful effort to give India the early lead. Govers made his presence felt with his powerful shot on the reverse to bring it level. Harvie dished out some attractive stick work with Whetton in the attacking circle before feeding Welch who slotted it home from a close range to make it 2-1. In space of seven minutes, Welch brought up his brace when he scored from a rebound to make it 3-1. But soon, Hardik reduced the deficit to 2-3 with five minutes left in the first-half when he nicely intercepted the ball to raid the Australian D. Govers completed his brace before the halftime to restore their two-goal cushion scoring from a field goal. India made it 3-4 with a well-executed penalty corner this time by the promising Mohammed Raheel in the third quarter. Thereafter it was a one-way traffic for the Kookaburras as India put up an extremely shoddy show in the fourth quarter.

ON TOP OF WORLD



Canada won their first Davis Cup title Sunday, beating Australia behind victories from Denis Shapovalov and Felix Auger-Aliassime. Auger-Aliassime secured the winning point when he downed Alex de Minaur 6-3, 6-4 after Shapovalov opened the day by rolling past Thanasi Kokkinakis 6-2, 6-4

Karthika guides Odisha FC past ECoR

POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar, Nov 27: Karthika Angamuthu scored late in the game to help Odisha FC secure a 1-0 win against East Coast Railway (ECoR) in the tournament opener of the Odisha Women's League (OWL) football tournament at the Kalinga Stadium here, Sunday. The match turned out to be an interesting contest of both attack and defence. Both the teams created several scoring opportunities, but failed to find a goal as players headed into the tunnel with the score remain goalless at halftime. After the change of ends, Odisha FC tried to take control of the game



with more attacking intent. Their effort finally got paid off as the pressure led to a foul inside the ECoR box and the referee pointed to the spot without any hesitation. Karthika stepped in and calmly slotted it home from the spot to break ECoR hearts.

PT USHA SET TO BECOME 1ST WOMAN CHIEF OF IOA

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, Nov 27: The legendary PT Usha is set to become the first woman president of Indian Olympic Association (IOA) as she emerged as the lone candidate for the top post for the December 10 elections. The 58-year-old Usha, a multiple Asian Games gold medallists and a fourth-place finisher in the 1984 Olympics 400m hurdles final, filed her nomination papers for the top job Sunday along with her team for the various posts. The deadline to file nomination papers for the IOA elections ended Sunday. Usha, a top sprinter in her heyday,

has also been elected as one of the eight Sportspersons of Outstanding Merit (SOM) by the Athletes Commission of the IOA, making her an electoral college member. She will also become the first Olympian and first international medallist to head the IOA in its 95-year-old history, adding another feather in her cap after dominating Indian and Asian athletics for two decades before retiring in 2000. Usha is the first sportsperson to have represented the country and also become IOA chief since Maharaja Yadavindra Singh, who played a Test match in 1934. Singh was the third IOA president (1938-60).