

POACHER GUNS DOWN SIMILIPAL FOREST GUARD

POST NEWS NETWORK

Baripada, May 22: A forest guard on duty at Bounsakhala beat under Bangiriposhi range in south division of Similipal Tiger Reserve died after being shot at by a poacher, Monday evening.

The deceased forest guard was identified as Bimal Kumar Jena of Bhanjapur area. The incident happened while he was on duty at Chakidi range. Police and forest officials from Bangiriposhi, Baripada and Bhanjapur rushed to the spot and started an investigation.

After hearing a loud gun shot, other forest personnel reached the spot and found Bimal lying in a pool of blood. The poachers fled the spot after seeing the officials.

Bimal had recently married a lady forest guard. After getting the news, his wife came to the forest range of fice directorate and lost her senses Immediately she was rushed to PRM Medical College and Hospital. Bimal's body was sent to PRM Medical College and Hospital, and post mortem will be conducted, Tuesday. "This is for the first time that a forest person nel was shot at by a hunter in Similipal forest. Following the incident we have immediately launched a search operation, which is underway at night," a senior official of Baunsakhala beat said.

SHOW OF SUPPORT: Wrestler Sakshi Malik takes a selfie with supporters during wrestlers' protest against the Wrestling Federation of India (WFI) chief Brij Bhushan Singh, at Jantar Mantar Phogat at protest site in Jantar in New Delhi, Monday Mantar, said. PTI PHOTO



Do not insist on books instead of



Finance portfolio goes to Arukha, while Marndi has been made School and Mass Education Minister and Navak the Minister for Labour and Employees' State Insurance

POST NEWS NETWORK Bhubaneswar. May 22: Effecting

before 2024 elections. Chief Minister

presence of the Chief Minister.

Several Ministers, MPs, MLAs, sen-



'Office of Prez reduced to tokenism under BJP'

Kharge takes a dig at the Central govt as PM, not First -Citizen of India, to unveil new Parliament building



Ready to undergo

Narco test: Punia

tells Brij Bhushan

New Delhi, May 22: Olympic

bronze medallist Bajrang Punia

Monday accepted Brij Bhushan

Sharan Singh's challenge of un-

dergoing narco-analysis test to as-

certain the truthfulness of wrestlers'

sexual harassment allegations

appear for a narco-analysis or polygraph test to prove his innocence.

test, polygraph test or lie detector

test, but my condition is that Vinesh Phogat and Bajrang Punia should

also undergo these tests with me.

If both the wrestlers agree to un-

dergo it, call a press conference

and make announcement. I prom-

ise them that I am ready for the test.'

Responding to this, Bajrang said,

"We are ready to face Narco Test

but we would also want him (Brij

Bhushan) to also face the Test

under Supreme Court's supervi-

sion and with live streaming on

"We would like to see what ques-

tions are being asked. He has asked

for Narco Test of Vinesh and my-

self. I am saving why only two of us

but also all those girls who have filed

complaints should also undergo Narco Test," Bajrang, sitting alongside Sakshi Malik and Vinesh

he posted in Hindi.

national television.'

The WFI chief in a Facebook post Sunday said that he is ready to

'I am ready to undergo narco

against the WFI president.

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Similarly, Marndi has earlier served as the Minister of State for Sports & Youth Services, ST & SC

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

have nothing better to do than read

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Rainfall	Nil	Nil	moderate rain

Marndi became the Minister of



in Lok Seva Bhawan.

School and Mass Education. Notably, Niranjan Pujari, the Minister of Finance and

a minor reshuffle, likely the last one Naveen Patnaik Mondav inducted three new ministers in his Cabinet. Senior BJD MLAs Bikram Keshari Arukha, Sudam Marndi

and Sarada Prasad Nayak took oath Monday as Cabinet ministers Parliamentary Affairs, was given here at a swearing-in ceremony the additional responsibility of the held at State Convention Centre Health and Family Welfare (H&FW) department after the murder of Governor Professor Ganeshi Lal former Health Minister Naba administered the oath of office and Kishore Das, January 29 last. secrecy to the new ministers in The department of Finance was

taken out from Pujari and given to Arukha. Pujari is now left is still not clear who will with the department of Parliamentary Affairs and Health and Family

be the next Speaker of the Welfare (H&FW) depart-State ment after the distribution Assembly of portfolios, Monday.

All three leaders had earlier served as ministers under Naveen government and were possibly re-inducted to give a better representation from Odisha's different regions and as they wield locallevel influence needed to take on the BJP in crucial national and state

■ The brand will donate

Project Paathshala to

provide children from

access to education

10% of the proceeds towards

underprivileged backgrounds

elections next year.

While picking up the new ministers, Patnaik has maintained a balance among the regions. While Arukha, a six-time MLA from Bhanjanagar in Ganjam district, has influence in the southern dis-

tricts, Marndi is a prominent tribal leader from Mayurbhanj district in the northern part of Odisha. Nayak represents the western region of the state.

Arukha has held several

positions since 2008 including government chief whip, Speaker and Minister of Rural Development, Law, Forest, Environment and Climate Change, Parliamentary Affairs, Information & Public Relations, Cooperation and Public Enterprises.

Development (tribal welfare) and Revenue & Disaster Management. This time. Marndi has been elevated to Cabinet rank. Sarada Navak had served as Minister of State for Food Supplies & Consumer Welfare, Housing & Urban Development and Excise in between 2009 and 2012.

Notably, then Speaker Arukha along with two controversial ministers Samir Ranjan Dash (School and Mass Education) and Srikanta Sahu (Labour and Employees' State Insurance) had resigned from their positions. May 12. Besides, the then Health Minister Naba Kishore Das was murdered January 29 this year, creating another vacancy in the Cabinet.

However, it has not yet been made clear who will be the next Speaker of the State Assembly The probable names making the rounds for the Speaker's post are: Prafulla Samal, Debi Prasad Mishra, Amar Prasad Satpathy, Snehangini Chhuria and Badri Narayan Patra.

Patnaik had effected a complete reshuffle of his Cabinet last time in June 2022. So, this was the second reshuffle of his Cabinet in this term.

New Delhi, May 22: Days ahead of the opening of the new Parliament building, a controversy has erupted as the Congress Monday accused the government of disrespecting Constitutional propriety and demanded that President Droupadi Murmu should do the inauguration instead of Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

Congress chief Mallikarjun Kharge said that the then President Ram Nath Kovind was not invited for the new Parliament's foundation laving ceremony in December 2020 and claimed that President Murmu is not being invited for the inauguration of the new Parliament building.

"The Modi Government has repeatedly disrespected propriety. The Office of the President of India is reduced to tokenism under the BJP-RSS Government," the Congress president said in a series of tweets.

Noting that Parliament is the supreme legislative body while the President is the highest Constitutional authority, he said she alone represents the govern-

ment, the Opposition, and every citizen alike.

"She is the First Citizen of India. Inauguration of the new Parliament building by her will symbolise the government's commitment to democratic values and Constitutional propriety," Kharge said.

Prime Minister Modi will inaugurate the new Parliament building May 28 following an invitation by Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla.

Former Congress president Rahul Gandhi and several opposition leaders have said that the President should inaugurate the new Parliament House rather than the PM. Congress senior spokesperson Anand Sharma told a press conference that the government and the Prime Minister should urge the President in this regard and she as head of the institution of Parliament be accorded that honour

NEERAJ RANKS 1 IN WORLD ATHLETICS MEN'S JAVELIN



PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, May 22: Olympic champion Neeraj Chopra became the world number one for the first time in his career IN A FIRST in the latest men's javelin throw rankings issued by the World Athletics.

Chopra topped the charts with 1455 points, 22 ahead of Grenada's reigning world champion Anderson Peters (1433).

Tokyo Olympics silver medallist Jakub Vadlejch of Czech Republic was third with 1416 points.

The 25-year-old Chopra rose to world number two August 30 last year but was stuck behind Peters since then.

In September last year, Neeraj

He will next compete at the FBK

Games June 4 in the Netherlands.

followed by the Paavo Nurmi Games

in Turku, Finland, June 13.

gious trophy.

throw of 88.67m.

AGENCIES

Chopra won the Diamond League 2022 finals in Zurich, becoming Mumbai, May 22: A 14-year-old girl the first Indian to win the prestifrom Mumbai's underbelly, Dharavi, has shot to the spotlight as the He won the title at the model and veritable 'brand amseason-opening Doha bassador' for the reputed luxury Diamond League May 5 with a beauty and cosmetics brand, 'Forest Essentials' and has become the

darling of netizens. Breaking the oomphish stereotypes, Maleesha Kharwa, a dusky, next-door girl from a humble back-

Dusky Dharavi teen 'sells' luxury beauty brand ground is now in the limelight, 'selling' the Yuvati collection and gaining in popularity on the social media. Last month, the Forest Essentials, run by an entrepreneur, Mira Kulkarni, released a video on Instagram showing the wide-eved. modestly attired but gaping girl, entering the company outlet that had splashed her large campaign posters and photos.

Maleesha, with an innocently surprised and disbelieving expression, is seen soaking in her new-found glory as the company described her maiden trip to the store premises: "Her face lit up with pure delight. To see her dreams in front of her in sight. Maleesha's story is a beautiful reminder that dreams really do come true. #BecauseYourDreamsMatter.'



The short video grabbed the attention of millions of eyeballs and almost a half-million likes, with many users gushing over her stroke of good luck and the fame she has now earned. Kulkarni, 64, the company founder and head told an in-

INCIDENTALLY, WHEN SHE WAS BARELY 10 YEARS OLD, **MALEESHA WAS** 'DISCOVERED' IN 2020 BY HOLLYWOOD ACTOR **ROBERT HOFFMAN DURING** THE SHOOT OF A MUSIC VIDEO IN MUMBAI

> ternational magazine that through the Yuvati collection, they would support Maleesha's dreams and also contribute to the Project Paathshala - launched in July 2016 to empower young minds.

The brand will donate 10 per

cent of the proceeds from the Yuvati Selection towards Project Paathshala to provide children from underprivileged backgrounds access to education with the hope of a brighter India, said the (VOGUE) magazine, quoting Kulkarni. Incidentally, when she was barely

10 years old, Maleesha was 'discovered' in 2020 by Hollywood actor Robert Hoffman during the shoot of a music video in Mumbai.

Later, he started an Instagram account and a 'GoFundMe' page for Maleesha, which soon built up over nearly 300,000 followers, with many becoming her fans. Maleesha's simple but charming personality coupled with her tanned good looks have bagged her several model-ling assignments, including the latest with Forest Essentials.















SWIFT DECLARES SHE'S NEVER BEEN HAPPIER

Singer-songwriter Taylor Swift recently told her fans during a gig in Foxborough, Massachusetts, that she has finally reached a point where her life makes sense. She said: "I've just never been this happy in my life in all aspects of my life ever."

MARION COTILLARD SLAMS FILM INDUSTRY'S 'SICK' PREDATORS

French actress Marion Cotillard has slammed the 'sick' predators within the movie industry and admitted she was put into unwanted situations when she was starting her career. The Little Girl Blue actress thinks there is still a long way to go for the #MeToo movement.



FORTUNE FORECAST



The day may start with a dilemma, but that's exactly how your skills will come into play. As evening approaches, you will be applauded for your outstanding performance. If Ganesha is particularly generous today, you may sign new agreer

TAURUS

: Priorities and money matters will line up impatiently to knock on your door (and desk). Your financial constraints will get an outburst today. People may be taken by surprise with the way you get poignant. You will also enjoy the higher accountability reposed on you, predicts Ganesha.

GEMINI

Today, you will get an opportunity to rejuvenate yourself with seamless

will find - or at least you will believe that you have found – your purpose in life. It will keep you excited throughout the day, and maybe even for days to come. You may spend lavishly to improve your per-sonal appearance. Such expenditures are only an investment, feels Ganesha

Ganesha believes that today you may have to take certain financial decisions at home as well as at work. If you are in-charge of a certain project, you will trust the judgement of those working on it, mostly because they have been hand-picked by you.

You are blessed with a visionary's creative streak. Perhaps, that's why, you see things differently from others. Todav. thanks to the stars, your creative side will surge forth with renewed vigour. You will generate ideas effortlessly and continuously as you reach your creative peak.

VIRGO

There will be dirt on your shoulder today, so dust it off, says Ganesha, because every time you fall you will get up stronger than before. Your logic and analytical skills will help you find the necessary precision to accomplish tasks at work. You may spend the evening with a close friend or your beloved, engrossed in a stimulating conversation.

There are many kinds of wor-

ries that you must equip your-

self to deal with. To do this

She's blazed her own path, claims Sara

her father Saif Ali Khan and

mother Amrita Singh's help.

In an interview with a

portal, the Kedarnath ac-

tress said that her mother

rarely had friends in

the industry. "Every re-

lationship I have es-

tablished in the film

fraternity has been a

very independent equa-

tion, which is very nice

because I have never felt

the pressure to follow

through with my father's

friends or my mother's

friends," Sara said and

added that she did-

n't

Mumbai: Actor Sara Ali Khan reuse the name of her famous parcently made her Cannes Film ents to chalk out her journey. Festival debut. At the French "She (Amrita) says, 'Everyone

Riviera, the actress talked about has their own journey, and you making connections in the indusshould chalk out your own and try independently instead of using this is not for me," recalled Sara.

She further talked about her parents and said, "My father is a thinker. he is a bit of a planner, he is a traveller and I have inherited that from him. Mum is happy to be on her own and not explore much.' On the work front, Sara Ali Khan is currently promoting Zara Hatke Zara Bachke with

Vicky Kaushal. Helmed by Laxman Utekar, the film is set to release June 2, 2023 AGENCIES

Bhubaneswar: Artistes of Samagam Rangamandal of Jabalpur(MP) performed the Hindi play Bhoomi on the second evening of Fifth National Theatre Festival -2023 here at Rabindra Mandap,

Monday. Written by Ashis Pathak and directed by Swati Dubey, the play, adapted from the Vana Parva of the Mahabharata, depicted how women have been suffering for the expansion ambitions of men. Since ages, it has been a practice for them to assert their dominance by expanding territories or Bhoomi resulting in miserv and exclusion of women, which was deeply



BIDYAKANAK'S NATIONAL THEATRE FESTIVAL- 2023: DAY 2

A scene from the play staged at Rabindra Mandap, Monday

underlined in the play. Apart from Dubey, others who

performed on stage included Harshidsingh Thakur, Ankit Kumar, Bandit Sethi, Ayushi Rao and Naman Sen.

Theatre director Shatrughna Samal and journalist Sharmistha Panigrahi were conferred with Bidyakanak Samman.

Among the dignitaries present were Rotarian Jayshree Mohanty, playwright Maya Das, drama director Nibedita Jena and psychiatrist Dr Debadutta Mohapatra. Suvakanta Padhi, the secretary of the hosting organisation. Bidvakana Srujanusthan, conducted the event.

Aditi reacts to relationship rumours

Hyderabad: Aditi Rao Hydari is a phenomenal actress who recently made headlines owing to her acting in the web series Jubilee. Besides her acting, she is making headlines for her rumoured relationship with Siddharth. The rumoured lovebirds are often spotted together at different events as well as going out for dates. Reportedly, the two are dating, although neither of them has confirmed the relationship so far. Now, at a press interaction, Aditi reacted to the rumours

Aditi attended an event where she had a fun interaction. On being asked about her rumoured boyfriend, Aditi gave the cutest reaction. She blushed and made the gesture of crossing her hands. Then she did a zipped lips gesture to mean that she doesn't want her relationship to catch the evil eye. Well, this surely means that something is definitely going on between the lovebirds.

> Ever since last year, rumours of Aditi Rao Hydari and Siddharth dating each other have been doing the rounds in the news. According to our sources, the duo fell in love on the sets of their film Maha Samudram. And ever



OP PHOTO

Nandita takes a dig at **Cannes 2023 fashion**

Mumbai: Taking place at the renowned Palais des Festivals et des Congrès in Cannes, France, the 76th annual Cannes Film Festival has attracted film enthusiasts from around the world. Though several celebs from India made their debut on the red carpet along with some legacy faces, some had criticised this year's festival for its focus on fashion.

Expressing her thoughts, Zwigato director Nandita Das said in her Instagram note, "Sadly, I'm missing Cannes this year. Sometimes people seem to forget that it is a festival of films and not of clothes! Considering I can't show you the amazing films I watched or the conversations I have had or take you back in time when Manto premiered there. And only the ones in Saris as there is a fair amount of chatter about the 'celebrities who wore saris in Cannes'. Well it is surely my go-to garment. Simple, elegant and Indian. Least fussy - easy to get in and get out of it!"

The Cannes Film Festival is a highly esteemed event that occurs annually in

energy. How? Ganesha's guess is that you

you may have to learn and follow the basic steps of problem-analysing techniques. The steps involve obtaining facts, analysing them and then arriving at a decision based upon your observations. Most important, though, is that you must act upon the decision thus derived, says Ganesha

SCORPIO

LIBRA

Ganesha feels a taxing and demanding day may be at hand today. Things might baffle you so much that you might lose your ability to think clearly. The battle is not lost because your power of resilience will be the silver lining. Address one problem at a time and take the slow and steady path, advises Ganesha.

SAGITTARIUS

You will discover a flair for flirting as you puppet words to your romantic will with ease and grace. Most of today will be spent in the company of a loved one, perhaps a picnic for two, or a day-long romantic date. Stay prepared for the worst as this may not necessarily blossom into a long-lasting relationship, warns Ganesha

CAPRICORN

Like vou weren't already overworked, new responsibilities will keep you occupied throughout the day, says Ganesha. The excitement with which you work every day will weaken, and eventually die down by the end of the day. This is mainly because you will burn your energy and resources in helping others.

AOUARIUS

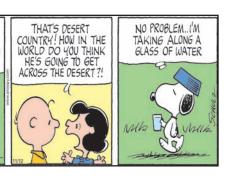
You have your head on your shoulders and feet on the ground. Congratulations! You've covered the first step to success. Step two, says Ganesha, involves an inquisitive mind and a questioning attitude. Later, you may resort to shortcuts and compromise a tad in quality.

PISCES

Your fount of creativity spouts everyday like there is no tomorrow. However, you need to be organised and in position to implement all those revolutionary ideas that occur to you in a jiffy, that lesser mortals take aeons to dream up

YOU CAN'T LET THAT CHARLIE STUPID BEAGLE TRY TO BROWN, YOU'RE WALK ALL THE WAY TO CRAZY! NEEDLES!

PEANUTS



CALVIN AND HOBBES





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FUN

CHECK FOR SOLUTIONS OF THE PUZZLES TOMORROW

been inseparable and often spend quality time together. AGENCIES

since then, the duo have

Cannes, France. Recognized as one of the most prestigious film festivals worldwide, it holds significant importance within the European film industry. AGENCIES

SUDOKU

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

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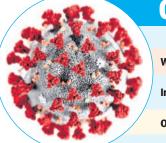


downtown



IN FULL SWING

A roopakar servitor busy at Rath Yard ahead of car festival in Puri, Monday



COVID-19 TRACKER

	INFECTED	RECOVERED	DEAD
orld	68,90,20,216	66,14,08,721	68,80,579
lia	4,49,86,934	4,44,47,472	5,31,839
lisha	13,36,304	13,26,915	9,204

Free crop insurance for 3 yrs



POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar, May 22: Crop insurance will be completely free for farmers for the next three years, Cooperation Minister Atanu Sabyasachi Nayak said here, Monday.

Presenting the performance of his department at a meeting reviewed by Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik, Nayak said the government will pay the farmers' share of premium (2 per cent of sum assured) for the next three years crop insurance cycle - Kharif 2023 to Rabi 2025-26

He said crop insurance under Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY) was made optional for loanee farmers from Kharif-2020 As many as 84.45 lakh farmers applications have been enrolled during 2022-23 under PMFBY.

During 2021-22, 31.93 lakh farmers' application count got the claim benefit and ₹1,166.02 crore of claim was paid to these farmers.

The minister said during 2023-24, the government has planned to bring more transparency in implementation of crop insurance scheme and enhance the insurance coverage to over 15 lakh farmers.

During Kharif-2022, crop loan of ₹8,710.78 crore has been disbursed to 18.02 lakh farmers. During Rabi 2022-23, crop loan to the tune of

UTP KILLS SELF IN JHARPADA

POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar, May 22: A female under trial prisoner (UTP) was found hanging in bathroom of the Special Jail at Jharpada here late Sunday night, an official said Monday.

The deceased, identified as Julu alias Sukanti Das. was a resident

₹7,972.79 crore has been disbursed to 16.55 lakh farmers.

The minister said as per the election manifesto, interest-free crop loan limit has been enhanced from ₹50,000 to ₹1 lakh from Kharif-2022 and around 7 lakh additional small and marginal farmers have benefited from this scheme during the season. Under the scheme, a total of 32.44 lakh small and marginal farmers of the state have availed Rs13,974.60 crore of in-

terest-free loan during 2022-23. Number of farmers availing crop loans has gone up from 6.40 lakh in 2000-01 to 34.57 lakh in 2022-23. The amount of loan extended to farmers has increased from ₹438.36 crore to ₹16,683.57 crore during the period. Out of the functional 2,710 PACS

and LAMPCS, 2,295 have been migrated to Core Banking Solution platform to facilitate online functioning by developing state's own software. The department, the minister said, is planning to bring in over 40 lakh farmers under the coverage of cooperative crop loan dispensation mechanism.

The department is on the way for activating 3,000 micro ATMs in the PACS/LAMPCS to achieve the commitment of the CM to take banking services to the doorstep of farmers in rural areas.

The government, the minis-

'687 women SHGs in paddy procurement'

With participation of around 687 women self-help groups (WSHGs), Odisha is the first state to have taken the initiative of involving WSHGs in the paddy procurement process. It is also one of the first states to pioneer implementation of rice fortification programme in country, Food Supplies and Consumer Welfare (FS&CW) Minister Atanu Sabyasachi Nayak said here Monday while briefing the media about accomplishments of the department in the last four years. Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik Monday reviewed the targets and achievements of the FS&CW department for last four years, assessing the fulfilment of the

assurances given in the manifesto. The minister said no eligible person is left out of the food security scheme. "In order to cover more small and marginal farmers in paddy procurement operations, a robust, transparent and technology-based system has been put in place. So, in last four years, there has been 300 per cent rise in the number of marginal farmers and 60 per cent increase in number of small farmers who are selling paddy to the government and get-

ting benefits of minimum support

price (MSP) operations," he said. ter said, has planned to link all

market yards, municipal markets, krushak bazars with e-NAM. The state has also planned to set up grading and cooling infrastructure in all major production clusters of fruits, vegetables so as to reduce losses and empower Mission Shakti groups/FPOs and promote interstate trade in agriculture com-

BSKY helps 13L families

save ₹2,700 crore: Pujari

modities during 2023-24.

against Jyoti Ranjan Beura alias Golden Baba, an alleged fraudster based in Odisha The Q5 model of the German luxury car maker was recovered by the federal probe agency in the last week of April. The money laundering case against

Monday it has seized an Audi car

valued at ₹51 lakh as part of a

money laundering investigation

Golden Baba's

AGENCIES

the alleged fraudster stems from an economic offences wing (EOW) FIR and charge sheet of the Odisha Police filed on charges of fraud perpetrated by him in lieu of providing loans to the tune of ₹5.50 crore to certain businessmen in the state.

Beura, in the capacity of the sole proprietor of Jyoti Trading Co., had signed several agreements with various persons and entities to provide financial assistance in their business and received 'proceeds of crime' as advance and defrauded by 'siphoning off' the advance amount through creation of forged and fabricated documents, the ED said in a statement.



TAKING FEEDBACK: Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik interacts with 'KALIA' beneficiaries at his residence in Bhubaneswar, Monday, as 5T Secretary VK Pandian looks on

Place bail pleas arising out of luxury car seized same FIR before one judge: HC New Delhi, May 22: The Enforcement Directorate (ED) said

ter bench," the HC said.

While dealing with a plea filed by

an accused challenging the January

order of the HC rejecting his ap-

plication seeking bail in a case reg-

istered under the Narcotic Drugs

and Psychotropic Substances

(NDPS) Act, a two-judge bench of

Supreme Court comprising Justices

BR Gavai and Sanjay Karol May 15

observed that in many HCs, the

practice followed was that appli-

cations arising out of the same FIR

should be placed before one judge.

ders are passed by at least three

different judges of the high court

on the applications of various ac-

cused arising out of the same FIR,

However, in the NDPS case, or-

POST NEWS NETWORK

New Delhi, May 22: Following the Supreme Court's May 15 observation, the Orissa High Court has directed its registry to ensure bail applications arising out of the same FIR are placed before one judge.

The HC has directed the stamp reporting section to verify if other bail applications arising out of the same FIR were disposed of earlier and also indicate the dates of disposal along with the name of judges.

Bail pleas, including interim bail applications, shall be listed before the judge who at the earliest decided any of the earlier bail applications. In case of unavailability of judge who decided the earlier bail applications, the plea shall be listed before the regular bench as per roster. the HC said.

"If no previous bail application under Section 438 or 439 of CrPC arising out of an FIR has been disposed of by any bench (even if filed), the subsequent bail application shall be listed before the ros-

the SC observed.

'Such a practice leads to anomalous situation. Certain accused are granted bail whereas certain accused for the very same crime having similar role are refused bail,' the SC bench said.

It quashed the January 31, 2023 order and remanded the matter back to the high court.

"The high court is requested to consider the effect of the orders passed by the other coordinate benches and pass orders afresh..., it said.

"The registrar (judicial) of the registry of this court is directed to forward a copy of this order to the registrar general of the Orissa High Court, who is requested to take note of the aforesaid and consider passing appropriate orders so that contrary orders in the same crime are avoided." the bench said.

In its January 31 order, the high court had noted that the offence relates to alleged possession and transportation of contraband 'ganja' weighing over 113 kg

of Chandaka area here.

Sources said that some inmates of the jail spotted Sukanti hanging with her stole from ceiling of the bathroom around 12.30pm. They immediately brought her down. She was then rushed to the Capital Hospital by the prison medical officer. However, she was pronounced 'dead on arrival' at the Capital Hospital.

On Monday, the welfare officer of Jharpada jail informed Sukanti's family members about her death. Post-mortem was conducted in the presence of her family members who, however, refused to accept her body.

"We will again request the family members to take her body for final rituals. The cremation will be conducted by jail authorities if the family members stick to their decision," told a jail official.

crore healthcare expenses. Health and Family Welfare (H&FW) Minister Niranjan Pujari said here, Monday.

Bhubaneswar, May 22: Biju

Swasthva Kalvan Yojana (BSKY).

the state-sponsored health assur-

ance scheme, has so far helped 13 lakh

poor families save around ₹2,700

POST NEWS NETWORK

Presenting the performance of his department at a meeting reviewed by Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik, Pujari said Odisha is the first and only state in the country, and perhaps the world, where all healthcare services. from OPD consultation to ICU and surgery, are provided free of charge to all in government hospitals.

Over 3.3 crore people of 96.5 lakh families have so far been covered with cashless healthcare facilities in nearly 700 premier private hospitals across 17 states. Each month, nearly 1 lakh patients receive cashless healthcare of ₹225 crore in empanelled hospitals across the country.

Each year, poor families save ₹600 crore expenditure on drugs, which is borne under Niramaya. Similarly, the people of Odisha save over ₹150 crore each year on

specialists per year in 2000, now 2200 MBBS doctors and 826 specialists are being produced in the state

the last six years.

diagnostic expenses alone under the

Nidaan scheme, he said. Pujari

said that eight new medical col-

leges and two new post graduate in-

stitutes have been set up in Odisha

While Odisha was producing only 321 MBBS doctors and 254

each year, he pointed out. In 2021, the CM took a landmark decision to reserve 15 per cent of MBBS seats for students of government high schools. "It is a matter of pride for us that in the past 2 years, 415 students of government high schools have been admitted in MBBS courses," under this policy.

For transforming SCB Medical College and Hospital in Cuttack into an AIIMS Plus facility, the state has allocated over ₹4,500 crore, the minister said.

To provide quality treatment to cancer patients, Bagchi Sri Shankara Cancer Hospital with 750 beds and all modern amenities is being established in Bhubaneswar, which will become functional this year.

4 of notorious 'Bawariya' gang held

POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar; May 22: The special squad of twin city Commissionerate Police arrested four members of notorious 'Bawariva' or 'Kachha-Banian' gang involved in a series of chain snatching cases in the City for a few months now, Monday.

The miscreants were nabbed from a hotel near the Puri railway station on their way to the City.

The arrested were identified as Pradeep Kumar, Vikash, Rabi Kumar and Babu Ram. All belong to Jhinjhana region of Shamli district in Uttar Pradesh.

According to sources, the bikeborne robbers, who were active in Balasore, Bhadrak, Cuttack, Bhubaneswar, and Puri, mostly



targeted women outside of their home in the wee hours either for morning walk or to pluck flowers. And they usually tampered the number plates of their vehicles by scratching the digits to avoid identification.

"They used to keep their motorcycles in parking area and use them in morning hours to commit crime. They stayed in hotels and changed location from one city to other after every crime to avoid police chase and arrest," an official said. The official informed that the members of the gang disposed of the stolen gold ornaments in UP and repeated the same process within a period of 15 to 20 days, using trains to travel to different parts of India.

The officials found that the dreaded criminals were involved in as many as 28 snatching cases in

Cuttack, Bhubaneswar and Bhadrak town between February 2022 and May 2023.

Notably, the gang members operate in all major cities of the country having their transit base in Delhi. And they became a headache for the twin city police after a series of snatchings in Badagada, Nayapalli, Saheed Nagar and Bharatpur areas of the City between February and May 2023.

"We appeal to the citizens not to come out in the wee hours of the day, especially alone. Please remain alert when going out for walk, plucking flower and fetching articles in the morning. Don't expose gold ornaments to avoid becoming a target of snatchers," said DCP Prateek Singh Monday.

Improve efficiency of highway patrol teams, govt tells DGP

During a recent review meet-

POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar, May 22: In a bid to curb rising mishaps on highways, the state government has directed director general of police (DGP) Sunil Bansal to take necessary steps to enhance the performance of highway patrol teams

Commerce and Transport Principal Secretary Usha Padhee has written a letter to the DGP in this regard, Monday.

As per the direction of the Supreme Court Committee on road safety, and for reduction of road accidents and fatalities, highway patrol has been rolled out in five vulnerable stretches of roads in the state covering 36 mini stretches. For this purpose, Rs 10 crore has been provided to the state police, Padhee said in her letter.

ing, the Police Commissioner has requested provision of highway patrol vehicles for the stretch from Manguli to Malipada. The Bhubaneswar DCP has also requested to provide three highway patrol vehicles for the stretches from Nakhara to Jayadev Vihar, Jayadev Vihar to Pitapalli and Hi-Tech Square to Uttara Square.

It is a fact that the stretch from Khurda to Chandikhole on NH-16 is a highly vulnerable stretch. As per road accident data, 12 per cent of road fatalities occur there out of the total fatalities in the entire stretch under the National Highways Authority of India, she said.

In this context, the Transport department has provided three more highway patrol vehicles to the Commissionerate of Police, she pointed out. As the stretches proposed by the Bhubaneswar DCP are smaller in area, the deployment plan of highway patrol vehicles may be modified to cover more areas especially in Cuttack police district, Padhee said.

As per crime branch data, a total of 6,923 traffic violations have been detected by the patrol teams during March 2023.

On an average, only 6.4 cases of violations have been detected per day by each patrolling team, which is not at all satisfactory, she said.

During April 2022 to March 2023, a total of 55,007 traffic violation cases were detected by the highway patrol teams, which was not satisfactory. Therefore, the Principal Secretary requested the DGP to instruct all the SPs/DCPs to personally monitor the performance -(of highway patrol teams and improve their performance.



CELESTIAL PHENOMENON: Students and teachers of Ravenshaw University in Cuttack experience Zero Shadow Day on the varsity premises, Monday







OrissaPOST

TUESDAY | MAY 23 | 2023 | BHUBANESWAR

downtown

INTERNATIONAL DAY FOR BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY

CM: Foster harmonious relationship with nature

Let's join hands to

biodiversity. The

path to build back

the biodiversity

MINISTER

biodiversity.'

animals.

PRADIP KUMAR AMAT | FOREST.

ENVIRONMENT AND CLIMATE CHANGE

Let's join hands to conserve and pro-

conserve and protect

department is on the



POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar; May 22: Protection of biological resources & biodiversity is crucial to support life on planet Earth. Let's all reaffirm pledge to foster harmonious relationship with nature and protect biodiversity for a better future for mankind, Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik said on the occasion of International Day for Biological Diversity.

To commemorate the day, the Forest, Environment and Climate Change department Monday organised an event. Speaking on the occasion, Forest, Environment and Climate Change Minister Pradip Kumar Amat said, "The International Day for Biological Diversity is a UN sanctioned international day for promotion of biodiversity issues. This year's theme is "From Agreement to

Pahala confectioners to hike prices from today

Bhubaneswar: The Pahala Sweet Association president said that they will open the shops from Tuesday with rise in sweet prices. Pahala Sweet Traders Association were observing bandh over chenna price hike for the last three days The association members said that earli er Chhena was being sold at ₹165 per kg but now the prices have been increased by ₹20. Hence, we are forced to hike the prices of our sweets," said Akshava Lenka, President of Pahala Sweet Traders' Association, The association has decided to increase prices of Rasogolla to ₹6 each from ₹5 and Chhena Poda will be sold at ₹280 per kg by the traders.

CLASSIFIED AFFIDAVIT

By an affidavit I, Bijay

the rich biological resources of the state have come under pressure due to various anthropogenic and climatic factors. The traditional ecological knowledge associated with bio-resources of the state is declining.

The state government has recently declared the Gandhamardan Hill Range in Bargarh and Bolangir district as a Biodiversity Heritage Site (BHS), three decades after a successful people's resistance against bauxite mining in the area. A notification issued by the State

Forest, Environment and Climate Change department says, the government declared an area of 18.963.898 hectare of Hill Gandhamardan (Gandhamardan Reserve Forest) including 12,431.8 ha (Bargarh) and 6,532.098 ha (Bolangir) as BHS of

Odisha. Prior to the declaration, the Odisha Biodiversity Board had received several representations from individuals and organisations for Action: Build back biodiversity". declaring Gandhamardan as BHS. This is the third BHS of Odisha after tect Biodiversity. The department Mandasuru Gorge in Kandhamal is on the path to build back the district and Mahendragiri Hill Range in Gajapati district.

Odisha has around 5,174 vari-Meanwhile, commemorating eties of plants and 3727 variety of 'International Day for Biological Diversity'. Tata Steel Kalinganagar The state is endowed with nat-(TSK) reiterated its commitment toural resources like large rivers wards creating a sustainable toand dense forest which have helped morrow with a mass plantation in development of various livedrive within its plant premises at stock and poultry species with Kalinganagar near Duburi in Jajpur great diversity. But in recent times, district Monday.

Naveen inaugurates ITC's consumer



POST NEWS NETWORK

New Delh, May 22: The president of The Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce & Industry (FICCI) Subhrakant Panda led a delegation to meet President of India Droupadi Murmu. They discussed FICCI's rich legacy and activities supporting Indian industry and Micro, Small & Medium Enterprises (MSMEs).

The President appreciated FICCI's work and shared her insights besides giving valuable guidance. Delegation members included past presidents YK Modi and Naina Lal Kidwai and Secretary General Shailesh Pathak.

production lines, dedicated to

producing ITC's world-class foods

others. The inauguration cere-

Suresh Kumar Routray and Khurda

The future-ready unit is pow-

ered by sophisticated equipment

cutting-edge digital infrastructure.

among others.

Retina surgery performed on 3-month-old baby at KIMS

POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar, May 22: The doctors at Kalinga Institute of Medical Sciences (KIMS) have performed a complicated eye surgery on a threemonth-old baby, saving the child from losing vision. The procedure was performed for the first time in any medical college-cum-hospital in Odisha.

The operation involved risk to the baby's life that is just three months and eleven days old but the team of doctors headed by KIM's Ophthalmology department's Consultant Retina Surgeon Manmath Kumar Das took this as a challenge and performed the operation on the baby.

"The baby was born premature and weighed around 1200 gm. In case of premature babies, usually the Retinopathy of Prematurity (ROP) screening is carried out to determine signs of ROP. This is an important test carried out to prevent blindness as they grow up. It was during this screening that



The other members of the team

included Santosh Panda and

Anesthesiology department's

on the left eye.

KIMS is well-equipped with advanced equipment to perform the operation, he said. "My baby has got a new life. I have no words to express our gratitude to the doctors and KIMS,' said the mother of the baby. The

KIIT, KISS and KIMS founder Achyuta Samanta hailed the team of doctors for the successful surgery as he wished for the baby's fast recovery.

goods manufacturing unit in Khurda Associate Professor Saswati Das. Das said this was the first time that such type of surgery was that baby was diagnosed with ROP," it spans an area of 35 acres. The facility is strategically planned Min flags off ISRO tour for YATS winners to accommodate a total of seven



POST NEWS NETWORK

realm of space exploration. In addition to the SAC, the students will also be visiting Science City and IIT Gandhinagar

Speaking on the occasion, Panda said, "I extend my heartfelt congratulations and best wishes to the 20 outstanding students who emerged victorious in YATS, along with their dedicated teachers and supportive parents. Tata Steel and Pathani Samanta Planetarium have played a pivotal role in offering this remarkable platform to nurture the budding talents in Odisha and ignite their passion for astronomy. With this unparalleled opportunity, we anticipate the young generation will forge a brilliant path in the realm of space science and technology. Kumar described the initiative as a distinctive endeavour. He emphasised that it inspires young learners to stretch their intellectual horizons beyond traditional academic confines and fosters the budding scientists within them



FICCI DELEGATION MEETS PRESIDENT



SEEKING JUSTICE: Members of 'Zilla Stariya Milita Amala Manch' organised a press meet at Collectorate Conference Hall in Cuttack, seeking fulfillment of their demands, Monday

Kumar Behera, S/o-Amarswar Behera, of Nalco Township, Damanjodi to state that my actual name is Bijay Kumar Behera mentioned in my Aadhaar, PAN and other documents. My name is mentioned as Bijaya Kumar Behera in my Passport. That both the name Bijay Kumar Behera and Bijaya Kumar Behera belongs to one and same person i.e. myself and I intend to change my name to Bijay Kumar Behera in my Passport. Henceforth, I shall be known as Bijay Kumar Behera for all purpose. Sd./- Bijay Kumar Behera

By virtue of an affidavit sworn before Executive Magistrate, Bhubaneswar on dated 20.05.2023. I have changed my name from "ALOKA KUMAR SAHOO" to "ALOK KUMAR SAHOO" for all purposes. As in my **Educational Certificates** my name was inadvertently recorded as ALOKA KUMAR SAHOO instead of "ALOK KUMAR SAHOO".

inaugurated ITC's integrated consumer goods manufacturing and logistics facility at Khurda.

Bhubaneswar, May 22: Chief

Minister Naveen Patnaik Monday

Congratulating ITC CMD Sanjeev Puri, Patnaik urged him to expand the company's footprint in the state.He reiterated the state government's commitment to making Odisha the next industrial hub in the country.

PNN & AGENCIES

The Industrial Policy Resolution (IPR) 2022 aims to transform Odisha into a modern and advanced industrial state by offering the investors outstanding opportunities for sustainable business growth

cutting-edge digital

analytics and

infrastructure and fostering holistic socio-eco-

The unit is powered by

having integrated data

sophisticated equipment

nomic development of the people, he said. The food processing sector is one of the priority sectors in IPR 2022 and this facility by ITC marks a significant milestone for Odisha, he said.

It is the first integrated consumer goods manufacturing and logistics facility in Odisha and

The Khurda facility will be emploving over 55 per cent women at an overall factory level.

The company will also continue to support local entrepreneurship through multiple co-manufactur ing units for its FMCG products.

The setting up of this integrated facility by ITC through the government's active support reinforces the state government's commitment to fostering industrial growth and creating employment opportunities by providing world-class investment facilitation to investors across sectors

Bhubaneswar, May 22: Science & Technology Minister Ashok Chandra Panda, Monday flagged off the voyage to the Space Applications Centre (SAC) of the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) in Ahmedabad for the 20 prodigious winners of the Tata Steel Young Astronomer Talent Search (YATS) 2022-23.

The expedition, commencing from Bhubaneswar May 22 includes students from across Odisha and their guide teachers, led by the

The formal launch of the trip was organised at Pathani Samanta Planetarium in City attended by distinguished officials, including Tata Steel Corporate Communications Chief Sarvesh Kumar and Pathani Samanta Deputy Director Planetarium Subhendu Patnaik.

Planetarium Director, Sanjulata

Behera. It will culminate May 29.

The top 20 winners, selected on the occasion of the grand finale of YATS December 13, 2022, will tour various SAC labs and gain insights from India's elite space scientists, nurturing their enthusiasm in the

strength, a high strength level was

4.5 years, 67 patients (7.2 per cent)

developed heart failure. The inci-

dence of heart failure was 10.2 per

1,000 person-years in patients with

high quadriceps strength and 22.9

Heart attack patients with strong legs have better prognosis

eople with strong legs are less likely to develop heart failure after a heart attack, according to research

Myocardial infarction is the most common cause of heart failure, with around 6-9 per cent of heart attack patients going on to develop the condition. Previous research has shown that having strong quadriceps is associated with a lower risk of death in patients with coronary artery dis-

The new study, presented at the Heart Failure 2023, a scientific congress of the European Society of Cardiology (ESC) in Prague tested the hypothesis that leg strength is associated with a lower risk of developing heart failure after acute myocardial infarction.

"Quadriceps strength is easy

and simple to measure accurately in clinical practice. Our study indicates that quadriceps strength could help to identify patients at a higher risk of developing heart failure after myocardial infarction who could then receive more intense surveillance," said Kensuke Ueno, a physical therapist at Kitasato University's Graduate School of Medical Sciences in Japan.

The researchers included 932 patients hospitalised in 2007 to 2020 with acute myocardial infarction who did not have heart failure prior to the admission and did not develop heart failure complications during their hospital stay. The median age was 66 years and 753 participants (81 per cent) were men

Maximal quadriceps strength was measured as an indicator of leg



strength. Patients sat on a chair and contracted the quadriceps muscles as hard as possible for five seconds. A handheld dynamometer attached to the ankle recorded the

maximum value in kg. The measurement was performed on each leg and the researchers used the average of both values. During an average follow-up of Myocardial infarction is the most

per 1,000 person-years in those with low strength. Compared with low quadriceps

strength, a high strength level was associated with a 41 per cent lower risk of developing heart failure.

The investigators also analysed the association between quadriceps strength as a continuous variable and the risk of developing heart failure.

Each 5 per cent body weight increment in quadriceps strength was associated with an 11 per cent lower likelihood of heart failure.

While the findings need to be replicated in other studies, "they do suggest that strength training involving the quadriceps muscles should be recommended for patients who have experienced a heart attack to prevent heart failure,' Ueno said.

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









Man gets 7 years RI for killing father



POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhadrak, May 22: The District and Sessions' Judge Court here sentenced Monday a man to rigorous imprisonment for seven years for killing his father. The court convicted Jiten Kabi and held him guilty of murdering Brundaban Kabi of Hansapur Dhusuri village under Dhamnagar block in this

OrissaPOST

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district. Jiten was convicted under section 304(A) of the IPC.

As per information available from the police, Brundaban had already divided his property equally among his two sons Jiten and Dhiren. Trouble started when Dhiren started constructing a house on the land given to him. Jiten physically assaulted Dhiren's wife Kalabati when she was oversee-

studies. It is expected that the tribal

students will be the worst sufferers

and the maximum number of

Residents of this block alleged

that they are being ignored despite

their kids doing well in the Matric

exams. They pointed out that

Nandahandi block in the district

with 12 panchayats have better fa-

cilities. There is one higher sec-

ondary school plus permission has

been granted to upgrade two other

institutions. Then there is also the

POST NEWS NETWORK

dropouts will be from their clan.

ing the construction work, May 22, 2019. When Brundaban tried to save his daughter-in-law, Jiten, the eldest of the two brothers, attacked him brutally with a crowbar.

Brundaban suffered serious injuries in the attack and was rushed to a hospital by others. However, he succumbed to his injuries.

Based on a written complaint made by the mother of the accused, Pramila, Dhusuri police lodged a case under section 307 of IPC. Jiten was arrested and forwarded to court. He has been lodged in prison since 2019.

During the hearing of the case Monday, the court came to the conclusion that the accused did not have any intention to kill his dad. Hence it convicted Jiten under section 304(A) of IPC, which deals with causing death by negligence or rash acts that does not amount to culpable homicide



TRADITIONAL FEST: A Shiva temple being decked up with flowers and decorative items Monday ahead of Sital Sasthi Yatra in Sambalpur,

Bleak future awaits Nabarangpur students Husband lodges complaint over wife's 'tubectomy' in Keonjhar

to the Odisha government for up

grading Pujariguda and Patraput

High Schools to higher secondary

institutions. However, till now there

The Patraput village, which is the

native place of Nabarangpur MLA

Sadashiv Pradhani, fulfills all the

criteria for establishment of a Plus-

is no word on it.

Lack of proper education facilities may force many Class-X passouts to quit studying in Tentulikhunti block

POST NEWS NETWORK

Tentulikhunti, May 22: Successful Matriculation students of this block in Nabarangpur district face a bleak future due to the lack of higher secondary schools. There are 20 schools in the block, but except for one, the others do not have facilities for students wanting to pursue Plus-II courses.

Ninety eight per cent students of Tentulikhunti block have been successful in the BSE Class-X exams, the results of which were announced few days back. The literacy rate in the block is the highest in the district. A total of 1,224 students have passed the Class-X exams. On the other hand, there is only the Indravati Higher Secondary School with 256 seats in the Arts stream and 128 seats in Science. Hence for successful students there will always be an acute shortage of seats.

This has sparked concern among the guardians. They fear that their kids may quit studying because of the lack of opportunities. Also many

BJP's Mayurbhanj bandh over power outage affects life

Baripada: Normal life was affected in Mayurbhanj district Monday as the BJP called a bandh over the power cut when President Droupadi Murmu was addressing a function here earlier this month. The BJP called the bandh for 12 hours in district headquarters Baripada



students are from families that are Binod Bihari College which has not financially well off. So it will be Plus-II facilities Residents of this block asked as difficult for them to send their children to far off places and fund their

to why they will not have a larger number of higher secondary schools, when other blocks have more than one. Other than the Indravati HS School, there is the privately-owned Aurobindo HS School. However, it has only 64 seats in the Science stream and none for Arts. Residents alleged that they have been getting a raw deal from the Education department and urged that the number of seats be increased so that the youngsters can pursue their dreams.

A proposal had been submitted

Ostracisation in Ganjam village leads to violence

The earlier feud happened in Feb over installation of street lights and people boycotted Yudhisthir

II school. However, nothing concrete has happened so far. When contacted, Pradhani said that a Plus-II school will be established in Patraput village. However,

he failed to mention a specific time-frame. Nabarangpur district has institutions with facilities for Plus-II courses and run by the state

Scheduled Caste (SC) and Scheduled Tribe (ST) department in every block. However, no such facility is available in this block.

man. Manohar Randhari informed that since 2018 plans have been made for establishing a college in Kamta village. However, till date nothing has happened. He said he will look into the matter soon.

in February.

POST NEWS NETWORK

Keonjhar, May 22: The district headquarters hospital here found itself in a spot Monday, after the husband of a woman lodged a complaint against a gynaecologist for conducting 'tubectomy' on his wife without consent of the family. The complaint was lodged at the Town police station here. The woman's husband has demanded stringent action against the 'erring' doctor. IIC Sunil Kar confirmed that he has received the complaint and said

an investigation has been launched. Sources said that Pabitrarani, wife of Susant Barik of Khendra village under Jhumpura block in this district was admitted to the hospital for delivery Sunday morning after she experienced labour pain. The woman was adminis-

17 SETS

District Planning Board chair-

a complaint with police in this regard

Police had then registered a case and

asked the villagers to withdraw the boy-

cott order and stay peacefully with

Yudhistir and his family members. Both

the groups had then promised not to

create any disturbance by signing an



tered treatment and delivered a baby boy at 7.40pm Sunday after the gynaecologist conducted a caesarean on her. However, Susant was in for a

shock when the doctor identified

him that 'tubectomy' has been conducted on his wife and asked him to sign a form as his consent. It meant that Pabitrarani would not be able to conceive again.

A stunned Susant refused to sign on the dotted lines. The doctor then abused him when he refused to comply with the order.

Susant has alleged in the FIR that the doctor made his wife sign the form by misguiding her. He also stated that he was not informed about the 'tubectomy'. Dr Mohapatra expressed surprise at the turn of events. He asserted that he had

as Abhijit Mohapatra informed taken permission from both.





and six hours in other parts of Mayurbhanj, demanding action against officials responsible for the outage. The power outage happened when Murmu was addressing the Convocation ceremony of Maharaja Sriram Chandra Bhanjdeo University May 6, during her three-day visit to her native place in Mayurbhanj district. The BJP alleged that Murmu's security was compromised because of the outage, which plunged the venue into darkness Buses were off the roads, while government offices and banks remained closed during the bandh. Markets and commercial establishments were also shut. However, it was business as usual at the Baripada court. Hundreds of vehicles, including trucks, were stranded on National Highways Nos 18 and 49 as BJP supporters blocked the roads. Local BJP MLA Prakash Soren and its district president Kandra Soren along with other party functionaries picketed in front of the District Collectorate.

Gaisilet PS IIC in Vigilance net

Bargarh: Officials from the Odisha Vigilance department conducted raids



ous locations allegedly belonging to Gaisilet police station IIC Birabar Bhagat. It has been alleged that

Monday at simultane-

Bhagat has accumulate ed wealth disproportionate to his known sources of income. Sources said that on the basis of search warrants issued by the Special Judge of the Vigilance Court in Sambalpur, a team consisting of two DSPs, seven inspectors, two ASIs, and other staff members of the department conducted raids at four places belonging to Bhagat. At the time of filling this report, the raids are still underway. The overall value of Bhagat's movable and immovable proper ties is yet to be ascertained. Bhagat's house and sprawling farmhouse are also being raided simultaneously, sources said. It should be stated here that last Wednesday, Vigilance officials raided the residence and office of Bhanjanagar additional civil supply officer (ACSO) on allegations of possessing assets disproportionate to his known sources of income.

happened because the other villagers are constantly disturbing the ostracised family and not giving the latter peace of mind.

Purushottampur, May 22: The sim-

mering tension over social ostraci-

sation of a resident of Sargunapalli

village in Bhatakumarada panchayat

under this police limits in Ganjam

district has refused to abate. This has

The matter came to the fore again after local police arrested Monday the husband of a sarpanch of Bhatakumarada panchavat on charges of assaulting the family members of Yudhistir Nahak and a murder bid on his father.

The ostracisation of the family started following a feud over installation of street lights on a utility pole in February. Then the entire village decided to boycott, Yudhistir and his family. The accused arrested person has been identified as Indra Nahak. Indra accompanied by 10 other villagers has been accused of attacking the kin of Yudhistir, May 2. They also dragged Yudhistir's father Prafulla out of the house and attacked him with sharp-edged weapons in an attempt to kill the latter.

The attackers also assaulted Yudhistir's mother Pramila and his brother and snatched away their phones when they resisted. Police MART ALL

registered a case and launched an investigation after Yudhistir lodged a complaint, May 4.

Indra's arrest sparked off tension in the village as a large number of people gheraoed the Purusottampur police station and demanded his immediate release. However, police produced him in court under tight security. A strong security cover was also put in place around the police station to prevent any untoward incidents.

SDPO Rajanikant Nahak also reached the spot and asked the people to maintain peace following which the villagers relented.

The simmering tension between Yudhistir and the villagers has now divided the village into two groups and robbed the peace and tranquility that earlier prevailed. Notably, the villagers socially boycotted Yudhistir and his family after holding him guilty in a 'Praia' court and also slapped a penalty of ₹30,000 on him. Yudhistir had lodged

119 TURTLES SEIZED, 1 HEI



POST NEWS NETWORK

Umerkote, May 22: Forest department officials busted a turtle smuggling racket Monday by seizing 119 turtles and arresting a person during patrolling at Nuaguda Square of this town in Nabarangpur district.

The turtles were being brought from Kalahandi district to Nabarangpur. The arrested person has been identified as Rajesh Das. He has informed the police that he was taking the turtles to Kumuli village under Raighar block in Nabarangpur district. He said that the reptiles were being smuggled to markets that sell turtle meat.

A medical examination was conducted on the turtles before releasing them in a water body, Umerkote forest ranger Anup Singh Pujari said.

undertaking. However, now the ostracisation issue has cropped up again.

bsite www.ireps.gov.in Sr. Divisional Mat Khurda Road PR-195/O/23-24

TELEPHONE, QUANTITY: 80 SETS.

Closing time: 1500 hrs. (for all tenders).

24/03, Dt.: 19.05.2023

Sd./- Executive Officer NAC, Rambha OIPR-13114/11/0006/2324

SURYO **FOODS & INDUSTRIES** ΕD

Regd. Office: A-54/1 & A-55/1, Dinalipi Bhawan, Baramunda, Bhubaneswar-751003 Email: suryofoods.industries@gmail.com, website: www.suryofoods.com,CIN - L05004OR1989PLC002264 Extract of Audited Financial Results for the Quarter and Year ended 31st March, 2023

	(Rs. In '000', except EP									
			Quarter ende	Year Ended						
SI. No.	Particulars	31.03.2023 (Audited)	31.12.2022 (UnAudited)	31.03.2022 (Audited)	31.03.2023 (Audited)	31.03.2022 (Audited)				
1.	Total Income from operation (net) Other income (net) Other Gains/(Losses)	2,134	704	98	4,247	453				
2	Net Profit/(Loss) for the period (before Tax, Exceptional and Extraordinary items)	1,229	-442	-749	-1,614	-3,645				
3	Net Profit/(Loss) for the period before Tax,(after Exceptional and Extraordi- nary items)	1,229	-442	-749	-1,614	-3,645				
4	Net Profit/(Loss) for the period after Tax,(after Exceptional and Extraordi- nary items)	1,239	-442	-590	-1,604	-3,832				
5	Total Comprehensive Income for the period [Comprising Profit / (Loss) for the period (after tax) and Other Comprehensive Income (after tax}]		-442	-590	-1,604	-3,832				
6	Equity Share Capital (Face Value of Rs. 10/- each)	39,600	39,600	39,600	39,600	39,600				
7	Reserves (excluding Revaluation Re- serve) as shown in the Audited Bal- ance Sheet of the previous year		-79,665	-76,822	-78,446	-76,822				
8	Earnings Per Share (of Rs. 10/- each) (for continuing and discontinued oper- ations) - 1. Basic: 2. Diluted:		-0.11 -0.11	-0.15 -0.15	-0.41 -0.41	-0.97 -0.97				

Note:

The above financial results of the Company for the guarter and year ended 31st March, 2023 have been reviewed by the audit Committee and approved by the Board of Directors at the meeting held on 22nd May, 2023. b) The above financial results have been prepared in accordance with Indian Accounting Standards (Ind AS) prescribed under section 133 of the companies act, 2013 and other recognised accounting practices and policies to the extent applicable.

The full format of the financial results of the Company for the Quarter and Year ended 31st March, 2023 are available at the Company's website http://www.suryofoods.com,and websites of all Stock Exchanges, where the Equity shares of the Company are listed.

Place: Bhubaneswar Date: 22nd May, 2023 For Suryo Foods & Industries Limited Sd./- Amarendra Dash **Chairman Cum Managing Director**













power post

FOCUS ECONOMY

My love is not a hunger of the heart, My love is not a craving of the flesh; It came to me from God, to God returns. **SRI AUROBINDO**



G7 & Ukraine War

The most symbolic element of the just concluded G7 summit in Hiroshima is that it took place in the city which, along with Nagasaki, are the only places in the world that had actually experienced the horrors that nuclear weapons can cause. A key agenda of the summit was the ongoing Russia-Ukraine war in which Russia has been constantly threatening use of its nuclear power to crush Ukraine. Some of the survivors of the nuclear attack on Hiroshima in 1945, who were interviewed by the international media on the occasion, cautioned the world against a second nuclear holocaust citing the horrific sufferings they and their families had suffered in 1945

Ukraine's President Volodymyr Zelenskyy, who was invited to the summit, has for some time been performing shuttle diplomacy visiting countries in Europe and the Middle East. His presence at the G7 meeting certainly put some pressure on the countries of the block - the US, UK, France, Germany, Italy, Canada and Japan to rally behind Ukraine in a more effective manner to confront Russia. In fact, it has increasingly become clear to Zelenskyy that it is not enough to get the West's support to his country in the fight against Russia. He also needs to convince countries, including India, which have close ties with Russia for supply of food and arms, to force Russia to stop the war. It is this reason which prompted Zelenskyy to meet Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi on the sidelines of the summit so as to impress on him the need to support his country. It is to be noted that India has, till date, avoided any condemnation of Russia's invasion.

That the G7 summit made the Ukraine-Russia war a top item on its agenda became clear when the US President Joe Biden announced that his administration had given the go ahead for training of Ukrainian pilots in the use of US made F16 fighter jets. In fact, Zelenskyy's in-person attendance at one of the world's premier diplomatic gatherings is meant to galvanize attention on his country's 15-month fight against Russia. Even before he landed in Japan, the G7 nations had unveiled a slew of new sanctions and other measures meant to punish Moscow and hamper its war-fighting abilities.

It is this support that caused worries to both Russia and China. Russian Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov criticized the G7 summit for aiming to isolate both China and Russia. The task, he charged, had been set "loudly and openly" to defeat Russia on the battlefield, and then eliminate it as a geopolitical competitor. He went further to complain that the decisions taken at the summit were aimed at "the double containment of Russia and China."

China followed up Russia's belligerent response with an open threat to the bloc not to try to intimidate it. China's Foreign Ministry said time has changed and a handful of Western countries can no longer meddle in other countries' internal affairs and manipulate global affairs. In an unambiguous statement China has warned the G7 members to stop ganging up to "bludgeon other countries" and asked it to focus on addressing the various issues confronting the world.

Though the G7 summit had no specific agenda on China, the very fact that it was held in Japan and leaders of the Quad grouping – US, Japan, India and Australia - also had a meeting sent a clear message to China that they would resist any Chinese attempt to forcibly take over Taiwan. While this was happening, the 18th India-China Corps Commander level meeting had a proposal pushed by China's PLA to create a 15-20 km wide Buffer zone between the two militaries. It may be noted that this whole area where China proposes the buffer zone is totally Indian territory, as claimed by sources.

There are deep lessons for India to learn from this Hiroshima meeting. Russia's invasion of Ukraine should impart the greatest learning. The inherent strength of a socially united country which had built its own military strength has helped sustain Ukraine to survive the terrible might of one of the world's most powerful armed forces for over a year. Only after it demonstrated to the world that it could withstand the invasion did friendly nations pitched in to help. US is now saying it will train Ukranian pilots to fly F 16 jets. This help comes after more than one year of bitter war.

India has remained steadfast in its stand not to condemn the Russian invasion. Although no one has bothered to complain, the cold shouldering of India at this G-7 meet was palpable. This might have serious fall out for India in the future should China ever increase its belligerence towards India. Without strengthening the Indian military while joining Quad, the nation might be inviting trouble from the neighborhood. If China decides to undertake large scale military action against India, help from outside might be slow or extremely delayed in landing up. India's stand in relation to the Russian invasion of Ukraine may not be forgotten by the Western Bloc easily in the near future. India's diplomacy can no longer be person centric. There is no

'GOTCHA' POLICY ad memories are not easy cooperate for the collective good

live down. Demonetisation is one of these memories, etched into the psyche of the nation as a step that led to widespread disruption, the loss of lives and the derailment of the Indian economy. So, it's not surprising that the withdrawal of the ₹2000 denomination notes brings back ugly reminders of that dreaded demonetisation which the former Prime Minister Dr Manmohan Singh described as "organised loot and legalised plunder," his harshest comment on the Modi establishment. Everyone knew that this fear would come rushing back as the ₹2000 banknote is laid to rest. The Reserve Bank of India made it a point to put it in its headline for the press release, circular and the associated FAQs to that the notes will continue to be legal tender.

The caution and the qualification were necessary because of fears that the move will be misread. To be sure, this time it's not a case of demonetisation but a planned withdrawal from circulation, pending which the note remains legal tender. Citizens have time till September 30 to deposit the notes into their accounts or exchange the notes with other denomination notes at bank counters. The exchange comes with a slight hurdle though – only up to ₹20,000 at one go to avoid disruption at bank branches. There is no limit for deposits, with applicable KYC norms.

To put it in the words of the RBI: "With a view to minimise inconvenience to the public, to ensure operational convenience and avoid disruption of the regular activities of bank branches, all banks may exchange ₹2000 banknotes up to a limit of ₹20,000/- at a time." One way to look at it is that the RBI wants an orderly exchange that is not disruptive. The flip side of this view is that it appears quite easy to disrupt Indian banking and branch operations with Indian notes! In general, the ₹2000 note with its unique purple colour will go down as the shortest-lived Indian



The government is not here to catch the people unawares. A 'gotcha' policy will bring disaster. It presumes that people are adversaries, unworthy and unwilling or unable to cooperate for the collective good

currency note in the history of Independent India at least.

The withdrawal of the high denomination note is a step in the right direction. The high currency note was introduced as a desperate measure to fill the vacuum caused by the sucking out of almost all cash from the Indian system in a nation that till then (and even now in many parts) lives on cash transactions. Yet, it was clear early on that one purported aim of the demonetisation programme, which was to flush out black money from the system, was defeated with the introduction of the high currency note. It is easier to hoard cash when it is in a higher denomination. Consequently, any discouragement towards cash holding should mean that the bulk of the currency should be in smaller denominations. Across the developed world, notes are not issued in higher denominations. For example, in the United States, the Federal Reserve Board currently issues banknotes in denominations of 1, 2, 5, 10, 20, 50 and 100 dollars. Higher denominations were last printed in 1945 and discontinued way back in 1969.

In India, demonetisation was announced on 8 November, 2016. As of March 2017, the then newly introduced ₹2000 banknote accounted for over 50% of the value of total value of currency in circulation but just 3.3% of the total volume of currency in circulation. The note fulfilled an urgent need to feed a cash-starved nation. Over time, however, the note's commonplaceness has been brought down in a planned glide that saw the numbers - value of the notes and their volume – come down. Printing of the notes stopped in 2018-19.

This has been a case of wise and pro-people decision-making, quite the opposite of the suddenness with which some other policy measures of the government have been announced, notably demonetisation and the lockdown when COVID-19 had just begun to erupt.

There are lessons to be learned from the introduction as well as the withdrawal of the ₹2000 note, the first of which is that the objective of the decision is lost when the disruption it causes is heavy. If the policy was meant to flush out black money (none of which was found), then the introduction of the high currency note was a textbook case of what is not to be done to encourage black money and hoarding, but had to be done simply to ease the immediate pain.

hungry and spiritually starving The second is that the government is not here to catch the people unawares. A 'gotcha' policy

will bring disaster. It presumes

that people are adversaries, un-

worthy and unwilling or unable to

The writer is a journalist and faculty member at SPJIMR. Views are personal. ©THE BILLION PRESS

SPECTRUM SUSTAINABILITY

Jagdish Rattanani

THE DEVELOPED

WORLD, NOTES

ARE NOT ISSUED

DENOMINATIONS

ACROSS

IN HIGHER

Walking our talk on climate action

Kenyan long-distance runner marathon record. clocking 02:01:09 and beating his previous time by 30 seconds. His success has made him a legend not only in Kenva but globally. It offers a useful lesson for everyone involved in the fight against climate change. Kipchoge's winning strategy is rooted in the science of running (as well as 120 miles of hard work every week), and our own approach to the climate crisis must involve the same level of commitment and focus. As temperatures keep rising and emissions soar, the planet, too, continues to break (dangerous) new records. But with determination and follow-through, we-together with institutional partners and other governments - can start to run faster to get ahead of the climate crisis. Success will depend on following the latest science and mobilising a joint, broad-based effort of governments and citizens. In March, the world's top climate experts and governments signed off on the latest Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change synthesis report. Once again, the IPCC's message was stark: Humans have permanently changed the planet, and global warming is already killing people, destroying nature, and making the world poorer. Though African countries have contributed

ast year in Berlin, the great the least to the problem, they are Climate Change Conference this growth. But to do that, we will need Energy Agency (IEA), Africa accounts for less than 3% of the world's energy-related carbon dioxide emissions, and 600 million Africans an outrageous figure - still do not have access to electricity. Climate change is a shared problem that the global community must solve by working together, especially given the disproportionate burden being placed on those who are least responsible. During his recent visit to Kenya, German Chancellor Olaf Scholz and I held talks on ways to address the climate crisis. Through the Germany-Kenya Climate and Development Partnership, our two countries have committed to deepen our collaboration on climate-resilient development and renewable energy, including by supporting green-hydrogen production and sustainable agriculture. We are currently a long way from limiting global warming to 1.5° Celsius or even 2°C, as envisaged by the Paris climate agreement. The climate crisis will not solve itself. On the contrary, we must ensure that global greenhouse-gas (GHG) emissions peak before 2025 at the latest, and then fall by at least 43% by 2030.

bearing the brunt of the damage. November December (COP28) offers to fix the current international fi-Zeliud Kipchoge broke the world According to the International an opportunity to accelerate the nancial system, which has proven energy transition, supercharge the multifaceted global crises, from growth of renewables, and commit to phase out all fossil fuels starting with coal. Kenya is on track to meet these goals. We already generate 92% of our power from clean sources and we have committed to achieving a 100% clean electricity network by 2030. Similarly, renewables generated 46% of Germany's electricity in 2022 and the government has committed to increase that to 80% by 2030. Critically, these commitments will not only ensure clean power and a safer environment; they will also create jobs, attract investment, and make our economies more secure and resilient in the face of volatile oil and gas prices.

inadequate for dealing fairly with

Second, 'gotcha' policy does not con-

sider the serious adverse impact,

expected and unexpected, on the

weakest sections of the popula

tion. The older citizenry who keep

cash just for safety and emergency

needs, the labourer who hardly

has cash and must depend on his

or her daily earnings to feed the

family, the technology-unfriendly

who do not rely on digital pay

ments were all unintended vic-

tims of the harshness of demon-

etisation. Ditto was the case with

the sudden lockdown, when the an-

nouncements asked people not to

step out of their homes, unmind-

ful that a large number of people

do not have homes and the econ-

omy depends so much on migra-

tory labourers who had to trek all

the way back home with nothing

to drink or eat, their pockets empty,

Well planned and thought

through policy that does not get into

the trap of event creation or head-

line grabbing also carries the ben-

efit of multiple pros and cons

being discussed and well considered so that the final outcomes

can be that much better. One of the

key aspects of decision-making

is to think about Gandhi's simple

message in one of the last notes he

left behind in 1948, expressing his

"I will give you a talisman Whenever you are in doubt, or

when the self becomes too much

with you, apply the following test

Recall the face of the poorest and

the weakest man [woman] whom

you may have seen, and ask your-

self, if the step you contemplate is

going to be of any use to him [her].

Will he [she] gain anything by it?

Will it restore him [her] to a con-

trol over his [her] own life and destiny? In other words, will it

lead to swaraj [freedom] for the

millions? Then you will find your

doubts and yourself melt away."

deepest social thought:

their wages lost or unpaid.

proof of it having paid any dividends yet. Rather it is on the contrary,

WISDOM CORNER

- Whenever you find yourself on the side of the majority, it is time to pause and reflect. MARK TWAIN
- All truth passes through three stages. First, it is ridiculed. Second, it is violently opposed. Third, it is accepted as being self-evident.

ARTHUR SCHOPENHAUER

Change your opinions, keep to your principles; change your leaves, VICTOR HUGO keep intact your roots.

WORDS**WORTH**

Hypernova

Sometimes the super- prefix just isn't extravagant enough, or it's been Sused already, or linguistic inflation has set in. This term seems to be a product of all three, since it is an even more spectacular cosmic event than the well-known supernova. But perhaps the superlative is warranted in this case, as the last such event spotted from Earth was widely reported as being so intense that if it had happened near to us we would have fried (luckily, it happened long, long ago in a galaxy far, far away). Such cataclysmic explosions - the biggest bangs since the Big Bang, NASA called them, with perhaps permissible overstatement - are about a hundred times as powerful as the biggest supernovae and may be caused by the total collapse of a very large star. They have been suggested as a possible origin of intense bursts of gamma rays that have been observed by space-borne detectors since the 1970s. In January 1999 the source of one was seen for the first time as it was happening. By this time, theorists had built up a picture in which GRBs [gamma-ray bursters] result from the collision of two high-density neutron stars or from a "hypernova" – the total collapse of a very massive star (Science, Mar. 1999). Really big stars such as Eta Carinae may go out in an even more spectacular explosion called a hypernova. Such a hypernova could produce another phenomenon known as a gamma-ray burster, which sends powerful gamma radiation out into space (Minneapolis Star Tribune, Jun. 1999).

LOL

Celebrating an event

n aged farmer and his wife were A leaning against the edge of their pig-pen when the old woman wistfully recalled that the next week would mark their golden wedding anniversary."Let's have a party, Homer," she suggested. "Let's kill a



pig." The farmer scratched his grizzled head. "Gee, Ethel," he finally answered. "I don't see why the pig should take the blame for something that happened fifty years ago."



AS TEMPERATURES **KEEP RISING AND EMISSIONS SOAR**, THE PLANET, TOO, CONTINUES **TO BREAK** (DANGEROUS) NEW

RECORDS

etters

are most welcome to contribute letters

postal address/email ID. They may also

and suggestions, preferably by email, to: edit@orissapost.com

Orissapost

B-15, Rasulgarh Industrial Estate, Bhubaneswar-751010

send in their valuable comments, opinion

105

TO THE EDITOR

Readers of Orissa POST

(200 words), articles and

requested to send their contact numbers and full

columns (between 750-1250 words). Contributors are

This is the year to drive that transformation. The United Nations

But it is important that we run this race as a team. According to the IEA, the global ratio of cleanenergy investments to dirty-energy investments must increase sixfold by 2030 (from 1.5:1 to 9:1).

With a strong partnership between Africa, Europe, and the rest of the international community, Kenya, with its abundant resources, can make significant contributions to decarbonization and the global transition to a net-zero economy. We must unlock climate finance and investment, so that we can harness our potential for green economic the COVID-19 pandemic and the climate emergency to debt distress across the Global South. The latest IPCC report is clear: climate change and insufficient adaptation and mitigation efforts are reversing development gains and undermining economic stability. But we also must remember that adaptation has limits, and that climate change is already threatening millions of peoples' lives today. As the IPCC shows, reducing GHG emissions by 43% this decade and stabilizing global warming at or below 1.5°C is still our best chance to keep the problem at a manageable scale. Kenya's climate summit in September will provide a key opportunity to showcase the

continent's commitment, potential, and opportunities to deal with the climate crisis. We need all governments to step up and agree to phase out unabated fossil-fuel use. We need reforms to make our financial institutions and systems fit for purpose. And we need to take climate action seriously. In the words of Eliud Kipchoge, the key to success is to "walk your talk."

> The writer is President of Kenya ©PROJECT SYNDICATE

Flight of the pink note

Sir, While demonetisation of ₹500 and ₹1000 notes announced by the BJP government on 8 November, 2016 was a blunder, introduction of the ₹2000 currencies following the demonetisation was an unpardonable blunder. We witnessed death of many poor and middle class people and shutting down of many small scale industries resulting in loss of employment. It was also alleged that introduction of the higher denomination of ₹2000 only helped the rich and black money hold ers to hoard their ill gotten money easily. We also witnessed big shots being caught with bundles and bundles of the newly released ₹2000 notes in raids conducted by investigating agencies making the common man wonder how they were able to get so much of new currency in exchange for the demonetised currencies! Seven years after the draconian demonetisation, the government has, now, announced through RBI that ₹2000 notes will not be legal tender after September, 2023. However, the ₹2000 notes have been missing in circulation for a long time giving enough clue and caution to the rich and black money holders who had stacked them and no doubt, by now they must have converted the notes into other valuable assets including gold. Once again, it is only the common man and the small traders and vendors who are going to suffer due to the latest announcement made by the consistently inconsistent and anti-people ruling dis-Tharcius S. Fernando, CHENNAI pensation

Media blitzkrieg

Sir, The ongoing initiative of Rozgar Mela is nothing more than a well-played manoeuvre of the BJP to gather media attention and publicity. Providing 10 lakh jobs stands nowhere against the tall promise of offering 2 crore jobs every year made by Prime Minister Narendra Modi. The recent released data by CMIE states that unemployment rate in India is around 7.45%. Addressing the unemployment challenge in India requires a multi-pronged approach. The government should invest in quality education and vocational training, aligning them with industry needs and also make major reforms in educational patterns and skill orientation of youths. Encouraging entrepreneurship particularly in labour-intensive sectors can create mass employability and boost economic growth. Implementation of favourable pro-business policies are needed to create a good economic environment. The government should take concrete measures to generate employability on a large scale by considering unemployment as a national concern.

Bishal Kumar Saha, MURSHIDABAD



national



There is loot going on in other states. BJPruled states are marked with highest levels of corruption. They are hungry wolves. And when they come they get to eat more ASHOK GEHLOT RAJASTHAN CM

CID TAKES OVER PROBE

The Criminal Investigation Department (CID) of West Bengal Police Monday took over the probe into the explosion at an illegal fire-cracker warehouse at Maheshtala in South 24 Parganas district Sunday night, which has so far claimed three lives, including a 10-year-old child



uote

DMK stalwart and former **Chief Minister** M Karunanidhi is the architect of modern Tamil Nadu, as he introduced numerous welfare schemes with a visionary approach M K STALIN TN CM

I want to clearly say let them probe. They have alleged 40 per cent commission they have to prove it

with evidence now. I demand that the Congress, being in the government, to give us all the proof and show there was a 40 per cent commissior

BASAVARAJ BOMMAI FORMER KARNATAKA CM

Delhi Chief **Minister Arvind** Kejriwal should follow the "Sheila Dikshit model" of engaging with officers respectfully, holding dialogues with them rather than "mistreating" them, and persuading them to work for the city's advancement

AJAY MAKEN CONGRESS LEADER

SHORT TAKES

Fresh violence in Manipur

Imphal: In fresh violence in Manipur, two houses were torched by a mob in Imphal East district after four armed men, including a former MLA, forced people to shut their shops Monday, police officials said. However, no casualty was reported due to the arson. The empty houses were used for providing rented accommodation to people. The mob also beat up one of the miscreants while others managed to flee. Three of them were later taken into custody. Chief Minister N Biren Singh said one of the three arrested men was a former MLA of the

Man arrested



ndore: An 80-year-old man was

northeastern state which was

shaken by clashes between

Meitei and Kuki community

people since May 3.



People take rest inside a concrete pipe on a hot day in Gurugram

CHHATTISGARH LIQUOR 'SCAM' ED attaches assets worth over ₹121 cr

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, May 22: Assets worth more than Rs 121 crore of Anwar Dhebar, who is the elder brother of Raipur Mayor Aijaz Dhebar, IAS officer Anil Tuteja, former MD of Chhattisgarh State Marketing Corporation Ltd. Arun Pati Tripathi and others have been attached in the alleged liquor scam-linked money laundering case, the ED said Monday.

The properties, provisionally attached under the Prevention of Money Laundering Act (PMLA), include 69 belonging to Anwar Dhebar worth Rs 98.78 crore, 14 properties of Tuteja worth Rs 8.83 crore and one asset of Tripathi, an Indian Telecom Service (ITS) officer, worth Rs 1.35 crore, the federal agency said in a statement.

Tuteja is a 2003-batch IAS officer and is currently posted as the joint secretary in the state's industry and commerce department. Hotel Vennington Court in Chhattisgarh assets worth Rs 58 crore includcapital Raipur of Anwar Dhebar, ing cash, fixed deposits, shares being run under the aegis of his and jewellery. firm A Dhebar Buildcon, has also been attached, the Enforcement tachment in the case now stand at Directorate said.

attached as part of the same order.

The total value of all attached prop-

This money laundering case

stems from a 2022 Income Tax department charge sheet filed against

IAS officer Tuteja and others be-

fore a court in Delhi. Anwar

Dhebar, Tripathi and two others

have been arrested by the ED in

The ED had alleged that money

erties is Rs 121.87 crore.

this case till now.



PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, May 22: Bihar Chief Minister and JD (U) leader Nitish Kumar met Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge and former chief Rahul Gandhi here Monday after which the leaders announced that a "vast majority" of non-BJP parties will meet to give a concrete shape to Opposition unity to take on the BJP in the 2024 general elections.

While Kumar had last month hinted that an Opposition meeting to strengthen unity could take place in Patna, there seems to be some re-think on the place with the leaders on Monday stating that a decision on it would be taken in a dav or two.

Giving momentum to Opposition unity efforts, Kumar, who met Kharge and Gandhi at the AICC chief's 10 Rajaji Marg, held nearly an hour-long "extensive" deliberations over the upcoming brainstorming by top Opposition bigwigs to chalk out a joint strategy for 2024 Lok Sabha elections. "The country will be united now.



The strengthening of democracy is our message. Rahul Gandhi and I discussed the current political situation with Bihar Chief Minister Nitish Kumar today and took forward the process of giving a new direction to the country," Kharge tweeted after the meeting.

Kumar was accompanied by his Janata Dal (United) president Lalan Singh and Bihar minister Sanjay Jha during the meeting. Congress general secretary (organisation) K C Venugopal was also present at the meeting.

Kumar's deputy Tejashwi Yadav

G20 meet kicks off

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Srinagar, May 22: Delegates of all G20 countries, barring China, arrived in Srinagar Monday for the third working group meeting on tourism - a much-anticipated event for which authorities have made extensive security arrangements and spruced up the summer capital of Jammu and Kashmir.

The delegates were given a traditional Indian welcome at the Srinagar airport with performances by local artistes, and the three-day meet kicked off with a side event on 'Film Tourism for Economic Growth and Cultural Preservation'.

"All the G20 countries except China participated. This meeting had an overwhelming response. We had 61 delegates here. All countries except China are present here," India's G20 Sherpa Amitabh Kant said.

Kashmir, where tourism is a major industry, is embarking on an exciting journey with the G20 event in the Valley and it will send a strong message against Pakistansponsored terrorism, Union ministers who have been camping here

was also expected to be present

during the meeting but could not

attend as he was unwell, sources

said.Briefing reporters after the

meeting, Venugopal said the venue

and date of the expected meeting

will be announced in a day or

two."We had a detailed discussion

about the Opposition parties' meet-

ing. We will decide the date and

place of the meeting within one

or two days. This is what we decided

Asked how many parties are ex-

pected to attend, Venugopal said,

"A vast majority of Opposition

today," he said.

to oversee the event said. Stringent security arrangements

have been made to ensure that the event concludes incident-free. The elite National Security Guard and Marine commandoes were helping police and paramilitary forces to secure the venues including the Sher-e-Kashmir International Convention Centre (SKICC), while the Boulevard Road around it has been made a no-go zone for three days.

There was a massive deployment of security forces on the route taken by the delegates and the Airport Road to Dalgate stretch. Kant downplayed the absence of Chinese delegates, saying travel and tourism is a private sector activity and trade delegations from several countries had participated.

Officials said it is not that all invitees attend every meeting and some have skipped those held in other parts of the country also. Asked about the negative travel advisories of many foreign countries on Jammu and Kashmir, India's G20 Sherpa said the "officials from G7 countries were participating and they would not have come here if there were any such advisory".

parties will attend." JD(U) chief Lalan Singh said

an elaborate discussion was held on the consensus that had been forged earlier on Opposition unity."The date and place of the meeting for Opposition unity will be decided in a day or two and you will be informed," he said.

This is the second such meeting between Kumar with Kharge and Rahul Gandhi in the last one and a half months.

After the last month's meeting, the Bihar chief minister had said they will make all efforts to unite more and more parties in the country against the BJP.

Last month, Kumar had also met leaders of a host of regional parties in his bid to bring them together on one platform with the Congress to take on the BJP in the polls next year.

The JD(U) leaders had met AAP convenor and Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal on Sunday at his residence here and extended "complete support" to him in the ongoing face-off with the Centre over the control of administrative services.



an alcohol syndicate led by Anwar

search operations" at various locations in Raipur and Bhilai in Chhattisgarh apart from Delhi, Kolkata and Mumbai and the ED had earlier said it seized movable

Dhebar had been unearthed. It had conducted "more than 50

Thus, the total seizure and at-

Monday arrested for allegedly killing his four-year-old greatgrandson in Madhya Pradesh's Indore more than a month ago, police said. Shobharam Chowdhary was arrested for allegedly strangling to death his great-grandson Shreyansh at their house in Shipra police station area on April 7, Superintendent of Police (Rural) Hitika Vasal said.

Doc found dead

Kota: The body of an Ayurveda doctor posted at a government community health centre in the Bundi district of Raiasthan was allegedly found hanging in her house at Borkheda police station, police said Monday. The deceased was a resident of Ujjawal Vihar in Kota city and was posted as an Ayurveda doctor at a community health centre in Barundhan village in Bundi district.

about Rs 180 crore, it said. The ED Properties of Vikash Agarwal has said that "corruption" was alias Subbu worth Rs 1.54 crore done in four ways as part of this aland 32 properties of Arvind Singh leged illegal liquor syndicate. worth Rs 11.35 crore have also been

Part-A pertains to "commission" where the agency alleged that a bribe was collected from the distillers per case of liquor procured from them by the CSMCL. Part-B pertains to the sale of "unaccounted" 'kacha' or country liquor. Not even a single rupee reached the state

exchequer and all the sale proceeds were pocketed by the syndicate and that "illegal" liquor was sold from state-run shops only, the ED has alleged.

was "illegally" collected for "every" Under Part-C of the alleged scam, bottle of liquor sold in Chhattisgarh the "bribes" were taken from disand evidence of "unprecedented" tillers to allow them to make a cartel and have a fixed market share, corruption and money laundering of Rs 2,000 crore generated by the agency has alleged.

Farmer's 'suicide': NHRC issues notices

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, May 22: The National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) has issued notices to the Uttar Pradesh Police and the chief secretary of the state over the "suicide" of a 45-year-old farmer after police allegedly forced a compromise with the perpetrators of the kidnapping and rape of his minor daughter.

The commission has sought a report in the matter from the police and the chief secretary within four weeks.

It said it has taken suo motu cognisance of a media report, according to which the man committed suicide after the police allegedly forced a compromise with the perpetrators of the kidnapping and rape of his minor daughter in Pilibhit district of

Uttar Pradesh. The victim reportedly belonged to a Scheduled Caste (SC) community.

"The commission has observed that the contents of the media report, if true, amount to a violation of human rights. Accordingly, it has issued notices to the Chief Secretary, Government of Uttar Pradesh, and the Director General of Police, Uttar Pradesh, calling for a detailed report within four weeks, it said in a statement.

The report should also include the present status of the matter and disbursement of the monetary relief to the victim under SC/ST (Prevention of Atrocities) Rules, 1995.

The commission would also like to know about the action taken against the delinquent officer responsible for the tragedy, it added.

Honour SC verdict on Delhi services: Cong to Centre

While a united Opposition has 111 MPs in the Rajya Sabha, the ruling BJP and its allies have almost an equal number of MPs

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, May 22: The Congress asked the Centre Monday to honour the Supreme Court verdict on Delhi services and said a final call on supporting the legislation that seeks to replace the ordinance in Parliament would be taken after discussions with like-minded political parties.

Sources said the Congress may consider opposing a bill, when it is introduced in Parliament, seeking to replace a Union government ordinance on Delhi's services matters, but noted that a final call would be taken after consultations with other parties.

While a united Opposition has 111 MPs in the Rajya Sabha, the ruling BJP and its allies have almost an equal number of MPs. Senior Congress spokesperson Anand Sharma said his party welcomed the Supreme Court decision when it came. "Today too, we have the same view that the Supreme Court decision was right. The Constitution bench has given a detailed judgment on the Delhi issue and the government should honour that," Sharma said when asked about the ordinance. The sources in the Congress, meanwhile, said the party may oppose the bill when the government brings it in Parliament to replace the ordinance.

Sharma said the government has brought an ordinance as well as sought a review of the Supreme Court's May 11 judgment.

"It is very clear that the Constitution bench of the Supreme Court had come out with a very detailed judgment and also, its interpretation of the constitutional positions and the rights of states and elected governments. It was



a larger question, it was not only limited to those parts of the judgment, not confined in my view only to Delhi, it was about India being a country," he said.

The Congress leader said under the Constitution, the government has the authority to bring an ordinance, but in this instance, it has also decided to file a petition for a review of the top court verdict.

"Since this is a Constitution bench judgment, it is only a Constitution bench which will revisit (the verdict). And we will await what the Constitution bench decides in this matter and we leave it at that," he said.

Prodded further on whether the Congress will oppose the bill to replace the ordinance, Sharma said, "Let us cross the river when it comes.

"I would expect that the Congress leadership, the Congress president, who is also the leader of the opposition in the Rajya Sabha, and the leader of the Congress in the Lok Sabha, along with the leaders of all other political parties, will discuss this matter as and when the session is convened, but we do hope that since it is the Constitution bench and the government has gone backthere, the Supreme Court will come out with its view," he added.

FROM WALKING STICK TO BABY WALKER

EC releases fresh list of 193 free poll symbols

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, May 22: Walking stick, baby walker, air conditioner, balloon and bangles are among the 193 "free symbols" issued by the Election Commission recently for Independents and candidates of unrecognised parties to pick from.

While recognised national and state parties contest assembly and Lok Sabha elections on their symbols, Independents and candidates of unrecognised parties have to choose their symbols from the list issued by the poll panel from time to time. The fresh list issued by the EC on May 15 has 193 such "free symbols'

Among the free symbols are



cleaner and trumpet.

conditioner, balloon, bangles, The last part of 2023 would witwheel barrow, whistle, window. ness a series of assembly polls wool and needle, water melon, with the terms of the legislative aswalnut, wallet, violin, vacuum semblies of Mizoram, Chhattisgarh,

Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan and Telangana ending on different dates between December this year and January 2024.

While the term of the 40-member Mizoram assembly ends on December 17, the tenures of the Chhattisgarh and Madhya Pradesh legislative assemblies conclude on January 3 and January 6, respectively. The tenures of the Rajasthan and Telangana assemblies end on January 14 and January 16.

Polls in these five states being held together cannot be ruled out at this stage. Besides the scheduled polls, assembly elections in the Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir cannot be ruled out this year. Sources had earlier said that

may be held in the summer of 2023 after winter conditions subside, and the timing would depend on the security scenario. After the conclusion of the 62-day long Amarnath Yatra from July 1 to August 31, a possible window sometime in October this year could be available for polls in Jammu and Kashmir.

semblies of Andhra Pradesh, Arunachal Pradesh and Odisha are ending on different dates in June next year. Since Lok Sabha polls are usually held in April-May, there is a likelihood that assembly elections in the three states could be held simultaneously with the parliamentary exercise.

elections in Jammu and Kashmir

The terms of the legislative as-











DOCUMENTARY ON PM MODI Delhi HC issues summons to BBC

New Delhi, May 22: The Delhi High Court Monday issued notice to the British Broadcasting Corporation (BBC) on a plea by an NGO seeking damages, claiming its documentary "India: The Modi Question" casts a slur on the reputation of India and makes false and defamatory imputations against Prime Minister Narendra Modi and the Indian judiciary.

The plea said BBC (UK) is the national broadcaster of the United Kingdom and has released the news documentary – "India: The Modi Question" -- which has two episodes and BBC (India) is its local operations office. It said the two episodes have been published in January 2023. The petitioner has sought dam-

ages of Rs 10,000 crore in favour of the NGO and against the de-

fendants on account of the "loss of reputation and goodwill caused to the Hon'ble Prime Minister of India, the Government of India, the Government of the State of Gujarat as it was during the period of the Gujarat Riots, and also the people of India".

The documentary relates to the 2002 Gujarat riots when Modi was the state's Chief Minister. The high court said, "Issue notice to the respondents through all permissible modes," and listed it for further hearing September 25.

The government had banned the documentary soon after it was released. Senior advocate Harish Salve, appearing for the NGO, said the suit against the BBC is in relation to the documentary which has "defamed" India and the whole system including the judiciary.

The plaintiff organisation, which is stated to be a society registered under the Societies Registration Act, 1860 and also registered as a



IT WAS CONTENDED THAT THE DOCUMENTARY/ PUBLICATION CONTAINS CONTENT WHICH CASTS A SLUR ON THE REPUTATION OF THE COUNTRY

Public trust under the provisions of the Bombay Public Trust, 1950,

Besides **BBC (UK)**, Justice Sachin Datta also issued notice to BBC (India) on the plea filed by Gujarat-based NGO

has filed the suit for damages and has also sought permission to file as an indigent person. It was contended that the docu-

Justice On Trial tions and insinuations

mentary/ publication contains content which casts a slur on the reputation of the country and also makes false and defamatory imputa-

Indigent Person Application (IPA)

which enables an indigent person

permission to sue as an indigent per-

The plea said for an order of

to file a lawsuit.

scribed by law. Under the CPC, a plaintiff is obligated to deposit a certain amount as court fees. Order 33 of the CPC deals with filing of suits by indigent persons. It says a person is an indigent person if he is not possessed

of sufficient means to enable him to pay the fee prescribed by law for the plaint in such a suit. The plea claimed the "disparaging and defamatory" statements of the defendant have caused grave and

e documentary relates

BC

NEWS

banned the documentary

soon after it was released

to the 2002 Gujarat riots

when Modi was the state's

Chief Minister

B

irreparable injury to the reputation of and denuded the goodwill that has been built by the Prime Minister of India, the Government of India, against the Prime Minister of India, the Government of the State of Guiarat as it was during the pethe Indian Judiciary and the Indian riod of the Gujarat Riots, and also criminal justice system. It said the conduct of the broadcaster is acthe people of India. tionable and has made them liable The quantum of damages can be to damages. The NGO has filed an

ascertained only after a fuller enquiry of the extent of damage caused. However, for the present the plaintiff values the damages at Rs 10.000 crore.

The Centre had earlier issued damages, the relief is provisionally valued for the purposes of court fees directions for blocking multiple at Rs 10,000 crore and the plaintiff YouTube videos and Twitter posts has filed an application under sharing links to the BBC documentary, which was described Order 33 Rules 1 and 2 of the Code by the Ministry of External of Civil Procedure (CPC) seeking Affairs as a "propaganda piece" son, since it does not have sufficient that lacks objectivity and reflects a colonial mindset.

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, May 22: A blistering heatwave swept parts of Delhi with maximum temperatures breaching the 46-degree mark Monday, straining power grids and posing challenges to out-THIS YEAR, INDIA door labourers, homeless EXPERIENCED ITS HOTTES people and animals.

FEBRUARY SINCE RECOR The sweltering con-KEEPING BEGAN IN 1901. HOWEVER ditions saw the peak BOVE-NORMAL RAINFALL IN MARC power demand in Delhi soar to 6,532 MW around 3:30 pm, the highest so far this season, officials said.

The city had recorded a peak power demand of 7,695 MW last summer and it might reach 8,100 MW this year,

KEPT TEMPERATURES IN CHECK MARCH LAST YEAR WAS THE WARMEST EVER AND THE THIRD DRIEST IN 121 YEARS. THE YEAR ALSO SAW THE COUNTRY'S THIRD-WARMEST APRIL they said. The

SINCE 1901 India Meteorological

Department (IMD) predicted that

similar conditions would con-

Delhi's primary weather station,

tinue before rains bring some relief from Wednesday onwards.

a maximum temperature of 43.7 degrees Celsius -- four notches above normal and the maximum so far this year. The mercury soared to 46.2 de-

Safdarjung Observatory, recorded

grees Celsius at Najafgarh, making it the hottest place in the capital. Narela (45.3 degrees Celsius), Pitampura (45.8 degrees Celsius) and Pusa (45.8 degrees Celsius) also recorded heatwave conditions.

The threshold for a heatwave is met when the maximum temperature of a station reaches at least 40 degrees Celsius in the plains, at least 37 degrees Celsius in coastal areas, and at least 30 degrees Celsius in hilly regions, and the departure from normal is at least 4.5 degrees Celsius.

Delhi civic body bans acid for toilet cleaning

DELHI SWELTERS IN SCORCHING HEAT

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, May 22: The Municipal Corporation of Delhi (MCD) has issued an order recently prohibiting the use of acid for cleaning public toilets operated by it, the Delhi Commission for Women (DCW) said Monday.

The MCD cited the Supreme Court order of 2013 that prohibited the over-the-counter sale of acid across India in the wake of raising incidents of acid attack.

"So, the provision for penalty for not using acid for cleaning purpose of toilet is, hereby, abolished/repealed from the contract. The agency/operator shall use alternate toilet cleaning material in place of acid. Violation of the instruction will attract penalty including confiscation of acid from the premises," the MCD order read.

The civic body directed all officers, field staffers and agencies concerned to ensure that "acid shall not be used for any cleaning purpose of toilets and public con-

THE MUNICIPAL CORPORATION OF DELHI (MCD) HAS ISSUED AN ORDER RECENTLY PROHIBITING THE USE OF ACID FOR CLEANING PUBLIC TOILETS OPERATED BY IT. THE DELHI COMMISSION FOR WOMEN (DCW) SAID MONDAY

THE MCD CITED THE SUPREME COURT ORDER OF 2013 THAT PROHIBITED THE OVER-THE-COUNTER SALE OF ACID ACROSS INDIA IN THE WAKE OF RAISING INCIDENTS OF ACID ATTACK

veniences".

On April 6, the DCW inspected an MCD-run toilet for women near the G B Pant Hospital in Daryaganj and found a 50-litre canister containing acid. The panel was informed by the sanitation staff that acid is purchased every month to clean toilets.

Senior MCD officers appeared before the commission and stated that no guidelines have been issued by the civic body to prevent

the use of acid for cleaning public toilets.

The also referred to a term of the contract agreement between the MCD and the cleaning agency which states that in case acid is not used to clean toilets weekly, a penalty of Rs 1,000 per day shall be

imposed on the agency. DCW chief Swati Maliwal expressed her displeasure over the present state of affairs where the MCD has "illegally" directed the usage of acid to clean 308 public toilets.

Following directions from the panel, the MCD issued an order May 18 which states that the said provision of the contract (which encourages use of acid) has been repealed and if any person is found using/storing acid in toilets, then action shall be taken against the agency.

Tripura govt to refurbish old capital complex area

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Agartala, May 22: The Tripura government has decided to refurbish the old capital complex area near Agartala to boost tourism, officials said.

The old capital complex, which includes a palace, Chaturdasha Temple, a museum and other structures, in Puran Haveli area in Puratan Agartala, around 8 km from the state capital, will be renovated and the entire area beautified as part of the Rs 20-crore project, they said. Maharaja Krishna Manikya Debbarma had constructed the complex and the temple in 1760 after shifting his capital from Udaipur, around 60 km away, when it fell into the hands of invader Samser Gaji and his army. The Manikya kings shifted the capital from Puran Haveli to Agartala in 1838. "The temple draws devotees from across Tripura and neighbouring Assam and Bangladesh during the seven-day 'Kharchi Mela' held in the months of June and July. The state government will secure a loan from the Asian Development Bank (ADB) for the renovation of the historical site," state Tourism Minister Sushanta Chowdhury said.







Borah said the tea industry has made a significant contribution to the economy of the state by becoming one of the major employment-generating sectors, providing livelihood to thousands of people. "In addition to the economic ramification, the tea industry has also contributed immensely towards the social fabric of the state with various cultural practices and art forms of the many tribes that were brought in as workers being absorbed into Assam's vibrant tapestry of traditions and heritage," he said.





Guwahati, May 22: A logo to commemorate 200 years of Assam Tea was unveiled here Sunday, coinciding with International Tea Day.

Assam Tea, which contributes to over 50 per cent of the tea produced annually in the country, was first discovered growing in the wild in 1823 by Major Robert Bruce.

The state government will mark the bicentennial year of Assam Tea in a grand manner, Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma said.

"On #InternationalTeaDay we reiterate our commitment to our 70 lakh strong tea garden community & celebrate the bicentennial year of India's national beverage in a grand manner (sic)," he added.

At a programme to mark International Tea Day, Borah dwelt on the initiatives taken by his government for the benefit of the tea industry and its workers. He also distributed cheques of varying amounts to small tea farmers for the purchase

Borah said that while Assam Tea has come a long way, much still needs to be done to ensure that it remains competitive in the evolving global market.

To mark International Tea Day, the Guwahati Tea Auction Centre set up a kiosk at its premise that offered free tea. Finance Minister Ajanta Neog, in her Budget speech for 2023-24, had said roadshows will be held in major cities across the country as well as abroad to promote Assam Tea and showcase the rich socio-cultural heritage of tea garden communities.

NO RESPITE: A boy carries water bottles on a hot summer day in New Delhi

Delhi Police starts campaign on child safety

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, May 22: Taking a step forward towards child safety, the Delhi Police Sunday started a month-long campaign to create awareness and educate parents on how to address and tackle issues of sexual abuse, cyber bullying and child trafficking.

Under the campaign, the police via its official online platforms --Twitter and Instagram -- will educate the guardians, caretakers and parents about various aspects of child safety and how they can prevent their child from being vic tims to such crimes

Deputy Commissioner of Police (PRO) Suman Nalwa said, "Right from bullying to inappropriate touch, people generally do not address such things. So, we want a healthy debate to happen in the so-



ciety and people to start talking explaining cyber bullying, child about these issues. After a lot of brainstorming, we have decided on the campaign to educate the masses on how to address child safety." According to officials, boards

Under the campaign, police via its official online platforms --Twitter and Instagram -will educate the guardians, caretakers and parents about various aspects of child safety and how they can prevent their child from being victims to such crimes

channels.

trafficking, sexual abuse and ha-The aim is to make children rassment will be put up outside aware about cyber bullying with schools and metro stations. The their school education, to teach issues pertaining to child safety them crucial safety lessons and will also be addressed through FM prepare them to not get upset and

immediately inform their teacher and parents in case they face sexual abuse, cyber bullying or any kind of harassment, a senior police officer said.

"Cyber bullying is when someone distorts a child's photograph and shares it on the Internet to cause him or her mental harassment, and this is a punishable offence." the officer said.

The'BachchonKiSurakshaHaiH armaraKartavya' campaign aims to encourage citizens to dial 112 and inform them in case they witness and face any such child safety issues.

Parents need to be friendly with their child, teach them 'good touch' and 'bad touch', and encourage them to share their ordeal in such cases and alert police so that strict action is taken against the perpetrators, officials added.

At long last, Assam board declares Class-X results

PTI PHOTO

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Guwahati, May 22: Result for the Assam secondary examination this year, which was hit by controversy after question papers of two subjects leaked, was declared Monday and over 70 per cent candidates cleared it.

The boys outshone the girls in the examination, which recorded an overall pass percentage of 72.69 per cent. The pass percentage for boys was 74.71, while that of girls was 70.96 per cent, the Board of Secondary Education, Assam (SEBA) said. The overall pass percentage this year was an improvement over that of 2022, when 56.49 per cent candidates cleared the examination. Hridam Thakuria of Sankardev Sishu Niketan in Dhekiajuli headed the merit list by securing 596 marks

out of the total 600.

Congratulating the successful candidates. Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma tweeted "Congratulations to all #ExamWarriors who performed well. For those unhappy, remember one exam cannot make or break vour career. Education Minister Ranoj Pegu extending his best wishes to the successful students, wrote on the micro-blogging site: "HSLC 2023 results are out. 301880 out of 415324 (72.69%) candidates have passed. Congratulations to all of them. Unsuccessful candidates should not be disheartened. Start now preparing for the next exam.'

The board examination, held in March, was mired in controversy as question papers of Mathematicsand Modern Indian Language and English had leaked.







national



Rs 2,000 note only helped keepers of black money to hoard their money with ease

P CHIDAMBARAM CONGRESS LEADER

SPECIAL HAJ FLIGHTS SOON

Air India and Air India Express will operate special Haj flights from Jaipur, Chennai, Kozhikode and Kannur, carrying around 19,000 pilgrims. The two carriers will fly close to 19,000 pilgrims to Jeddah and Medina in Saudi Arabia from the four cities



🔿 The Indian Revenue Service

officer claimed he and his

wife Kranti Redkar have been

receiving death threats and

social media platforms over

also abusive messages on

The Bombay High Court

Wankhede's interim protection

from any coercive action, such

as arrest, in the case till June 8

FIR was registered against him be-

cause he had lodged a complaint

against Singh with the National

Commission for Scheduled Castes.

Wankhede has alleged Singh hu-

miliated and harassed him dur-

ing an inquiry since the former

belonged to a backward commu-

nity. The Bombay High Court

Monday extended Wankhede's in-

terim protection from any coer-

cive action, such as arrest, in the

case till June 8.

the last four days

Monday extended

Sameer claims he and

wife getting threats

uote

Amit Shah: 'Insult to PM is insult to country'. Amitji my understanding of the constitution is that: PM works for the

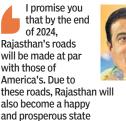
country, PM is not the country. Just as: Government works for the country, government is not the country

KAPIL SIBAL RAJYA SABHA MP

Karnataka is an important southern state with people celebrating festivals of various faiths. The state has maximum

number of temples and people do not hide their faith or religious inclination. Despite that, the people of Karnataka have rejected Prime Minister Narendra Modi, Union Home Minister Amit Shah and the BJP. Why is it so hard for the BJP to accept it?

SANJAY RAUT SHIV SENA (UBT) LEADER



NITIN GADKARI UNION ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS MINISTER

SHORT TAKES

Four dead in UP

Ballia (Uttar Pradesh): At least four people drowned as a boat with 30 people, mostly women and children, capsized in river Ganga in Uttar Pradesh's Ballia district Monday morning, officials said. Several families had gathered at Maldepur ghat in Maldepur area to perform 'mundan' (ritual head tonsuring) of their children. The boat is said to have capsized due to overloading. District Magistrate Ravindra Kumar said that the accident occurred possibly due to malfunction in the engine of the boat.

Four arrested

PIL filed against exchanging ₹2,000 notes without ID PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, May 22: The Delhi High Court will hear Tuesday a public interest litigation against permission to exchange Rs 2,000 denomination banknotes without obtaining any requisition slip and identity proof.

The plea was filed by lawyer Ashwini Kumar Upadhyay Monday. Upadhyay mentioned the case before a bench of Chief Justice Satish Chandra Sharma and Justice Subramonium Prasad for an urgent hearing today itself. The court, however, declined the request.

The petitioner contended in his plea that notifications by the RBI and SBI enabling exchange of Rs 2,000 currency notes without requisition slip and identity proof were arbitrary, irrational and offend Article 14 (equality before law) of the Constitution of India.

The petition said a large amount of currency notes has reached either individuals' locker or "hoarded by the separatists, terrorists, Maoists, drug smugglers, mining mafias & corrupt people". The petition said cash transac-

tions in high value currency are the main source of corruption and are used for illegal activities like terrorism, naxalism, separatism, radicalism, gambling, smuggling, money laundering, kidnapping, extortion, bribing and dowry, etc., and

the RBI and SBI should ensure that

Rs 2,000 denomination banknotes are

deposited in bank accounts alone.

"Recently, it was announced by



the Centre that every family should have Aadhaar card and bank account. Therefore, why RBI is permitting to exchange Rs 2.000 banknotes without obtaining identity proof. It is also necessary to state that 80 crore BPL families receive free grains. It means 80 crore Indians rarely use Rs 2,000 banknotes. "Therefore, petitioner also seeks direction to RBI and SBI to take steps to ensure that Rs 2,000 banknotes are deposited in bank account only," the plea stated.

Depositing Rs 2,000 currency notes in bank accounts will ensure those having black money and disproportionate assets are identified easily, the plea said. On May 19, the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) had announced withdrawal of Rs 2,000 currency notes from

circulation, and said existing notes can either be deposited in bank accounts or exchanged by September 30. The banknotes in Rs 2.000 denomination will, however. continue to be a legal tender, the RBI said in a statement. In order to ensure operational convenience and to avoid disruption of regular activities of bank branches, the RBI said exchange of Rs 2.000 bank notes into bank notes of other denominations can be made up to a limit of Rs 20,000 at a time at any bank starting from May 23.

In a communication to chief general manager of all its local head offices, State Bank of India (SBI) informed that the facility of exchange of Rs 2,000 notes by public up to a limit of Rs 20,000 at a time will be allowed without obtaining any requisition slip.

Gujarat ATS arrests 4, busts Qaeda unit

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Ahmedabad, May 22: The Gujarat Anti Terrorist Squad (ATS) has busted an Al-Qaeda module and arrested four members who hail from Bangladesh but have been living illegally in Ahmedabad, an official said Monday.

The preliminary investigation has revealed that the four members of the proscribed terror outfit were trained by their handlers based in Bangladesh before the quartet was sent to India. They were tasked with raising funds for Al-Qaeda's illegal activities, radicalising local youths and persuading them to join the terror outfit, said Deputy Inspector General, Gujarat ATS, Deepan Bhadran.

They were arrested from different parts of Ahmedabad under the relevant sections of the Indian Penal Code and sections 38, 39 and 40 of the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act (UAPA), Bhadran said at the ATS headquarters.

The four alleged members of Al-Qaeda are identified as -Mohammad Sojib, Munna Khalid Ansari, Azharul Islam Ansari and Mominul Ansari.

"Based on a specific tip-off, we first picked up Sojib, who used to live in the Rakhial area of Ahmedabad, for questioning. Sojib told us that he and three others are part of Al-Qaeda's network and were taking instructions from their Bangladesh-based handler Shariful Islam. Through Islam, these youths met one Shayba, head of Al-Qaeda's operations in Bangladesh's Mymensingh district," said Bhadran

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Mumbai, May 22: Former Mumbai NCB chief Sameer Wankhede, accused in a cruise 'drug bust' bribery case, Monday submitted a letter to the office of the Mumbai police commissioner seeking protection after claiming he and his wife were receiving death threats for the last few days.

An official said a letter was sent to the police commissionerate in south Mumbai through a representative of Wankhede. The Central Bureau of Investigation booked Wankhede and four others on May 11 for allegedly seeking a bribe of Rs 25 crore from actor Shah Rukh Khan for not implicating the actor's son Aryan in the Cordelia cruise 'drug bust' case.

Wankhede, who has been booked for alleged criminal conspiracy and threat of extortion as well as provisions pertaining to bribery under the Prevention of Corruption Act, was questioned by the CBI in connection with the case on Saturday and Sunday, The Indian Revenue Service (IRS) officer claimed he and his wife Kranti Redkar have been receiving death threats and also abusive messages on social media platforms over the last four days.

The FIR against Wankhede and four others was based on a report of then Deputy Director of the Narcotics Control Bureau (NCB). Gvaneshwar Singh, who headed a Special Enquiry Team in the cruise ship 'drug bust' case after allegations of irregularities surfaced.

Wankhede last week said the

HC allows minor, impregnated by brother, to undergo abortion

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Kochi, May 22: The Kerala High Court has allowed medical termination of pregnancy of a minor girl who was impregnated by her own brother, saying that various social and medical complications are likely to arise if abortion was not permitted

Justice Ziyad Rahman said that even according to the report of a medical board, constituted to examine the girl, continuation of the over 32 week pregnancy was likely to cause grave injury to the social and mental health of the 15-year old victim. "Considering the fact, the child is born from his own sibling, various social and medical complications are likely to arise. In such circumstances, the permission as sought for by the petitioner to terminate the pregnancy is inevitable. "Upon perusal of the medical report, it is evident that the child is physically and mentally fit for medical

termination of pregnancy. It is also stated that continuation of pregnancy is likely to cause grave injury to the social and mental health of the child," the court said.

It also said there was a possibility that the girl would give birth to a live baby according to the medical board. "In such circumstances, I am inclined to allow medical termination of pregnancy of the daughter of the petitioner. "Therefore, it is ordered that, respondents 4 (District Medical Officer.



Chandigarn: The Anti-Gangster Task Force (AGTF) of Punjab Police has arrested four shooters of Lawrence Bishnoi gang, Director General of Police (DGP) Gaurav Yadav said here Monday. The accused have been identified as Mehfooz alias Vishal Khan and Manjeet Singh - both from Dera Bassi - Ankit and Goldy, both of Panchkula in Haryana. Six pistols and 26 cartridges were recovered from their possession. Yadav said following inputs, a team of AGTF under the supervision of ADGP Promod Ban and led by AIG AGTF Sandeep Goel arrested the four shooters, who were tasked by Lawrence Bishnoi to harm and attack their rival gang members.

MP shocker

Bhopal: In a shocking case in Madhya Pradesh, a police constable Monday opened fire on three persons of a family, and later his body was found on a railway track. The incident took place in Berchha village of Shajapur district. Addressing media persons, a senior police official said that upon receiving information of the shooting, a team rushed to the spot and found one person dead of bullet injuries, while the two others, including a woman, were rushed to a nearby hospital.

13 turtles recovered

Lucknow: Three persons have been arrested while trying to smuggle turtles from Etawah in Uttar Pradesh to Uttarakhand. They were arrested late on Sunday night near the Anantram toll plaza on the Etawah-Kanpur highway. A total of 13 live turtles of protected species were recovered from the accused by a joint team of the Forest Department and Special Task Force.

Malappuram) and (Superintendent, Government Medical College Hospital, Manjeri) are directed to take urgent steps to medically terminate the pregnancy of the minor daughter of the petitioner without any delay," the judge said in his order dated May 19.

The court posted the matter to be taken up again a week from May 19. On the next date, a report regarding completion of the procedure has to be placed before the court. it said.

Fishermen rest on boats during the 61-day annual fishing ban in Chennai

PTI PHOTO

HIGH COURT OF KERA കേരള ഹൈക്കോടതി

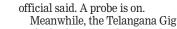
Delivery man falls from 3rd floor while fleeing dog

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Hyderabad, May 22: A delivery person of an e-commerce firm was injured after falling from the thirdfloor of a building here when he tried to evade the customer's barking dog, police said.

The incident took place in an apartment at Manikonda Sunday when the delivery executive, aged 30, went there to deliver a mattress and the dog started barking at the customer's door, which was reportedly partly open, they said. Afraid of being attacked, the man ran for safety and climbed a railing but slipped and fell on the ground from there, police said, adding that the customer and some others got him admitted to a hospital and his condition is said to be out of danger.

The delivery person suffered multiple injuries in the incident, a police official at the Raidurgam police station said. A case has been registered under the IPC section 289



and Platform Workers Union (TGPWU) in a release demanded that the dog owner bear the expenses of treatment of the delivery executive. In January this year, a 23-year-old food delivery executive died after he suffered critical injuries after jumping off the third floor of an apartment building here, out of fear of being attacked by a pet dog of a customer that chased him.

IS THE RULING DIAMOND LOSING

he ruling BJP which hoped for a soulful sonata this summer, post-election in Karnataka, is finding the rendition sombre if not saddening. Sombre, if it heeds the warning sign, saddening, if it does not.

victor but a single question oc-

cupies centre space: Is the rul-

firmament, also know of his pas-The saffron set-up went hell sion for singular command and for leather, pitching Gods into control. Like a good general he the campaign with religious ferleads from the front but then every vour and came a cropper, its frontline skirmish is not led by a 'pappu'- led opponent concerned corps commander nor every batthemselves with the cause of tle handled by an army chief. His lesser mortals and savoured strength lies in selection of able success. There are many lesdeputies and command of comsons in this loss for the vanmanders. quished and as many for the

If victories add to the aura of the party icon, defeats subtract from it as well. After losing power in

ing diamond losing its lustre?

have watched Narendra Modi grow

over the last half a century from

a backroom boy to a strapping

persona of the Indian political

For those of us in Gujarat who

Himachal Pradesh, the severe setback in Karnataka is sticking out like a sore thumb. Like In West Bengal, Himachal Pradesh and



Gujarat, the BJP hurled everything into the fight in Karnataka, a virtual 'Modi versus the rest' scenario. The Karnataka election was fought by the BJP seeking votes for Modi's leadership of the union. The results have the potential of raising uncomfortable questions that cast a shadow on the very image that the saffron setup hopes to encash for enhanced electoral dividends.

Elections are due this year in Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan, Chhattisgarh and Telangana. Madhya Pradesh like Karnataka had Congress in power but the BJP-ruled Centre toppled the government to install its own. With the southern state showing the way and internecine battles coming to the fore between the Congress inducted and the core-BJP cadres, the outcome is anybody's guess

The trust factor between the Modi-ruled Centre and the Opposition ruled states is at an all time low. After the Karnataka results, West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee has softened her stand towards the Congress. AAP Chief Minister, Arvind Kejriwal has in no uncertain terms voiced before Bihar Chief Minister Nitish Kumar the need for Opposition support for his government's ongoing tussle with the Centre and was promised the same. Kejriwal said that he will reach out to the chiefs of all Opposition parties so that any Bill brought by the Centre is defeated in the Rajya Sabha. For the bulk of his tenure as

(negligent conduct with respect to

animal) against the dog owner, the

had carved out for himself an image-perception of a victim 'David' battling a corrupt and oppressive' Goliath-like' UPA government and in the midst of this obstruction creating a Gujarat model of development. It was this image and persona which catapulted him and BJP to power at the Centre in 2014. The Bharat Jodo Yatra has not only benefited the Congress in Karnataka but it has also brought Rahul Gandhi into national reckoning as a serious political player and a determined counter-point to Modi and the politics being espoused by him and his party.

chief minister of Gujarat, Modi









international



If we do not make the changes that must be made, then who will? And if we do not make them now, then when TEDROS ADHANOM GHEBREYESUS DIRECTOR GENERAL OF WHO

S'PORE PM TESTS +VE FOR COVID

Singapore's Prime Minister Lee Hsien Loong said Monday that he tested positive for Covid-19 after recent visits to South Africa and Kenya



uote

Sri Lanka would be able to complete the ongoing debt restructuring programme by September and bring

the economy to a stable level RANIL WICKREMESINGHE SRI LANKA PRESIDENT

Pakistan is passing through unpredictable time. The situation had deteriorated to such an extent that even the decisions of judges and courts were being discarded

IMRAN KHAN FORMER PAKISTAN PM



agreed NASSER KANAANI IRANIAN FOREIGN MINISTRY SPOKESMAN

SHORT TAKES

3 Palestinians killed in West Bank clashes

Tel Aviv: Three Palestinians were killed in an Israeli army raid in a West Bank refugee camp early Monday, Palestinian health officials said, while the Biden administration sharply condemned Israel's latest act of settlement expansion.The Palestinian Health Ministry said the three men were killed during a raid in Balata, a refugee camp near the city of Nablus. Six people were wounded, including one who was in critical condition, the ministry said. The Al Aqsa Martyrs Brigades, a militant group with connections to Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas' Fatah party, identified the men killed as its members.

Imran receives luxury tax notice

Lahore: Pakistan Punjabs excise and taxation department Monday sent a luxury tax notice to Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) Chairman Imran residence in Lahore, media reports said. The department has issued a notice to Khan for payment of Pak Rs 1,440,000 for the house where he currently stays. The last date for filing the tax was May 12, but the notice was sent on Monday, The News reported.

US debt crisis can impact world

AGENCIES

Washington, May 22: If the debt crisis roiling Washington were eventually to send the United States crashing into recession. America's economy would hardly sink alone. The repercussions of a firstever default on the federal debt would quickly reverberate around the world.

Orders for Chinese factories that sell electronics to the United States could dry up. Swiss investors who own US Treasurys would suffer losses. Sri Lankan companies could no longer deploy dollars as an alternative to their own dodgy currency.

The Republicans have threatened to let the government default on its debts by refusing to raise the statutory limit on what it can borrow unless President Joe Biden and the Democrats accept sharp spending cuts and other concessions.

Feeding the anxiety is the fact that so much financial activity hinges on confidence that America will always pay its financial obligations. Its debt, long viewed as an ultra-safe asset, is a foundation of global commerce, built on decades of trust in the United States.

A default could shatter the USD 24 trillion market for Treasury debt, cause financial markets to freeze up and ignite an interna-



tional crisis The threat has emerged just as the world economy is contending with a panoply of threats — from surging inflation and interest rates

to the ongoing repercussions of Russia's invasion of Ukraine to the tightening grip of authoritarian regimes. On top of all that, many countries have grown skeptical of America's outsize role in global finance.

In the past, American political leaders generally managed to step away from the brink and raise the debt limit before it was too late. Congress has raised, revised or extended the borrowing cap 78 times since 1960, most recently in 2021. Yet the problem has worsened.

Partisan divisions in Congress have widened while the debt has grown after years of rising spending and deep tax cuts. Treasury

Secretary Janet Yellen has warned that the government could default as soon as June 1 if lawmakers don't raise or suspend the ceiling.

President Joe Biden said he

believes he has the legal

right to invoke the 14th

Amendment of the US

Constitution to raise the

federal government's \$31.4

trillion debt ceiling but does

not have the time to do so

Treasurys are widely used as collateral for loans, as a buffer against bank losses, as a haven in times of high uncertainty and as a place for central banks to park foreign exchange reserves.

Given their perceived safety, the US government's debts — Treasury bills, bonds and notes - carry a risk weighting of zero in international bank regulations. Foreign governments and private investors hold nearly USD 7.6 trillion of the debt — roughly 31 per cent of the Treasurys in financial markets.

Because the dollar's dominance has made it the defacto global currency since World War II, it's relatively easy for the United States

Biden, McCarthy to hold pivotal meeting

Washington: President Joe Biden and House Speaker Kevin McCarthy are set to meet at the White House at a pivotal moment as Washington works to strike a budget compromise and raise the nation's borrowing limit in time to avert a potentially chaotic federal default. Negotiators for the White House arrived Monday back at the Capitol for talks ahead of the afternoon meeting between the Democratic president and the new Republican speaker that will be critical as they race to prevent a looming debt crisis as soon as next week. After a weekend of start-stop talks, both men have appeared upbeat as they face a deadline, as soon as June 1, when the government could run out of cash to pay its bills.

growing pile of government debt. But high demand for dollars also tends to make them more valuable than other currencies, and that imposes a cost: A strong dollar makes American goods pricier relative to their foreign rivals, leaving US exporters at a competitive disadvantage. That's one reason why the United States has run trade

India unveils 12-point plan to deepen ties with Pacific nations



PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Port Moresby, May 22: Prime Minister Narendra Modi Monday unveiled a 12-point development plan for the Pacific Island nations in a range of areas including healthcare, renewable energy and cyber-security as he announced that India is ready to share its capabilities with the region "without any hesitation".

Modi made the announcements on the new initiatives at the FIPIC (Forum for India-Pacific Islands Cooperation) summit held at Port Moresby, the capital of Papua New Guinea. "India respects your priorities. It feels proud to be your development

partner. Whether it's humanitarian assistance or your development, you can count India as a reliable partner. Our perspective is based on human values," he said.

Announcing the development plan, Modi said India has decided to establish a super-specialty cardiology hospital in Fiji and will assist in setting up dialysis units in all the 14 Pacific island countries. He also announced that sea am-

bulances will be provided to all the 14 Pacific island countries. To boost healthcare in the Pacific region, we have decided to establish a super-specialty cardiology hospital in Fiji. This hospital will be equipped with trained staff, modern facilities, and infrastructure, and it will serve as a lifeline for the entire region," Modi said. He said the Indian government will bear the full cost of this

mega greenfield project. The prime minister also proposed to bring similar Jan Aushadhi Centers to the region.

"Through the Jan Aushadhi Scheme in India, more than 1800 high-quality generic medicines are being provided to people at affordable prices. For example, the antidiabetes medication is available at up to 90 per cent lower cost at Jan Aushadhi Centers as compared to the market prices," he said.

"Other medicines are also available at a discounted price, ranging from 60 per cent to 90 per cent of the market cost. I propose bringing similar Jan Aushadhi Centers to your countries," he said.

He further added: "We propose establishing yoga centers in your countries to promote its benefits.'

The prime minister announced that the Centre of Excellence for IT in Papua New Guinea will be upgraded and transformed into a "Regional Information Technology and Cybersecurity Hub."

Greece faces new election in weeks

ASSOCIATED PRESS

Athens, May 22: Greece faces new national elections as early as une 25. with Prime Minister



ASSOCIATED PRESS

Georgetown, May 22: A nightboarding school catering to remote, mostly Indigenous villages, authorities said.

DATA TRANSFERS Meta fined record \$1.3 bn

REUTERS

Dublin, May 22: Meta was hit with a record 1.2 billion euro (\$1.3 billion) fine by its lead European Union privacy regulator over its handling of user information and given five months to stop transferring users' data to the United States. The fine, imposed by Ireland's

came after Meta continued to transfer data beyond a 2020 EU court rul-

ing that invalidated an EU-US data transfer pact. It tops the previous record EU privacy fine of 746 million euros handed by Luxembourg to Amazon.com Inc in 2021.

The battle over where Meta's Facebook stores its data began a decade ago after Austrian privacy campaigner Max Schrems brought a legal challenge over the risk of US snooping in light of disclosures by former US National Security Agency contractor Edward

Snowden. Meta said in a statement

cluding the unjustified and unnecessary fine that sets a dangerous precedent for countless other companies. It will also seek a stay of the suspension orders through the courts. The social media giant reiterated that it expected a new pact facilitating the safe transfer of EU citizens' personal data to the United States would be fully implemented

that it will appeal the ruling, inbefore it has to suspend transfers.





time fire raced through a dormitory in Guyana early Monday, killing at least 19 students and injuring several others at a

"This is a horrific incident. It's ragic. It's painful." President Irfaan

to borrow and finance an everdeficits every year since 1975.

Imran Khan's aide arrested again

Islamabad: Shireen Mazari, a close aide of former Pakistan prime minister Imran Khan was arrested Monday, hours after she was released from a prison on the orders of a top court. The Rawalpindi bench of the Lahore High Court (LHC) directed authorities to set Mazari free if she was not required under any other case. Mazari, 72, served as the minister for human rights from 2018 to 2022, under Khan's regime.

Ali said, adding that his government was mobilising all possible resources to care for the children. The fire broke out shortly before midnight in the dormitory building of a secondary school in the southwestern border town of Mahdia, a gold and diamond mining community about 200 miles (320 kilometers) south of the capital, Georgetown, the government said in a statement. Officials initially said 20 students were killed but later updated the toll to 19, with several others injured

National Security Adviser Gerald Gouveia said the figure was revised after doctors revived a very critical patient that "everyone thought was dead '

When firefighters arrived on the scene, the building was already completely engulfed in flames," Guyana's Fire Service said in a statement. "Our heartfelt sympathy goes out to the relatives and friends of those young souls," it added



JOVIAL MOOD: Participants dance during a ceremony to accept new members into the Young Pioneer Organisation at Red Square in central Moscow, Russia

Climate change to push 30% species over tipping points: Study

Kyriakos Mitsotakis confirming Monday he would not try to build a coalition government — despite having dominated the ballot hours earlier by the most decisive margin in half a century.

It was a tantalising result for the centre-right leader: although Mitsotakis slightly expanded his New Democracy party's standing, getting double the votes of left-wing Syriza and nearly four times those of third-place Socialist Pasok, the oneoff electoral law in place Sunday denied him a governing majority.

He'll now pin his hopes on a second vote - expected no later than July 2 — where the electoral system will revert to boosting the first party with a bonus of up to 50 of Parliament's 300 seats.

With 99.70% of the votes counted, New Democracy has 40.79% and 146 seats, five short of a majority, winning in 58 of the country's 59 constituencies. Svriza got 20.07% and 71 seats, while Pasok came in third at 11.46%

PIO jailed

London: An Indian-origin woman from London has been sentenced to more than four years in prison for acting as a money and drug courier for a Buckinghamshire based organised crime group. Mandeep Kaur of Pocklington Close was arrested in June 2020 with 50,000 pounds in cash.

ISS welcomes 2 Saudi visitors

Cape Canaveral: The International Space Station (ISS) rolled out the welcome mat Monday for two Saudi visitors. including the kingdom's first female astronaut. SpaceX's chartered flight arrived at the orbiting lab less than 16 hours after blasting off from Florida. The four quests will spend just over a week there, before returning to Earth in their capsule.

THE RESEARCH **PROJECTS THAT FOR MANY SPECIES THERE COULD BE AN ABRUPT** LOSS OF HABITAT DUE **TO FUTURE CLIMATE CHANGES**

AGENCIES

Geneva, May 22: Climate change is likely to abruptly push up to 30 per cent of species over tipping points as their geographic ranges reach unforeseen temperatures, according to a study.

The researchers found that if the planet warms by 1.5 degrees Celsius, 15 per cent of the species they studied will be at risk of ex-

periencing unfamiliarly hot temperatures across at least 30 per cent of their existing geographic range in a single decade.

However, this doubles to 30 per cent of species at 2.5 degrees Celsius of warming, they said. The study, published in the journal Nature Ecology & Evolution, analysed data from over 35,000 species of animals -- including mammals, amphibians, reptiles, birds, corals, fish, cephalopods and plankton -and seagrasses from every continent and ocean basin, alongside climate projections running up to 2100. The researchers investigated

when areas within each species' geographical range will cross a threshold of thermal exposure, defined as the first five consecutive vears where temperatures consistently exceed the most extreme monthly temperature experienced

by a species across its geographic range over recent history (1850-2014). Once the thermal exposure threshold is crossed, the animal is not necessarily going to die out, but there is no evidence that it is able to survive the higher temperatures, according to the re searchers.

The research projects that for many species there could be an abrupt loss of habitat due to future climate change, they said. The researchers found a con-

sistent trend that for many animals, the thermal exposure threshold will be crossed for much of their geographic range within the same decade.

The study suggests that once a species is suffering under unfamiliar conditions, there may be

very little time before most of its range becomes inhospitable. The researchers hope that their study could help with targeting conservation efforts, as their data provides an early warning system showing when and where particular animals are likely to be at risk.

2mn killed in damages from extreme weather

N early 12,000 extreme weather, climate and water-related events over much of the past half-century around the globe have killed more than 2 million people and caused economic damage of \$4.3 trillion, the U.N. Weather agency said Monday. The stark recap from the World Meteorological Organization came as it opened its four-yearly congress among member countries, pressing the message that more needs to be done to improve alert systems for extreme weather events by a target date of 2027. The Geneva-based agency has repeatedly warned about the impact of man-made climate change, saying rising temperatures have increased the frequency and intensity of extreme weather including floods, hurricanes, cyclones and drought. WMO says early warning systems have helped reduce deaths linked to climate and other weather-related catastrophes











business



PLI money at the rate 4-6 per cent of incremental sales could increase profit margins by 30-40 per cent, giving a considerable price advantage over others AJAY SRIVASTAVA | CO-FOUNDER, GTRI

BCCI ROPES IN ADIDAS AS SPONSOR

The Indian cricket board (BCCI) said Monday that German sportswear giant Adidas would become the new kit sponsor of the national team. In 2020, the BCCI had signed a three-year deal with the Mobile Premier League's sports merchandise brand MPL Sports to replace American sportswear manufacturer Nike



TCS bags ₹15K-cr

BSNL deal for 4G

Mumbai, May 22: Tata

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

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The JV company (JSW Steel and JFE Steel) would further strengthen JSW Steel's position as India's leading manufacturer of advanced steel products that lead to reduced CO2 emissions and create sustainable steel solutions

JAYANT ACHARYA MD & CEO, JSW STEEL

This surge in smartphones with ample internal storage has disrupted the micro-SD market Conversely, the flash drive market experienced a modest YoY growth of 4 per cent SHIPRA SINHA LEAD ANALYST. CMR

In India, there are several challenges in air travel for businessmen in India. The high cost of aircraft ownership and monthly operations and maintenance are strong entry barriers

JOHN KURUVILLA CO-FOUNDER & CEO. INDIAJETS

SHORT TAKES

RBI buys \$750mn in spot forex mkt

Mumbai: The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) bought \$750 million on a net basis in the spot foreign exchange market in March, data released Monday as part of the central bank's monthly bulletin showed. The RBI said it purchased \$6.91 billion and sold \$6.16 billion. In February, the central bank had bought \$254 million on a net basis in the spot market. The rupee appreciated by 0.6% against the dollar in March. The unit traded in a range of 81.6150 to 82.80. The RBI's net outstanding forward purchase stood at \$23.6 billion as of end-March, compared with a net purchase of \$20.47 billion at the end of the previous month, data released Monday showed. The central bank

Retailers see red in pink

Rush to exchange ₹2,000 notes spills to many routes as people are flocking to petrol pumps, jewellery and electronic shops to avoid a visit to banks

AGENCIES

New Delhi, May 22: The acceptability of pink notes in the denomination of ₹2,000 has come down drastically after the government decided to withdraw them from circulation and gave a fourmonth window for the same.

Retail outlets in the country are witnessing a surge in the number of receipt of such high denomination notes led by panic as people are trying to avoid standing in long queues in the banks.

In many parts of the country, medium and small shopkeepers have stopped accepting ₹2,000 notes on the excuse that they do not have the change. It is only the multibrand showrooms that are accepting these pink notes.

'There is a sudden rush of customers who want to pay with ₹2.000 notes. Since the panic, we are also being cautious and do not want to stock up on these notes," said the owner of a grocery store.

A manager of a private sector bank's Kasha branch in south Kolkata said that, the receipts of ₹2,000 denomination notes had been marginally higher at 10, compared to seven to eight on normal working days. "The panic and rush that were witnessed after the demonetisation in 2016 were nowhere witnessed on Saturday. Probably, from Monday, the number of de-



posits of pink notes might increase." he added

GOLD, ELECTRONIC RUSH

The Reserve Bank of India's decision to withdraw ₹2,000 currency note has triggered panic buying of gold jewellery in many cities including Delhi, Mumbai, and Surat. Jewellery shops and shops selling electronics, however, are making most of the withdrawal

of this currency. Most jewellery shops remained open Sunday to make most of the business boom. "This is also the wedding season and people feel it is safer to invest the pink currency in gold. Some of my friends are warv of depositing the ₹2000 notes in the bank - they fear it could be a trap by law enforcement agencies," said Rahul Rastogi, a jewellery

The USD/INR forward premiums, which are already low, are expected to decline further with rupee money market rates likely to drop significantly on account of excess liquidity that RBI's move will lead to

ABHISKEK GOENKA | CEO, IFA GLOBAL

shop owner in Prayagraj.

Meanwhile, electronic showrooms are also benefitting from the panic over withdrawal of pink currency. "This could be a milder form of demonetisation so I am not taking any chances. I do have ₹2,000 notes with me in sufficient number and I am buying some mobile phones and other gadgets. It is better than queuing up outside

Adani stocks surge; mcap crosses ₹10L-cr

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, May 22: Shares of all the ten listed Adani Group firms continued their rally Monday, with Adani Enterprises climbing nearly 19 per cent, after a Supreme Courtappointed panel found no evidence of stock price manipulation in Adani group companies, while a separate Sebi probe into alleged violation of money flows from offshore entities has "drawn a blank".

The stock of Adani Enterprises zoomed 18.84 per cent, the most among the group firms on the BSE. Shares of Adani Wilmar jumped 10 per cent, Adani Ports rallied 6.03 per cent. Ambuja Cements gained 5.01 per cent, Adani Power climbed 5 per cent, Adani Transmission (5 per cent), Adani Green Energy (5 per cent) and Adani Total Gas (5 per cent). NDTV advanced 4.98 per cent

CASH PAYMENTS WITH ₹2,000 NOTES SPIKE 90% AT PETROL PUMPS

GOLD AND ELECTRONIC ROFITS AS FOOTFALL RISES

72% CASH-ON-DELIVERY ORDERS ON ZOMATO PAID VIA ₹2,000 NOTES

banks," said a customer.

Some jewellers were charging a premium on the yellow metal for accepting the currency note, a report said.

PANIC AT PETROL PUMPS

Cash transactions have sharply risen at petrol pumps and cashpaying customers are using ₹2000 notes in nine out of ten cases following Friday's withdrawal of the high-value banknote, the All-India Petroleum Dealers Association (AIPDA) has said.

"The RBI decision to withdraw ₹2000 note has again created the same difficult situation at petrol pumps across the country as was faced during the 2016 demonetization drive," AIPDA said.

Petrol pump dealers said cash sales before the surprise announcement Friday of the withdrawal of the ₹2.000 note was only 10 per cent which has now increased to 90 per cent as customers were using the withdrawn note to make small purchases of ₹100/200, expecting petrol pumps to return change

Most of the petrol pumps have stopped accepting the high currency denomination but some are accepting the currency but only if the customers' fuel bill is more than ₹1000. Some petrol bunks even displayed boards to the effect. The Tamil Nadu State Transport

Corporation, Tirunelveli, has issued a circular instructing bus conductors not to accept ₹2,000 denomination notes from passengers or exchange the same for lower value note. Retail outlets and fuel stations have also stopped accepting ₹2,000 denomination notes.

Food delivery platform Zomato Monday said a whopping 72 per cent of users that opted for cash on delivery option while ordering their food paid with ₹2.000 notes since the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) announced the withdrawal of these notes May 19. There are also reports that food delivery boys, however are refusing to accept ₹2,000 notes if a customer opts for cash on delivery. Meanwhile analysts and bankers

note that the decision to withdraw highest denomination currency note from circulation is likely to improve banking system liquidity, bringing down recently elevated short term rates.

Consultancy Services-led consortium has bagged a ₹15,000-crore contract from BSNL to deploy 4G network for the state-run telco. In a statement, TCS said it has received an "advance purchase order" valued over ₹15,000 crore

from BSNL.

The announcement ends months of speculation around the deal, where TCS was tipped to be the front runner for the contract. The deal has been in the works for many months.

TCS is the country's largest software exporter and typically books over 5 per cent of its revenue domestically.

Bharat Sanchar Nigam (BSNL) provides fixed line and wireless telephony, and data services across the country barring Mumbai and New Delhi

Private rivals of BSNL already provide 4G services and have also launched 5G offerings in select pockets of the country

The TCS scrip was trading 0.77 per cent up at ₹3,246.55 a piece at 1045 hrs on the BSE, as against gains of 0.32 per cent on the benchmark. The order comes as India's IT services companies grapple with demand uncertainty.

Economy sustaining recent growth momentum, inflation slowing: RBI

RBI EXPECTS THAT INDIA'S GROWTH WILL BE DRIVEN BY PRIVATE CONSUMPTION AND REVIVAL IN RURAL DEMAND IN THE FIRST QUARTER OF 2023/24

REUTERS

Mumbai, May 22: India's economy has sustained the growth mo-



2023/24 at 7.6%. RBI said

month showed.

prices of eggs.

India's annual retail inflation

The RBI said the inflation mo-

mentum is turning out to be softer

than anticipated on account of a

fall in wheat prices, the fifth con-

secutive monthly decline in prices

of oils and fats and the third con-

secutive monthly decline in the

on account of the combined im-

pact of monetary policy tightening,

supply augmenting measures and

a favourable base effect," RBI said.

India's wholesale price based

"The fall in headline inflation was

eased to 4.7% in April from 5.66%

the previous month, data earlier this





INSOLVENCY PROCEEDINGS NCLAT rules in favour of Go First

Leasing Finance BV (ELFC). These four lessors own around - GO FIRST 22 aircraft operated by the Wadia Group firm, which is presently going through Corporate Insolvency Resolution Process (CIRP). The lessors had opposed the de

cision of Delhi-based principal NCLAT's Go First bench of NCLT, which had earlier bankruptcy proceeding this month allowed a voluntary insolvency plea by Go First. order deals a blow for

intervenes in the spot and forwards market to curb exchange rate volatility. The currency was at 82.8275 to the dollar Monday.

TCS partners with **Google for AI**

.....

New Delhi: Tata Consultancy Services has expanded its partnership with Google Cloud for generative AI offerings, the company said Monday. Under the partnership, TCS will leverage Google Cloud's generative AI services to design and deploy custom tailored business solutions for the clients. "Our launch partnership with Google Cloud on generative AI enables us to rapidly create value for our customers. TCS is investing in assets. frameworks, and talent to harness the power of generative AI to enable growth and transformation for our customers," TCS. Enterprise Growth Group, President, Krishnan Ramanujam said.

lessors looking to take away planes AGENCIES

New Delhi, May 22: The National Company Law Appellate Tribunal (NCLAT) Monday upheld an NCLT order allowing crisis-hit Go First's voluntary insolvency resolution proceedings

A two-member NCLAT bench asked several aircraft lessors of Go First opposing insolvency, to approach National Company Law Tribunal (NCLT) for any remedy.

'The order dated May 10, 2023 allowing insolvency is upheld," said the NCLAT bench headed by Justice Ashok Bhushan. The direction came on a batch of

four petitions filed by aircraft lessors opposing Go First's insolvency proceedings. The lessors are SMBC Aviation Capital Ltd, GY Aviation, SFV Aircraft Holdings and Engine

resolution professional (IRP) to look after the affairs of Go First and also suspended its board as part of the insolvency resolution process. As per the provisions of the

NCLT had appointed an int

Insolvency & Bankruptcy Code, NCLT had put Go First under moratorium, which means that lessors are barred from taking back aircraft and creditors are restrained from

taking coercive action. NCLT in the order passed May 10, 2023, had also directed the IRP to keep the airline as a going concern and not to retrench its employees.

This was immediately challenged by SMBC Aviation Capital before NCLAT within hours of the NCLT order. Later, other lessors also moved NCLT and the appellate tribunal May 15, reserved its order. So far this month, several lessors

have approached aviation regulator DGCA for deregistration and repossession of Go First's 45 planes. Go First stopped flying May 3.

and ACC climbed 4.93 per cent. The combined market valuation of the ten listed Adani Group firms reached ₹10.16.212.15 crore Monday.

In two days, the combined market valuation of all the group firms jumped by ₹1,14,641.79 crore.

The six-member panel, however, said there was evidence of a buildup in short positions on Adani Group stocks ahead of the report of US-based short seller Hindenburg Research that alleged fraud, stock manipulation, and money laundering at the apples-to-port group. Profits were earned from squaring off positions after prices crashed post-publication of the damning allegations. While the report is not the final word, it certainly comes as a relief for Adani's empire.

mentum seen in the last fiscal quarter of 2022/23, while latest inflation outcome has been better than forecast, the Reserve Bank of India said Monday.

Growth in the first quarter of 2023/24 is expected to be driven by private consumption, a revival in rural demand and renewed buoyancy in manufacturing on easing of input cost pressures, the central bank said in its "State of the Economy" report, published as part of its monthly bulletin.

"Investment activity is also expected to improve, drawing strength from the thrust on capital expenditure in public spending and moderation in commodity prices," it added.

India's services exports rose 13.1% on year to \$30.48 billion in March, provisional RBI data showed in early May. April services exports as per provisional govern-

BELOW 5 PER CENT IN APRIL 2023, FOR THE FIRST TIME SINCE NOVEMBER 2021

HEADLINE INFLATION EASED

INDIA WAS THE SECOND LARGEST RECIPIENT OF FDI (\$26.2 BILLION) IN THE SEMICONDUCTOR INDUSTRY FOR THE YEAR 2022, SECOND ONLY TO THE US (\$33.8 BILLION)

ment data rose to \$30.36 billion.

The RBI said if services exports maintain their recent high momentum, the drag from net external demand should moderate through April-June 2023.

"Domestic service sector activinflation fell by 0.92% from the ity will continue to be led by the rebound in contact-intensive servsame month a year earlier, having risen 1.34% in March. ices and the resilience in construction activity," it added.

The pass-through of wholesale Based on partial data available price movements - in deflation in for April 2023 and assuming an April-could also contribute to the implied GDP growth of 5.1% for Q4 softening of retail inflation going of 2022/23, the economic activity forward, the RBI said.

Tatas get a bite of Apple; to make high-end iPhones

AS THE IPHONE CONSUMPTION INCREASES IN THE COUNTRY, APPLE NEEDS MORE SUPPLIERS TO RAMP UP PRODUCTION HERE, AS IT **REPORTEDLY AIMS TO TAKE AWAY A SIGNIFICANT CHUNK OF MANUFACTURING FROM CHINA TO COUNTRIES LIKE INDIA AND VIETNAM**

PhonePe raises

New Delhi: Decacorn fintech firm PhonePe Monday said it has secured an additional \$100 million investment from General Atlantic. With this fundraising, General Atlantic and its co-investors have contributed \$550 million in the ongoing \$1 billion funding round of PhonePe at a premoney valuation of \$12 billion. "PhonePe is pleased to announce that it has secured an additional \$100 million investment from General Atlantic, a leading global growth equity firm, as part of its ongoing fundraise," said the firm.

\$100 million

INDO-ASIAN NEWS SERVICE

New Delhi, May 22: With Tata Electronics now hogging the limelight for iPhone manufacturing in

India, industry experts Monday said that with their ambition on semiconductors and EVs. it only makes sense for the Tata Group to gain expertise in manufacturing high-end iPhones in the country. Currently, iPhone 12 and iPhone SE (second generation) are being manufactured/assembled at

Taiwan-based iPhone manufacturer Wistron's Karnataka factory, which Tata Electronics is set to take over soon.

Once the final takeover is done, the facility is likely to manufacture new Apple products that may include the upcoming iPhone series.

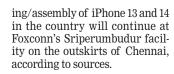
'With the new make-in-India potentially entry to mid-level iPhone 15 series, the Tata Group will make a modest beginning in this new partnership," according to Prabhu Ram, Head, Industry Intelligence Group, CMR. "We anticipate a remarkable growth trajectory for the Tata Group in the coming years as they gain expertise and experience in high-end iPhone manufacturing," he told IANS.

In the years ahead, the Tata Group has the potential to solidify their position as a pivotal player in the iPhone manufacturing ecosystem. Wistron's factory in Karnataka, that employs about 12,000 people, constitutes a major chunk of its

business in the country.

According to reports, Wistron will be winding down its operations soon and is "likely to approach the National Company Law Tribunal and the Registrar of Companies to dissolve its India operations"

Meanwhile, the manufactur-



APPLE SCALING HEIGHTS

'Make in India' shipments from

Tatas' semiconductor ambitions are serious and came at a very important juncture amid India's digital goals. First, they can leverage the semiconductor strength in their EV business and second, their chips can be aligned with Apple in the future and the learning curve will be great for them

TARUN PATHAK | RESEARCH DIRECTOR, COUNTERPOINT

Apple grew 65 per cent (on-year) by volume and 162 per cent by value, taking the brand's value share to 25 per cent in 2022, up from 12 per cent in 2021, according to Counterpoint Research. According to senior research analyst Prachir Singh, Apple's EMS (electronics manufacturing services) partners Foxconn Hon Hai and Wistron were the fastest growing manufacturers among the top 10 in Q4 2022 and "the growth was also fuelled by increasing exports from Apple"

Overall, iPhone exports from the country surged to cross \$5 billion (over ₹40.000 crore) in FY23.

Apple set a quarterly record in the January-March period in India and grew very strong, in double digits year-over-year, according to the company's CEO Tim Cook who was in India last month to openthe first branded retail stores in Mumbai and New Delhi.





OrissaPOST TUESDAY | MAY 23 | 2023 | BHUBANESWAR

MSD'S MEN LOOK FOR THEIR MAIDEN WIN OVER HARDIK-LED GUJARAT TITANS AS THE POWERHOUSES LOCK HORNS IN IPL 2023 QUALIFIER-1 TODAY **TITANIC TEST AWAITS CSK**

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Chennai, May 22: The astute tactician in MS Dhoni will dig deep into his reserves to counter Indian cricket's new 'Crown Prince Shubman Gill as four-time champions Chennai Super Kings will meet their match in current title holders Gujarat Titans in Qualifier-1 of the IPL here Tuesday.

Gill, who almost single-handedly knocked out a star-studded RCB with a century for the keeps has overshadowed Virat Kohli and will certainly force one of India's greatest captains to go back to drawing board and make plans for him

Gill is in the midst of a dream season and what will be Dhoni's tactical ploy to stop the dashing 'Mohali Marauder' is there to be seen.

This season, Gujarat Titans haven't played at the Chepauk, which hasn't behaved in a singular manner during CSK's seven home games and that prompted head coach Stephen Fleming to raise apprehensions about what to expect What makes this bat-

tle even more interesting is the fact that GT is a team that seems closest to being a prototype of what CSK had been all these vears in IPL.

solid management and an administration team that stays in the background and never interferes in cricketing matters, which is left to the troika of Ashish Nehra, Garv Kirsten and Vikram Solanki.

A captain, who swears that his understanding of leadership is cut from Dhoni's 'captaincy cloth', and head coach Nehra, who just like his former teammate doesn't believe in too many changes even if a couple of games go wrong.

They don't field players based on their auction worth - remember CSK bought Krishnappa Gowtham for nearly Rs 10 crore and he got a single game as he didn't fit the combination. Similarly, GT has current India

T20 pacer Shivam Mavi on its roster for a whopping Rs 6 crore but the team management has preferred veteran

Mohit Sharma. who is executing the slower deliveries beautifully. It's all about who fits what role.

So, it becomes more interesting when two teams with similar philosophy are pitted against each other. The teams who don't make long-term promises that are difficult to fulfill but focus on immediate process and know the roles of players required for

slots



For Gujarat, tackling the slowness of the Chepauk track will be a challenge and how well they negotiate Deepak Chahar's powerplay overs and Matheesha Pathirana's slingers at the back-end. will determine the outcome of the match

And herein, Pandya and Nehra will find Sri Lanka skipper Dasun Shanaka's inputs handy as he has handled both

Pathirana and spin-Maheesh ner Theekshana for the national team. While Shanaka might be used more as an all-rounder, Titans depending on the toss can also try out left-arm spinner R Sai Kishore, who knows these conditions

well. There is a chance that Irishman Joshua Little will be back in playing XI in place of Shanaka and Sai Kishore comes in place of Yash Dayal. For CSK, a good start by the crack pair of

Devon Conway and Ruturaj Gaikwad will

be important.

But at the Chepauk, even Ajinkya Rahane could become a factor while Shivam Dube would love to add to his 33 sixes for the season.

Conway and Gaikwad have provided brisk and substantial starts for CSK, the middle-order hasn't exactly got going. With GT bowling led by Mohammed Shami and Rashid Khan (24 wickets each so far) things won't be easy for the home team's batters, Conway and Gaikwad included.

The pitches at Chepauk so far have been a bit up and down, with a few being slow in nature while some have been good to bat on. CSK head coach Fleming said as much after the win over Delhi Capitals, claiming that the team is unsure about the conditions (at home).

> If a sluggish pitch is rolled out for the match, the spinners in the two teams would have a huge part to play. If CSK has Ravindra Jadeja, Moeen Ali and Theekshana, the Titans boast of a line-up that includes Rashid and Noor Ahmad.

GILL BACKS GT BOWLING ATTACK TO COME GOOD

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Bangalore, May 22: Gujarat Titans' batting mainstay Shubman Gill feels that his recent success in international and franchise cricket is primarily due to a thorough understanding of his own game and knowing the player that he is.

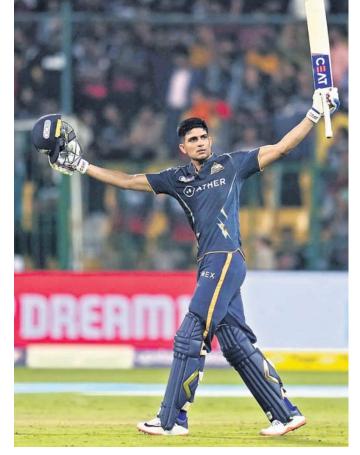
"I know my game... For any player it's important to know who you are," Gill, who has a good shot at the 'Orange Cap' with 680 runs under his belt (50 short of Faf du Plessis' 730) said after his team's victory

He also sounded a warning to Chennai Super Kings with a scintillating century and an assertion that they have a great bowling attack to challenge MS Dhoni's team "on that wicket" at Chepauk in the playoffs.

"I think we have a great bowling attack for that (Chennai) wicket. It's going to be an exciting one, playing against Chennai in Chennai. Hopefully, we'll make it to the final for the second time," Gill said at the post-match presentation.

Speaking about his century, the player of the match said, "It's all about getting a start and converting it into a big one. Thankfully, it's working out for me in the business end. You have to keep applying yourself, that's important.

Besides Gill, GT skipper Hardik Pandya also lauded his teammates for the "calmness" in the dugout. "The calmness which the boys had was terrific. We wanted to keep the momentum going. We have ticked a lot of boxes.



On Gill, the captain said, "He knows when he plays those cricketing shots, it's a different Shubman Gill. He doesn't give any chance and that gives confidence to the other batter as well."

He added, "We would have taken 197 at the start, but we didn't bowl

well. Special innings from Virat Kohli, but we went too early for the death overs. "I can't ask anything better from the boys. Last year, everything went well for us. We were expecting people to challenge us. The boys showed tremendous character.'

Virat, few others to leave for WTC final

KS Bharat and Ajinkya Rahane.

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, May 22: Virat Kohli will be among the first batch of India players to leave for the World Test Championship (WTC) final against Australia in London, departing in the wee hours of Tuesday.

Kohli's RCB teammate Mohammad Siraj will also board the same flight, a day after their team was knocked out of the IPL. Spinners R Ashwin and Axar Patel, and all-rounder Shardul Thakur, will also be on the flight as well as the team's support staff led by Rahul Dravid.

The two other players who complete the first list of seven cricketers are Kolkata Knight Riders pacer Umesh Yadav and Lucknow Super Giants' Jaydev Unadkat, who is recovering from a shoulder injury. The final will be played at the

Oval from June 7-11. India, who finished runners-up in 2021, will be aiming to win their first ICC trophy in 10 years. "There will be two



Cheteshwar Pujara is already playback in India for the IPL playoffs, ing county cricket in England and include skipper Rohit Sharma. will link up with the squad in Ravindra Jadeja, Ishan Kishan, London. Shubman Gill, Mohammad Shami,

We didn't stop Mohun Bagan fans: KKR

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Kolkata, May 22: The Kolkata Knight Riders Monday refuted claims that they stopped fans wearing the Mohun Bagan (MB) jer-



Sunday, MB accused KKR of high-handedness after their jersev-wearing fans were denied entry into the Eden Gardens. "It was a special match for the supporters MB because LSG was wearing a new Green and Maroon Jersey,' MB general secretary Debashish Dutta had said in a media release. "But, the KKR management curtailed the freedom of the MB supporters (who are also fans of KKR and LSG) by not allowing them to enter the stadium as they were wearing the jersey of MB.' Dutta said that the KKR have hurt the sentiment of the football club's supporters. "MB Athletic Club strongly condemns this decision of KKR management or disrespecting the National Club of India and hurting the sentiment of our supporters," he had said.

sey from entering the Eden Gardens during their IPL game against LSG, dubbing them "misleading".

The RP Sanjiv Goenka Group owns both LSG and MB, the century-old football club. After a section of MB fans alleged that they were not allowed to enter the Eden Gardens because their t-shirts and scarves had MB's logo on them, the KKR management denied the claims and, in a thinly veiled swipe, said the Goenka group was indulging in "ambush marketing".

'There are some misleading reports that are floating around that KKR management had stopped some fans from entering Eden Gardens during the KKR vs LSG IPL game May 20," KKR said in a

statement. "For the record, KKR management has nothing to do with crowd management at the stadium. We were told that some ambush marketing was attempted by some vested interests, which as per IPL league policy was promptly stopped

by the IPL league Anti-Ambush Marketing team. "KKR is grateful for the great relationship with all its fans in Kolkata and for making every game at Eden Gardens a full house.

It has among the largest fan bases of any franchise and would never disrespect anyone," the city-based franchise added.

or three departures in total. The first batch leaves at 4.30 am tomorrow (Tuesday)," said a BCCI source.

KOHLI BACKS HIS GAME

BANGALORE: Pumped up after an unprecedented seventh IPL hundred, Virat Kohli took a dig at his critics who felt that he was all but over as a T20 batter, saying he is playing some of his best cricket in the shortest format. Post the T20 World Cup semifinal exit last year, there have been indications that India's T20 team would undergo a revamp and although the official line has been "workload management" of senior players, the likes of captain Rohit Sharma and Kohli himself haven't played for India in the shortest format. "I felt great. Lot of people think that my T20 cricket is declining, I don't feel like that at all. I think I am playing my best T20 cricket again," Kohli said during an interview with the BCCI's 'world feed Sunday. "I'm just enjoying myself. This is how I play T20 cricket, I look to hit gaps, hit a lot of boundaries and then the big ones towards the end if the situation allows me to," said Kohli, who is closing in on 12,000 career T20 runs.

It must be mentioned that India won't play any warm-up game as the English County Championship is on and also this being an ICC event, the England and Wales Cricket Board (ECB) is under no obligation to arrange practice matches for the visiting team.

While the majority of the Indian team players are going into the title clash after two months of IPL, only three WTC-bound Australians played in the richest T20 league. Last week, the great Ricky Ponting said the Aussies will be mentally better prepared for the final but the Indians will have valuable game time behind them.

Sathiyan reaches pre-quarters in 2 events at Worlds PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Durban, May 22: India's G Sathiyan advanced to the pre-quarterfinals of men's doubles and mixed doubles alongside Sharath Kamal and Manika Batra respectively at the World Table Tennis Championships here Monday.

Sathiyan and Sharath beat the Hungarian-Danish combine of Bence Majoros and Anders Lind 11-5, 11-4, 15-13 in a round of 32 contest. Later Monday, Sathiyan teamed up with Manika to outplay Brazil's Eric Jouti and Lucakumahara 8-11, 11-7, 11-6, 11-6 in a round of 32 mixed doubles clash.

However, veteran Sharath suffered a second round loss in the singles competition to Korea's Lee Sang Su. The 56th ranked lost to the 33rd-ranked player in straight games with the scoreline reading 11-4, 13-11, 11-8, 12-10 in favour of the Korean.

Reigning national champion Sreeja Akula too exited the singles competition with a 2-11, 4-11, 2-11, 4-11 loss to world number 10 - (Ying Han of Germany.

EYES ON ASIAD DURING PRO **LEAGUE MATCHES: HARMAN**

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Bangalore, May 22: India men's hockey team captain Harmanpreet Singh says his side's focus will be on Asian Games, an Olympic-qualifier, as they embark on the European tour for Pro League matches, starting May 26.

The team left for London Monday for the first leg of the European tour where it will face reigning Olympic champions Belgium (May 26 and June 2) and hosts Great Britain (May 27 and June 3). They will then travel to Eindhoven for their last set of matches against the Netherlands (June 7 and 10) and Argentina (June 8 and 11).

India are currently leading the Pro League table with 19 points from eight matches in the nineteam tournament. United Kingdom too have an identical number of points but are second on the table due to an inferior goal difference.

The skipper said the matches will play a crucial role in India's preparation for the Asian Games in September, where the gold medallist will automatically qualify for



the 2024 Paris Olympics.

'We have very crucial matches coming up as we get to the business end of the Pro League season. We are in a strong position in the table so far and we will look to get as many points as possible in the remaining matches.

'We are excited about this tour as it also gives us a great opportunity to play against quality teams. These matches will be really important for us as we prepare for the all-important Asian Games scheduled later this year," said Harmanpreet.

India remained unbeaten against reigning World Champions Germany and Australia, which helped them top the points table. This will be the team's first outing under new chief coach Craig Fulton.



SUMMER CAMP CONCLUDES

Kids pose with their certificates of participation after the conclusion of the Kalinga multi-sport summer camp at the Kalinga Stadium in Bhubaneswar, Monday. The camp, which had commenced May 1, witnessed participation from over 500 kids in eight disciplines including football, athletics, judo, weightlifting, volleyball, basketball, gymnastics and kabbadi. Sports Hostel coaches imparted a fun-filled learning experience to the budding talents. The camp promoted fitness and an active lifestyle and exposed young kids to the world of sports and iconic Kalinga Stadium Sports Complex was the apt venue. Similar summer camps were hosted across district sports hostels which also saw overwhelming response from parents and kids. These summer camps received a lot of appreciation and support at the district level as well.

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