# HERE. NOW SEE TO STORY OF LONG TO STORY OF LON

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**BHUBANESWAR | THURSDAY, DECEMBER 1 | 2022** 

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Upto Rs. 5 lakh

**Empowered Women Empowered Odisha** 

Department of Mission Shakti Government of Odisha

# eisure



## KIM, YE SETTLE DIVORCE, **AVERTING CUSTODY TRIAL**

Kim Kardashian and Ye have reached a settlement in their divorce, averting a trial that had been set for next month. The terms, the former couple have agreed on, including USD 200,000 per month child support payments from Ye, formerly known as Kanye West, to Kardashian.

## **JOE PESCI SUFFERED SERIOUS BURNS** FILMING HOME ALONE SEQUEL

Actor Joe Pesci sustained serious burns on his head while filming a scene where his hat was set on fire in Home Alone 2: Lost in New York. The 79-year-old star reprised his role as criminal Harry in the 1992 seguel.



accuracy • reliability • trust

You will experience a profound connection with the cosmos today. And you will be very grateful to the almighty for showering his grace on you. Your love for your kith and kin deepens today, says Ganesha, and you will spend extravagantly on them.

## **TAURUS**

You may feel suspicious about the people around you, feels Ganesha. You are also likely to emerge victorious in visa matters. You will take time to let your loved ones know how much you care for them. Have a positive attitude and it wil win many hearts for you, advises

### ■ GEMINI

You will be seized by a desire to go on a trip with friends and family. This trip may have been some time in the planning as well. The day will be filled with fun and frolic and entertainment. Marital life will be blissful as well, says Ganesha

CANCER Though you work with dedication, you will be dejected as higher-ups do not fully appreciate your devotion. Don't take it to heart, says Ganesha, and suggests not to be sad. In the end, you will succeed with your firmness and boldness. By evening, you may have tense moments

Your competitors will try to malign your reputation today. They will try to spoil your image and impression in front of others. You need to be courageous and nip their efforts in the bud. You need to dele gate decision-making activities to others today. Your wrong decisions need to be buried by you, says Ganesha.

# **■ VIRGO**

Ganesha says a turning point in life is important if you wish to understand it in a better way. You will excel in whatever you do today. Financial matters and relationships are on top of the priority list, but perhaps not in the same order. You will spend a lot of time praying to God.

# Ganesha says that you will

be a different person today, full of vigor and enthusiasm. You will be able to showcase your cre ative skills in your personal life and at the same time you will be able to go ahead in your chosen field and gain prestige too. You will have to make a decision about studying further in the field of higher edu

### SCORPIO Elegance personified, you

are loaded with compliments today. This may encourage you to do better work and have good equations with people. However, make sure your success does not go to your head and affect your work, warns Ganesha, Watch your words while communicating.

# **SAGITTARIUS**

Upholding all that is right and just will be the highpoint today. You will be in the right spirits to fight injustice and discrimination. The day promises to be as splendid as your will. Ganesha advises you to stand up and conquer all today.

# CAPRICORN

It is always easy to lose mental balance when going gets tough, but Ganesha advises you to hold on to your patience as it will help you reach your destination. Don't enter into war of words with anyone at work as the conflicts may harm you very badly. On personal front, you will open up to your partner, and make him/her feel how important he/she is for you.

# AOUARIUS

Today, you will decide to clean up the pile of files on the desk at work. Also, you will do everything that it requires to lighten the burden. Ganesha advises you to plan out your career wisely and set targets for the future.

## PISCES

You are not too much of a money-minded person. Planning your finances for the future may not really be your cup of tea. You take every day as it comes. However, you will have an epiphany of sorts today and decide to become more serious towards life.

# Nora sets stage on fire at FIFA fanfest

The 'Thank God' actress' performance makes her the only actor to represent India at the ongoing FIFA World Cup 2022

born, 30-year-old, who has been part of some hit numbers like Dilbar, Manike and Kusu Kusu recently performed at the ongoing FIFA World Cup 2022 and left her fans in awe of her talent. Dressed up in a shim-

MUMBAI: Known for her immaculate dance

moves, Nora Fatehi enjoys a huge fan base

all across the world. The Toronto-

mery number, Nora could be seen setting the stage on fire as she danced on her hit songs such as O Saki Saki (inset )and others. She could also be seen shaking a leg on the official FIFA World Cup anthem *Light The Sky*.

Earlier, the performer took to her insta handle to share her excitement on being welcomed at the event and hearing her name being called out in the stadium. She wrote. 'That moment when u hear ur voice at the world cup stadium @fifaworldcup this was so surreal! Its milestones like this that make the journey so worth it. i Always envisioned moments like this, im Just a Dreamer with a hunger to make those dreams come alive! From a regular shmagular girl in the hood to this! Believe in ur self guys, never let anybody tell you You Can't! Ur dreams are never too big! Many laughed at me at the start but we out here!! And this is just the beginning.."





# 'Haven't looked for female-led movies'

MUMBAI: Nushrratt Bharuccha, who is currently shooting for her upcoming film, Chhorii 2, has another female-led film, Akelli in the pipeline. According to her, she hasn't looked for female-led movies

Speaking to a news portal, Nushrratt said that she has actually never gone out looking for a heroinecentric movie and it has always come to her. The actress added she that looks at a film as a film, and whether it has a male or female

protagonist.

she will be

a part of it if

it's inter-

a conscious choice to work towards only female lead films. Janhit Mein Jaari, Chhorii 2, Akelli, all have happened organically. Her heart lies in the story of the film, when it comes to deciding on a film, Nushrratt

Nushrratt also discussed films with social messages and whether they are becoming overrated. According to her, it is about what the audiences like or don't like. If it does get overrated, people will stop wanting to watch such films. The actress added that there isn't a conscious choice that everybody should make a film with a social message. AGENCIES

According to her, she has never made



# Fatima looks euphoric in black

MUMBAI: Fatima Sana Shaikh can definitely be counted among the list of Hindi film industry's most fashionable A-listers. The actress can pull off any look, from glitzy gowns to super-chic casual attire, with ease. Her enormous following adores and admires her exquisite appearance and fashion sense. Fatima is the queen of donning creative attire in her distinct fashion, which looks wonderful and serves as an inspiration to many.

Whatever the Ludo actress wears, whether it is an expensive shimmering gown or an Indian traditional dress, she enchants. Her existence is ecstatic and she captivates with her earthly beauty. Fatima posted a photo of herself on social media looking strong in a black outfit. She chose a bodycon skirt with ruching and a v-shaped waist. The centre of the skirt includes a thigh-high slit, giving it a sensual edge. She matched her skirt with a black bralette that was embellished with silver chains and was studded with silver stones, giving the top a dazzling edge.

She chose a pair of arm gloves that matched her top as an accessory. Fatima also picked up a set of dangling earrings to match with the dress and let her mane open in curls. The bare makeup on Fatima, the pink lip colour, and the glistening eyes wonderfully complement the stylish outfit.

# Oscars 2023 will include all 23 categories presented live on air

Los Angeles: All 23 categories will be aired during the Oscars 2023 telecast. Bill Kramer, CEO of the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences, announced the news exclusively to Variety Tuesday.

"I can confirm that all categories will be included in the live telecast," he

> The news comes after eight different Oscar categories -- original score, makeup and hairstyling, documentary short, film editing, production design, animated short, live action short and sound -were cut from the main telecast at the 2022 Academy Awards, leading to much outrage across the film industry.

"We are committed to having

FUN

Across

1 Freeloaded

carpet?

(3-4)

9 Excuse

12 Fireside

14 Minded

10 Rubberneck

11 Resentment

17 Incarcerates

19 Run-of-the-mill

5 Wears out the

8 Like some diets



a show that celebrates the artisans, the arts and sciences and the collaborative nature of moviemaking. This is very much what the mission of the Academy is, and I am very

**CROSSWORD** 

5 Big shrimp

substitute

nobleman

13 Lobster part

16 Ledger column

6 Coffee

7 Agitated

12 Spanish

15 Snippy

18 Matter of

debate

21 Skeptical

20 Bring together

hopeful that we can do a show that celebrates all components of moviemaking in an entertaining and engaging way," Kramer told Variety.

Since his appointment in June, Kramer said he's had many conversations about restoring the missing categories. "We are thrilled to be in a position to execute that.

Jimmy Kimmel will return for the third time to host the Oscars. Kramer said he was excited to have the late-night host back. "I love having someone hosting the show who knows live television. I think that's so critical," he said.

The 95th Academy Awards will take place March 12, 2023, live from the Dolby Theatre at Ovation Hollywood.

The ceremony will be televised live on ABC and in more than 200 territories worldwide

# **PEANUTS**



# **CALVIN AND HOBBES**

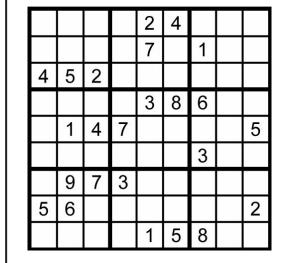


# BREVITY



## 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





SUDOKU

6 7 8 5 3 9 1 3 9 4 6 2 8 7 1 2 9 5 6 7 3 5 4 2 8

CHECK FOR SOLUTIONS OF THE PUZZLES TOMORROW

Copyright ©2022 PuzzleJunction.com 22 Duffers

hangouts

24 Emulate Cicero

background

23 Question

1 Irritates

2 Old Roman

4 Depressing

3 Farming season

25 Stage

**Down** 

www.orissapost.com

**BHUBANESWAR | THURSDAY, DECEMBER 1 | 2022** 

## SHORT TAKES

## CM sanctions land, aid for Kulta Samaj

Bhubaneswar: Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik sanctioned Wednesday an amount ₹3 crore and an acre of land for construction of a dharmasala in Puri for the people of Kulta community. The proposed dharmasala will come up at Sunamuhna Mouza in Puri. It should be stated here that a delegation of Odisha Kulta Samaj comprising members from Boudh, Sonepur and Sambalpur districts had November 28 met the CM at his residence here and requested him to allot a plot of land land in Puri for the lodge which will provide accommo dation to devotees who visit the Temple town. Patnaik has directed the Puri district collector to identify land within a week and also see to it that work is completed in a year.

## **India's GDP growth** slips to 6.3% in **Q2**

New Delhi: India's economic growth slowed down to 6.3 per cent in the July-September quarter of this fiscal, dragged down mainly by the poor performance of manufacturing and mining sectors, official data showed Wednesday. However, India remained the fastest-growing major economy as China registered an economic growth of 3.9% for the same period. The second quarter GDP growth is almost at par with the RBI's projection of 6.1 per cent to 6.3% released earlier this month in one of the articles published in its bulletin. The Indian economy grew by 8.4 per cent in July-September as per the data released by the National Statistical Office. P9

# CM woos biz barons



Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik inaugurates state's third flagship investors' summit-Make in Odisha Conclave 2022 - at Janata Maidan in Bhubaneswar, Wednesday

POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar, Nov 30: Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik Wednesday inaugurated the five-day long Make in Odisha (MiO) Conclave 2022 at Janata Maidan here, in a bid to attract big investors to the state.

Before declaring the conclave open, Patnaik addressed the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FICCI) national executive council meeting.

Stating that Odisha is fast emerging as a fulcrum of trade, commerce and industrialisation in eastern India and the Bay of Bengal region, Patnaik urged FICCI to promote Odisha as a destination of choice for the investor community through all of their channels.

The state will continue to work with the industrial organisation to continue to work together in the near future towards bringing in investment and prosperity to Odisha, Patnaik said.

'Through Mission Shakti, our goal is to empower the women of our state to be model entrepreneurs and leaders," he added.

The CM urged the FICCI FLO team, the women wing of FICCI, to work closely with the Mission Shakti department to develop strategies for further strengthening the entrepreneurship ecosystem at the grassroots while at the same time creating opportunities for local women entrepreneurs.

Over 11,600 delegations will participate in the conclave, which will continue till December 4. The organisers have successfully managed to line up 124 speakers and schedule 38 events spanning three days.

It was expected that some eminent industry captains like LN Mittal, Executive Chairman of Arcelor Mittal, Kumar Mangalam Birla, Chairman of Aditya Birla Group, Anil Agarwal, Chairman of Vedanta Resources Limited, Sajjan Jindal, Chairman of JSW Group, Naveen Jindal, Chairman of JSPL and TV Narendran, CEO&MD of Tata Steel will attend the MiO Conclave.

Representatives from partner countries of Japan, Norway and Germany are also participating in the business summit.

In the third edition of the biennial investment summit, the state is expecting investment intents of

# City woman dies as truck hits bike

POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar, Nov 30: A 54-yearold woman died and her relative suffered grievous injuries after their motorcycle was hit by a truck deployed by the civic body to transport waste near the dump yard at Dhirikuti Slum under Saheed Nagar police limits here, Wednesday The incident took place when Sukanti Nayak, who hails from Berhampur and resides at Kalyan Slum in Gadkan area here, was on her way home pillion-riding with a relative.

"A truck deployed by the BMC hit the motorcycle from the rear. Sukanti, who fell off the bike, was dragged by the speeding truck for around 100 metres. She died on the spot," an official said.



Soon, locals placed the body on the road and staged a sit-in on VSS Nagar-Sainik School Road, demanding justice for the woman. Hundreds of vehicles remained stranded on either side of the road.

Later, Saheed Nagar police intervened and placated the agitators following which the protest was called off. They sent the body to Capital Hospital here for autopsy, it was learnt.

# Agitating lawyers clash with police in Sambalpur



POST NEWS NETWORK

Sambalpur, Nov 30: Despite the Supreme Court threatening to revoke their licences, lawyers here clashed with the police at Kacheri Chhak locality creating tension in this town. Allegations and counterallegations flew thick and fast as the situation seemed to get out of hand.

The lawyers have been demanding a permanent bench of the Orissa High Court here for some time now. However, the Supreme Court has said that it is not possible to have a high court at every doorstep and had expressed resentment at the agitation by the lawyers.

The agitating advocates said that the police tried to evict them from the spot and pulled down the temporary camps set up by them. They alleged that like every Wednesday. they were holding their agitations peacefully when the police unnecessarily used force.

On the other hand, police said that

they were compelled to take action after it was alleged that the agitating lawyers were trying to prevent the judges from entering the court premises forcibly. They said a number of judges were compelled to return home as they could not enter the court due to the protests.

Police tried to take the judges inside the court but the lawyers prevented them from doing so. They said that if the judges want to go inside the court then they would have to trample over the protesting advocates. In the ensuing scuffle, three lawvers were injured.

On being informed, Sambalpur SP, Battula Gangadhar rushed to the spot and talked to the lawyers and managed to diffuse the situation. However, large number of police personnel was deployed at strategic parts of this town to avoid any untoward incidents. The lawyers also held demonstration in front of some government offices. Contd...2



Of course, it is a fact-based movie. I myself have read those facts... on WhatsApp

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**1** ₹224

**1** ₹117

**MARKET WATCH** 

DOLLAR **81.67** 

EURO

GOLD

**WEATHER** 

■MAX 29.9°(

SILVER

**INDEX** 

# to attract investment

to reduce air pollution

PNN & AGENCIES

Bhubaneswar, Nov 30: The Naveen Patnaik-led government has approved at least seven different policies to attract investment in the state and boost the economy. The decision regarding the state Cabinet approving seven policies and other decisions was announced Wednesday by Revenue and Disaster Management

The policies that have been approved were: Registered Vehicle Scrapping Facility Policy-2022, Industrial Policy Resolution (IPR) 2022, Odisha Logistics Policy 2022,

Odisha Apparel and Technical Textiles Policy-2022, Export Promotion Policy 2022, Odisha Civil Aviation Policy 2022 and Odisha Tourism Policy 2022.

The new 'Registered Vehicle Scrapping Facility Policy-2022' is expected to play a major role in reducing vehicular air pollution and boost manufacture in the automobile sector. As per the provision, all old vehicles that have completed 15 years will be scrapped. Vehicle owners will get incentives to buy new vehicles.

The Cabinet has also approved 'Industrial Policy Resolution (IPR)-2022' for next five years. This policy aims to transform Odisha into an 'Industrial Hub of Eastern India by promoting industries in thrust and pri-

ority sectors of the state. The 'Odisha Logistics Policy 2022' is

# Govt clears 7 policies

■ Decision taken to scrap 15-year-old vehicles

Minister Pramila Mallick in the Assembly.

# **HSRP** deadline

(STA) extended Wednesday the deadline for affixation of High Security Registration numbers ending with 1, 2, 3 and 4 by one month. Now the last date for registration will be December 31, 2022. The Odisha government has submitted an affidavit in this regard in the Orissa High Court. The advocate general appearing for the government told the high court that the HSRP slot book-



# **Bhubaneswar:** The State Transport Authority

to 57,000 per day.

# extended again

Plate (HSRP) on vehicles having registration ing capacity has been increased from 25,000

also expected to create integrated logistics system to enhance competitiveness, operational efficiency and sustainability. The policy is expected to strengthen Odisha's position as a preferred destination for trade and commerce.

# New method to generate power

Mandi, Nov 30: A team, including researchers from the Indian Institute of Technology (IIT), Mandi, has developed a new material that can generate electricity from household light sources like LED or CFL.

The research paper, published in the journal 'Solar Energy', supports the internet of things (IoT) technology that is being increasingly used in mobile phones, smart homes, and other applications that require various kinds of real-time data.

These IoT devices are required to run independently without being dependent on electrical grids for power supply. Primary and secondary batteries are currently used to power such devices, the researchers said.

All batteries, irrespective of their kind, have a finite lifespan and are neither cost effective nor eco-friendly. Light-induced power generators are promising alternatives to batteries for powering such devices, the researchers



pointed out.

Solar cells use the light from the Sun to produce power, but since many of the IoT are used indoors, solar light is not an option. An alternative is to find methods to harness light from indoor lighting sources to generate enough power to run indoor devices such as sensors, gadgets, Wi-Fi routers, Radio-frequency identification (RFID) readers and many more gadgets.

The multi-institutional team has developed thin-film efficient photovoltaic cells that can generate power from any kind of light. These cells are based on 'perovskites' – a family of crystals that can absorb sunlight and generate power.

'Perovskites' have been studied for a long time for solar power generation.

The researchers explored new 'perovskite' materials that can be used to harvest indoor artificial light, and not just sunlight. "We have synthesised a photoactive quasi-cubic structured 'perovskite' material by incorporating Formamidinium (FA+) in Methylammonium Lead Iodide (MAPbI3) 'perovskite' material," said Dr Ranbir Singh, from IIT Mandi. "The fabricated 'perovskites' (PVs) demonstrated a photoelectric conversion efficiency of 34.07 per cent within indoor illumination conditions," he added.

The research presents a potential candidate for the development of photovoltaic material to capture the energy of indoor light using 'perovskites', the researchers said. Indoor light-induced power generation will be increasingly sought in the near future due to the exponential growth in use of smart devices in applications such as wellness and health monitoring and smart homes, they added.





DSPL-320



# **TOPIC: MODERN-AGE LOGISTICS**

DATE TIME 1<sup>ST</sup> DECEMBER 2022 02.30PM - 03.30PM

# ABOUT THE SESSION

Discover the evolution of logistics operations and the way forward.

- Evolution of logistics sector and how its coping with Industry 4.0
- Role of Information Technology (IT) and the future of logistics
- Impact of CoVID-19 led pandemic on the sector and lessons learnt Regulatory or policy level revisions required by governments

# **GUEST SPEAKERS**

Sri V M Muralidharan

Sri Subrata Barman

Sri (Prof) R P Mohanty

**Commerce & Transport Department** 





OIPR-02001/13/0002/2223



READING AWARENESS: Members of 'Vande Mataram' organised a street play at Master Canteen Square in Bhubaneswar, Wednesday, to create awareness about AIDS ahead of the World AIDS Day, Thursday

## BJD tired, lacks vision: Pradhan

Bargarh: Senior BJP leader and Union minister Dharmendra Pradhan Wednesday intensified the campaign against BJD for December 5 Padampur bypoll, alleging that the Naveen Patnaikled party was "tired due to overstaying" in power in Odisha for 22 years and hence lacks vision for the development of the state. While campaigning for party candidate Pradip Purohit, he also accused the BJD government of rebranding Central schemes and passing those off as state

■ and augment logistics facilities across the state, improve efficiency of supply chain, decarbonise logistics sector. It will also facilitate private sector investment which will lead to employment generation

The 'Odisha Apparel and

Similarly, the 'Export Promotion

# Agitating lawyers clash with police in Sambalpur

t should be stated here that this Supreme Court's direction to the licences of the agitating lawyers. for arrangements by police to pre-

is suspended.

said that the agitation will con-

# Varsity IAS coaching centres falter

POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar, Nov 30: Higher Education Minister Rohit Pujari Wednesday said that coaching centres for UPSC exams in government universities of Odisha were wound up in 2017-18 academic year as they failed to fulfil the desired objectives.

Replying to a query by BJP MLA Mohan Charan Majhi about the status of IAS coaching centres at universities in Odisha, Pujari said regular faculty members of the universities as well as guest teachers were providing guidance to in-

The state government had engaged Dhyeya **Educational Service** Private Ltd for providing coaching to 99 students for the IAS recruitment examinations in 2019-20 academic year. However, the coaching through the private agency was discontinued as it could not meet the ex-

pectations, revealed the minister. "A new programme for providing IAS coaching to our students is under the consideration of the state

held following a ruckus by Opposition BJP, Congress and CPI(M) members during Zero Hour.

The question hour was conducted peacefully in the House. During Zero Hour, Opposition members

# Panel to look into teachers' plight

Bhubaneswar, Nov 30: As the Assembly could not transact business for third consecutive day owing to the ongoing protest by primary school teachers, the state government Wednesday formed a four-member committee headed by Chief Secretary SC Mahapatra to look into the grievances of the

The primary teachers Wednesday suspended their agitation till December 20. The agitating teaches said they will decide their next course of action depending on the decision taken on their demands at December 20 meeting.

The committee also comprises principal secretary of GA & PG department, principal secretary of Finance and School and Mass Education department commissioner-cum-secretary as its members. The committee shall meet the

> representatives of United Primary **Teachers** Association between December 16 and 20 to discuss on their grievances.

Meanwhile, the Assembly was adjourned and an allparty meeting was



Primary school teachers stage a demonstration at Lower PMG in Bhubaneswar for the fourth day in a row, Wednesday,

including Congress legislature party leader Narasingha Mishra, BJP chief whip Mohan Majhi, Congress MLA Santosh Singh Saluia and CPI(M) member Laxman Munda raised the teachers' issues in the House and demanded their immediate resolution.

The Opposition members urged the Speaker to call the Chief Secretary and resolve the issues of the teachers. The Opposition BJP and Congress members trooped into the well of the House over the ongoing protest and shouted slogans against the BJD government.

The Speaker appealed to the Opposition members to go back to their seats, but the Opposition re-

Finding no other solution, the Speaker adjourned the House for 15 minutes and called an all-party meeting. As the meeting lasted for some more time, the House again adjourned for another 10 minutes.

However, the all-party meeting failed to bring normalcy in the House.

Both the BJP and the Congress members targeted the state government for not looking into the demands of teachers. The Opposition members continued shouting slogan following which the House was adjourned till 4 pm. However, normalcy returned to the Assembly in the second half.

Speaking to reporters outside the House, BJP leader Mohan Majhi said the primary education system has collapsed in the state due to the teachers' protest. Still, the state government is sitting idle and not taking action to resolve their grievances

"It's unfortunate that the administrative machinery says that they are totally unaware of the demands of teachers. Despite my repeated appeal, the minister has not disclosed anything about the discussion on their demands," said Congress leader Narasingha Mishra.

On the other hand, BJD legislator Amar Satpathy said two meetings have been held with the teachers. As their demands need to be looked at thoroughly and can be resolved through discussions, it will take

# **Govt clears 7 policies** to attract investment

**Continued from P1** 

The policy aims to map, develop in Odisha, a press note said.

Technical Textiles Policy-2022 will boost employment and enhance economic growth in Odisha. The policy includes incentives like capital investment subsidy, employment cost subsidy and market development Initiative.

Policy-2022' will take Odisha to the league of top five exporting states: achieve an export target of Rs 3.5 lakh crore by 2026-27. The policy provision aims diversification of Odisha's export basket by facilitating value addition, the press note said. It advocates diversification of Odisha's export basket by facilitating value addition, the note added.

The new 'Odisha Civil Aviation Policy-2022' aims to further improve air connectivity and create a more suitable environment for businesses. The policy applicable for five years will unlock untapped potential in the sector and create jobs.

**Continued from P1** 

Lface-off assumes significance as Bhubaneswar, Nov 30: The Capital it comes in the backdrop of the city will be all colourful this winter once again, thanks to the Street Bar Council of India to suspend the Art & Murals Project (STAMP), a Public Art initiative of the The apex court had also directed Bhubaneswar Municipal Corporation (BMC). The STAMP 3.0 is back to beauvent lawyers from obstructing tify Bhubaneswar through art for the world to witness the beauty

Earlier the Sambalpur District Bar Association had said that approximately 1,600 lawyers will surrender their licences if one of them

Pradip Bohidar, chairman of Central Action Committee of the Sambalpur District Bar Association tinue. He warned that if action is taken against a single lawyer then all the lawyers in Western Odisha will surrender their licenses.

Prafulla Hota, convener of Nagarik Kriyanushthan Committee said that the state government should announce the establishment of permanent bench of the Odisha High Court

# KIIT awarded for sports promotion

Bhubaneswar, Nov 30: Kalinga Institute of Industrial Technology (KTIT) Wednesday was conferred the 'Rashtriya Khel Protsahan Puruskar 2022'. The award was given away by President Droupadi Murmu to the founder of KIIT and KISS, Achvuta Samanta. Expressing his gratitude to the

President and government of India for bestowing KIIT with the honour, Samanta said the award has been given in recognition of KIIT's sustained focus towards the development of sports since its inception. "Along with education, we have

strengthened sports and sports-related infrastructure. The encouragement and support of the Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik towards sports have also inspired KIIT to develop and take sports to the next level in Odisha," said Samanta

STAMP 3.0 is back

to beautify City

POST NEWS NETWORK

during Hockey World Cup 2023.

The campaign has been

launched Wednesday by the

Mayor, Sulochana Das in pres-

ence of Deputy Mayor Manjulata

Kanhar, BMC Commissioner

Vijay Amruta Kulange, Odisha

Lalit Kala Academy members

start from Thursday and will con-

tinue till the end of December.

Theme-based paintings will be

done as per the inputs/sugges-

tions received from citizens. We

thank all the citizens for sharing

their feedback and participating

in making Bhubaneswar beauti-

ful through Art said, Das.

The painting of city walls will

and artists.

adding that the moment is a matter of pride and joy for KIIT. He also dedicated the award to all students and staff members of KIIT.

KIIT has been at the forefront of the promotion of sports for over 20 years. It has established a distinct identity for itself across the globe due to its state-of-the-art sports infrastructure and for grooming

Olympians. The University has sponsored the education and training of hundreds of sportspersons over the years. KIIT has produced many elite athletes including Olympians such as Dutee Chand (Ariuna Awardee), Olympian CA Bhavani Devi (Arjuna Awardee), Olympian Shivpal Singh, Olympian Amit Rohidas (Arjuna Awardee).

# Extra marks for health workers

Bhubaneswar, Nov 30: During Covid-19 pandemic, thousands of short-term healthcare workers viz. Nursing Officers, Pharmacists, Radiographers, Laboratory Technicians, MPHW(M/F) were engaged by Government in District Headquarters Hospitals and Medical College & Hospitals / Covidcare centers throughout the state.

Considering the contributions of these short-term health care workers, the state government, under the directions of Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik framed the "Odisha grant of weightage in marks in the re-

workers rules-2022" Secretary, Health and Family Welfare, Shalini Pandit said that as per the rules, the short-term covid-19 healthcare workers who were engaged for a minimum period of three months would be allowed weightage of 5 percent extra marks in the next recruitment examination to be conducted by OSSSC to the posts of Nursing Officers, Pharmacists, Radiographers, Laboratory Technicians and Multipurpose Healthcare Workers. This would be

a onetime measure.

# corrupt for 5th time POST NEWS NETWORK

**Vinod Kumar proved** 

Bhubaneswar, Nov 30: A Vigilance court here Wednesday awarded three years of rigorous imprisonment (RI) to dismissed IAS officer and former Odisha Rural Housing Development Corporation (ORHDC) managing director (MD) Vinod Kumar and five others after holding them guilty in a housing loan scam in 2000.

Special Vigilance Judge Satya Narayan Sarangi also slapped a penalty of Rs 50,000 on each of the convicts. Failure to pay the penalty would entail an additional six months of RI, special public prosecutor (PP) Hemant Kumar Swain said.

About the case details, Swain said that between August and December 2000. Kumar, who was the ORHDC MD, along with his subordinates Swosti Ranjan Mohapatra and Satya Prakash Behera, sanctioned housing loan of Rs 18.50 lakh to M/s Bhumika Builders Private Limited.

"The loan, which was disbursed in favour of four individuals, was sanctioned on the basis of forged documents. It caused huge loss to the state exchequer," the special

Vigilance PP said. Apart from Vinod, Swosti and Satya, Jnanendra Swain, an assistant system analyst, Bhumika Builders' MD Debadatta Ray and the real estate firm's partner Bibhuti Bhushan Swain were convicted under Sections 13(2) r/w 13(1)(d) of the Prevention of Corruption Act, 1988 and 420, 467, 468, 471 and 120B of the IPC, Swain said.

Notably, it is the fifth time that the former bureaucrat is being convicted in a corruption case.

# 'Ample opportunities in state's tourism sector'

ourism in Odisha is one of the main contributors to 482-km long coastline, mountains, lakes, natural biodiversity and rivers, Odisha is one of the major tourism sectors of India, with various tourists' attractions, ranging from wildlife reserves, beaches, temples, monuments, arts and festivals. The strength of Odisha tourism lies in its rich cultural heritage and the new ethnic, Buddhist and ecotourism products have helped attract a lot of tourists to the state.

With its rich tourism potential and under the dynamic leadership of Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik, who declared tourism

as one of the priority sectors, various developmental initiatives like beautification of most of the temples & their peripheries, declaration of Shree Jagannath International Airport at Puri, introduction of Eco-retreats, boat

rides, yacht caravans, camping and others have been undertaken in recent years to establish Odisha as a diverse tourism hub of global standards.

Tourism in Odisha has grown significantly in recent years on account of quality infrastructure facilities, favourable government policies, modernisation of existing tourist locations and development of new tourist destinations.



Our government is now giving utmost importance on development of tourism infrastructure by facilitating ease of doing business through allotment of land at special rates and aiming at augmenting another 4,000 to 5,000 quality hotel rooms in various tourist places to make Odisha the most attractive

tourist destination of India. As domestic tourism is now booming all over the country, more domestic flight connections to Bhubaneswar will increase tourist footfall in our state.

Odisha government is also taking necessary steps for direct international flights to various countries to attract more in-

ternational tourists to our state. With the government friendly, progressive tourism policy, there are ample opportunities for many entrepreneurs / investors to take advantage of the abundant investment opportunities in tourism sector of Odisha.

> **JK Mohanty, MHCIMA Chairman. Hotel & Restaurant** Association of Odisha (HRAO)

# Eggs from Odisha reach FIFA World Cup in Qatar

POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar. Nov 30: An 'egg'cellent news for Odisha from Qatar! Amid the FIFA World Cup 2022, the host nation has turned to Odisha to fulfill the growing demand for eggs.

Amidst the Make in Odisha Conclave which started Wednesday at Janata Maidan, the eggs produced in Odisha are creating the mark in the Qatar World Cup and actually setting the real example of Make in Odisha at global level.

To meet the sudden demand of eggs in view of the FIFA World Cup, Qatar's egg imports have jumped to more than double. Ovo Farm, a leading egg producer, has

Ovo Farm eggs originate from a beautiful rural expanse in Balangir is one of the advanced layer farm with fully automated state of the art technology in India located at Odisha

pitched in to meet the spurt of demand. According to Soumendra Mishra founder and MD of Ovo

Farm, it is a first from Odisha and

o meet the sudden demand of eggs in view of the FIFA World Cup, Qatar's egg imports have jumped to more than double. Ovo Farm, a leading egg producer, has pitched in to meet the spurt of

a matter of pride that Odisha produce has found its way to a global event like FIFA World Cup. It goes on to prove that the quality of our

product, the systems and processes we follow are world class.

Ovo Farm ggs originate from a beautiful rural expanse in Balangir is one of the advanced layer farm with fully automated state of the art technology in India located at Odisha. India has been a big exporter of eggs to Qatar and only a selected few farm of the country having world class systems, processes producing quality eggs gets the opportunity to meet the requirement. With the ongoing FIFA world cup, the egg exports from India to Qatar has increased manifolds and Ovo farm being one of a producer of international standard eggs in India has exported big consignment of eggs in November month this year.

Through its rich experience in the poultry industry for over two decades, Ovo Farm has successfully identified and adopted the most advanced technology, processes and global best practices in their farm leading to produce export quality best eggs

Ukraine and Turkey are the main suppliers of eggs to Gulf nations. However, as the war with Russia continues, the supply from Ukraine has been hit.

For Qatar, the primary supplier is Turkey. However, the exporter has increased the prices of eggs because the production cost has gone up.

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# ASPIRING ENTREPRENEURS' PARADIGM SHIFT



DR OMKAR RAI

tartup Odisha Yatra 2.0, a flagship initiative of Startup Odisha, has been launched by Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik to invoke the spirit of entrepreneurship and scout the ideas of grassroots innovators and student entrepreneurs and enable them to fulfil their dreams of building a startup. This multidimensional initiative is helping young boys and girls at the remote places connect to a larger entrepreneurial platform at ease. Buzzwords like 'startup', 'entrepreneurship', 'funding' have now become the talk of

many small towns of Odisha. This implies how the Yatra has helped the youth to nurture their innovation and realise their passion of doing something for the state.

The ongoing Startup Odisha Yatra has outreached more than 10,000 students and garnered 1500+ ideas from every nook and corner of Odisha. 100+ Van Campaigns have been carried out and the Bootcamps were in full swing to fetch innovative ideas from student entrepreneurs and grassroots innovators. What has inspired me is the number of student participation the Yatra has fetched. The Van Campaign outreached to 2000+ students at districts like Boudh, Deogarh, Kandhamal, Nayagarh, Bolangir and collected numerous ideas from student entrepreneurs.

It was heart-warming to see women trailblazing innovations. Odisha is deeply driven by agri-tech, and it is indeed very proud to see women coming forth from places like Kandhamal, Malkangiri, Nayagarh, Mayurbhanj, Sonepur, air p



bringing in demographic shifts and inspiring the next generation of women entrepreneurs. At least 40-50% of the ideas collected have been women-led and it's very evident that these ideas when turned into enterprises, will focus more on solving real-life problems in areas like technology, agriculture, air purification and water man-

agement. Ideas from the themes of agriculture, education, e-commerce, food processing, health, deep tech, fin-tech, energy-led, handicraft and apparel, and many more were pitched by the innovators of tomorrow at various Van Campaigns and Bootcamps.

The Yatra created a wave of excitement among the students, fac-

ulty members, teachers and received a lot of traction on the ground level. Not only this, but also the huge numbers pouring in to participate in Van Campaigns and Bootcamps was a turning point in this 60-day long Yatra. The media coverage is an assertion to the buzz built up by the Yatra. The wide coverage helped us reach the masses and instilled a positive approach towards innovation and entrepreneurship among the reader communities.

To further deepen the culture of innovation and amplify the startup ecosystem, Startup Odisha is now conducting "Startup Xpress" to cultivate the essence of entrepreneurship across 30 schools in 15 districts. This aims to scout ideas from school students and support them in prototype development and innovation protection besides providing them with knowledge sessions on design thinking.

Odisha, the land of opportunities, has been ranked as one of the best destinations for businesses

Secies hold review

meet in Malkangiri

and startups. The youth population consists of highly motivated students and young minds with diverse aspirations. Since time immemorial, the state has been a land of diversity, favoured with an assortment of various topographies, ethnographies and demographics. And with initiatives like such, we are very sure about the paradigm shift going to happen in the ever evolving startup ecosystem in the upcoming years.

We have a million problems, but we also have more than billion people to tackle those problems with real-time solutions. This Yatra is an ambitious and adventurous journey of discovery and transformation that takes thousands of highly motivated youths, from all over Odisha on an odyssey to be the next entrepreneurs of the state. The Yatra will pertain to a constructive evolution in Odisha's startup ecosystem.

The writer is Executive Chairman, Startup Odisha, Government of Odisha

review of the ongoing construc-

tion work of an airstrip. They also

took stock of the progress of works

of an indoor stadium, a Covid

Hospital and various other devel-

opment projects. Later, the sec-

retaries held a review meeting on

progress of activities of Fisheries

& Animal Resource Development

There has been provision of at-

tractive subsidies for farmers pre-

ferring hybrid livestock farming.

Vashishth directed field officials of

the Fisheries & Animal Resource

Development to ensure that schemes

# MAMITA MURDER CASE

# Witness gets threats, records statement in in-camera proceeding

POST NEWS NETWORK

Bolangir, Nov 30: The additional district and sessions judge (ADJ) at Kantabanji in Bolangir district conducted an in-camera proceeding for a witness after he alleged of receiving threat from some persons regarding the much-hyped Mamita Meher murder case, Wednesday.

ADJ Himanshu Sekhar Mallick issued a direction in this regard and the statement of the witness was recorded in an in-camera proceeding.



Reports said that Gurdu Harijan of Mahaling village deposed in the ADJ court during the trial Wednesday as the witness no-9 in the Mamita Meher murder case. The prime accused in the case Gobinda Sahu was also produced in the court for trial.

While deposing in the court, Harijan submitted an application before the ADJ claiming that some persons have threatened to put him in trouble if he testifies against the prime accused Gobinda Sahu in the case.

After receiving the application, the ADJ directed to conduct an incamera proceeding of Harijan and record his statement in the case.

A curtain was drawn between the prime accused Gobinda Sahu and Harijan so that they will not be able see each other. Later, the statement of Harijan was recorded.

Earlier, police had said that the deceased Mamita Meher was burnt and buried inside the stadium in Mahaling village and collected some evidences after excavating the spot. Harijan, as witness to the seizure, had recorded his statement in the court.

# Man hacks lover's brother to death

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Jajpur, Nov 30: A jilted lover killed his girlfriend's brother and injured her father critically after they objected to his relationship with her in Jajpur district, police said Wednesday.

The accused has been identified as Biren Samal alias Santanu of Ransol village while the deceased has been identified as Jitendra Mahapatra of Bambilo village, the police said.

According to police, Samal came to Tarini Chhak in Kaliapani where his girlfriend's brother, Jitendra has a shop in the market and attacked him with a sharp weapon Tuesday. Hearing Mahapatra's scream, his father

Santosh came to his rescue, but Samal also attacked him,

Shopkeepers of Tarini Chhak and locals present in the market overpowered the accused and brutally thrashed him before handing him over to the police. The accused was taken to the police station.

Police rescued both the injured persons and rushed them to Sukinda Community Health Centre where Jitendra succumbed to the injuries Tuesday night. Later, Santosh was shifted to SCB Medical College and Hospital in Cuttack after his condition deteriorated, police said. According to sources, the accused had a relationship with Jitendra's sister.

BHUBANESWAR | 30 NOV-04 DEC | 2022

However, her brother and father were against it as Samal was already married.

In an act of revenge, Samal attacked the woman's father and brother with a sharp-edged weapon, police said. Irate over the incident, locals demolished the accused's house and set his truck on fire Wednesday. Later, they staged a dharna near Tarini Chhak, demanding stringent action against the accused.

Police have seized the body and sent it for post mortem after registering a case of murder.

"We have arrested the accused and further investigation is underway," said Kaliapani police station Inspector-in-Charge Susanta Kumar Dash.

# Woman sets self ablaze over hubby's alcoholism

Rupsa: A woman allegedly committed suicide by setting herself ablaze following a tiff with her husband over his regular drinking habit at Taradabudhia village under Sadar block in Balasore district, Tuesday night. The deceased was identified as Reena Khanda, 21, wife of Shibananda Khanda. Shibananda sustained critical burn injuries while trying to save his wife. The couple had a fight over the issue Tuesday night. Enraged, Reena poured kerosene on her body and set herself afire. Seeing smoke billowing out of house, Shibananda rushed inside and tried to save his wife but sustained critical burn injuries in the process. Local people rescued them and rushed them to SCB Medical College and Hospital in Cuttack after primary treatment in a local hospital.

**DSPL-323** 

POST NEWS NETWORK

Malkangiri, Nov 30: Secretary

of Works Department Vir Vikram Yadav and Secretary of Fisheries &Animal Resource Development, Suresh Kumar Vashishth visited Malkangiri Wednesday. They reached MV-3 BSF camp in a special helicopter.

They met Collector Vishal Singh, SP Nitesh Wadhwani and DFO Pratap Katapalli before leaving for reach to the beneficiaries in time.

He underscored the need for holding district-level meetings of the fisheries and the livestock routinely so as to assess the progress of the schemes and action plans.

in the district.



# **Business** Leadership Talk

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democratic

legitimacy is a

threat, because

it is a check on

their power

# Hidden Agenda

hy did Elon Musk purchase Twitter? His official answer – to defend free speech and democracy – is so unconvincing that the question won't go away. Musk's repeated appeals to these ideals to justify important decisions he has made since taking over are so confounding that they raise deep suspicions about his motives.

For example, Musk castigated the decision to remove former President Donald Trump's account, arguing that "freedom of speech is the bedrock of a strong democracy." But Trump's account was removed because he was using it to spread conspiracy theories about the election to a wide audience with increasingly violent language. It's difficult to imagine a more effective way to undermine democracy than to give the president of the United States a platform to claim that a free and fair election that he lost was "stolen." How would allowing Trump, still the leader of the Republican Party and the former leader of a democratic country, to use Twitter to attack democracy

A democratic system relies on widespread acceptance of the legitimacy of its rules. This legitimacy is expressed, most obviously, in voting. So, it is no accident that those seeking to destroy the legitimacy of democracy spread disinformation that undermines trust in the electoral system.

But there are other ways to undermine democratic legitimacy. Democracy is based on political equality. The most obvious expression of this is the principle of "one person, one vote." But political equality has a broader significance – it means that each of our voices can be heard. As the philosopher Stephen Darwall has argued, in a democracy, it must be possible to speak truth to power.

Preserving democratic legitimacy thus means protecting a democratic information space – a domain of mutual trust in which citizens feel confident that they can debate and criticise freely on the basis of a shared consensus about reality. There are well-established methods to undermine a shared sense of reality, and hence destroy the possibility of a democratic information space. Giving a platform to powerful people who spread outrageous conspiracy theories is one of them.

There are plenty of others. In their book Merchants of Doubt, historians Naomi Oreskes of Harvard and Erik Conway of Caltech showed how both the tobacco industry and the fossil-fuel industry funded research intended to spread doubt about the scientific consensus surrounding smoking and climate

change. The result was policy paralysis. Undermining public trust by sowing illegitimate doubt destroyed the possibility of a democratic information space to deliberate about these issues. Even if you are concerned about climate change, you may oppose efforts to mitigate it if you believe that the real agenda behind those efforts is a plot to subjugate humanity under an eco-totalitarian regime.

All that is needed to destroy the possibility of a democratic information space for particular political issues, such as climate change, is to provide a platform for, and give legitimacy to, would-be propagandists. But it is possible to generalise this strategy – to target the possibility of democratic legitimacy tout court, by destroying the possibility of consensus on any issue. To do so, one would need a platform that gave equal weight to all voices spreading conspiracy theories about every imaginable issue of public political concern. Kremlin operatives attempted this with their RT television channel. Musk is now attempting this strategy with Twitter.

It is clear why the fossil-fuel industry would want to undermine the possibility of democratically sanctioned action on climate change. But why would the world's richest man want to undermine the legitimacy of democracy itself?

The answer, by now, should be clear. In a healthy democracy, a shared democratic information space allows everyone to speak truth to anyone. This is the essence of political equality. In a healthy democracy, a middle-class journalist can publish well-researched exposés of multinational corporations or spectacularly wealthy individuals that contribute to a popular consensus in fayour of constraining their actions, increasing their taxes, or otherwise hold ing them to account. If one destroys that information space by nurturing the spread of mass suspicion, it will no longer be possible to marshal citizens against the powerful in this way.

For powerful individuals, democratic legitimacy is a threat, because it is a check on their power. Why wouldn't one of the world's most powerful individuals want to eliminate it?

The writer is Professor of Philosophy at Yale University.

# WISDOM **CORNER**

fish they are after.

All differences in this world are of degree, and not of kind, because oneness is the secret of everything. SWAMI VIVEKANANDA

We cannot solve our problems with the same thinking we used when

Many men go fishing all of their lives without knowing that it is not

HENRY DAVID THOREAU

## **WORDSWORTH**

# ■ Darg

t means a day's work. In the UK, darg has mainly been Scots and northern English usage, though it did appear in Life in the London Streets by Richard Rowe, published in 1881: "He must go out bonegrubbing; but even his dull face showed, or seemed to my fancy to show, that, his dreary 'daily darg' got through, he wanted to hide in a hole." However, Mr Rowe spent some years working for the Scotsman in Edinburgh, so probably picked it up there. It was taken to Australia and New Zealand by emigrants. Though Rowe spent 14 years in Australia from 1853 on, it's unlikely he heard it there, as it began to appear in print in both countries only in the 1920s. It has now fallen out of favour once again - the Australian Dictionary Centre included darg in a list of words in 2000 for which it would like printed evidence, noting that it had none after 1978. Some has since come in, but it is clearly rare these days. The darg referred not to how much work you could do in a day, but how much was considered a reasonable day's work, or one's allotted or fixed share of work for the day. A New Zealand journalist, Fred Miller, who wrote a column in the old Southland Daily News with the title The Daily Darg, noted in his book Ink on My Fingers in 1967: "Theoretically, when you have finished your darg you go home." The darg was often a matter of dispute between workers and bosses, as Dan Stalker explained by email: "The challenge for Australian managers in the 60s and 70s was 'lifting the darg'. New technology meant more could be done in less time, while staff were resistant to 'upping the darg'." The OED says that it's a half-swallowed version of daywork, a day's work, especially the amount of land that could be ploughed in one day (hence a close equivalent of acre).

## FOCUS INDIA'S G20 PRESIDENCY

# HEALING, HARMONY, HOPE



Narendra Modi

**TODAY, WE DO NOT NEED TO FIGHT FOR OUR SURVIVAL - OUR ERA NEED NOT** BE ONE OF WAR. **INDEED, IT MUST NOT BE ONE!** 

oday, India commences its G20 Presidency. The previous 17 Presidencies of the G20 delivered significant results - for ensuring macro-economic stability, rationalising international taxation, relieving debt-burden on countries, among many other outcomes. We will benefit from these achievements, and build further upon them.

However, as India assumes this important mantle, I ask myself can the G20 go further still? Can we catalyse a fundamental mindset shift, to benefit humanity as a whole?

I believe we can.

Our mindsets are shaped by our circumstances. Through all of history, humanity lived in scarcity. We fought for limited resources, because our survival depended on denying them to others. Confrontation and competition between ideas, ideologies and identities - became the norm.

Unfortunately, we remain trapped in the same zero-sum mindset even today. We see it when countries fight over territory or resources. We see it when supplies of essential goods are weaponised. We see it when vaccines are hoarded by a few, even as billions remain vulnerable

Some may argue that confrontation and greed are just human nature. I disagree. If humans were inherently selfish, what would explain the lasting appeal of so many spiritual traditions that advocate the fundamental one-ness of us all?

One such tradition, popular in India, sees all living beings, and even inanimate things, as composed of the same five basic elements - the panchtatva of earth, water, fire, air and space. Harmony among these elements - within us and between us - is essential for our



वशुधेव कुटुम्बकम्

ONE EARTH • ONE FAMILY • ONE FUTURE

During our G20 Presidency, we shall present India's experiences, learnings and models as possible templates for others, particularly the developing world

physical, social and environmental well-being.

India's G20 Presidency will work to promote this universal sense of one-ness. Hence our theme - 'One Earth, One Family, One Future'. This is not just a slogan. It takes into account recent changes in human circumstances, which we have collectively failed to appreciate.

Today, we have the means to produce enough to meet the basic needs of all people in the world.

Today, we do not need to fight for our survival - our era need not be one of war. Indeed, it must not be one!

Today, the greatest challenges we face - climate change, terrorism, and pandemics - can be solved not by fighting each other, but only by acting together.

Fortunately, today's technology also gives us the means to address problems on a humanity-wide scale. The massive virtual worlds that we inhabit today demonstrate the scalability of digital technologies.

Housing one-sixth of human-

ity, and with its immense diversity of languages, religions, customs and beliefs. India is a microcosm of the world.

With the oldest-known traditions of collective decision-making. India contributes to the foundational DNA of democracy. As the mother of democracy, India's national consensus is forged not by diktat, but by blending millions of free voices into one harmonious melody.

Today, India is the fastest growing large economy. Our citizencentric governance model takes care of even our most marginalised citizens, while nurturing the creative genius of our talented youth.

We have tried to make national development not an exercise in top-down governance, but rather a citizen-led 'people's movement'.

We have leveraged technology to create digital public goods that are open, inclusive and inter-operable. These have delivered revolutionary progress in fields as varied as social protection, financial inclusion, and electronic payments.

For all these reasons, India's experiences can provide insights for possible global solutions.

During our G20 Presidency, we shall present India's experiences, learnings and models as possible templates for others, particularly the developing world.

Our G20 priorities will be shaped in consultation with not just our G20 partners, but also our fellowtravellers in the global South,

whose voice often goes unheard. Our priorities will focus on healing our 'One Earth', creating harmony within our 'One Family' and giving hope for our 'One Future'

For healing our planet, we will encourage sustainable and environment-friendly lifestyles, based on India's tradition of trusteeship towards nature.

For promoting harmony within the human family, we will seek to depoliticise the global supply of food, fertilizers and medical products, so that geopolitical tensions do not lead to humanitarian crises. As in our own families, those whose needs are the greatest must always be

our first concern. For imbuing hope in our future generations, we will encourage an honest conversation among the most powerful countries - on mitigating risks posed by weapons of mass destruction and enhancing global security.

India's G20 agenda will be inclusive, ambitious, action-oriented, and decisive.

Let us join together to make India's G20 Presidency a Presidency of healing, harmony and hope.

Let us work together to shape a new paradigm - of human-centric globalisation.

> The writer is the Prime Minister of India.

# SPECTRUM JUDICIARY

# Fast-tracking of cases vital of Judicial Infrastructure Authority



Dhurjati Mukherjee

**AS OF 2021, INDIA HAD 21.03 JUDGES PER MILLION PEOPLE COMPARED WITH** 51 JUDGES IN THE **UK AND 107 JUDGES IN THE US PER MILLION** 

The Chief Justice of India, Justice DY Chandrachud. stated that the Executive must show "constitutional statesmanship and avoid public grandstanding" even as he battled for a strong collegium system to ensure judicial independence and fairness in selection while conceding that the process needed more judicious transparency. Favouring the collegium system, the CJI categorically stated on assumption of office: that the system is "premised on consultation and recommendations are preceded by executive deliberations. The members of the collegium and the judges of the Supreme Court who are consulted bring their close knowledge

Justice Chandrachud defended the collegium system of appointing judges while speaking at a recent meeting. "No institution in a constitutional democracy is perfect. We work within the existing framework of the Constitution," he stated. Regretting the present tendency of finding fault with others -- in an indirect reference to the Union Law Minister's criticism of the collegium system not being transparent -- he urged the need to "resolve everything with social resolution and harmony

of the functioning of judiciary to

the decision-making process.'

One may mention here that just  $% \left\{ \left( 1\right) \right\} =\left\{ \left( 1\right)$ before his retirement, the outgoing CJI, Justice NV Ramana had termed pendency of cases a "huge challenge" and expressed regret for not being able to pay much attention to issues of listing and posting of matters for hearing in the SC. As is well known, the pendency of cases has been a subject of much concern. It is understood that more than four crore cases are pending in various courts in India. Shockingly, a few of these have been pending for more than ten years. This shows that our judicial system is under tremendous pressure. As per records of 2022, over 4.7 crore cases are pending in courts across different levels of the judiciary. Of them, 87.4% are pending in subordinate courts and 12.4% in High Courts.

Amid the rising litigation trend, more people and organisations are approaching courts. However, the number of judges available to hear these cases is obviously not enough as vacant posts are lying unfilled. The prime reason for the immense backlog of cases is inadequate infrastructure. Moreover, as of 2021, India had 21.03 judges per million people compared with 51 judges in the UK and 107 judges in the US per million.

There is the need to stop vacation of judges that is just a colonial legacy as no Central government department or organisation has this facility. Justice Malimath who chaired a Committee on Reforms of Criminal Justice Systems way back in 2003 had stated that as most countries do not have vacations, this system should be stopped immediately as it has no justification whatsoever, especially in a country where pendency of cases has been mounting.

Coming to infrastructure, not long back, the Union Law Minister said the government was committed to improve judicial infrastructure and ₹9000 crore has been sanctioned for the purpose. Former CJI Ramana had proposed a special purpose vehicle

and requested the law minister to take this proposal to its logical conclusion as most government announcements take long to implement and the sum earmarked is spread for over 4-5 years. But nothing has been done so far. It needs to be analysed whether the political establishment, which has been accused of curbing human rights, really wants to strengthen the judiciary and allow judicious decisions to be aired, thereby exposing the lacunae and inefficiency of the government. Judicial verdicts in recent times have mostly gone against the political establishment and both the Centre and the states have been rebuked in many cases. This perhaps may be a reason for the government's indifference to the judiciary.

This apart, it has been seen that there have been several instances where the accused are completely unaware of the lawyer representing them. Effective legal representation is a constitutional right and prison authorities must coordinate with legal service authorities in the matter. Plus, there's a delay in the availability of lower court records while dealing with criminal appeals.

Thus, there's need for a thorough examination of the causes for delay and come up with a scientifically designed listing and roster allocation practice. Currently, there is no such method either in appointment of judges or in listing procedures. Moreover, there must be a time limit within which criminal cases need to be settled. While any right-thinking person would justify the need for prompt settlement of cases, there is no white paper how

this can be accomplished, more so for a populous country like India where regulations and laws are frequently violated. If there is a judicious calculation of how pendency of cases can be brought down, say within five years or so, the necessary steps can be taken. not just in the various high courts but also in district courts. More buildings at the sub-divisional and district levels need to be constructed, records digitised at all levels promptly so that delays in settlements of cases could be minimised. Finally, it needs to be said that

reforms are an oft repeated word and, as regards the judicial system, there is a genuine need for thorough reforms in the whole system from high courts to the lowest tiers. It must be ensured that all, particularly the poor and the underprivileged get proper and free legal aid and their cases are heard and settled on a priority basis. A lot depends on Justice Chandrachud, who has two years to bring about reforms and bring about necessary changes. Moreover, he has rightly pointed to the underlying injustices against the marginalised sections of our society --- women, Dalits and members belonging to tribes and segments staying in farflung areas of the country. All judges across the courts in India. from district courts to the SC, must reflect on the constitutional vision of securing, justice, equality and liberty to all sections of society.

The writer is Sr. Consultant & Guest Faculty at Bharatiya Vidya Bhavan, Kolkata.

TO THE EDITOR

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

rissaPOST

B-15, Rasulgarh Industrial Estate, Bhubaneswar-751010

## Unique opportunity

Sir, In a significant step, India assumes the presidency of the G20 or Group of 20 from current chair Indonesia December 1. It is a unique opportunity and pride for India in its 75th year of Independence. G20 is an intergovernmental forum of the world's major developed and developing economies. It represents around 85 per cent of the global GDP, more than 75 per cent of the global trade and about two-thirds of the world population due to which it carries enormous political and economic influence. The theme of India's presidency is 'Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam' (One Earth, One Family, One Future), which reflects India's pro-planet approach. India dons the mantle at a time when the entire world is grappling with geo-political tensions along with global economic slowdown. The priorities are inclusive, equitable and sustainable growth, women's empowerment, digital public infrastructure, and tech-enabled development, climate financing, global food security and energy security, among others. As the new G20 chair, India inherits the responsibility of steering collective action for global economic and financial stability in the aftermath of the pandemic and the Russia-Ukraine war. The food and fuel crises triggered by the conflict are only worsening. India has to iron out the differences and to find out innovative solutions. A single-year presidency does not empower the host to change the world. But the present leadership of India is capable of meeting the challenges deftly and unlock opportunities for the benefit of humankind.

Bhagaban Nayak, BERHAMPUR

# **Needless controversy**

Sir, After the game against Mexico in the ongoing FIFA world cup, star player Lionel Messi was needlessly dragged into a controversy, with Mexican boxer Canelo Alvarez claiming that the captain of the Albiceleste has disrespected the North American country. It is precisely a video of the Argentine team's victory celebrations inside the locker room, where Messi can be seen with the Mexican jersey that he exchanged after the match, on the floor and giving it, certainly unintentionally, a little kick with his foot while removing his shoes. It is clear that the Mexican boxer has made the charge out of frustration, being unable to digest Mexico's loss to Argentina and the fact that his national team is on the brink of elimination from the world cup at the group

Ranganathan Sivakumar, CHENNAI

# national



**Education is the only** asset that we pass on to the next generation YS JAGAN MOHAN REDDY ANDHRA PRADESH CM

## RARE TOKAY GECKO LIZARD SEIZED, 5 HELD

Five people were arrested after a rare tokay gecko lizard and intoxicating cough syrups were seized from a medical store in Bihar's Purnea district on Wednesday, police said. Acting on a tip-off, the store in Baisi division was raided and the items were seized, said acting Superintendent of Police Surendra Kumar Saroj





Mann may think that he can lie and mislead the people but we will hold him to his words. Now, he will have to substantiate his claims by placing the record of the same in public domain or apologise for his utterances. If he does neither, we will take recourse to legal action against him

SUKHBIR SINGH BADAL | SAD PRESIDENT

People were forced to flee Kairana and Kandala during the SP's and Lok Dal's rule, People can never forget the cruelty meted out to Sachin and Gauray during the SP's rule (in the state) YOGI ADITYANATH UTTAR PRADESH CM

Water accumulates in the streets and causes many diseases, but the BJP has completely ignored all this over the years. The BJP has never considered garbage management as their duty in the past five years

MANISH SISODIA DELHI DEPUTY CM

## SHORT **TAKES**

## **ED** grills Vijay Deverakonda

Hyderabad: Actor Vijay Deverakonda Wednesday appeared before the Enforcement Directorate (ED) here in connection with a money laundering case, official sources said. The 'Liger" actor was questioned regarding the money laundering case, they said. After coming out of the ED office, Deverakonda told reporters that the agency sought some clarifications from him. "I was inside for 12 hours They (ED) sought some clarifications. They were doing their job," he said adding "there are no allegations...some clarifications that's it".

## Amit Arora sent to ED custody

New Delhi: A Delhi Court Wednesday sent Amit Arora, Director of Buddy Retail, to seven days Enforcement Directorate (ED) remand in connection with the alleged Delhi Excise Policy scam. The ED sought 14 days of custody, however, the court gave a week's time. Arora was arrested by the probe agency from Gurugram this morning. Last week, the economic intelligence agency filed its first charge sheet in the matter.

# Bengal Assembly adjourned sine die

Kolkata: The winter session of the West Bengal Assembly was adjourned sine die Wednesday as Speaker Bimab Bandopadhyay urged all legislators to maintain the sanctity of the House.Wrapping up the vote of thanks discussion before adjournment of the House sine die, Bandyopadhyay said MLAs must exercise restraint in the use of words.



THE TOP COURT HAS SAID THAT THE STATE GOVERNMENT AND ITS PHARMACY COUNCIL CANNOT BE ALLOWED TO PLAY WITH THE HEALTH AND LIFE OF THE CITIZENS, WHILE EXAMINING ALLEGATIONS FAKE PHARMACISTS WERE RUNNING HOSPITALS AND MEDICAL STORES IN BIHAR

New Delhi, Nov 30: The Supreme Court has said that running hospitals, dispensaries and medical stores in the absence of any registered pharmacist or by fake unregistered chemists will ultimately affect the health of citizens.

A bench of justices MR Shah and MM Sundresh set aside a Patna High Court order passed on a plea by pharmacist Mukesh Kumar seeking direction to authorities concerned to not allow any person other than a registered pharmacist to compound, prepare, mix or dispense any medicine on the prescription of any medical practitioner. The bench said that without going into details of the grievances raised, the high court had disposed of the writ petition in a "most casual manner" by taking note of the fact that the Bihar State Pharmacy Council has submitted that the fact-finding committee was constituted and they forwarded its report to the state government.

Kumar had moved the top court through advocate Rachitta Rai, challenging the high court order saying it has erred in its findings.

"Running the hospitals/dispensaries in absence of any registered pharmacist and/or running such hospitals by fake pharmacist and even running the medical stores



by fake pharmacist and without even any pharmacist will ultimately affect the health of the citizen. The State Government and the Bihar State Pharmacy Council cannot be permitted to play with the health and life of the citizen," the bench said.

It said the high court ought to have called upon the Bihar State Pharmacy Council to file the status report on the allegations of fake pharmacist and/or on how many government hospitals/hospitals in the state are running without registered pharmacist. It added that under the provi-

sions of the Pharmacy Act, 1948 as well as the Pharmacy Practice Regulations, 2015, it is the duty cast upon the Pharmacy Council and the state government to see that the hospitals/medical stores, etc., are not run by the fake pharmacist and are run by the registered pharmacist only

The top court, while allowing the appeal said that the impugned judgment and order passed by the high court disposing of the writ petition is hereby quashed and set aside. It remanded back the matter to

the high court to consider the writ petition afresh after calling the detailed report from the Bihar government and Bihar State Pharmacy Council on how many governments hospitals/hospitals/medical stores/private hospitals are being run either by fake pharmacist or

without registered pharmacist. The bench said that the high court should also seek report on whether any action has been taken by the state government on the fact-finding committee report submitted by the Bihar State Pharmacy Council, which was reported to be forwarded to the State and whether there are any fake pharmacists as alleged in the writ petition.



# Ravish Kumar resigns from *NDTV*

New Delhi: Senior journalist Ravish Kumar has resigned from his post as senior executive editor at NDTV India, reports said. As per the reports, the news channel is said to have announced his resignation through an internal communication Wednesday. "Few journalists have impacted people as much as Ravish," reports quoting the internal communi cation said. The resignation came a day after the new NDTV board approved the resignations of founders Prannoy Roy and Radhika Roy as directors of RRPR Holding Private Ltd (RRPRH), the promoter group vehicle of NDTV. This meant that the existing and longstanding promoters and management of NDTV has now exited the company

# Aftab admits to killing Shraddha

According to sources, Aftab also admitted having relations with many girls

INDO-ASIAN NEWS SERVICE

New Delhi, Nov 30: Aaftab Amin Poonawalla confessed to killing his live-in partner Shraddha Walkar and disposing off her body parts during his polygraph test conducted at the Forensic Science Laboratory (FSL) in the national capital, sources said.

After six sessions, the polygraph test finally ended Tuesday, the FSL sources said.

"He has confessed to killing Shraddha and disposing of her body parts in the forest areas. He also had relationships with several girls," they added.

Recently, the Delhi Police contacted a woman who met Aaftab after he had killed Shraddha.

The police have also recovered Shraddha's ring that Aaftab had gifted the woman, a a psychologist by profession, October 12.

Aaftab met the woman on the mobile dating application 'Bumble', the same platform where he had first met Shraddha



In her statement to the police, the woman said that she had met Aaftab twice at his Chattarpur's residence which he shared with Shraddha and had no clue regarding the victim's body parts kept in the refrigerator.

According to the sources, she met Aaftab on the dating app May 30, just 12 days after he killed Shraddha May 18.

Earlier Tuesday, a courtallowed Delhi Police to conduct a narco test on Aaftab on December 1 and 5. The sources said that a polygraph and a narco test is imperative in this case, as Aaftab, during interrogation, was deceptive in nature and tried to mislead the interrogators.

(1) Tender No. etender-South-KUR-340-2022, Dtd. 24.11.2022 DESCRIPTION: EXECUTION OF 25.40 KM THROUGH SLEEPER RENEWAL WORK FROM KM. 665.00 TO 678.20 ON UP LINE AND KM. 664.00 TO 671.00 AND KM. 673.00 TO 678.20 ON DOWN LINE BETWEEN BARUVA - PALASA SECTION OF KHURDA ROAD DIVISION.

Approx Cost of the Work (₹): 441.19 Lakhs, <u>EMD</u> (₹) : 3,70,600.00, <u>C</u>. <u>Period</u> : 12 (Twelve) Months.

(2) Tender No. etender-East-KUR-341-2022, Dtd. 25.11.2022

DESCRIPTION : PROVISION OF DAILY INSPECTION & PATROLLING OF TRACK INSPECTION & PATROLLING OF TRACK TO THE PRESCRIBED STANDARDS DURING COLD/HOT WEATHER AS PER IRPWM FOR SAFE RUNNING OF TRAINS UNDER THE JURISDICTION OF SENIOR ASSISTANT DIVISIONAL ENGINEER (I) CUTTACK OF KHURD ROAD DIVISION.

Approx Cost of the Work (₹): 72.16 Lakhs EMD (₹): 1,44,300.00, Completion Period 07 (Seven) Months.

(3) Tender No. e-tender-HQ-KUR-343-2022, Dtd. 25.11.2022 DESCRIPTION : PROPOSED MISCELLANEOUS REPAIRS OF RAILWAY STADIUM AT KHURDA ROAD.

Approx Cost of the Work (₹): 137.68 Period 08 (Eight) Months. Tender Closing Date and Time: At 1500 Hrs. of 16.12.2022 (For all the Tenders.) No manual offers sent by Post / Courie Fax or in person shall be accepted again:

such e-tenders even if these are submitte on firm's letter head and received in time All such manual offers shall be considered invalid and shall be rejected summarily without any consideration. Complete information including e-tend ocuments of the above e-Tender is valiable in website: <a href="https://www.ireps.gov.in">https://www.ireps.gov.in</a> Note: The prospective tenderers a

advised to revisit the website 10 (Ter days before the date of closing of tend to note any changes / Corrige issued for this tender. Divisional Railway Manager (Engg



morning, on the outskirts of Jammu

# ED attaches assets of ex-TDP MLA

# **BS-IV 'SCAM'**

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, Nov 30: The ED said Wednesday it has attached assets worth more than Rs 22 crore of former Andhra Pradesh TDP MLA J C Prabhakar Reddy, his associates and companies linked to them in a case related to an alleged BS-IV vehicles scam.

In a statement, the federal agency said it was also probing the role of major automobile manufacturer Ashok Leyland, headquartered in Chennai, in the case. Reddy is currently the

chairman of the Tadipatri municipality located in Anantapur district of the state. He has earlier represented the Tadipatri seat as an MLA of the Telugu Desam Party (TDP).

The case emerges from a March 2017 ruling of the Supreme Court where it ordered that vehicles not compliant with BS-IV emission norms should not be sold in India by any manufacturer or dealer from April 1, 2017. The registration of such vehicles was also prohibited from the same date, the Enforcement Directorate said. However, Jatadhara Industries Pvt Ltd (JIPL), "controlled" by Reddy, C Gopal Reddy (alleged to be a close associate of Reddy and civil contractor from Tadipatri) and others, in "contravention" to the apex court's order, purchased BS-III vehicles from Ashok Levland Ltd at discount and "fraudulently" registered the same as BS-IV vehicles by fabricating invoice copies, the agency alleged.

A probe found that some of the registrations were done in Nagaland Karnataka and Andhra Pradesh, it

"The crime proceeds generated by owning/plying and/or selling these vehicles have been quantified as Rs 38.36 crore," it said.



Registered Office Address: Unit No.601, 6th Floor Piramal Amiti Building, Piramal Agastya Corporate Park, Kamani Junction, Opp Fire Station, LBS Marg, Kurla (West), Mumbai-400 070. CIN: L65910MH1984PLC032639, Webside:www.piramalfinance.com

Branch Address: Dhiraj Baug, Building "A" Ground & 1st Floor, Beside Axis Bank, Opp. Monalisa Building, Agra Road, Hari Niwas Circle, Naupada, Thane (West) – 400 602.

# **DEMAND NOTICE**

Under Section 13(2) of the Securitisation And Reconstruction of Financial Assets And Enforcement Of Security Interest Act, 2002 read with Rule 3 (1) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002. The undersigned is the Authorised Officer of Piramal Capital & Housing Finance Limited (PCHFL) (formerly known as Dewan Housing Finance Corporation Ltd.(DHFL)) under Securitisation And Reconstruction Of Financial Assets And Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 (the said Act). In exercise of powers conferred under Section 13(12) of the said Act read with Rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002, the Authorised Officer has issued Demand Notices under Section 13(2) of the said Act, calling upon the following Borrower(s) (the "said Borrower(s)"), to repay the amounts mentioned in the respective Demand Notice(s) issued to them that are also given below. In connection with above, notice is hereby given, once again, to the said Borrower(s) to pay to PCHFL, within 60 days from the publication of this Notice, the amounts indicated herein below, together with further interest as detailed in the said Remand Notice(s) from the date(s) mentioned hereit in the said for payment and/or realization. further interest as detailed in the said Demand Notice(s), from the date(s) mentioned below till the date of payment and/or realization payable under the loan agreement read with other documents/writings, if any, executed by the said Borrower(s). As security for due repayment of the loan, the following assets have been mortgaged to PCHFL by the said Borrower(s) respectively.

Name of the Borrower(s)/ Guarantor(s)	Demand Notice Date and Amount with NPA date	Property address	
(LC No.: 05900001505 of Bhubaneswar Branch)	04-11-2022 /₹ 2789904 /-(₹ Twenty Seven lakh	Plot No-241, Khata No-179 Mouza- Khamanga	
Narendra Panda (Borrower) Rojalin Panda	Eighty Nine Thousand Nine Hundred Four Only)	Sasan, P.S- Balianta Kakarudrapur Grampanchayat	
(Co Borrower 1)	NPA (09-09-2022)	Bhubaneswar Puri Orissa :- 752102	
(LC No.: 05900000364 of Bhubaneswar Branch)	04-11-2022 /₹ 307524 /-(₹ Three lakh Seven	Plot No. 537 ( P) ( Hal), 132 ( Sabak) Khata No.	
Natabara Swain (Borrower) Kartik Chandra	Thousand Five Hundred Twenty Four Only)	42, Mz- Umapada ( Hal) Mz:- Chorada( Sabak)	
Swain (Co Borrower 1)	NPA (10-07-2022)	Jajpur Road Cuttack Orissa :- 755019	
(LC No.: 05900000339 of Bhubaneswar Branch) Ajaya Kumar Das (Borrower) Sukanti Das (Co Borrower 1) Jitendra Kumar Das (Co Borrower 2)	04-11-2022 /₹ 112837 /-(₹ One lakh Twelve Thousand Eight Hundred Thirty Seven Only) NPA (30-09-2020)	Plot No.:- 2174/2972, Khata No.:- 106 Mouza:- Talagarh Jajpur Road Cuttack Orissa :- 755019	
(LC No.: 05900001930 of Bhubaneswar	04-11-2022 /₹ 1829342 /-(₹ Eighteen lakh	Flat No 301, 3Rd Floor, Block D, Utopia,	
Branch) T Sarat Kumar Subudhi (Borrower)	Twenty Nine Thousand Three Hundred	Chandaka, Bhubhaneswar, Khurda, Odisha,	
T Reetanjali Subudhi (Co Borrower 1)	Forty Two Only) NPA (01-09-2022)	Puri Khurda Orissa :- 751021	

of the Act and the applicable Rules, entirely at the risks of the said Borrowers as no become advantage of the Act and the applicable Rules, entirely at the risks of the said Borrowers are prohibited under the Act from transferring the aforesaid assets, whether by way of sale, lease or otherwise without he prior written consent of PCHEL. Any person who contravenes or abets contravention of the said Act or Rules made there under shall be liable for imprisonment and/or penalty as provided under the Act. (Authorised Officer)

If the said Borrowers shall fail to make payment to PCHFL as aforesaid, PCHFL shall proceed against the above secured assets under Section 13(4)

### **GOVERNMENT OF ODISHA** OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER. RURAL WORKS DIVISION. TITILAGARH E-Mail ID: eerw\_titilagarh@yahoo.co.in

e-Procurement Notice

		ILD IDEN	•••	FICATION NO. SETIG-Offille-0.	3/2022-23		
1.	Name of Work		:	Building Works			
2.	2. Total No. of Works			02 (Two) Nos.			
3.	3. Approximate Estimated Cost		:	Varies from Rs.42.00 to 44.00 lakhs			
4.	Time for Completion		:	09 (Nine) Calendar Months			
5.	. Mode of Submission of Tender		:	Tender should be submitted online in www.tenders.ori.nic.in			
6.	6. Other Details are as follow		:	: As per TCN No. SETIG-Online-03/2022-23			
Procurement Officer Bid Identification No.		,	Availability of Tender Online for Bidding	Last date and time of seeking tender clarification	Date & time of opening of Tender		

15.12.2022

upto 5.00 P.M

Further details can be seen from the website: www.tenders.ori.nic.in. Any Corrigendum/Addendum will be displayed in the above e-tender website only

03/2022-23

OIPR-25078/11/0006/2223

30.11.2022

06.12.2022

at 11.00 A.M.

Sd./- Superintending Engineer, R.W. Division, Titilagarh

# Condoms, contraceptives found in schoolkids' bags

Upon questioning, the students without any hesitation told the teaching staff that they needed to have some fun amid their tight schedule

INDO-ASIAN NEWS SERVICE

cigarettes and whiteners.

Bangalore, Nov 30: A routine exercise of checking school bags in Bangalore schools revealed shocking facts of the students being in possession of condoms, contraceptives,

Incidents such as consum-



quite common these days. But, what is disturbing is that substances are found, says D Shashikumar, general secretary of the Associated Managements of Schools in Karnataka (KAMS)

Shashikumar told IANS Wednesday that this is just

the tip of the iceberg. The schools have decided to send these children on a 10-day

holiday. The managements have also decided to keep the information confidential and arrange counselling for the students and their parents. The checking was conducted mainly in the schools located

on the outskirts of Bangalore.

The condoms and contraceptives were found in the bags of Class X students, both boys and girls. Upon questioning, the students without any hesitation told the teaching staff that they needed to have some fun amid their tight schedule, sources said. The behaviour is also attributed to the isolation period of two

years during the Covid pan-

demic as the children spent

most of their time with electronic gadgets.

"The parents and school managements conceal these facts fearing getting a bad reputation. There are small children who are drug peddlers. If the matter reaches a highlevel committee, we will speak

about it," Shashikumar said. It was a routine exercise taken up by the school managements as per the advice of KAMS.

In a meeting these facts were discussed in the interest of students. I made a submission to the Child Welfare Committee in this regard four days ago but there has been no response, he said.

# UCO BANK

Ghasiram Sharma, All are at Address: Plot No

51/G, CDA, Sector-6, PO.: Avinab Bidanasi, PS.

Markat Nagar, Dist.: Cuttack, PIN-753014

Place: Bhubaneswar, Date: 30.11.2022

Engineer, R.W.

Divn., Titilagarh

Zonal Office, UCO Bank Building, 2nd Floor, C-2, Ashok Nagar,

POSSESSION NOTICE

16.12.2022

at 11.00 A.M

14.12.2022

upto 11.00 A.M.

For Immovable Property Bhubaneswar-751009, Tel: 0674-2620423 (Under Section 13(4) of the Securitization & Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Int Act., 2002 read with Rule 8 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules 2002 for Immovable Property)

Whereas, the undersigned being the Authorized Officer of UCO Bank, under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002(No.54 of 2002) and in exercise of powers conferred under section 13 (12) read with Rule 8 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 issued a Demand Notice under section 13(2) of the said Act, calling upon the Borrowers/Guarantor to repay the amount with interest at the contractual rate together with incidental expenses and costs within 60 days from the date of receipt of the said Notice. The Borrowers having failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to the Borrowers/Guarantor and the public in general that the undersigned has taken **POSSESSION** of the property described here-in below in exercise of powers conferred on him/her under section 13 (4) of the said Act read with Rule 8 of the said Rules.The Borrowers/Guarantor in particular and the public in general are hereby cautioned not to deal with the property and any dealings with the property will be subject to the charge of the **UCO Bank** for an amount plus interest & expenses thereon.

mis property time se subject to mis straige of the CCC Dame for all amount place missess at superiors missess.								
CUTTACK MAIN BRANCH/ Name and Address of the Borrowers/ Guarantor	Amount Outstanding as on Specified Date	Date of Demand / Possession Notice	Description of the Immovable Property					
Borrowers: 1) Mrs. Santosh Sharma, W/o.: Mr. Ram Chandra Sharma, 2) Mr. Ram Chandra Sharma, S/o: Mr. Ghasiram Sharma, 3) Mrs. Sarita Sharma, W/o: Mr. Shiv Kumar Sharma / Guarantor: Mr. Shiv Kumar Sharma, S/o: Mr.	₹48,85,879.07 as on 30.04.2022	21.09.2022	Land & Building standing in the name of Mrs. Santosh Sharma, W/o: Mr. Ram Chandra Sharma and Mrs. Sarita Sharma, W/o: Mr. Shiv Kumar Sharma, bearing Plot No.: 11-					

other charges

thereon

1D/92 in CDA, Sector-11, Mouza: Bidanasi Project Area, Sector-11, Drawing No.: CDA (PL) B-20/2000, BP No.: 676/13, Area: 1575 sqft.

Authorised Officer, UCO Bank



# TWOSTATES



K'taka farmer gets ₹8.36 selling

205 kg onions, receipt goes viral



# **Gujarat goes to polls today**

ALL SET FOR 1ST PHASE OF ASSEMBLY ELECTION IN 89 SEATS; 788 CANDIDATES IN FRAY

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Ahmedabad, Nov 30: Voting will be held Thursday for the first phase of Gujarat Assembly elections in 89 seats spread across 19 districts in Saurashtra-Kutch and southern parts of the state where 788 candidates are in the fray

Campaigning for the first phase of the elections in the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP)-ruled state ended at 5pm Tuesday.

Voting will be held between 8am and 5pm Thursday across 14,382 polling stations, the office of the state Chief Electoral Officer (CEO) said in a release.

Out of the 89 seats going to polls in the first phase, the BJP won 48 in the 2017 election, the Congress had won 40, while one seat was bagged by an independent candidate.

Apart from the BJP, Congress and Aam Aadmi Party (AAP), 36 other political outfits, including the Bahujan Samaj Party (BSP) Samajwadi Party (SP), Communist Party of India-Marxist (CPI-M) and Bharatiya Tribal Party (BTP) have also fielded candidates in various seats which will go to polls in the first phase.

The BJP and Congress are contesting in all the 89 seats. The new poll entrant AAP is contesting in 88 seats. Its candidate from Surat East constituency had withdrawn his candidature, leaving the party with one less seat to contest in the first phase.

Among other parties, the BSP has fielded 57 candidates, BTP 14 and CPI-M four candidates. As many as 339 independents are also in the fray in the first phase of polls.

Out of the total 788 candidates 70 are women including nine fielded by the BJP six by the Congress and five by the AAP. AAP's chief ministerial candidate Isudan Gadhvi is contesting from Khambhalia seat in Devbhumi Dwarka district of



**BJP and Congress** 

the 89 seats while

AAP is contesting

in 88 seats

a long time.

Arvind Keiriwal.

are contesting in all

the new poll entrant

South Gujarat also comprises

Surat city with 12 seats which have

remained the BJP's bastion since

The BJP has this time found a

challenger in the AAP which has

fielded some of its senior state

leaders from Surat and hopes to win

seven-eight seats in the city, as de-

clared by its national convener

Gujarat AAP's state president

Gopal Italia is the candidate from

Katargam, general secretary Manoj

Sorathiya from Karanj and Patidar

community leader Alpesh Kathiriya

Out of the total 4.91.35.400 reg

istered voters in Gujarat, 2,39,76,670

are eligible to cast their votes in the

first phase of the elections. These

include 5.74 lakh voters in the age

group of 18-19 years, and 4,945

above the age of 99 years, the office

polling stations, of which 3,311 are

Voting will be held across 14,382

of the state CEO said.

from Varachha Road in Surat.

Saurashtra region that goes to polls on Thursday. AAP state unit president Gopal Italia is contesting from Katargam in Surat.

Among other prominent candidates in the first phase are Rivaba Jadeja, the wife of cricketer Ravindra Jadeja, who is contesting from Jamnagar (North), and BJP MLAs Harsh Sanghavi and Purnesh Modi from different seats in Surat and five-time MLA Parshottam Solanki from Bhavnagar (Rural).

Sitting Congress MLAs like Lalit Kagathara, Lalit Vasoya, Rutvik Makwana and Mohammad Javed Pirzada are among the candidates in fray in the first phase from seats in Saurashtra region.

Seven-time MLA and veteran tribal leader Chhotu Vasava is contesting from Jhagadia in Bharuch.

With 54 seats, the Saurashtra-Kutch region will be crucial for the Congress as it seeks to better its performance.

In the region, the Congress won 30 seats in 2017 compared to 16 in the 2012 election. The BJP, on the other hand, was reduced to 23 seats in 2017 as against 35 won by it in the previous election.

In south Gujarat, the Congress in 2017 bettered its tally to 10 compared to six in the previous polls, while the BJPs tally dropped to 25 in the last election from 28 earlier.

in the urban and 11,071 in rural areas, the poll body said in a release.

The election body has set up 89 'model polling stations', as many stations run by differently-abled people, 89 eco-friendly polling stations and 611 run by women. There are also 18 polling stations run by the youth, it said.

A total 34,324 ballot units, an equal number of control units, and 38,749 Voter verifiable paper audit trail (VVPAT) machines will be used for the election in the first phase, the release said. A total of 2,20,288 trained officers and employees will be on duty for the smooth conduct of the election process, it said. In the first phase, 27,978 presiding officers and 78,985 polling officers will be on duty, it said.

The BJP, Congress and AAP leaders held roadshows and addressed public rallies as part of their high-pitched campaign in the run-up to the elections.

The ruling party's campaign was led by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, Union Home Minister Amit Shah, BJP president JP Nadda, chief ministers of BJP-ruled states including Yogi Adityanath (Uttar Pradesh), Himanta Biswa Sarma (Assam), Shivraj Singh Chouhan (Madhya Pradesh), Pramod Sawant (Goa), and a number of Union ministers and state leaders

For the AAP, Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejiwal and his Punjab counterpart Bhagwant Mann were the most frequent campaigners. Apart from them, Delhi's Deputy CM Manish Sisodia and AAP's Rajya Sabha members Raghav Chadha and Sanjay Singh also campaigned in Gujarat.

The Congress banked on its local leaders for campaigning apart from Rajasthan CM Ashok Gehlot and party's national president Kharge, who held some rallies in the last few days before the first phase of elections.

INDO-ASIAN NEWS SERVICE

Gadag (Karnataka), Nov 30: The receipt of a farmer from Karnataka's Gadag district showing that he received only ₹8.36 after selling 205 kg of onions, has gone viral on social media, prompting netizens to question the state's rul ing BJP government over the plight of farmers during its regime.

But this is not the story of just one farmer in Gadag. All onion growers in the district are getting less than ₹10 per their produce in Bangalore's Yeshwanthpur market.

The farmers travel a 416 kmlong distance to reach Bangalore from Gadag.

In Pavadeppa Hallikeri's case, whose receipt has gone viral, the wholesaler priced the farmer's 205 kg produce at ₹200 per quintal, deducted ₹377 for freight charges and another ₹24 for porter charges. Another farmer from the district who had gone to the Bangalore market with 212 kg of onion, got a the entire district, explain locals. total of ₹1,000. But, after deducting

The farmers managed to reap a good crop following the incessant

the porter commission, transport

charge, hamali charges, he only

received ₹10.

rain creating havoc. But, the crash of prices of the onion crop has devastated the lives of farmers of

The people are demanding that the Minister for Agriculture BC Patil, who is also a district incharge minister of Gadag district, to come forward and help the farmers.



SYMBOLIC STIR: Sugarcane farmers holding stones on their heads stage a protest demanding an increase in the fair and remunerative price (FRP) for sugarcane, in Bangalore, Wednesday

# **BORDER DISPUTE**

# Security tightened at K'taka-Maha border

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Belagavi (Karnataka), Nov 30: With a raging border dispute between Karnataka and neighbouring Maharashtra, and the matter set to come up before the Supreme Court, police have tightened security in the border district.

Police officials said they have installed 21 checkposts in Belagavi district including the city, and also additional Karnataka State Reserve Police (KSRP) forces have been de-

ployed.
"We have decided to take measures to see to it that no untoward incident takes place, with a case coming up in the Supreme Court and also to see to it that incidents that happened last week don't repeat," ADGP (Law and Order) Alok Kumar has said. With an intention to maintain peace in the border areas. Karnataka and the Maharashtra police Tuesday held a meeting at Nippani.

In the meeting, they have decided to act tough against elements trying to disrupt peace and harmony and cause damage to public properties.

This comes in the wake of some incidents like causing damage or blackening of buses and vehicles on both sides over the border dispute. The police also said that they are taking all precautionary measures, in the wake of the possible visit by Maharashtra Ministers Chandrakant Patil and Shambhuraj Desai to Belagavi December 3 to meet the functionaries of

Maharashtra Ekikaran Samiti (MES) (pro Maharashtra outfit),

A senior official said, the state olice won't block any private visits of leaders from Maharashtra, but will act if there are any attempts to disrupt peace. All the precautionary measures

have and will continue to be taken in the wake of the court case, possible visit of the Maharashtra Ministers and the upcoming Assembly session here in Belagavi from December 19.

The border dispute dates back to the 1960s after the reorganisation of states on linguistic lines.

Maharashtra laid claim to Belagavi which was part of the erstwhile Bombay Presidency as it has a sizable Marathi-speaking population. It also laid claim to a number of Marathi-speaking villages which are currently part of Karnataka.

On its part as an assertion that Belagavi is an integral part of the state, Karnataka has built the Suvarna Vidhana Soudha, modelled on the Vidhana Soudha, the state secretariat in Bangalore, and a legislature session is held here

Slamming the neighbouring state's leaders for "provocative" statements on the border dispute, Karnataka Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai had recently said predominantly Kannada-speaking areas of Maharashtra including Solapur and Akkalkot regions belonged to the state.



# K'taka HC quashes petition questioning ban on PFI

INDO-ASIAN NEWS SERVICE

Bangalore, Nov 30: The Karnataka High Court Wednesday quashed a petition questioning the ban on the Popular Front of India (PFI) and upheld the decision of the Central government in this regard.

The petition was submitted by the president of PFI's Karnataka PFI unit Nasir Pasha. The single bench headed by Justice M Nagaprasanna pronounced the verdict.

The PFI was banned for five years by the union government for allegedly hatching a conspiracy to kill dignitaries, planning anti-national activities and for having close links with terror outfits.

Nasir Pasha had questioned this move and submitted a petition in the High Court. The court, after taking cognizance of the petition, had reserved orders.

Counsel Jayakumara S Patil,



submitted that the union gov-

PFI. The government should have given a reason for taking such a

the UAPA Act. Arguing for the central government, Solicitor General Tushar Mehta stated that the PFI is carrying out anti-national activities. He stated that the PFI is indulging in violence and its members are creating an atmosphere of fear

decision. The ban had been imposed without giving any time

to place its arguments and against

# Unhappy, many complaints Not so serious, says but BJP it is for many voters minister as teacher

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Ahmedabad, Nov 30: Tulsidas Lakhani from Porbandar has many grievances and a long wishlist of tasks the government must accomplish. Almost 400 km away in Gujarat's principal town Ahmedabad, Vinod Gopal echoes his frustration.

In a state where the BJP re-

mains the dominant force and en-

joys unqualified support from a big chunk of people. Lakhani and Gopal may sound like voters looking for change. But they are not. There must be a strong government. Which other party could have revoked Article 370 or built

a Ram temple in Ayodhya? We vote for the party and not any candidate. There is no alternative to Modi or the BJP," Lakhani, who is in his 80s, told PTI. The lack of economic growth

in the coastal town of Porbandar is problematic, he said. The Maharana Mill, which gave employment to many is closed, an old soda ash factory that boosted business in the local marker is no longer generous with bonus, and study and employment opportunities are limited for children.

However, Lakhani lauded the BJP for strong law and order in the town once marked by crimes.

In Ahmedabad, Gopal, an auto parts dealer, said business remains

'manda' and price rise pinches. Prime Minister Narendra Modi, who is synonymous with his party across his home state, is a good seth (master), he said.

"Supervisors working under him may or may not be good. But



you don't leave the 'seth' because of supervisors," he stated.

The two voters belong to a segment of the electorate which may be unhappy with the BJP's government in the state for a variety of issues but will still vote for the party as they believe it remains their best bet.

The opposition appears to be missing in a big swathe of the state's urban region cutting across cities like Rajkot, Ahmedabad, Surat, Porbandar and Vadodara.

According to poll watchers, the Congress remains a shrinking force in these areas while the Aam Aadmi Party has been able to make an impression, especially in Surat and its neighbourhood, but still has a long way to go.

Issues of price rice, complaints about the rising cost of edible oil and cooking gas cylinders are brought up in virtually every conversation. Unemployment crops up often with many voters of the view that the government is not doing enough in the education and health sectors

However, many of them, like Gopal and Lakhani, continue to repose faith in the BJP, which has been in power uninterrupted since 1998. The ideological and cultural agenda of the party is a big plus cited by them.

With opposition votes looking fragmented, the BJP has gone all out to consolidate its supporters. Modi and Home Minister Amit Shah have been holding public meetings across the state. Shah has also been camping in the state to fine-tune the party's campaign and public outreach.

He has repeatedly expressed confidence that his party will break all records while Modi has exhorted voters to better the best ever best tally of 127 seats it had won under in 2002 when he was chief minister. Both the Congress and the AAP have also claimed they will get a majority in the 182member assembly.

# calls student 'Kasab'

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Bangalore, Nov 30: Karnataka Minister of School Education and Literacy BC Nagesh reacting to the recent controversy following an assistant professor allegedly referring to a student as Kasab, felt that it is not so serious.

He also sought to know why names from a particular community became a national issue, but names like Ravana or Shakuni which are so commonly used for referring, does not become an issue at all.

"It is unfortunate, the incident shouldn't have taken place, the teacher should not have used that name. But I also feel that it is not such (a) serious thing, because we use the name of Rayana for many students many times, we also use the name of Shakuni many times, but that doesn't become an issue at all," Nagesh said.

Speaking to reporters, he said, 'Why the name of (a person) who belongs to a particular commu-

nity becomes an issue, I don't know Though the issue has been taken seriously and action has been taken against the teacher. But, why some names become a national issue. I

cannot understand.'

assistant professor in Manipal calling a student by the name "Kasab", and the student countering it had gone viral. Later, the professor tendered an

On Monday, a video showing an

apology. The video had gone viral on social media, and the university has debarred the faculty from classes

Nagesh's comments came amidst Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge's Ravana barb at Prime Minister Narendra Modi, which triggered a political slugfest be-

tween Congress and the BJP. Taking a swipe at Modi at a rally in Behrampura area of Ahmedabad city Monday, Kharge had said the prime minister asks people to vote "looking at his face" in all elections. "Are you 100-headed like Ravan," he had said.



# national



About 1.25 lakh are under process and 1 lakh more have been announced. In such a situation, Rajasthan has become the leading state in the whole country in providing employment ASHOK GEHLOT | RAJASTHAN CM 

## **LAKSHMI DIES OF CARDIAC ARREST**

A 32-year-old female elephant of Sri Manakula Vinagayar temple collapsed on the road and died Wednesday. Two mahouts were accompanying the elephant when it went out in the morning. Temple authorities told IANS that an autopsy of the elephant would reveal the exact cause of death





Sangai boost the local economy, and attract industries. I am confident that it will become a gateway to development

Festivals like

NARENDRA MODI PRIME MINISTER

I've heard about your water-related problems. We are working on it. By 2024, we will connect all households with tap water. I'll ask ADM Preeti Goyal, who will be in charge of Sundarbans to work with Public Health Engineering department and start supplying water within seven days

MAMATA BANERJEE | WEST BENGAL CM

The Reserve Bank of India in its industrial report had stated that Tamil Nadu has become the number one state in the country and that was only because of the steps taken by the AIADMK

EDAPPADI K PALANISWAMI AIADMK I FADER

## **SHORT TAKES**

## 2 Naxalites killed in encounter

Mandla/Balaghat (MP): Two Naxalites were killed in an encounter with security forces on the border of Balaghat and Mandla districts in Madhya Pradesh in the early hours of Wednesday, police said. A senior police officer said the number of Naxalites killed in the operation could "The encounter took place in the early hours of Wednesday between the Hawk Force and Naxalites on the border of Balaghat and Mandla districts during a search operation under the limits of Gadhi and Motinala police stations.

## **Court refuses bail** to Nawab Malik

Mumbai: A special court here Wednesday refused bail to former Maharashtra minister Nawab Malik in an alleged money laundering case linked to a land deal in which fugitive gangster Dawood Ibrahim and his aides were involved. R N Rokade, special judge for cases under the Prevention of Money Laundering Act (PMLA), had reserved his order on the bail plea November 14 after hearing lengthy arguments. While the detailed order was not yet available, the judge while pronouncing the order said the two conditions laid down under section 45 of the PMLA were not satisfied.

## **Conman Sukesh's** close aide arrested

New Delhi: The Economic Offences Wing (EOW) of Delhi Police has arrested Pinky rani, close aide of incarcerated conman Sukesh Chandrasekhar, in connection with a ₹200 crore extortion case. "During investigation, Pinky Irani, a resident of Mumbai, had joined the investigation at EOW office today and after having sufficient evidence against her, she has been arrested in the case involving Sukesh," said a senior police official.

## Three govt officials held for taking bribe

Jaipur: The Anti-Corruption Bureau (ACB) of Rajasthan Police Wednesday arrested three government officials for allegedly taking bribes in two separate cases. In Jalore district, the ACB arrested two civic officials for allegedly taking a bribe of ₹4 lakh. The accused have been identified as Bhinmal Nagar Palika's executive officer Ashutosh Acharya and his iunior assistant Jagdeesh Jat. Director General (ACB) B L Soni said. Acharya had demanded a bribe from the complainant to issue a lease on his residential plot.

# **Bilkis challenges** apex court order

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, Nov 30: Bilkis Bano, who was gang-raped and seven members of her family slaughtered during the 2002 Gujarat riots, Wednesday moved the Supreme Court challenging the remission of sentence of 11 convicts in the case by the state government, saying their premature release has "shaken the conscience of society".

Besides the plea challenging the release of the convicts, the gangrape survivor has also filed a separate petition seeking a review of the apex court's May 13, 2022 order on a plea by a convict.

The top court had asked the state government to consider the plea for premature release of the convicts in terms of its policy of July 9, 1992 about deciding a remission petition within a period of two months.

A bench comprising Chief Justice D Y Chandrachud and Justice P S Narasimha was urged by the counsel for Bano that her two separate pleas, one challenging the remission and the other seeking a review of the apex court's direction, be listed for urgent hearing.

The top court took note of the submission by lawyer Shobha Gupta that Justice Ajay Rastogi, who was part of the bench which had heard other similar pleas against the remission, was now part of a Constitution bench hearing. "The review has to be heard first. Let it come before Justice Rastogi," the CJI said. The counsel for Bano suggested that the review plea, which as per the apex court rules are decided in chambers by the judges concerned, be heard in an open court.

"Only the court concerned can decide that (open court hearing)," the CJI said, adding he will take a call on the listing of both the matters in the evening.

Bano, in her plea against the grant of remission which had led to the release of the convicts August 15, said the state government passed a "mechanical order" completely ignoring the requirement of law as laid down by the Supreme Court.

→ Bilkis Bano was 21 years old and five months pregnant when she was gang-raped while fleeing the riots that broke out after the Godhra train burning incident. Her three-year-old daughter was among the seven family nembers killed

- >> The probe in the case was nanded over to the CBI and the trial was transferred to a Maharashtra court by the Supreme Court
- A special CBI court in Mumba had January 21, 2008 sentenced the 11 to life imprisonment
- Their conviction was later upheld by the Bombay High Court and the Supreme Court
- The 11 men walked out of the Godhra sub-jail August 15 after he Gujarat government allowed heir release under its remission policy. They had completed more han 15 years in jail

"The enmasse premature release of the convicts in the much talked about case of Bilkis Bano, has shaken the conscience of the society and resulted in a number of agitations across the country," she said in the plea.

Referring to past verdicts, the plea said enmasse remissions are not permissible and moreover, such a relief cannot be sought or granted as a matter of right without examining the case of each convict individually based on their peculiar facts and role played by them in the crime. "The present writ petition challenging the decision of the State/ Central Government granting remission to all the 11 convicts and releasing them prematurely in one of the most gruesome crimes of extreme inhuman violence and brutality by a group of human beings upon another group of human beings, all helpless and innocent people - most of them were either women or minors, by chasing them for days together persuaded by hate towards a particular community," it said.





BOOSTING TIES: Indian and US Army personnel exchange greetings during a humanitarian and disaster relief exercise (HADR) amid the Indo-US joint exercise 'Yudh Abhyas' in Tapovan, Uttarakhand

# 'TKF' row: Israeli director stands by his remarks

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Jerusalem, Nov 30: Unfazed by the widespread criticism of his comments against the Hindi film "The Kashmir Files", Israeli director and IFFI international jury chair Nadav Lapid said he stands by his remarks as he "knows how to recognise propaganda disguised as a movie'

Reacting to the backlash he received for calling "The Kashmir Files" a "vulgar" and "propaganda" movie, Lapid said making bad films is not a crime, but the Vivek Agnihotri directorial is "crude manipulative and violent".

"Making bad films is not a crime, but this is a very crude, manipulative and violent propaganda film," Lapid said in an interview with Israeli newspaper Ha'aretz.

According to the filmmaker, he felt was his "duty" to speak his mind as the head of the international jury.

"The truth is that I also couldn't help but imagine a similar situation that might happen one day soon in Israel, and I would be happy that in such a situation the head of a foreign jury would be willing to say things as he sees them. In a way, I felt it was my duty to the



filmmaker. he felt it was his "duty" to speak his mind as the head of the international jury

place that invited me," he said. The award-winning filmmaker had called out "The Kashmir Files". which was screened at the International Film Festival of India (IFFI) November 22 under the Indian Panorama section, at the closing ceremony of the nine-day festival in Goa Monday.

The team of "The Kashmir Files", including writer-director Agnihotri, stars Anupam Kher and Pallavi Joshi, several BJP leaders including Goa CM Pramod Sawant as well as Israel's Ambassador to India Naor Gilon and Consul General to Midwest India Kobbi Shoshani panned Lapid. Sudipto Sen, one of the members on the jury, said remarks expressed by the Israeli filmmaker were his "personal opinion". Lapid, known for his anti-establishment views, alleged that "The Kashmir Files" was "pushed into the official competition" of the festival.

# Infant among 6 of family killed in fire

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Firozabad (UP), Nov 30: An infant was among three children who died in a fire that killed six members of a family here the previous night, police said.

Six members of a family were killed and three others injured after a fire broke out in their electronics-cum-furniture shop on the ground floor of the building they

lived in, police said. The deceased have been identified as Manoj (36) and his wife Neeraj (33), their sons Bharat (15) and Harshvardhan (13). Their sister-in-law Shivani (22), the wife of Manoj's brother, and their sixmonth-old daughter Tejasvi also died in the fire, District Magistrate

Ravi Ranjan said Wednesday. The post mortem of all six were conducted late Tuesday night and they were cremated Wednesday, he said.

The fire broke out after a battery explosion on the ground floor of their furniture shop and it spread to the second and third floors where the families resided.

While shop owner Raman Rajput (65) and his younger son Nitin (25) and Manoj's daughter Unnati (8) escaped after the fire started and were rushed to the hospital, the others got trapped.

Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath has expressed grief over the loss of lives and directed officials to provide a relief of ₹2 lakh to the kin of the deceased, the government

Eighteen fire fighting vehicles from Agra, Mainpuri, Etah and Firozabad and personnel from 12 police stations were involved in the twoand-a-half hour rescue operation.



# WhatsApp banned 23.24L Indian accounts in Oct

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, Nov 30: Instant messaging platform WhatsApp Wednesday said it banned 23.24 lakh accounts in India in October, including 8.11 lakh accounts which were barred proactively before being flagged by users.

The number of accounts blocked in October was about 13 per cent less than the 26.85 lakh accounts the messaging platform banned in

'Between 1 Oct, 2022 and 31 Oct, 2022, 2,324,000 WhatsApp accounts were banned. 8,11,000 of these ac-

counts were proactively banned, before any reports from users. An Indian account is identified via a +91 phone number," WhatsApp said in the India Monthly Report under the Information Technology Rules 2021 for the month of October.

The tougher IT rules, which came into effect last year, mandate large digital platforms (with over 50 lakh users) to publish compliance reports every month, mentioning the details of complaints received and action taken. Big social media firms have drawn flak in the past over hate speech, misinformation and fake news circulating on their



platforms. Concerns have been flagged by some quarters time and again over digital platforms acting arbitrarily in pulling down content, and 'de-platforming' users.

The government last week announced rules for setting up a grievance appeal mechanism against arbitrary content moderation, inaction, or takedown decisions of big tech companies

According to the latest WhatsApp report, the platform received 701 grievances in September but took action only against 34.

The platform received appeal to ban 550 accounts but it took action only on 34 accounts. "We respond to all grievances received except in cases where a grievance is deemed to be a duplicate of a previous ticket. An account is 'actioned' when an account is banned or a previously banned account is restored, as a result of a complaint. the report said.

In addition to responding to and actioning on user complaints through the grievance channel, WhatsApp also deploys tools and resources to prevent harmful behaviour on the platform, the report said. "We are particularly focused on prevention because we believe it is much better to stop harmful activity from happening in the first place than to detect it after harm has occurred," the company said.

# More boys than girls being diagnosed with cancer: Study

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, Nov 30: More boys than girls with cancer in India are being diagnosed with the disease and the probable cause for this is gender bias in society, according to a study published in *The Lancet* 

The researchers collected individual data of children aged 0-19 vears with cancer extracted from the hospital-based records of three cancer centres in India between January

1, 2005, and December 31, 2019. They also used data from two population-based cancer registries: PBCRs in Delhi between January 1, 2005, and December 31, 2014 and Madras Metropolitan Tumour Registry between January 1, 2005 and December 31, 2017.

The researchers from All India Institute of Medical Sciences, New Delhi and Cancer Institute (WIA) Chennai calculated the male to female sex ratio from the three hospitals in the context of the ratio in the corresponding PBCRs.

This ratio allowed them to see how many boys with cancer were seeking treatment for each girl seeking treatment.

The team separately analysed the male to female ratios of patients undergoing stem cell transplant which is a comparatively expensive procedure used in cancer care.

"We observed that among nearly 11,000 patients registered in the



PBCRs, there was significant skew in favour of boys for getting diagnosed with cancer. Similarly, among the 22,000 children with cancer enrolled in the three hospitals, we saw that more boys were seeking treatment than girls," said Professor Sameer Bakhshi, from

THE RESEARCHERS NOTED THAT LESSER GIRLS WERE SEEKING TREATMENT IN HOSPITALS IN CENTRES IN NORTHERN INDIA AS COMPARED TO SOUTHERN INDIA

THE DISPARITY BETWEEN THE GENDERS WAS MORE FOR PATIENTS COMING FROM RURAL AS COMPARED TO URBAN AREAS

THIS MAY HAVE TO DO VARIATIONS IN SOCIAL FABRIC IN DIFFERENT PARTS OF THE COUNTRY, AS PER THE STUDY

Department of Medical Oncology,

AIIMS New Delhi. "However, when we looked at sex ratios among patients seeking cancer care in the context of sex ratios at diagnosis, the skew in sex ratios was no longer apparent. This tells us that the bias towards boys originates at the community level. Once children are brought forward and diagnosed, there is no further gender bias in seeking treatment. Bakhsh, the corresponding author of the study, told PTI.

The study also found that lesser number of girls were coming to the hospital if the distance of the centre from their home was over 100 kilometers, signifying that if costs related to treatment increase,

the bias would likely increase. The researchers observed that the male to female ratios in Delhihave been improving over the last 15 years.

# international



aggression in Ukraine and is responding with more brutality JENS STOLTENBERG | SECRETARY GENERAL, NATO

## **HIGH LIFE OVER SPIRITUALITY**

A Buddhist temple in central Thailand has been left without monks after all its holy men failed drug tests and were defrocked, a local official said. Four monks including an abbot at a temple in Phetchabun province's Bung Sam Phan district tested positive for methamphetamine





damage and cover rebuilding the

country. We have the means to make

URSULA VON DER LEYEN

(The ruling) Awami League never ever pampers terrorism and it never allows the use of Bangladesh soil for the purpose



I don't have sympathy for Mr Assange's actions on a whole range of matters, but...You have to reach a point whereby what is the point of...Continuing this legal action which could be caught up now for

SHEIKH HASINA PM. BANGLADESH

many years into the future? ANTHONY ALBANESE PM. AUSTRALIA

## SHORT **TAKES**

## **Ex-Chinese Prez Zemin dies at 96**

Beijing: Former Chinese President Jiang Zemin, who led the country for a decade of rapid economic growth after the Tiananmen crackdown in 1989, died Wednesday at the age of 96, Chinese state media reported. Jiang died in his home city of Shanghai just after noon on Wednesday of leukaemia and multiple organ failure, Xinhua news agency said, publishing a letter to the Chinese people by the ruling Communist Party, parliament, Cabinet and the military.

## **■** 16 killed, 24 hurt in Afghan blast

Kabul: At least 16 people were killed and 24 others wounded Wednesday by a blast at a madrassa in Afghanistan's northern city of Aybak, a doctor at a local hospital said. There have been dozens of blasts and attacks targeting civilians since the Taliban returned to power in August last year, most claimed by the local chapter of the Islamic State group. A doctor in Aybak, about 200 kilometres (130 miles) north of the capital Kabul, said the casualties were mostly youngsters.

## Jeffries first Black **Democrat leader**

Washington: Hakeem Jeffries was elected Wednesday to become the Democratic Party's top leader in the US House of Representatives beginning in January, making him the first Black American to hold such a high-ranking position in Congress. The vote by Jeffries' fellow Democrats also marked the rise of a younger generation of leaders in the 435-member House and the end of the Nancy Pelosi era. In 2007 she became the first woman to be elected House speaker.

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE

did with abortion.

Washington, Nov 30: The US

Tuesday protecting same-sex mar-

ties moved to forestall the possibility

of the conservative-led Supreme

Court taking away this right as it

The Senate's 61-36 vote sends

the bill back to the House of

Representatives, which is expected

# China flags US interference Russia and its oligarchs have to compensate kraine for the amage and cover le closts for shullding the

**TIES BETWEEN INDIA AND CHINA HAVE NOSEDIVED** SINCE THE WORST **BORDER CLASHES BETWEEN THEM IN 45 YEARS KILLED 20 INDIAN AND FOUR CHINESE SOLDIERS** 

New Delhi, Nov 30: China has warned the United States to not interfere in its relationship with India following deadly border skirmishes between the Asian giants in 2020, the Pentagon said in a report.

India is part of the so-called Quad alliance with the United States, Japan and Australia that aims to keep China's influence in the Indo-Pacific region in check.

"Throughout the standoff, PRC officials sought to downplay the severity of the crisis, emphasising Beijing's intent to preserve border stability and prevent the standoff from harming other areas of its bilateral relationship with India." the US Department of Defense said in a report to Congress released Tuesday, referring to the People's Republic of China.

The PRC seeks to prevent border tensions from causing India to partner more closely with the United States. PRC officials have warned US officials to not interfere with the PRC's relationship with India."

Chinese foreign ministry spokesperson Zhao Lijian did not mention the Pentagon report during a daily news conference



# China decries India–US drills near LAC

Beijing: China Wednesday said it was opposed to the joint Indo-US military exercises being held near the Line of Actual Control (LAC), asserting that it violates the spirit of the two border agreements signed between New Delhi and Beijing. The 18th edition of the India-US joint military exercise 'Yudh Abhyas' is currently underway in Uttarakhand, about 100 km from the Line of Actual Control (LAC). It aims to enhance interoperability and share expertise between both armies in peacekeeping and disaster relief operations. The nearly two-week exercise began earlier this month. "The joint military exercise between India and the US close to the LAC at the China-India border violates the spirit of the agreement between China and India in 1993 and 1996,' Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesman Zhao Lijian told a media briefing here. "It does not serve the mutual trust between China and India", he said in response to a question posed by a correspondent from Pakistan. The Chinese Foreign Ministry's reference to the 1993 and 1996 agreements is interesting as India termed the People's Liberation Army's (PLA) attempts to move a large number of troops to the disputed areas in the LAC in eastern Ladakh in May 2020 violated the bilateral agreements which state that the boundary question is resolved through peaceful and friendly consultations.

Wednesday. He said, however, this month's US-Indian joint military exercises not very far from the Chinese border, in the northern Indian state of Uttarakhand, were "not conducive to the trust between India and China".

Brahma Chellaney, a defence and strategic affairs analyst in New Delhi, said China was able

to "advance its interests" by playing down its military stand on its Himalavan frontier while shielding other areas of its relationship with India.

"Downplaying its aggression, ironically, also aids India's efforts to save face." he said on Twitter, referring to criticism within India about its response to China.

# **CHALLENGING US**

# nuclear warheads by 2035: Pentagon

WASHINGTON: China is expanding its nuclear arsenal and is likely to have a stockpile of about 1,500 warheads by 2035, up from the current estimated number of 400, the Pentagon has said, with Beijing focusing on accelerating its nuclear capabilities as it seeks to challenge America's global dominance. In its ambitious military build-up, the next decade, Beijing aims to modernise, diversify, and expand its nuclear forces. China's current exceeded the previous modernisaplexity, it said. China is investing in and expanding the number of its land, sea, and air-based nuclear the infrastructure necessary to sup port this major expansion of its increasing its capacity to produce and separate plutonium by constructing fast breeder reactors and reprocessing facilities. In 2021, Beijing probably accelerated its nuclear expansion, it said. The Pentagon said it estimates that China's operational nuclear warheads stockpile has surpassed 400. The People's Liberation Army (PLA) plans to "basically complete modernization" of its national defence and armed forces by 2035, said the report. "If China continues the pace field a stockpile of about 1,500 warheads by its 2035 timeline," it said.

# China to have 1,500

annual report to Congress on China's Pentagon said Tuesday that over the nuclear modernisation exercise has tion attempts in both scale and com delivery platforms and constructing nuclear forces, the report said. China is also supporting this expansion by of its nuclear expansion, it will likely

# NATO seeks to shore up Russia's neighbours

**MOLDOVA, GEORGIA AND BOSNIA ARE ALL** "FACING PRESSURE FROM RUSSIA"

REUTERS

Kyiv, Nov 30: Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy said Russian forces were trying to advance in the northeast and east and "planning something" in the south, while NATO sought Wednesday to reassure other countries that fear destabilisation from Moscow.

Ukraine's General Staff said its forces had repelled six Russian attacks in the past 24 hours in the eastern Donbas region, while Russian artillery had relentlessly shelled the right bank of the Dnipro River and Kherson city further south.

Winter weather has hampered fighting on the ground, and Zelenskyy has told Ukrainians to expect a major Russian barrage this week on Ukraine's stricken electricity infrastructure, which Moscow has pounded roughly weekly since early October.

He said the Russian military was attacking the Donbas regions of Donetsk and Luhansk in the east as well as Kharkiv in the northeast, where Ukraine pushed back Russian forces in September.

"The situation at the front is difficult," he said in his nightly video address. "Despite extremely large losses, the occupiers are still trying to advance" in Donetsk, Luhansk and Kharkiv. And "they are planning something in the south," he said, without elaborating.

Foreign ministers from the NATO alliance, including US Secretary of State Antony Blinken. were set to focus on helping fragile countries concerned about their



ATO says Moscow is using winter as 'weapon of war'

kraine asks NATO allies for nore air defences, generators

**7**elenskyy says Russia plans

Russian official says Ukraine attacks cause some power cuts

own stability amid an energy crisis prompted by the Ukraine war. **PATRIOTS** 

The ministers began their twoday meeting in Bucharest Tuesday with pledges both to help Ukrainians cope with what the defence alliance's chief said was Moscow using winter weather as "a weapon of war" and to help sustain Kyiv's military campaign.

"In a nutshell: Patriots (missile defence systems) and transformers (for our energy needs) are what Ukraine needs the most," Ukrainian Foreign Minister Dmytro Kuleba told reporters on the sidelines of the NATO meeting.

Former Russian president Dmitry Medvedev, now deputy head of Moscow's security council and a prominent hawk, warned NATO against providing Ukraine with Patriot systems and denounced the Atlantic alliance as a "criminal entity" for delivering arms to what he called "Ukrainian fanatics."

# SK scrambles jets as China, Russia warplanes enter air defence zone



REUTERS

Seoul, Nov 30: South Korea's military said it scrambled fighter jets as two Chinese and six Russian warplanes entered its air defence zone Wednesday.

The two Chinese H-6 bombers repeatedly entered and left the Korea Air Defence Identification Zone (KADIZ) off South Korea's southern and northeast coasts starting at around 5:50 am (2050 GMT Tuesday). Seoul's Joint Chiefs of Staff (JCS) said.

They re-entered the zone hours later from the Sea of Japan, known in South Korea as the East Sea, together with the Russian warplanes, including TU-95 bombers and SU-35 fighter jets, and left after 18 minutes in the KADIZ, the JCS said.

"Our military dispatched air force fighter jets ahead of the Chinese and Russian aircraft's entry of the KADIZ to implement tactical measures in preparation for a potential contingency," the JCS said in a statement.

The planes did not violate South

Japan's Air Self Defence Force also scrambled fighter jets after the Chinese bombers flew from the East China Sea into the Sea of Japan, where they were joined by two Russian drones

Korea's airspace, it said.

An air defence zone is an area where countries demand that foreign aircraft take special steps to identify themselves. Unlike a country's airspace - the air above its territory and territorial waters there are no international rules governing air defence zones

Moscow does not recognise Korea's air defence zone. Beijing said the zone is not territorial airspace and all countries should enjoy freedom of movement there. China and Russia have previously said their warplanes were conducting regular joint exercises.

In August, the JCS reported Russian warplanes entering the KADIZ, three months after Chinese and Russian aircraft made an incursion in May that was the first after South Korean President Yoon



 $Members \ of the \ Cargo\ Truckers' Solidarity\ Union\ stage\ a\ rally\ against\ the\ government's\ return-to-work\ order\ on\ cement$ 

# **ANTI-VIRUS STIRS**

# China pledges strict action after largest protests in decades

ASSOCIATED PRESS

Beijing, Nov 30: China's ruling Communist Party has vowed to "resolutely crack down on infiltration and sabotage activities by hostile forces," following the largest street demonstrations in decades staged by citizens fed up with strict anti-virus restrictions.

The statement from the Central Political and Legal Affairs Commission released late on Tuesday comes amid a massive show of force by security services to deter a recurrence of the protests that broke out over the weekend in Beijing, Shanghai, Guangzhou and several other cities.

While it did not directly address the protests, the statement serves as a reminder of the party's determination to enforce its rule.

Hundreds of SUVs, vans and armoured vehicles with flashing lights were parked along city streets Wednesday while police and paramilitary forces conducted random ID checks and searched people's mobile phones for photos, banned apps or other potential evidence that they had taken part in the demonstrations. The number of people who have been detained at the demonstrations and in follow-up police actions is not known.

The commission's statement, issued after an expanded session Monday presided over by its head Chen Wenqing, a member of the party's 24-member Politburo, said the meeting aimed to review the outcomes of October's 20th party congress. At that event, Xi granted himself a third five-year term as secretary general, potentially making him China's leader for life, while stacking key bodies with loyalists and eliminating opposing voices.



# US Senate okays same-sex marriage protection Bill LANDMARK

*In the US, same-sex unions have been* guaranteed by the SC since 2015. But after the court's historic overturning of a longstanding ruling

protecting the right to abortion in June, many progressives feared that same-sex marriage may also be under threat

to move swiftly to approve it and send it for Biden's signature. Senate majority leader Chuck Senate passed a landmark bill Schumer hailed a "momentous step forward for greater justice for riage, as lawmakers from both par-

LGBTQ Americans. Eleven Republicans joined Democrats to pass the legislation on what had for decades been a

deeply divisive issue in America. In the United States, same-sex unions have been guaranteed by the Supreme Court since 2015. But



turning of a longstanding ruling protecting the right to abortion in June, many progressives feared that same-sex marriage may also

be under threat

Democrats have worked with urgency to get the bill passed while they still control Congress.

They held on to the Senate in this month's mid-term elections but lost the House to the

With today's bipartisan Senate passage of the Respect for Marriage Act, the **United States is on the brink** of reaffirming a fundamental truth: love is love, and **Americans should have the** right to marry the person they love

JOE BIDEN | PRESIDENT, US

Republicans, although the latter eked out a much thinner majority than they had expected. So when the new Congress takes power in January, gridlock is expected.

The bill passed Tuesday does not require states to legalize samesex marriage. But it repeals previous legislation defining marriage as a union between a man and a woman, and does require states to recognize same-sex marriages from other states.

So if the Supreme Court were to overturn the 2015 ruling that legalized same-sex marriages, a state that bans them will still have to recognize such unions carried out in other states. The bill also applies to inter-racial marriages.

"Today's vote is deeply personal for many of us in this chamber," said Schumer, who wore the same tie he had on at his lesbian daughter's wedding. A similar bill was already passed in June by the House of Representatives. All the chamber's Democrats voted in favor, along with 47 Republicans. The new vote in the House is needed to reconcile the two bills but this is seen as a formality.

# business



**Government has set a target** that in this (digital economy) we should be easily crossing 1 crore jobs in the coming two years without any doubt

ASHWINI VAISHNAW I MINISTER FOR IT AND COMMUNICATIONS

## **INDIA-AUSTRALIA FTA FROM DEC 29**

The free trade agreement between India and Australia will come into force from December 29, minister of commerce and industry Piyush Goyal said Wednesday. "Economic Cooperation & Trade Agreement realised under the guidance of leaders on both countries, comes into effect from December 29, 2022," Goyal wrote on Twitter



countries in the world are facing a debt crisis. We have the challenge of a global supply chain which is disrupted. You have the challenge of climate action. But every crisis is also an opportunity. And to my mind, this is a huge opportunity for India AMITABH KANT | G20 SHERPA, INDIA

Our vision is to double the MSME sector to India's economy by realising its full potential. We will resolve internal bottlenecks towards this objective

BHANU PRATAP SINGH VERMA UNION

We have been making products in India and shipping them to the US. The idea behind the acquisition was to

double down on that, specifically down on renewables as a category which in this case is solar and be

closer to the customers AMRIT ACHARYA CO-FOUNDER AND CEO

# SHORT TAKES

## ■ Toyota Kirloskar **VC Vikram dies**

New Delhi: Toyota Kirloskar Motor Vice Chairman Vikram S Kirloskar has died due to a heart attack, the automaker said Wednesday. He was 64. "We are extremely saddened to inform the untimely demise of Vikram S Kirloskar, Vice Chairman, Tovota Kirloskar Motor on 29th November 2022 At this time of grief, we request everyone to pray that his soul rests in peace," the company said in a statement.

## Investment by **P-notes swells**

New Delhi: Investment in the Indian capital markets through participatory notes rose to ₹97,784 crore at the end of October, the highest in a year. This was also the third consecutive monthly increase in investments through such a route. Participatory notes (Pnotes) are issued by registered foreign Portfolio Investors (FPIs) to overseas investors who wish to be part of the Indian stock market without registering themselves directly. They, however, need to go through a due diligence process. October P-notes investment level was the highest since October 2021, when investment through this route stood at ₹1.02 lakh crore.

## Discoms' dues dip in last 6 months

New Delhi: The Ministry of Power Wednesday said outstanding dues of electricity distribution firms (discoms) towards gencos, transcos and traders have come down by ₹ 24,680 crore to ₹1,13,269 crore in the last six months. The total outstanding dues of states (discoms) which were at ₹1,37,949 crore as on June 3, 2022 have been reduced by ₹24,680 crore to ₹1,13,269 crore with timely payment of just four EMIs (equated monthly installments), it stated.

## Tata plans to buy **Wistron's facility**

Bangalore: Tata Group is in talks to buy Wistron Corp's only manufacturing facility in India for up to ₹50 billion (\$612.6 million), the Economic Times business daily reported Wednesday, citing people familiar with the discussions. If it fails to strike a deal to buy the facility in the southern Indian state of Karnataka, Tata could consider a joint venture with Taiwan's Wistron - one of Apple Inc's top vendors in India - the report said, citing sources close to Tata.

# GDP slips to 6.3% in Q2

*India GDP growth halves in second quarter from first* quarter but remained the fastest-growing major economy



demand amid tightening financial conditions

remains the key risk for growth outlook for India

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, Nov 30: India's economic growth slowed down to 6.3 per cent in the July-September quarter of this fiscal, dragged down mainly by the poor performance of manufacturing and mining sectors, official data showed Wednesday.

However, India remained the fastest-growing major economy as China registered an economic growth of 3.9 per cent in July-September 2022

The Indian economy grew by 8.4 per cent in July-September, 2021-22, as per the data released by the National Statistical Office (NSO). The gross domestic product (GDP) expanded by 13.5 per cent in the April-June quarter this fiscal.

The second quarter GDP growth is almost at par with the RBI's projection of 6.1 per cent to 6.3 per cent released earlier this month in one of the articles published in its bulletin

"Real GDP or GDP at Constant

GARIMA KAPOOR | ECONOMIST, ELARA CAPITAL (2011-12) Prices in Q2 2022-23 is estimated at ₹38.17 lakh crore, as against ₹35.89 lakh crore in Q2

2021-22, showing a growth of 6.3

per cent as compared to 8.4 per

cent in Q2 2021-22," the NSO said. The real GDP in absolute terms stood at ₹33.10 lakh crore in the July-September quarter of 2020. It had contracted by 6.6 per cent in the second quarter of 2020-21 on account of the staggering impact of lockdown restrictions to curb the spread of coronavirus.

As per the data, Gross Value Added (GVA) grew by 5.6 per cent to ₹35.05 lakh crore in July-September this year.

The GVA growth in the farm sector is 4.6 per cent in the second quarter compared to 3.2 per cent a year ago. However, the GVA in the manufacturing sector contracted 4.3 per cent during the quarter from 5.6 per cent growth during the year-ago period.

GVA in mining also declined by 2.8 per cent in the quarter com-

## On track to achieve 6.8-7% GDP: CEA

The Indian economy is on track to achieve a 6.8-7 per cent GDP growth in the current fiscal, Chief Economic Advsior V Anantha Nageswaran said Wednesday. He said the economic recovery momentum is continuing and the GDP is averaging the 2019-20 level. "In 2022-23, the economy is on track to reach a 6.8-7 per cent growth in the current fiscal," he said, adding festival sales, PMI, bank credit growth and auto sales data shows that the economy has maintained momentum despite global headwinds. The IMF has projected Indian economy to grow at 6.8 per cent this fiscal, while the RBI has pegged it at 7 per cent.

pared to 14.5 per cent growth. The GVA growth in the construction sector also decelerated to 6.6 per cent in the quarter from 8.1 per cent.

The electricity, gas, water supply and other utility services segment grew by 5.6 per cent in the quarter compared to 8.5 per cent a year ago. GVA growth in the services sector -- trade, hotel, transport, communication and services related to broadcasting -- was 14.7 per cent during the second quarter against 9.6 per cent. Financial, real estate and professional services grew by 7.2 per cent in the first quarter over 6.1 per cent earlier.

Public administration, defence and other services posted 6.5 per cent growth against 19.4 per cent in the second quarter of the last fiscal.

The NSO stated that Nominal GDP or GDP at Current Prices in Q2 2022-23 is estimated at ₹65.31 lakh crore, as against ₹56.20 lakh crore in Q2 2021-22, showing a growth of 16.2 per cent as compared to 19.0 per cent in Q2 2021-22.

# **Core output growth** slows to 20-month low of 0.1% in Oct

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, Nov 30: The growth rate in the production of eight key sectors slowed down to a 20-month low of 0.1 per cent in October on account of contraction in the output of crude oil, natural gas, refinery products, and cement, according to the official data released Wednesday.

In October last year, these sectors expanded by 8.7 per cent. In September this year, the core sectors' output growth stood at 7.8 per cent. Last time it was in February 2021, when the eight infrastructure sectors - coal, crude oil, natural gas, refinery products, fertiliser, steel, cement and electricity -- recorded a negative growth of 3.3 per cent.



The growth rate during April-October this fiscal was 8.2 per cent as against 15.6 per cent a year ago.

In October, crude oil, natural gas, refinery products, and cement output recorded negative growth rate. However, fertiliser output rose by 5.4 per cent in the month under review.

The growth rate in the production of coal, steel and electricity slowed down to 3.6 per cent, 4 per cent and 0.4 per cent respectively

These numbers have implications on the IIP (index of industrial production) data. The IIP data for October is expected to be released by the government in the second week of December.

The eight core industries contribute 40.27 per cent in the IIP.

# Govt's fiscal deficit at 45.6% of full-yr target at end-Oct

*In the corresponding* period last year, the deficit was 36.3 per cent of the Budget Estimates of 2021-22

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, Nov 30: The government's fiscal deficit in end-October touched 45.6 per cent of the full year Budget Estimate, according to the data released by the Controller General of Accounts (CGA) Wednesday.

In actual terms, the fiscal deficit -- the difference between expenditure and revenue -- was ₹7,58,137 crore during the April-October period of 2022-23. In the corresponding

period last year, the deficit was 36.3 per cent of the Budget Estimates of 2021-22. For 2022-23, the fiscal deficit of the government is estimated to be ₹16.61 lakh crore or 6.4 per cent of the GDP. As per the CGA data, the net tax

revenue at ₹11.71 lakh crore was 60.5 per cent of BE 2022-23. During the corresponding period of 2021-22, the tax revenue (net) was 68.1 per cent of that year's BE. Central government's total ex-

penditure during April-October works out to be ₹54.3 per cent of BE 2022-23, higher than 52.4 per cent of BE in the year-ago period. Commenting on the data, Aditi

Nayar, Chief Economist, ICRA said

in April-October 2022-23, while the Government of India's net tax revenues reported a healthy growth of 11 per cent, the 14 per cent contraction in non-tax revenues.

combined with the 10 ACTUAL TERMS, THE per cent rise in rev-FISCAL DEFICIT WAS enue expenditure, ₹ 7,58,137 CRORE and the robust 62 NET TAX REVENUE AT ₹11.71 per cent expansion in capex, widened **LAKH CRORE OF** the fiscal deficit to ₹7.6 BE 2022-23 lakh crore from ₹5.5 lakh crore in the first seven

> As per the CGA data, the central government's total receipts, including non-tax revenue, stood at ₹13.85 lakh crore or 60.7 per cent of the current year's BE. In the yearago period, the total receipts had touched 64.7 per cent of BE 2021-22.

months of 2021-22.

The CGA said the fiscal deficit figure shown in monthly accounts is not necessarily an indicator of fiscal deficit for the year as it gets impacted by the temporal mismatch between the flow of nondebt receipts and expenditure up to that month. A fiscal deficit is an indicator of the government's market borrowing.

## **FIRST DIP SINCE JUNE 2021**

# Inflation in Europe eases but still in double digits

Rising prices have hit economies worldwide, but they have taken a particularly high toll in *Europe because of its* dependence on Russian natural gas, which exporter Gazprom has reduced to a trickle

ASSOCIATED PRESS

Frankfurt, Nov 30: Inflation in Europe has eased for the first time in more than a year as energy prices drifted down from painful highs, but the double-digit rate still hovers near a record that has robbed consumers of their spending power and led economists to predict a recession.

The consumer price index in the 19 countries that use the euro currency hit 10% in November from a year earlier, the European Union statistics agency Eurostat said Wednesday. That was a drop from 10.6% in October, the first decrease since June 2021.

The figure reflected prices for food, alcohol and tobacco rising faster, at a pace of 13.6% annually,



even as energy prices slipped to a 34.9% rate of increase from an astronomical 41.5% in October. Out-of-control inflation is being

fed by high energy prices caused by Russia largely cutting off natural gas over the war in Ukraine as well as bottlenecks in supplies of raw materials and parts and rebounding demand after Covid-19 pandemic restrictions ended.

European leaders say it's energy warfare due to their support for Ukraine. However, natural gas prices have fallen from all-time highs this summer as Europe has largely filled its storage for winter with supplies from other countries and mild weather has reduced fears of a shortage during the heating season.

The November inflation figure supports predictions that the European Central Bank will slow its rapid rise in interest rates.

## **BULL-RUN FOR 7TH DAY**

# Markets touching new heights

## SENSEX HITS 63K MARK FOR THE FIRST TIME WHILE NIFTY ENDS AT FRESH LIFETIME HIGH

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Mumbai, Nov 30: Benchmark BSE Sensex settled above the 63,000level for the first time Wednesday, extending its winning momentum to seventh day amid a largely positive trend in global markets and continuous foreign fund inflows.

The 30-share barometer rallied 417.81 points or 0.67 per cent to settle at 63.099.65, its fresh record closing high. During the day, the benchmark jumped 621.17 points or 0.99 per cent to 63,303.01, its lifetime intra-day peak. The broader NSE Nifty advanced 140.30 points or 0.75 per cent to end at 18,758.35, its fresh record closing high.

Extending its winning momentum to seventh day, the Sensex has rallied 1,954.81 points or 3.19 per cent

during this time. Among the Sensex pack.

## **M-cap of BSE-listed** firms at all-time high

he market capitalisation of BSE-listed firms reached an all-time high of ₹288.50 lakh crore Wednesday amid an ongoing rally in equities. Investors wealth also climbed ₹7,59,642.89 crore in seven days, taking the market capitalisation (mcap) of BSE-listed firms to ₹2,88,50,896.03 crore.

Mahindra & Mahindra, Ultra Tech Cement, Power Grid, Hindustan Unilever, Bharti Airtel, Asian Paints, Tata Steel and Titan were major gainers. IndusInd Bank, State Bank of India, HCL Technologies and ITC were among the laggards.

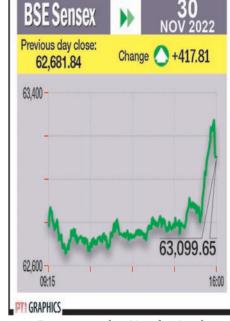
In the broader market, the BSE nidcap gauge jumped 1.06 per cent and smallcap index climbed 0.61 per cent.

All sectoral indices ended in the green, with utilities rallying 2.52 per cent, power jumped 2.35 per cent, metal (1.96 per cent), auto (1.74 per cent), commodities (1.62 per cent), realty (1.54 per cent), telecommunication (1.44 per cent) and consumer discretionary (1.25 per cent).

The rupee rose by 41 paise to close at a two-week high of 81.41 against the US dollar. At the interbank foreign exchange market, the local unit opened at 81.63 and touched an intra-day high of 81.30 and a low of 81.64 against the greenback.

The local unit finally settled at 81.31 -- the highest closing level since November 16 -- registering a rise of 41 paise over its previous close. On Tuesday, the rupee declined 4 paise to close at 81.72 against the US dollar.

Heavy FII inflows into capital markets also supported the rupee. According to the provisional exchange data, FIIs purchased eq-





**GAINERS** 

Rupee rose by 41 paise to close at a two-week high of 81.41 against the US dollar

uities worth ₹9,010.41 crore on net basis in the cash segment.

The Indian rupee registered the first monthly gains in the past eleven-months following a rebound in the risk assets, lower crude oil prices and foreign fund inflows, said Dilip Parmar, Research Analyst, HDFC Securities.

Elsewhere in Asia, markets in Seoul, Shanghai and Hong Kong ended higher, while Tokyo settled lower. Equity exchanges in Europe were trading higher in the afternoon trade. Wall Street had ended on a mixed note Tuesday.

International oil benchmark Brent crude was trading 1.83 per cent higher at \$84.55 per barrel. Foreign Institutional Investors (FIIs) bought shares worth ₹ 9,010.41 crore Wednesday

# NDTV founders Prannoy, wife Radhika quit as Adani nears takeover

THE PORTS-TO-ENERGY CONGLOMERATE IS SEEKING AS MUCH AS 1.67CR SHARES OR 26% OF EQUITY FROM NDTV'S MINORITY INVESTORS

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, Nov 30: NDTV founders Prannoy Roy and his wife Radhika Roy have resigned as the directors of promoter group vehicle RRPR Holding Private Limited as the Adani Group neared takeover of the television channel.

RRPR, which has been acquired by the Adani Group, held 29.18 per cent stake in the news channel. The Roys, however, still hold a 32.26 per cent stake in NDTV as promoters and have not resigned from the board of the news channel.

In a stock exchange filing late Tuesday, New Delhi Television Ltd said the two have resigned as directors on the board of RRPR Holding Private Limited (RRPRH) with immediate effect.

Prannoy Roy is the Chairperson of NDTV and Radhika Roy is an **Executive Director.** 

The board of RRPR Holding has approved the appointment of Sudipta Bhattacharya, Sanjay Pugalia and Senthil Sinniah Chengalvarayan as Directors on its board with immediate effect, NDTV said.

The appointments and resignations were approved by the RRPRH board at its meeting Tuesday. The three are nominees of Adani Group which earlier this week had taken control of RRPR Holdings.

Vishvapradhan Commercial Pvt In 2009, Roys had taken an in-Ltd. The loan allowed VCPL to conterest-free loan of over ₹400 crore vert warrants into shares of RRPR from a firm linked to Reliance Holdings, which held a 29.2 per Industries, that eventually ended cent stake in NDTV



Adani group in August bought VCPL and sought to convert the warrants into shares. NDTV promoters initially opposed the move saying they were not consulted but earlier this week relented and

allowed the conversion, which gave VCPL a 99.5 per cent stake in RRPR Holding.

With Adani group controlled entity VCPL firmly in the saddle of RRPR Holdings, the Roys resigned as directors of the company.

RRPR, or Radhika Roy Prannoy Roy Holdings Private Limited, till now was classified as a promoter entity. It held 29.18 per cent stake in the news channel. Prannoy Roy holds 15.94 per cent of NDTV and Radhika Roy another 16.32 per cent (together 32.26 per cent).

Post acquisition of VCPL, Adani group launched an open offer to acquire a 26 per cent stake in NDTV. That offer opened on November

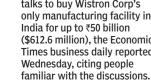
22, and will close on December 5. The offer has so far got offers for 53.27 lakh shares or a third of the entire open offer size. This despite the deep discount of the open offer price in comparison to the current stock levels.

NDTV stock is trading up 5 per cent at ₹447.70 on the BSE as against Adani group's open offer price of ₹294 apiece.

The ports-to-energy conglomerate is seeking as much as 1.67 crore shares or 26 per cent of equity from NDTV's minority investors.

A successful open offer will give Adani group a controlling stake of just over 55 per cent and it may then seek to oust Roys from the board of the channel. Pugalia is the chief executive officer and editorin-chief of media initiatives at

Adani Group.



# Rashford props England

ASSOCIATED PRESS

Al Rayyan (Qatar), Nov 30: Marcus Rashford dropped to his knees and pointed up to the sky. The England forward had just scored against Wales at the World Cup, starting off a 3-0 victory that sent his team into the round of 16.

His celebration, he said, was in tribute to a friend who recently passed away after a long battle with cancer. It could have also been in celebration of working his way into the starting lineup in Qatar.

"Moments like this, this is what I play football for. The biggest moments, the best moments, said Rashford, who started his first game of the tournament. "I'm happy we are going through to the next round of the tournament because I have massive ambitions for this team and I think we can play even better than we

Rashford scored two goals at Ahmad Bin Ali Stadium, making him the co-leading scorer at the World Cup with three goals — the same as France striker Kylian Mbappe and two others. Phil Foden, another England player who made his first start in Qatar Tuesday, got the other.

Rashford played at the last World Cup in 2018 and also at the 2020 European Championship, but the 25-year-old Manchester United forward was considered to be fortunate to make England coach Gareth Southgate's squad for this year's tournament.

Ever since his miss in the penalty shootout loss to Italy in the Euro 2020 final, Rashford has been going through a turbulent period in his career, compounded by injuries. He and teammate Bukaya Saka, both of them Black, were racially abused after missing their penalties in the shootout at Wembley Stadium.

In Qatar, Southgate opted to leave Rashford and Foden on the bench in the first two matches against Iran and the United States, starting with Saka and Raheem Sterling up front alongside captain Harry Kane.

Rashford came on a substitute in the 6-2 victory over Iran and

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Wednesday.

Adelaide, Nov 30: A fighting India

scored a last minute goal to stun World No.1 side Australia 4-3 in the

third hockey Test and notch up

their first win in 13 matches here

It was a rare win for India against

Australia, who had thrashed them

7-0 in the Birmingham

Commonwealth Games final earlier

this year. The famous win also kept

the five-match series alive with

Australia leading 2-1. India had lost

4-5 and 4-7 in the first two Tests.

The fourth match will be played

here Saturday and the final one

Skipper Harmanpreet Singh

(12th minute), Abhishek (47th).

Shamsher Singh (57th) and

Akashdeep Singh (60th) scored for

India. Australia's goals came from

the sticks of Jack Welch (25th),

skipper Aran Zalewski (32nd) and

It was India who took the lead in

the 12th minute from a penalty cor-

ner through skipper Harmanpreet,

who went for a placement rather

than brute power. He placed the

ball perfectly to the right of Australia

In the 20th minute, veteran India

custodian PR Sreejesh denied

Nathan Ephraums (59th).

goalkeeper Johan Durst.

in third hockey Test



played 19 minutes in that match. Against the United States, England was held to a 0-0 draw with Rashford again coming in off the bench.

The lineup changed for the final Group B match against Wales, and both Rashford and Foden took advantage of their time on the field.

Rashford put England in the lead with a free kick in the 50th minute, and followed it with that tribute to his late friend. Foden added the second only one minute later, and Rashford made it 3-0 in the 68th. The win guaranteed England first place in the group. The team will next face Senegal in the round of 16 Sunday.

Wales, which was playing at the World Cup for the first time in 64 years, finished last in the group and was eliminated.

It may have been captain Gareth Bale's last match for his national team. The former Real Madrid player had to come off the field at halftime because of a hamstring injury, but Wales coach Rob Page said he expects Bale to continue.

Gareth Southgate is coaching England at a third major tournament, and he has navigated the group stage successfully each time. England reached the semifinals at the World Cup in Russia, and then went all the way to the final at Euro 2020. The team hasn't won a major trophy since its lone World Cup success in 1966 at home.

# **Australia march into WC round of 16**

AL WAKRAH (QATAR): Australia advanced to the round of 16 at the World Cup, beating favoured Denmark 1-0 Wednesday on Mathew Leckie's 60th-minute goal. It is Australia's first time in the knockout stage since 2006, the only other time they advanced out of the group stage

TUNISIA STUN WORLD CHAMPS

Leckie took a pass just around the centre circle and moved in and around a Danish defender. eventually lacing a left-footed shot

Schmeichel diving to his left. Australia finished with six points

The World Cup proved to be a major disappointment for Denmark after reaching the semifinals in the 2020 European Championship. They slogged through a 0-0 draw in their opening match with Tunisia and then recovered in a 1-2 loss against France. Danes attacked from the start against Australia but could never break



what appeared to be a Palestinian flag. He did some acrobatic jumps before six security officials dragged him off.

With France already qualified for the knockout stage, coach Didier Deschamps rested Griezmann, Kylian Mbappé and four of the team lining up at the beginning had even started a World Cup match before.

But Khazri's goal prompted Deschamps to bring on Mbappé and Griezmann and the increased urgency almost led to an equaliser. Deschamps had selected more of a

# Pulisic leads US into knockouts

kicked the ball, scored the goal collision that sent the American star to a hospital and the United States Cup. More than an hour later, he contacted his teammates by FaceTime to join the celebration.

Pulisic's 38th-minute goal had held up, and the United States had beaten Iran 1-0 Tuesday night in their politically charged rematch to advance to the World Cup's knockout stage. After finishing second in Group B with five points, two behind England, the US will play the

a triple save from a penalty cor-

ner before Surender Kumar kept the

minute when Welch scored his

third goal of the series, glancing in

Tim Howard's searching ball after

an alert Sreejesh thwarted Jerry

Hayward's drag-flick from a penalty

The home side continued to press

hard after the change of ends, earn-

ing back-to-back penalty corners two

minutes after the restart. The sec-

ond attempt was deflected in by

skipper Zalewski from Hayward's

India earned an early penalty

Harmanpreet's flick from close

India applied pressure on the

Australian defence in the final quar-

ter and managed to secure another

penalty corner and Shamser was at

the right place at the right time to

tap in from close after Jugraj's ini-

tial try was saved by the opposi-

It was end-to-end stuff in the

final few minutes of the game as

Australia earned a penalty corner

soon but Sreejesh stood like wall in

front of the Indian goal. But the

match was far from over as 54 sec-

onds from time, Akashdeep scored

after being fed by a selfless Mandeep

Singh to hand India a famous win.

tion goalkeeper.

indirect try to take the lead.

Australia drew level in the 25th

for the first time since 2002.

Back in the World Cup after missing the 2018 tournament, the US needed a victory to reach the round of 16. Iran finished third in the group with three points and has failed to advance in six World Cup appearances.

Weston McKennie started the play for the goal when he lofted the ball from just past the center circle to Sergino Dest at the edge of the sixyard box. Dest headed the ball in front of the net on a bounce as Pulisic charged up the center of the field past Ramin Rezaeian and Majid Hosseini.

Twisting his body, Pulisic redirected the ball with his right foot first in World Cup play. His momentum carried him into goalkeeper Alireza Beiranvand.

Pulisic was sprawled on the field and for about three minutes as he received treatment. He tried to continue playing but was substituted at the start of the second half and taken by athletic trainer Harris Patel for abdomi nal scans at Hamad General Hospital, where Pulisic followed the game on phone apps.

The US Soccer Federation said Pulisic was diagnosed with a pelvic contusion, returned to the team hotel and is day to day. Weah nearly doubled the lead in the seventh minute of first-half stoppage time

# India stun Australia Sharath Kamal bestowed with Khel Ratna

Al Rayyan (Qatar), Nov 30:

Defending champions France won

their World Cup group despite losing to Tunisia 0-1 Wednesday. Wahbi

Khazri scored in the 58th minute

to give the Tunisians the victory,

but it wasn't enough to get them

into the round of 16. Australia

beat Denmark 1-0 in other Group

D game and finished second on

Khazri ran at the heart of the

French defence and beat two play-

ers before poking the ball into the

bottom corner. He fell to his knees

When he got back up, he made

a heart shape to the Tunisian fans

behind the goal and then limped

off, appearing to hurt himself as

he fell when scoring his 25th in-

ternational goal and his third at

It was Tunisia's third victory at

a World Cup, and it was France's

first loss at the tournament since

the 2014 quarterfinals, when

France forward Antoine

Griezmann thought he had evened

the score in the eighth minute of

stoppage time but he was ruled

offside following a video review.

At the same time, Tunisia's play-

ers on the bench crowded around

a TV monitor hoping for a Denmark

goal that would have changed the

A few minutes after Khazri's

goal, a man ran onto the field at

group standings.

Germany beat the team 1-0.

and was mobbed by teammates.

goal difference

World Cups.



While Sharath is the lone Khel Ratna award recipient, 25 sportspersons, including shuttlers Lakshya Sen, HS Prannoy, woman boxer Nikhat Zareen, track and field athletes Eldhose Paul and Avinash Sable, were conferred with the Arjuna Award. Odisha women's hockev star Deep Grace Ekka was also conferred with the Arjuna Award.

The creme de la creme of Indian sports were recognised for their achievements in the past few years at a specially organised ceremony. The event is traditionally held every year to commemorate the birth anniversary of hockey legend Major Dhyan Chand August 29. But last year also, the event was held on another date.

Kalinga Institute of Industrial Technology (KIIT) was conferred the Rashtriya Khel Protsahan Puruskar. The star attraction of the ceremony was Sharath, who received his Khel Ratna award amid thun-



Achanta Sharath Kamal recieves his award from President Droupadi Murmu at the Rashtrapati Bhavan, Wednesday

derous applause from the select dignitaries present at the Durbar

The Khel Ratna is given for the

spectacular and most outstanding performances by a sportsperson over a period of previous four years. It carries a cash prize of Rs

# LIST OF AWARD WINNERS

ARJUNA AWARDS: Deep Grace Ekka (Hockey), Seema Punia (Athletics), Eldhose Paul (Athletics), Avinash Mukund Sable (Athletics), Lakshya Sen (Badminton), HS Prannoy (Badminton), Amit (Boxing), Nikhat Zareen (Boxing), Bhakti Pradip Kulkarni (Chess), R Praggnanandhaa (Chess), Shushila Devi (Judo), Sakshi Kumari (Kabaddi), Nayan Moni Saikia (Lawn Bowl), Sagar Kailas Ovhalkar (Mallakhamb), Elavenil Valarivan (Shooting), Omprakash Mitharval (Shooting), Sreeja Akula (Table Tennis), Vikas Thakur (Weightlifting), Anshu (Wrestling), Sarita (Wrestling), Parveen (Wushu), Manasi Girishchandra Joshi (Para Badminton), Tarun Dhillon (Para Badminton), Swapnil Sanjay Patil (Para Swimming), Jerlin Anika J (Deaf

DRONACHARYA AWARD (Regular Category): Jiwanjot Singh Teja (Archery), Mohammad Ali Qamar (Boxing), Suma Siddharth Shirur (Para Shooting), Sujeet Maan (Wrestling); (Lifetime Category): Dinesh Jawahar Lad (Cricket), Bimal Prafulla Ghosh (Football), Rai Singh (Wrestling).

DHYAN CHAND AWARD FOR LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT: Ashwini Akkunji C (Athletics), Dharamvir Singh (Hockey), B C Suresh (Kabaddi), Nir Bahadur Gurung

RASHTRIYA KHEL PROTSAHAN PURUSKAR: TransStadia Enterprises Private Limited, Kalinga Institute of Industrial Technology (KIIT), Ladakh Ski & Snowboard Association. MAULANA ABUL KALAM AZAD (MAKA) TROPHY: Guru Nanak Dev University. Amritsar.

TENZING NORGAY NATIONAL ADVENTURE AWARDS: Naina Dhakad (Land Adventure), Shubham Dhananjay Vanmali (Water Adventure), Group Captain Kunwar Bhawani Singh Samyal (Life Time Achievement).

25 lakh, a medal and a scroll of honour. The Arjuna award carries a cash prize of Rs 15 lakh, a bronze statue and a scroll of honour.

The 40-year-old Sharath had returned from Birmingham Commonwealth Games as the mostdecorated Indian athlete with four medals. He is the second table tennis player after Manika Batra to get the Khel Ratna. Besides a yellow

metal in the mixed doubles, Sharath also pocketed his singles gold after 16 years, the first having won at the 2006 Melbourne CWG.

While Sharath took away the spotlight, the star attractions among Arjuna awardees were shuttler Sen, World Champion boxer Zareen, boxer Amit Panghal and triple jumper Eldhose Paul, all gold medal-

lists at Birmingham Games.

# NZ WIN RAIN-HIT

corner in the fourth and final quarter and Abhishek found the back of PRESS TRUST OF INDIA the Australian net, deflecting in

> Christchurch, Nov 30: A sloppy India lost the three-match ODI series against New Zealand 0-1 after rain washed out the third and final game here Wednesday.

Chasing 220, New Zealand were cruising at 104/1 in 18 overs, 50 runs ahead of the Duckworth-Lewis par score, when rain interrupted the game yet again in the white-ball series. Kane Williamson and Co, needing just 116 runs from as many as 32 overs, though had to be content with a 'no result' as the game was two overs short to be technically called complete.

Having won the first ODI in Auckland by seven wickets, New

Zealand thus sealed the series 1-0. The second match in Hamilton, too. was abandoned after two stoppages.

Overall, only two matches in the six-ball white-ball series produced result, exposing the poor planning on part of the concerned authorities. The series was organised less than a week after the T20 World Cup in neighbouring Australia. As for India, the series exposed their

flawed selection policy. It all began with an inspiring bowling show by the Kiwi pacers with comeback man Adam Milne (3/57) and Daryl Mitchell (3/25) bundling out India for 219 in 47.3 overs after Kane Williamson won a

good toss at an overcast Hagley Oval. The likes of Rishabh Pant (10), Survakumar Yaday (6) and Deepak Hooda (12) were the biggest failures as they lacked application and failed to bide time after Milne rocked the top-order. Seeking to save the series, India found themselves in a spot of bother, losing half of the side in 25.3 overs.

But thanks to the efforts by Washington Sundar (51, 64b, 5x4, 1x6) and Shreyas Iyer (49, 59b) India managed to get past the 200-run mark. Dhawan and his men were further disappointed by an inexperienced bowling attack as they struggled to get a breakthrough.

Finn Allen (57, 54b, 8x4, 1x6) smashed his fourth ODI fifty and his 97-run opening partnership with

Devon Conway (38) set the tone.



Cuttack-A (SNR) emerged champions of the Kalahandi Cup Inter-District cricket tournament after being declared winners of the final on the basis of their first innings lead against Bhubaneswar-A (SNR) at the Bidanasi Ground in Cuttack, Wednesday. After winning the toss and opting to bat, Cuttack-A were bowled out for 208. Bikram Kishor (53 n o, 67b) and Anil Parida (49, 67b) batted well for Cuttack-A, while Asis K Pradhan (3/22) and Ansuman Bej (3/88) shared six wickets between them for Bhubaneswar-A. In response, splendid spells from Subham Nayak (6/50) and Jamala B Mohapatra (4/66) bundled Bhubaneswar-A out for 157, giving Cuttack-A a match-winning 51-run lead

Australia as he was alert at the near post to keep out a reverse hit. Minutes later, Sreejesh was again at the thick of things as he made

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