

Ex-Speaker Patro passes away at 75

AGENCIES

Bhubaneswar, Sept 2: Former Assembly Speaker and Digapahandi MLA Surjya Narayan Patro passed away at a private hospital here Saturday due to protracted illness. He was 75.

Patro is survived by wife, two sons and a daughter. Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik expressed grief over the demise of Patro, and described him as an able administrator and a good organiser.

Patro was born December 24, 1948 at Berhampur in Ganjam. He completed his BSc and LLB followed by social service before joining politics. He was Speaker of Odisha Assembly from June 1, 2019 to June 4, 2022.



CAPACITY BOOST: Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik, accompanied by 5T Secretary VK Pandian, flagged off 190 police vehicles at 7th battalion ground in Bhubaneswar, Saturday (Report on P4) OP PHOTO

Land for dam oustees

The 50-year long wait of Hirakud dam evacuees is over as the state govt decides to issue land 'pattas' to the affected families of Jharsuguda district

AGENCIES

Bhubaneswar, Sept 2: In a much needed succor to 1,749 families in Jharsuguda district who had lost their homes to Hirakud dam, the Odisha government Saturday decided to allot them land pattas (deeds), thus bringing an end to their over five decades of struggle.

These families were displaced from their roots following the construction of the multipurpose dam, the biggest project in Asia then.

The decision was taken at a meeting in the state Capital on the instruction of Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik, officials said.

Land rights would be provided on 3,231 acres to the displaced families of 18 villages of Lakhapur

- Land rights would be provided on 3,231 acres to the displaced families of 18 villages of Lakhapur tehsil and one village in Jharsuguda tehsil
- The state govt would start distribution of land deeds in five villages - Limeitakra, Sahasbag, Chit Lachipalli, Patrapalli and Dunamunda - from December this year
- The authorities have also decided to distribute land pattas to 883 displaced people in 17 villages of Sorada block in Ganjam district by September 22

Dunamunda - from December this year, the officials said.

Authorities have also decided to distribute pattas to 883 displaced people in 17 villages of Sorada block in Ganjam district by September 22.

Besides, farm land will be provided to 168 displaced people for which the process will start from next month, they said. The Odisha government's move was based on the feedback received by Secretary to Chief Minister (5T) VK Pandian during his recent visits to various districts.

Pandian, Development Commissioner Anu Garg, Revenue department Additional Chief Secretary Satyabrata Sahu, Collectors of Ganjam and Jharsuguda, and several other senior officials attended the meeting.

tehsil and one village in Jharsuguda tehsil, they said.

The state government would start distribution of land pattas (deeds) in five villages - Limeitakra, Sahasbag, Chit Lachipalli, Patrapalli and

IRREGULAR by MANJUL



Ask him to say Bharat instead of India. His cheer for India scares me

Space debris danger for future missions

The debris is moving at a speed of 24,140 kph, 10 times faster than a bullet, and at this speed, even a fleck of paint can puncture a spacesuit or destroy a sensitive piece of electronics

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Tucson (US), Sept 2: There's a lot of trash on the Moon right now - including nearly 100 bags of human waste - and with coun-

tries around the globe traveling to the Moon, there's going to be a lot more, both on the lunar surface and in Earth's orbit.

In August 2023, Russia's Luna-25 probe crashed into the Moon's surface, while India's Chandrayann-3 mission successfully landed in the southern polar region, making India the fourth country to land on the Moon.

With more countries landing on the Moon, people back on Earth will have to think about what

happens to all the landers, waste and miscellaneous debris left on the lunar surface and in orbit.

People think of space as vast and empty, but the near-Earth environment is starting to get crowded. As many as 100 lunar missions are planned over the next decade by governments and private companies like SpaceX and Blue Origin.

Near-Earth orbit is even more congested than the space between Earth and the Moon. It's

from 100 to 500 miles straight up, compared with 2,40,000 miles to the Moon. Currently, there are nearly 7,700 satellites within a few hundred miles of the Earth. That number could grow to several hundred thousand by 2027.

"It's going to be like an interstate highway, at rush hour in a snowstorm, with everyone driving much too fast," space launch expert Johnathan McDowell told Space.Com.

Since no one owns the Moon, no one is responsible for keeping it clean and tidy

Aditya-L1 eyes Lagrange Point

AGENCIES

Sriharikota (AP), Sept 2: India's maiden solar mission 'Aditya L1', Saturday set off on a 125-day journey to the Sun in its attempt to study various elements relating to Earth's nearest star, after being put into the orbit by a PSLV rocket that touched a new technical milestone in the launch vehicle segment.

At about 11:50am, the 44.4-metre tall, with a lift off weight of 321 tonne, the Polar Satellite Launch Vehicle-C57 (PSLV-C57)

rose into the sky breaking free from the second launch pad here at Satish Dhawan Space Centre.

Slowly rising up towards the skies with a thick orange flame at its tail, the rocket gained speed with a sound resembling rolling thunder and went up and up leaving a thick plume while the people assembled at the viewers' gallery cheered and clapped their hands with pride.

About 63 minutes after the lift-off, the rocket ejected Aditya-L1 and the whole mission came to an end at about 73 minutes after the passivation of the 4th stage.



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GOULDING MOVES ON AMID MARRIAGE SPLIT

Singer-songwriter Ellie Goulding has shared a cryptic quote as she hints at moving on after splitting from her husband Caspar Jopling. The couple are said to have called time on their romance in July, after reportedly leading separate lives for six months citing 'hectic schedules' as the reason behind the break up.

RUMER WILLIS NURSES DAUGHTER AT BEACH

Actress Rumer Willis proudly nursed her four-month-old daughter Louetta while enjoying a beach day. The new mom's post comes after she was criticised for publicly breastfeeding her little one.



FORTUNE FORECAST

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ARIES

You are currently high on life. Today is a good day to complete all those tasks you put on the back burner. It's also a great day to do the things you hate doing (read: cleaning up your closet). If you were looking to bring in a new business strategy, Ganesh gives the thumbs up!

TAURUS

In all probability, you will challenge all conventions and traditions with innovation in a successful manner, predicts Ganesh. In the afternoon, you may manage to step on the toes of your boss, so beware. The evening promises an ambiance that will change your weaknesses into your strengths.

GEMINI

It is highly probable that you will channel your energy constructively, instead of worrying about minor issues, predicts Ganesh. In the evening, you are likely to go on a shopping spree with your sweetheart. Don't fret, the expenditure promises handsome returns.

CANCER

You will decide to expose certain unreasonable conventions and traditions, and you will be able to do so successfully, predicts Ganesh. In the afternoon, you may incur the displeasure of your bosses. In the evening, you will be able to draw pleasure from whatever you do.

LEO

Shooting off the charts is an understatement when it comes to your liveliness today, says Ganesh. Guess there is just something about today that puts a spring in your step and a smile on your face. But whatever it is, it's good for you. At work, you shall be able to bring about new and successful business strategies.

VIRGO

It is quite probable that today will be an action-packed day for you, feels Ganesh. It is going to be a progressive day for your business. Later in the day, you may retreat into your shell, and refuse company.

LIBRA

It's now or never for you, as today, you may finally take out time to do some sound thinking for your future goals and success. Things seem to go your way, and all your plans are beautifully executed towards the afternoon. Also, find time in the evening to be with the ones dear to you. A movie and dinner sounds like a good idea to Ganesh. Enjoy life in all its goodness!

SCORPIO

Armed with a good sense of judgement, you will make a number of encouraging changes in your behaviour today, foretells Ganesh. Habits die hard, but all the effort that you put in to refine your routine will pay off brilliantly by the end of the day. Close friends and family will be pleasantly surprised by your efficiency and decisions.

SAGITTARIUS

If games and sports are your choices, you may emerge a winner today, predicts Ganesh. You may come across few obstacles during the latter part of the day. However, it does not bother you much. You're lucky enough to get cooperative colleagues as they may lend you a helping hand in times of crisis.

CAPRICORN

On the priority list, you put your work ahead of your family life. As a result, your life partner may have complaints about you not giving enough attention to him/her. Today, for once, you'll not let him/her get disappointed, as you'll plan a romantic getaway with your sweetheart. Professionally, you'll be at your best, winning applauses from the bosses and outshining your opponents.

AQUARIUS

You will finally make an effort to get in touch with old friends. At work, you find your public relation skills suddenly enhanced and even your rivals salute you! Naturally, the happiest is your beloved, who appreciates all the things you say. Enjoy it while it lasts, says Ganesh.

PISCES

You are extremely tense and worried about both your personal and professional life. You might run into someone sharing the same concerns today. This could lead to some interesting conversation and some fruitful ideas to solve your problems, says Ganesh.

SAMANTHA: I'M THE LUCKIEST GIRL ALIVE

Mumbai: Samantha has expressed gratitude after seeing the response she and her latest release *Kushi* have received by the audience. The actress called herself the "luckiest girl alive."

Samantha, who is currently not in the country, took to Instagram, where she posted a slew of images and a video. She described it all.

The first image has her making a heart with her hands while sitting in a cafe. The second and the third images have her looking at her phone with anticipation. The fourth is a clip, which has the screen and confetti in the air as a song sequence can be seen.

"It never gets eas-

ier, it's the possibility of having a dream come true that makes life interesting."

"Thank you for #Kushi pic 1- After the movie's release, Pic 2 and 3- Before (the stressssssssss)"

"Video 4- You make me feel like the luckiest girl alive."

Kushi is a Telugu-language romantic comedy film written and directed by Shiva Nirvana. This film was released September 1, 2023. It tells the tale of Viplav, an employee in BSNL who falls in love with Aradhya, a corporate professional in iLabs Centre and a Brahmin girl. Viplav and Aradhya get married against their parents' wishes and soon face relationship problems, along with insecurities, jealousy, and other factors.



Regina Cassandra on Emmy's jury panel

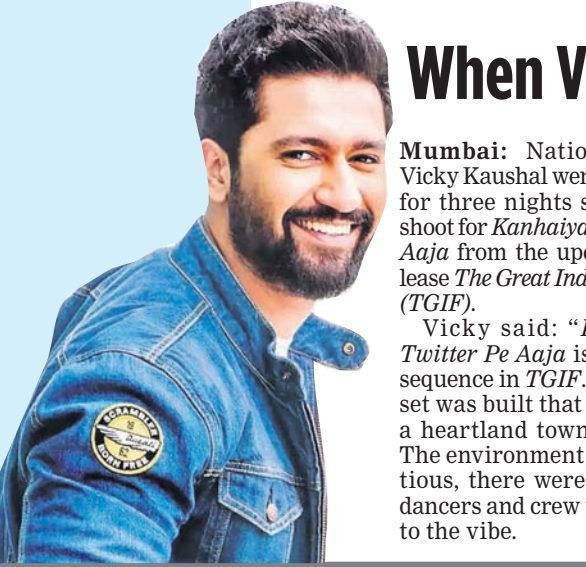
Mumbai: Regina Cassandra, celebrated for her performances in films such as *Rocket Boys* is on a career high. The actress has now achieved another significant milestone by being selected as a jury member for the semi-final round of the prestigious 2023 International Emmy Awards.

Expressing her elation and gratitude for this honour, Regina Cassandra remarked, "My heart was filled with immense gratitude when I was asked to be on the jury for the International Emmy Awards 2023. I was excited to be bombarded with new content and judge. I, along with the other jury members, got to soak into different storylines and narratives."

Regina's inclusion in the jury panel reflects not only her own prowess but also her contribution to the evolving landscape of Indian cinema. Her insights and discernment will undoubtedly be valuable in recognizing outstanding international content.

On the professional front, Regina Cassandra is all set to enthrall audiences with her upcoming project, *Section 108*, where she will be starring alongside the prolific actor Nawazuddin Siddiqui.

As Regina Cassandra continues to soar in her career, her involvement in the International Emmy Awards adds another feather to her cap and reinforces her status in the world of entertainment.



Nushratt reviews her career graph

Mumbai: Nushratt Bharuccha is slowly and steadily carving a niche for herself by experimenting with her roles and the actress feels that she deliberately changed her career graph from doing ensemble, rom-com films to solo lead films.

The actress is showing her versatility as an actress and is being appreciated for her choice of roles.

Speaking at an industry event, she said, "I feel when I changed my career graph and started doing films other than ensemble cast, rom-coms to films like *Akeli*,

Chhorii and now *Chhorii 2*, I took a different route."

Talking about always trying to bring something new for the audience, she said, "I always try to do something new every time, but it does not only depend on me. I should also get different projects. But I feel it is a very good time for someone to try different things as different content is coming up.

We have many makers now who want to try something new and brave."

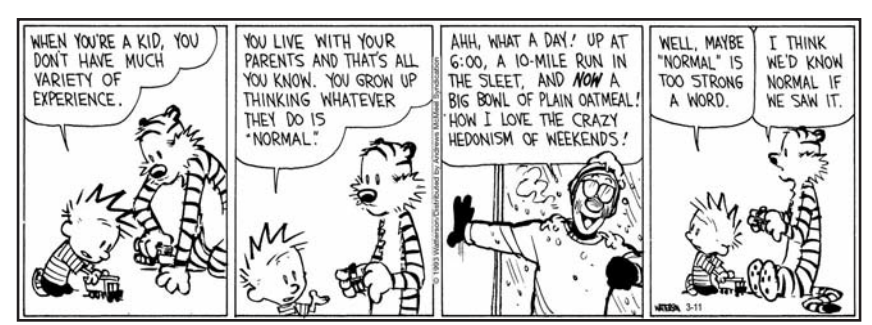
On the work front, Nushratt will be next seen in *Chhorii 2*, which is a horror film that tells the story of Sakshi, a pregnant woman who moves to a new house with her husband. The film is directed by Vishal Furia and also features Soha Ali Khan and Saurabh Goyal.



PEANUTS



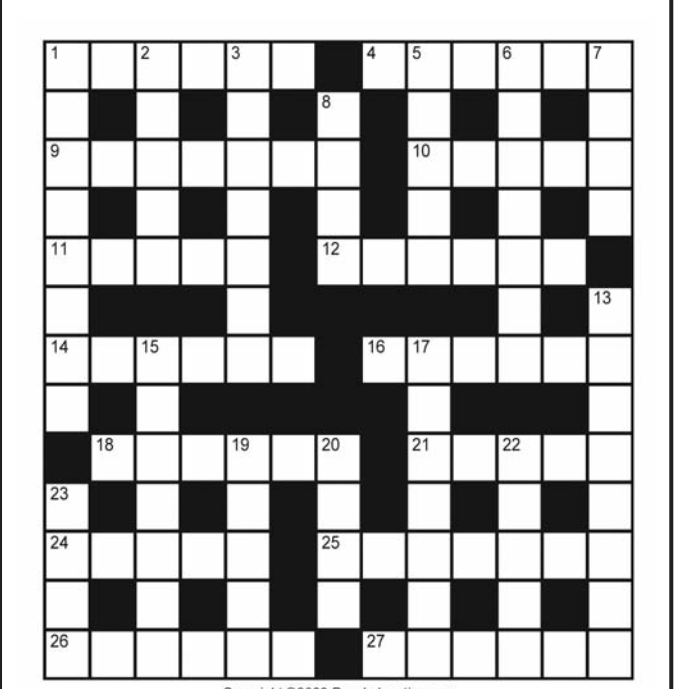
CALVIN AND HOBBS



BREVITY



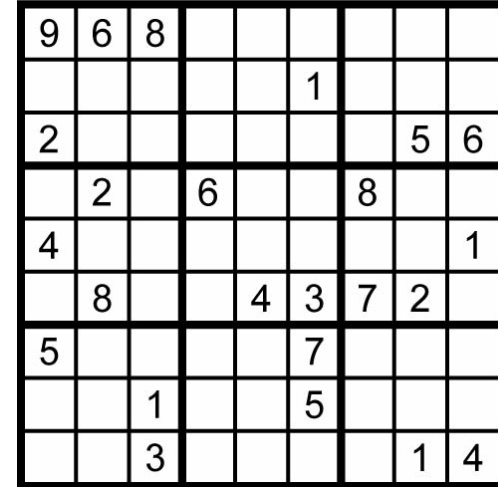
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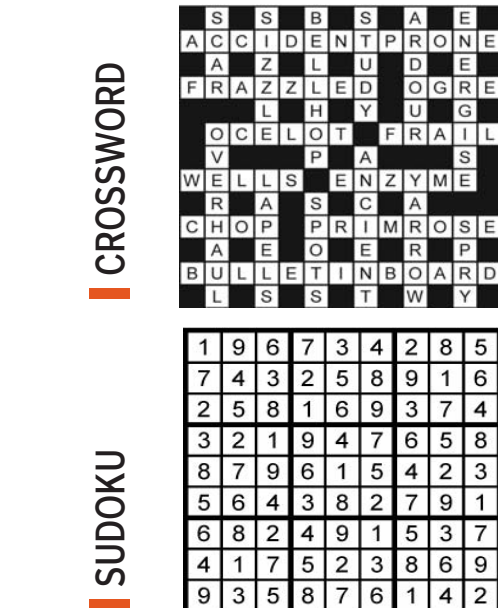
- Across
- 1 Under the weather
 - 4 Inelegant
 - 9 Final result
 - 10 Swelter
 - 11 30-day month
 - 12 Highest point
 - 14 Munificent
 - 16 Guiding light
 - 18 Conundrum
 - 21 Fuse
 - 24 Shrimp-like decapod
 - 25 Make a face
 - 26 Wiggle room
 - 27 Make like Sherlock
 - 7 Diminutive suffix
 - 8 Last name in German cars
 - 13 Involvement
 - 15 Wine date
 - 17 Slippery
 - 19 Columbus's birthplace
 - 20 Mythical ship to Colchis
 - 22 Fatuous
 - 23 Milky white gem

SUDOKU

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



SOLUTIONS



CHECK FOR SOLUTIONS OF THE PUZZLES TOMORROW

downtown

AIMING FOR SPACE

A staffer explains Aditya-L1 to school students visiting the Regional Science Centre in Bhubaneswar to watch the launch of India's maiden solar mission, Saturday



BAHANAGA TRIPLE TRAIN TRAGEDY

CBI files chargesheet

Accused trio charged with culpable homicide, disappearance of evidence



AGENCIES

New Delhi, Sept 2: Three months after the terrible Bahanaga Bazar triple train accident in Balasore district June 2 left 296 passengers dead and over 1,200 maimed, the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) Saturday filed a chargesheet against the three arrested railway officials accusing them of culpable homicide not amounting to murder and causing disappearance of evidence. The Central agency has also invoked Section 153 of the Railway act which carries maximum 5 years sentence upon conviction.

The CBI had arrested senior section engineer (Signals) Arun Kumar Mahanta, senior section engineer (in Soro) Amir Khan and technician Pappu Kumar, all posted in Balasore district, July 7 in connection with its probe in the accident.

The accident took place when the Coromandel Express

The CBI says the accused had direct responsibility of efficient upkeep of signal and telecommunication assets of Bahanaga Bazar railway station

crashed into a stationary freight train at Bahanaga Bazar station and some of its derailed coaches fell onto the adjacent tracks and collided with the oncoming Yeshwantpur-Howrah Express.

In its chargesheet filed before special judicial magistrate in Bhubaneswar, the CBI mentioned that based on evidence adduced during the investigation, commission of offence under Indian Penal Code Section 304 part II (culpable homicide not amount-

ing to murder), Section 34 read with 201 (causing disappearance of evidence of offence with common intention) and Section 153 of the Railways Act (endangering safety of railways passenger by willful act of omission) were made out against the accused, the agency's spokesperson said.

The CBI stated that the accused had direct responsibility of efficient upkeep of signal and telecommunication assets of Bahanaga Bazar railway station, where the tragedy took place.

It also alleged that the repair work at level crossing gate no. 94 near Bahanaga Bazar station was done under direct supervision of Mahanta using the circuit diagram of LC gate no. 79.

The typical circuit diagram of another LC gate no. 79 was being used at the time of execution of wiring work being done at north goomy (hut) of Bahanaga Bazar station, for changing the operation of level crossing gate no. 94 from 110 volt AC to 24 volt DC, the agency further alleged.

The duty of the accused persons was to ensure that testing, overhauling and carrying out alterations to the existing signal and interlocking installations were in accordance with the approved plan and instructions which they did not do, it said.

The central probe agency had taken over the investigation from Odisha Police.



PROUD MOMENT: Students recite the state anthem at the Education Leadership Conference organised by the CBSE Sahodaya School Complex Eastern Chapter in Bhubaneswar, Saturday

TWO HELD IN NRI ADMISSION SCAM

GYAN RANJAN MOHAPATRA, OP

Bhubaneswar, Sept 2: The Special Crime Unit (SCU) of Commissionerate Police Saturday arrested two persons on charges of duping parents of several lakhs of rupees by promising to facilitate their wards' admission at various technical institutes in the state.

The accused were identified as Abhinandan Barik alias Liku, 29, of Gadashi area in Mayurbhanj and Rajesh Roshan Sahoo alias Litu, 30, of Jagatsinghpur district.

Abhinandan has reportedly completed his diploma in Electrical engineering while Rajesh is a B.Tech. The duo has been arrested in connection with a case registered at the Nayapalli police station on the basis of a complaint lodged by a businessman from Jharsuguda.

The investigation of the case was subsequently handed over to the SCU, the special unit of Twin City police, for investigation of organized and serious crimes.

"The accused persons contacted the complainant and collected ₹3 lakh cash from him by promising to get his daughter an MBBS seat in a Deemed to be University. The duo reportedly did not return the ₹2 lakh security deposit amount. As per rules, a candidate gets back the security deposit one month after the admission," a senior SCU official said.

During investigation the police found that the accused, along with some others, have been running the racket under the garb of 'DF Academy' at a rented house in IRC Village area for the last seven to eight years.

The accused used to contact the guardians of candidates aspiring to get into engineering, medical, agriculture engineering, nursing courses and call them to DF Academy.

The SCU official said the scammers followed a unique modus operandi. At first, they would gather information about the selected candidates and thereafter, call their guardians promising admission of their ward/s into premier technical institutions in the state.

Centre clears appointment of two Orissa HC judges

KULDEEP SINGH, OP

New Delhi, Sept 2: President Droupadi Murmu has appointed Advocate Sibho Sankar Mishra and judicial officer Ananda Chandra Behera as judges of the Orissa High Court, Union MoS Law and Justice (I/C) Minister Arjun Ram Meghwal said Saturday.

The minister said, "In exercise of the power conferred by the Constitution of India, the President of India, after consultation with the Chief Justice of India, is pleased to appoint advocate Sibho Sankar Mishra and Judicial Officer Ananda Chandra Behera as Judges of Orissa High Court."

Earlier August 17, the Supreme Court collegium had recommended advocate Mishra and Judicial officer Behera for appointment as judges of the Orissa HC.

A collegium headed by Chief Justice of India DY Chandrachud had stated that the inputs received from the government indicate that advocate Mishra and JO Behera have good personal



and professional image and nothing adverse has come to notice with regard to their integrity.

Significantly, advocate Sibho Sankar Mishra was enrolled as an Advocate December 7, 1991 and has a standing of 30 years at the Bar. He is specialized in civil, criminal and service law. He is an Advocate-on-record for the State of Odisha in the Supreme Court and is counsel for the Union of India and High Court of Orissa in the Supreme Court.

Meanwhile, Ananda Chandra Behera has served as a judicial officer in various capacities in the state of Odisha. The collegium had also taken note of the fact that the proposal for elevation of Ananda Chandra Behera involves non-recommendation of senior judicial officers and stated that it is in agreement with the views of the High Court collegium for not recommending their names.

Brown sugar worth over ₹1cr seized; 2 held

Bhubaneswar: The Special Task Force (STF) of state crime branch seized brown sugar worth over ₹1 crore during a raid at a secluded place near Uttara on the outskirts of the capital city. The accused peddlers were identified as Lipun Pandey alias Lulu of Pipili in Puri and Sk Abbash of Saradhapur in Khurda. Following a tip-off, police conducted the raid and apprehended the duo while they were waiting for prospective customers near CIFA September 1 evening. The cops found the contraband weighing 1.08 kg and other incriminating materials from their possession. The accused later revealed that they procured the narcotics from Jaleswar area of Balasore. They have been trading drugs in Khurda, Puri, Bhubaneswar and adjoining areas, police said.

WEATHER	
BHUB	CTK
MAX 35.1°C	35.8°C
MIN 24.0°C	25.5°C
Humidity 92%	84%
Rainfall 46mm	84.4mm
Forecast: Cloudy sky with light rain	

Insecure jobs can increase early death risk



Precarious or insecure employment conditions can increase risk of early death, a study has warned, stressing that people without a secure job can reduce their risk of premature death by 20 per cent if they gain permanent employment.

Precarious employment is a term that is used to describe jobs with short contracts, low wages and a lack of influence and rights, all of which lead to a working life without pre-

dictability and security. The study from Karolinska Institutet in Sweden, published in The Journal of Epidemiology and Community reports, said that the job security market needs to improve.

"This is the first study to show that changing from precarious employment to secure employment can reduce the risk of death," said Theo Bodin, assistant professor at the Institute of Environmental Medicine,

The study from Karolinska Institutet in Sweden, published in The Journal of Epidemiology and Community reports, said that the job security market needs to improve

Karolinska Institute.

"It's the same as saying that the risk of early death is higher if one keeps working in jobs without a secure employment contract."

The researchers used registry data from over 250,000 workers in Sweden between the ages of 20 and 55 gathered over a period from 2005 to 2017.

The study included people who worked under insecure working conditions and who then shifted to secure working conditions.

Those who switched from precarious to secure employment had a 20 per cent lower risk of death, regardless of what happened afterward, compared to those who remained in precarious employment.

If they remained in secure employment for 12 years, the risk of death decreased by 30 per cent.

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Javelin star Kishore Jena feted for his accomplishment

ARINDAM GANGULY, OP

Bhubaneswar, Sept 2: Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik Saturday felicitated Kishore Jena with a cash award of ₹50 lakh for his outstanding performance in javelin throw and reaching the finals of the prestigious World Athletics Championship that recently concluded in Budapest, Hungary. This is the first time that an Odisha athlete has reached this level.

In a historic first for the World Athletics Championships, three Indian athletes secured their positions in the men's javelin final that included Kishore from Odisha. He further strengthened his position in the javelin world



when he finished 5th with a personal best of 84.77 m and made his state very proud while also making an impression on the Athletics fraternity of the world. Chief Minister highly praised Kishore's incredible achievement and congratulated him on his remarkable accomplishment and presented him with a cash award of ₹50 lakh. Patnaik said, "Kishore Jena's success is not just his own; it is a source of pride for all of us in Odisha. His remarkable journey to the finals of the World Athletics Championship serves as an inspiration to our youth and a testament to the talent that our state possesses. We are committed to supporting and nurturing such talent in the field of sports."

Lopar likely over BoB; IMD warns heavy rain



PNN & AGENCIES

Bhubaneswar, Sept 2: A low pressure area is likely to form over North Bay of Bengal which will likely trigger heavy rains in Odisha, IMD sources said here Saturday.

It said a cyclonic circulation lies over Northeast Bay of Bengal and neighbourhood extending up to 4.5 km above mean sea level tilting south-westwards with height persists.

The cyclonic circulation is likely to form over North Bay of Bengal around Sunday and under its influence, a low pressure area is likely to form during subsequent 48 hours. Current meteorological features indicate fairly

widespread to widespread light to moderate rainfall activity with isolated heavy to very heavy rainfall very likely over Odisha during next five days.

The Met sources further said thunderstorms with lightning activity are very likely during the next three days. It is advised that people to take shelter in safer places during thunderstorm activity to protect from lightning.

Light to moderate rain/thunder shower is very likely to occur at most places over the districts of south coastal Odisha and at many places over the districts of north Odisha, the IMD said and issued yellow warnings to as many as 22 districts in the state.

Meanwhile, heavy and intense rains lashed the Capital city of Bhubaneswar for hours Saturday bringing normal life to a grinding halt. Several low lying areas of the city were flooded with knee deep water due to incessant rains.



MAKING A POINT: Students interacting at a Maths Exhibition organised by Shiksha Vikash Samiti at Saraswati Sishu Vidya Mandir, Niladri Vihar in Bhubaneswar, Saturday

ADITYA-L1 LAUNCH Naveen hails ISRO scientists

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Bhubaneswar, Sept 2: Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik Saturday congratulated the scientists of the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) for the successful launch of the country's maiden solar mission-Aditya L1.

The country's first solar mission-Aditya L1 set off on a 125-day journey to the Sun in its attempt to study various elements relating to Earth's nearest star, after being put into an orbit by a PSLV rocket that touched a new technical milestone in the launch vehicle segment.

Taking to X, formerly Twitter,

Patnaik said, "Congratulate the scientists of @isro on successfully launching the country's maiden Solar mission #AdityaL1 from Sriharikota, which comes close on the heels of successful lunar expedition #Chandrayaan3."

It is a proud moment for all as India takes another significant leap towards space exploration, he said.

Bhubaneswar-based Central Tool Room & Training Centre (CTTC) has supplied some vital components for the mission, its production manager Vijay Kumar said.

It takes nearly one year for a team of 150 scientists, engineers and technicians of the CTTC to

produce the high-standard components, he said.

Several components being used in the satellite and space launch vehicles like rate gyro electronic tuned gyros, sensors, reaction wheels and components used in solar panels were manufactured in CTTC Bhubaneswar and those were supplied to ISRO after certification, said Sudhir Kumar Dalai, a quality control officer of the space research organisation.

Notably, the centre had supplied similar components for the Chandrayaan-3, which landed on the south pole of the Moon last month.

Care Hosp bags award in healthcare category



POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar, Sept 2: Care Hospital was recently honoured as the best hospital for cardiology in the Business Odisha Awards, which are part of an initiative by OTV.

The award was presented to Lokanath Dash, who holds the position of AVP Business at Care Hospital. The award was handed over by the renowned Bollywood actress Chitrangada Singh, and the head of OTV, Jagmangal Panda.

The recognition highlights the hospital's excellence in cardiac care and its contribution to the healthcare sector in Odisha. It's a significant achievement for both the hospital and Lokanath Dash, and it's being celebrated with the participation of notable personalities from the entertainment and media industry.

It is noteworthy that OTV recognizes outstanding achievements and contributions in various categories related to healthcare in the state.

Battle of young minds at quiz contest in City

ARINDAM GANGULY, OP

Bhubaneswar, Sept 2: The Odisha Quiz Association, in collaboration with Milk Mantra and OrissaPOST, hosted the 10th edition of "Quizzicus India: The India Quiz" Saturday at DAV Public School, Unit VIII, Bhubaneswar. The event revolved around the theme of "India" and witnessed an overwhelming response from young minds.

In the morning, the school quiz, guided by the quiz master Bivash Rath, took center stage. As many as 240 teams, each comprising two members, representing 21 schools, participated in the competition.

The team from DAV Kalinga Nagar, consisting of Sriman Mishra and Abha Priyadarshini, emerged victorious, showcasing their exceptional knowledge of India. The second place was secured by Jyotiraditya Parida

and Sneharsh Dash from Sai International School, while the team of Siddharth Jena and Tripathy Divyayoti Senapati from DAV School Unit VIII claimed the third spot.

Following the school quiz, the excitement continued with the open quiz, orchestrated by the quiz master Saswat Panigrahi.

The event saw the participation of 81 teams, each comprising two members, representing diverse areas of interest. After a thrilling contest of wit and intellect, the team of Adarsh Mohapatra and Baibaswata Jena emerged as the champions. Team of Anurag Samantray and Aditya Das Choudhary stood second while team of Ronisha Das and Muktiwaroop Pradhan stood third. National award winning film director Anupam Patnaik and actor Dipanwit Dasmohapatra were present in the prize distribution ceremony.



BMC roadmap for eliminating measles, rubella by Dec

ARINDAM GANGULY, OP

Bhubaneswar, Sept 2: In a task force meeting held Saturday by Bhubaneswar Municipal Corporation (BMC), Mayor Sulochana Das and Commissioner Vija Amruta Kulange discussed strategic planning for coverage of routine immunization (RI).

The meeting was convened for preparing the roadmap for elimination of measles and rubella by December under Intensified Mission Indradhanush-IMI 5.0.

The strategic objective is to pick up left out, dropout or missed children from 0-5 years along with pregnant



women who have missed doses; the drive is set to identify such cases and complete the immunization in special sessions. The drive will be implemented by concerned wings of health department where technical support from start to finish is extended by WHO.

While routine immunization

is a mandate for preventing mother and child from different diseases, a comprehensive achievement of the programme is possible through converged efforts of administration, local leaders, RWAs, health department machinery and Anganwadis, said the Mayor.

The drive will follow success stories of bigger cities to contextualize mobilization in BMC limit. Health professionals need to collect data from private hospitals of the city to facilitate data management on complete

immunization. This will be helpful to enable the complete drive from September to November, said Commissioner.

However, from 11th of the month the drive will start and continue till end of November to ensure comprehensive doses for the target groups. The dedicated identified cases will be registered in U-Win portal and vaccinated them in special planned sessions. Action plan of the drive was elaborately discussed by Dr. Archana Gayen, Surveillance Medical Officer, WHO and colleagues. ADUPHO Dr. Antaryami Mishra, CHO Dr. Deepak Bisoyi, City Health Manager Neha Rajput were present in the meeting.

CM flags off 190 police vehicles

ARINDAM GANGULY, OP

Bhubaneswar, Sept 2: In a programme held at 7th Battalion Ground Saturday here, Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik dedicated 190 new police vehicles to enhance operational capacities of the law enforcement agency.

"The inclusion of these 190 vehicles is no less than a transformative development for the Odisha Police. A total of 224 vehicles of various categories will be added to the fleet in 2023-24, for which a budgetary provision has been made of 33 crore. The remaining 34 vehicles will soon be received," said a senior police official.

Of these 190 vehicles, the Odisha Mining Corporation Limited (OMCL) contributed 44 to strengthen policing in mining areas, to expedite patrolling and help in elimination of illegal



extraction of minerals in these areas.

"This addition of vehicles is in line with the commitment to improving public safety, enhancing response time during emergencies, ensuring justice, solving crimes, and creating a secure environment for the citizens," added the official.

Along with 5T Secretary VK Pandian, Minister of State (home) Tusharkanti Behera, DGP Sunil Kumar Bansal and senior police officers were present during the flagging off ceremony. RK Sharma, ADGP headquarters conducted the programme.

Groundwater loss in India may triple in coming decades

The rate of groundwater depletion could triple by 2080, if Indian farmers continued to draw groundwater at the current rate, which could threaten the country's food and water security, according to a new study.

Warming climate has compelled farmers in India to adapt by intensifying the withdrawal of groundwater used for irrigation, the study led by the University of Michigan, US, found.

As a result, the reduced water availability could endanger the livelihoods of more than one-third of the country's 1.4 billion residents and thus, could have global implications, the study published in the journal Science Advances said.

"This is of concern, given that India is the world's largest con-

sumer of groundwater and is a critical resource for the regional and global food supply," said senior author Meha Jain, assistant professor at the university's School for Environment and Sustainability.

The study analysed recent changes in withdrawal rates due to warming by looking at historical data on groundwater levels, climate and crop water stress to estimate future rates of groundwater loss across India.

Further, it took into account the farmers' potential need for increased irrigation under warming conditions, which would likely enhance water demand from stressed crops, the researchers said.

The farmers' adaptation strategy of intensified groundwater withdrawal had not been accounted for in earlier projec-



tions of groundwater depletion in India, the researchers found when they used temperature and precipitation projections from 10 climate models.

"Using our model estimates, we project that under a business-as-usual scenario, warming temperatures may triple groundwater depletion rates in the future and expand groundwater depletion hotspots to include south and central India," said lead author Nishan Bhattarai.

Most models looked at in-

creased temperature, increased monsoon (June through September) precipitation and decreased winter precipitation in India over the coming decades, the researchers said.

For this analysis, the researchers' dataset consisted of groundwater depths of well across India, high-resolution

satellite observations of crop water stress and temperature and precipitation records.

They found that warming temperatures, coupled with declining winter precipitation, accelerated groundwater declines at a rate far greater than that of groundwater recharge from increased monsoon precipitation.

Across various climate-change scenarios, their estimates of groundwater-level declines between 2041 and 2080 were more than three times current depletion rates, on average, they said.

"Without policies and interventions to conserve groundwater, we find that warming temperatures will likely amplify India's already existing groundwater depletion problem, further challenging India's food and water security in the face of climate change," said Bhattarai.

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RI in Vigilance net

Baripada: Vigilance sleuths Saturday caught the Revenue Inspector (RI) of Jaipur RI office under Badampahar tehsil in Mayurbhanj district red-handed while taking ₹5,000 bribe. All the notes laced with chemical have been seized from his possession. The accused has been identified as Rakesh Patra, 33, son of Rajankanta Patra of Singhtia village under Badasahi police limits in Mayurbhanj district. Raids were carried out simultaneously at his government office and quarter at Rairangpur and rented house at Murgabadi at Baripada. A case has been registered by Balasore Vigilance department. As per reports, Ramdas Sahu of Pichhlaghati area under Rairangpur town police limit was harassed after frequently visiting the RI office for demarcation of his five plots. RI Rakesh finally demanded ₹5,000 bribe for the same. Ramdas then lodged a complaint at Balasore Vigilance office in this regard. As per the premeditated plan Vigilance officials nabbed the RI red-handed when he took the bribe from Ramdas and put it in his pocket near Durgamandap Chowk in Rairangpur.

CM urged to save lives of people from croc attacks

AGENCIES

Kendrapara, Sept 2: Expressing serious concern over the upsurge in man-reptile conflicts especially in Brahmani river, former minister Ganeswar Behera has urged Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik to save precious lives from the jaws of crocodiles. Behera, a senior Congress leader, said the man-crocodile conflict has assumed an alarming proportion in Kendrapara as within a span of last 75 days six persons have been killed in crocodile attacks in Brahmani river alone. The former minister said the riparian villages of Brahmani are in a frozen state of fear. He said although the wildlife officials have provided ex-gratia to the next of kin of the crocodile



attack victims, promised construction of barricade and protection wall at the bathing ghats but things remain unchanged. Behera said the protection wall has not been erected till date at the bathing ghats as promised by the forest officials. The Congress leader said it is the primary duty of the state government to save the precious lives and urged the Chief Minister to constitute one special task force to drive away the killer crocodiles from Brahmani river within a fortnight.

POST NEWS NETWORK

Mahakalapara, Sept 2: Hunger pangs can propel people to take serious risks and mortgage their lives into danger to earn a livelihood and provide for their families. Women of Batighar panchayat under this block in Kendrapara district are a prime example of such helplessness as they are forced to cross the crocodile-infested overflowing Khola river daily in order to meet the expenses of their family. They are not alone to take such risks as the women of Kharinasi village also catch fish from crocodile-infested nullahs near the jungle to eke out their living. Several women have lost their lives in crocodile attacks while catching fish in the nullah but they have no other option left with them but to put their



lives at stake. Women from many villages under the panchayat get down into waist deep water and cross the river daily to collect firewood from the nearby jungles. Some women said that they cross the river only during the ebb when there is no tidal wave. Later, they sell the firewood in the local market and earn a few bucks to meet the expenses. While a spate of horrific crocodile attacks has unnerved the residents in the district, the women, notwithstanding the danger involved, cross the river daily. On the other hand, crocodile menace has increased in

Mahanadi and its distributaries Luna, Paika and Gobari rivers and cases of man-reptile conflict are on a rise. Meanwhile, over six people have lost their lives this year in crocodile attacks in Brahmani river which flows through the district. The fatalities have sparked concern among the local residents and the forest personnel. Similarly, more than 30 persons have reportedly lost their lives in Khola river during the last few years. However, the deep urge within them to arrange food for their family makes them forget the danger and take the risk. When contacted, Jambu forest range officer Kartikeshwar Khandai said awareness programmes are being undertaken to sensitize the residents on crocodile menace and warn them not to venture near the water bodies.

Kendu leaf workers' wards set to receive scholarships



POST NEWS NETWORK

Sambalpur, Sept 2: As many as 91,000 families of kendu leaf workers will be benefitted as the state government is all set to provide scholarships to the wards of kendu leaf workers in the state, a report said Saturday. The scholarship, which has been resumed from 2022 after it was stopped in 2019, will benefit the wards of 91,000 families of kendu leaf workers, pluckers and binders. Speaking to mediapersons, Sanjit Mohanty, president of state Kendu Leaf Workers' Welfare Board said that the state government has agreed to their demands during a recently held high-level meeting. Threadbare discussions were held in the meeting on various problems

that the students belonging to families engaged in kendu leaf works face in getting scholarships. The meeting decided for early payment of scholarship money to the students. He said that a secretary-level meeting was held to include the wards of the kendu leaf workers in scholarship schemes. The meeting discussed various problems and steps to be taken to resolve them. This year there are over 91,000 students of kendu leaf workers for whom awareness programmes on scholarships are being undertaken in kendu leaf range and divisions. As per its announcement November 22, 2022, the state government had conducted a survey to provide scholarships to wards of kendu leaf workers, pluckers and binders studying

in schools and colleges. Later, on the basis of the survey report, the state government convened a meeting at Bhubaneswar to resolve various problems in providing scholarship to the students, August 22. Chief advisor in the CMO R Balchandran, IAS (ret'd) presided over the meeting attended by additional chief secretary Satyabrata Sahoo of Revenue and Forest department, ST & SC Development, Minorities and Backward Classes Welfare department commissioner-cum-secretary Roopa Roshan Sahoo and president of state kendu leaf workers' association Bijay Mohanty and senior officials. According to the report, as many as 8,12,339 kendu leaf workers, pluckers, binders and seasonal workers were in the state in 2022. Among them, 8,12,221 or 99.98 per cent were included in the survey. Over 93,257 wards of kendu leaf workers' families were found eligible to receive scholarships in 2022-23 FY. The survey was conducted on 91,758 pluckers' families, 602 binders' families and 897 families of seasonal workers. According to the survey report, wards of 89,543 pluckers' families, 552 binders' families and 873 seasonal workers' families were found eligible for scholarship. Taken together, a total of 90,868 students have been found eligible for scholarship.

Youth awarded 20-yr RI for rape of minor



POST NEWS NETWORK

Keonjhar, Sept 2: Keonjhar Additional District and Sessions cum Special PCO Judge Subhashree Tripathy convicted Pratap Prusty, 35, for raping a 10-year-old girl and sentenced him to 20 years of rigorous imprisonment (RI) and slapped a fine of ₹23,000. Failure to pay the fine will lead to an additional 15-month imprisonment, the judge ordered. According to case file, accused Pratap Prusty of Balani area committed the crime October 3, 2020. The minor girl had gone to Balani market to get breakfast. While she was returning home, Pratap took the minor girl to the nearby Mahendra Swain camp and raped her there. He also threatened her not to disclose the matter to anybody and fled from the spot. The girl returned home and narrated her ordeal before her mother who then lodged a complaint at Balani police station the same night. Balani police after registering a case, arrested Prusty and forwarded him to court. Since then he was lodged at Keonjhar district jail as an undertrial prisoner. The judge pronounced the judgement after hearing 18 eye-witnesses and going through the police investigation report. The judge also directed the district legal services authority (DLSA) to give away ₹7.5 lakh ex-gratia to the survivor, special public prosecutor Ganesh Mohapatra said.

Youth kills mom over denial to give him ₹10

POST NEWS NETWORK

Jajpur Town, Sept 2: In a shocking incident a youth killed his mother after she denied him ₹10 at Kuansarpur village under Jajpur Town police limits in Jajpur district, Saturday. The deceased was identified as Nirupama Sahu, wife of Naresh Sahu and the accused youth was identified as their son Subham, 20. As per reports, Subham demanded ₹10 from his mother Nirupama Saturday afternoon. When Nirupama declined to

give him money, Subham suddenly got furious and abused his mother. He took her inside a room and locked it from inside. He then started hitting his mother's head with a pestle continuously. Hearing Nirupama's scream, locals broke the door. They captured Subham and tied him to an electric poll. However, Nirupama was dead by then. Police reached the spot and arrested Subham and sent the body of Nirupama for post mortem. Locals said that Subham is habitual drug user and he committed the crime in a state of intoxication.

'Koraput Kalajeera rice' to get GI tag

POST NEWS NETWORK

Koraput, Sept 2: 'Koraput Kalajeera rice', an aromatic variety of rice with high nutritional and therapeutic value, is set to get the Geographical Indications (GI) tag. Along with 'Kalajeera rice' of Koraput, the 'Pattachitra' drawn by Lanjia Saura tribals, 'Magaj ladoo' of Dhenkanal, 'Kai Chutney' of Similipal in Mayurbhanj district, 'Kanteimundi brinjal' of Nayagarh district, the hand-woven sheets of Dongria tribals and the date palm jaggery of the state have also been selected for the GI tag. These products will get GI tag if no objection or complaint is made against them on their selection for the GI status in the next three months. Jaivik Sri Farmers Producer Company Limited at Pujariput in Koraput district had applied January 11, 2022, to register Koraput Kalajeera rice under Application No. 814 in respect of rice which falls in Class-30. An advertisement in this regard was issued August 31, 2023 on the official website of the Geographical Indications Registry. Farmers of Koraput district, where the rice originated, have domesticated Kalajeera rice over generations. The rice has been selected for GI tag with the



support of the NABARD and the state Agriculture department. The high quality rice is mostly used in preparation of kheer and biryanis and has high market demand. Around 5 to 10 quintal of Kalajeera paddy is harvested from an acre of land and it takes around 140 to 155 days for harvest. The aromatic rice is known as the 'Prince of Rice' and looks like coriander seeds. A study carried out by the Central University in Koraput said that the rice variety is calamity resistant and can withstand natural calamities. The ancestors of the present tribal communities of Koraput district have domesticated rice in the region for thousands of years contributing to conservation of Kalajeera rice. It is popular among rice consumers for its black colour, good aromatic taste and texture.

Indian Bank		ZONAL OFFICE Indian Bank Building, B-2 (East), Sahid Nagar, Bhubaneswar-751007		E-AUCTION SALE NOTICE (See proviso to rule 6(2) & 8(6) Sale Notice for sale of property /ies under SARFAESI Act 2002)	
Sale of Immovable property/ies mortgaged to Bank under Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 (No. 54 of 2002)					
Whereas, the Authorized Officer of Indian Bank had taken possession of the following property/ies pursuant to the notice issued under Sec 13(2) of the Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 in the following loan accounts with right to sell the same on "AS IS WHERE IS BASIS", "AS IS WHAT IS BASIS" for realization of Bank's dues plus interest as detailed hereunder and whereas consequent upon failure to repay the dues, the undersigned in exercise of power conferred under section 13(4) of the said Act proposes to realize the Bank's dues by sale of the said property. The Sale will be done by the undersigned through e-auction platform provided at the Website https://www.mstcecommerce.com					
Sl. No.	BRANCH / Name & Address of Borrowers/Co-Borrowers/ Guarantors/Mortgagors	Description of the Immovable Properties	Date of Demand Notice / Date of Possession Notice / Outstanding dues / Nature of Possession	Reserve Price/ EMD / Bid Increment Amount	
1.	KHURDA BRANCH / A/C: Mr. Congress Nayak Borrower/Mortgagor: Mr. Congress Nayak, S/o: Panu Nayak, At: Radhamohanpur, P.O.: Godikillo, P.S.: Jankia, Dist.: Khurda, Odisha, Pin-752056 / Guarantor: Mr. Surendra Swain, At: Totapada, P.O.: Palla, Dist.: Khurda, Odisha, Pin-752056	All the part and parcel of Land and Building at Hal Khata No.: 4, Plot No.: 1525, Area: Ac.063 Dec. from South east corner of total area Ac.0.436 Dec., Plot No.: 1525, Mouza: Palla, P.S.: Khurda, Tahasil: Khurda, SRO: Khurda, Dist.: Khurda, Odisha, standing in the name of Mr. Congress Nayak, Bounded by North: Manjushree Das, South: Kumudini Swain, East: Public Road, Usharani kar & Basanti Das, West: Dusanan Sahu.	01.10.2018 / 16.02.2019 / ₹ 5,70,616/- This is inclusive of interest & other charges calculated up to 30.09.2018 Plus further interest @ applicable rates till the date of realization and costs, charges and expenses / Symbolic	₹22,77,000/- / ₹ 2,27,700/- / ₹25,000/-	
2.	PURI BRANCH / A/C: M/s Jay Jagannath Bio Mass Briquetting Plant Borrower/Mortgagor: Mr. Kamal Lochan Samantray, S/o.: Late Narayan Samantray / Guarantor: Mrs. Bishnu Priya Samantray, W/o.: Mr. Kamal Lochan Samantray, Both are At: Apathi, PO.: Gadakolli, P.S.: Bramhagiri, Dist.: Puri-752011	All that part and parcel of Land and Building at Khata No.: 185/2, Plot No.: 235, Khata No.: 185/6, Plot No.: 223/859, Mouza: Apathi, P.S.: Bramhagiri, Tahasil: Bramhagiri, Dist.: Puri, Total Area: Ac.0.93 Dec., in the name of Mr. Kamal Lochan Samantray, S/o.: Late Narayan Samantray, Bounded by East-Sankarsan Khandayat, West: Public Road, North: Rajkishore Dakhinakabat, South: Jalandhar Gajendra	18.11.2021 / 20.09.2022 / ₹ 44,13,000/- This is inclusive of interest & other charges calculated up to 17.11.2021 Plus further interest @ applicable rates till the date of realization and costs, charges and expenses / Symbolic	₹53,18,100/- / ₹5,31,810/- / ₹25,000/-	
3.	BHUBANESWAR BRANCH / A/C: MOHAPATRA EDUCATION Borrower/Mortgagor: Mr. Biswa Ranjan Mahapatra (Proprietor), At: Plot No.: 558, Gayatri Vihar, Sundarpada, Ebaranga, P.O.: Old Town, Bhubaneswar-751002 / Guarantor & Mortgagor: Mrs. Ipsita Mohanty, W/o: Biswa Ranjan Mahapatra, At: Plot No.: 558, Gayatri Vihar, Sundarpada, Ebaranga, P.O.: Old Town, Bhubaneswar-751002	All the part and parcel of Land on Plot No.: 26/304 of Khata No.: 101/196, Mouza: Siulachhak, Tahasil: Pipili, Dist.: Puri, Area: Ac.0.028 Dec., Odisha, in the name of Mrs. Ipsita Mohanty, Bounded by North: Basant Kumar Nayak, Sub Plot No.: 556, South: Sub Plot No.: 554, East: Road, West: Sub Plot No.: 544	02.11.2022 / 16.01.2023 / ₹ 12,50,826/- This is inclusive of interest & other charges calculated up to 02.11.2022 Plus further interest @ applicable rates till the date of realization and costs, charges and expenses / Symbolic	₹10,53,000/- / ₹1,05,300/- / ₹25,000/-	
4.	BHUBANESWAR BRANCH / A/C: Mrs. Saminder Kaur Borrower/Mortgagor: Mrs. Saminder Kaur, W/o: Jas Jeet Singh / Co-Borrower: Jas Jeet Singh, S/o: Balwinder Kaur, Both residents of N-3-200, IRC Village, Nayapalli, Bhubaneswar-751015	All that piece and parcel of immovable property at Flat No. 301 on the 3rd floor of Amrita Shopping Arcade, Area: Ac. 0.0.150 Dec. out of Ac.0.360 Dec., corresponding to Khata No.: 140, Plot No.: 1294, further corresponding to final Hal khata No.: 2134, Hal Plot No.: 16, Area: Ac.0.0.182 Dec. situated at Mouza: Nayapalli, Unit-17 Bhubaneswar, P.S.: Bhubaneswar, SRO: Bhubaneswar, Dist.: Khurda, standing in the name of Mrs. Saminder Kaur, Bounded by East: Govt Road, West: Govt Road, North: Plot No.: 14 & 15, South: Plot No.: 17	27.10.2022 / 04.02.2023 / ₹ 2,49,545/- This is inclusive of interest & other charges calculated up to 26.10.2022 Plus further interest @ applicable rates till the date of realization and costs, charges and expenses / Symbolic	₹56,79,900/- / ₹ 5,67,990/- / ₹25,000/-	
5.	JAGATSIINGHPUR BRANCH / A/C: M/s Mahabahu Motors Borrower & Mortgagor: Mr Biswajit Das, S/o.: Sribash Chandra Das, At: Atamala, Galupada, P.O.: Jagatsinghpur, Dist.: Jagatsinghpur-754294 / Guarantors & Mortgagors: 1) Mrs. Annapurna Das, W/o.: Sribash Chandra Das, 2) Ms. Sonali Das, D/o.: Sribash Chandra Das, 3) Ms. Priyanka Priyadarshni Das, D/o.: Sribash Chandra Das, All are At: Atamala, Galupada, P.O.: Jagatsinghpur, Dist.: Jagatsinghpur-754294	All that part and parcel of Land situated at Mouza: Garia, SRO: Kujanga, Tahasil: Ersama, Khata No.: 487/54, Plot No.: 853/1491, Area: Ac.0.30dec, Plot No.: 852/1490, Area: Ac.1.47 dec., Plot No.: 135/1220, Area: Ac.0.46 Dec., Dist.: Jagatsinghpur, Odisha, standing in the name of 1) Mr. Biswajit Das, S/o.: Sribash Chandra Das, 2) Mrs. Annapurna Das, W/o.: Sribash Chandra Das, 3) Ms. Sonali Das, D/o.: Sribash Chandra Das, 4) Ms. Priyanka Priyadarshni Das, D/o.: Sribash Chandra Das, Plot No.: 853/1491 is Bounded by North: Anant Das, South: Laxmidhar Das, East: Jagadish Das, West: Mortgagor, Plot No.: 852/1490 is Bounded by North: Anant Das, South: Laxmidhar Das, East: Mortgagor, West: Road, Plot No.: 135/1220 is Bounded by North: Nibaran Chandra Das, South: Aruna Kumar Das, East: Mortgagor, West: Mortgagor	09.12.2021 / 08.06.2022 / ₹ 26,18,000/- This is inclusive of interest & other charges calculated up to 31.07.2022 Plus further interest @ applicable rates till the date of realization and costs, charges and expenses / Symbolic	₹4,78,000/- / ₹ 47,800/- / ₹25,000/-	
6.	KHARVELNAGAR BRANCH / A/C: Mr. Biresh Mohanty Borrower: Mr. Biresh Mohanty, Prop. of M/s Kalakirti & Kalakirti NX / Guarantor/ Mortgagor: Mr. Yanges Mohanty, At: Khata No.: 1324, Plot No.: 632.639, Kathagada Sahi, Mouza: Cuttack Sahar, Unit-16, Puri Ghat, North Road, Dist.: Cuttack	All the piece and parcel of Land & Building situated at Mouza: Cuttack Sahar Unit No.: 16, Kathagadasahar under Puri Ghat No.: 01, Police Station in District.: Cuttack, Plot No.: 632 and 639, Khata No.: 1324, Total Area: Ac.0.197 Dec (8581 Sqft), in the name of Mr. Yanges Mohanty, Bounded by North: Road, South: Plot No.: 646/2646, East: Nallah and Plot No.: 641, West: Plot No.: 633, 635, 636, 637, 638, 653	19.05.2022 / 11.08.2022 / ₹ 5,49,82,192/- This is inclusive of interest & other charges calculated up to 19.05.2022 Plus further interest @ applicable rates till the date of realization and costs, charges and expenses / Symbolic	₹6,21,90,000/- / ₹62,19,000/- / ₹50,000/-	
7.	BAPUJI NAGAR BRANCH / A/C: Mr. Panchanan Pattanaik Borrower/Mortgagor: Mr. Panchanan Pattanaik, S/o: Late Loknath Pattanaik / Guarantor: Mr. Durga Prasad Pattanaik, S/o: Late Loknath Pattanaik, Both resident of MIG-II-362, Satyasai Enclave, Khandagiri, Bhubaneswar, Odisha-751030	All that piece and parcel of immovable property at Flat No.: 408, 4th Floor, Basera Harmony, Super built up Area: 1250 Sq.ft. situated on Khata No.: 108, Plot No.: 277, Mouza: Damana, Bhubaneswar Sahar, Unit-40, P.S.: New Capital, Tahasil/DSRO: Bhubaneswar, Dist.: Khurda, standing in the name of Mr. Panchanan Pattanaik, Bounded by East: Open space, West: Open Space, North: Open space, South: Stair case	23.11.2018 / 24.01.2019 / ₹ 53,80,716/- This is inclusive of interest & other charges calculated up to 23.11.2018 Plus further interest @ applicable rates till the date of realization and costs, charges and expenses / Symbolic	₹47,17,500/- / ₹4,71,750/- / ₹25,000/-	
8.	MAITREE VIHAR BRANCH / A/C: Mr. Shiba Sankar Patra Borrower/Mortgagor: Mr. Shiba Sankar Patra, S/o.: Late Gadadhar Patra, Co-Borrower/Mortgagor: Mrs. Sabita Patra, W/o: Mr. Shiba Sankar Patra, Both are Resident of Plot No.: 759, Flat No.: 404, 4 th Floor, Subhashree Villa Apartment, Block -G, P.S.: Air Field, Bhubaneswar-751002	All that piece and parcel of immovable property at Flat No.: 404, 4th Floor, Block-G, Subhashree Villa Apartment, Kantilo, P.S.: Airfield, Tahasil: Jatni, Khurda - 751002, with super built up Area: 672 Sqft, Plot No.: 759, Khata No.: 311/242, Mouza: Kantilo, Tahasil: Jatni, SRO: Jatni, P.S.: No-53, Bhubaneswar, Dist.: Khurda. Area: Ac.0.007.50 Dec, in the name of Mr. Shiba Sankar Patra and Mrs. Sabita Patra, Bounded by North: Flat G-405, South: Road, East: Flat G-401, West: Road	31.05.2022 / 21.09.2022 / ₹ 11,88,051.13 This is inclusive of interest & other charges calculated up to 31.05.2022 Plus further interest @ applicable rates till the date of realization and costs, charges and expenses / Symbolic	₹16,47,000/- / ₹1,64,700/- / ₹25,000/-	
DATE AND TIME OF E-AUCTION: 20.09.2023 (WEDNESDAY), from 11.00 AM to 5.00 PM					
LAST DATE AND TIME FOR SUBMISSION OF EMD AND DOCUMENTS IS ON OR BEFORE 19.09.2023 upto 05.30 PM by online					
Date & Time of Inspection of Properties is 11.09.2023 to 16.09.2023 between 10.30 AM to 5.30 PM (with prior appointment from bank) at their expenses					
DETAILS OF ENCUMBRANCES KNOWN TO THE SECURED CREDITOR : Not Known					
TERMS & CONDITIONS: 1) For detailed terms and conditions of the sale please refer to the link: https://www.mstcecommerce.com/auCTIONhome/bapi/index.jsp and https://bapi.in . prospective bidders may also contact the Authorized Officers / Branch as mentioned in above list. 2) This is a 15 days' notice to the Borrower/Co-Borrower/Guarantor/Mortgagor of the above said loan about holding of this E-Auction Sale on the above mentioned date. 3) All expenses relating to the stamp duty and registration of Sale Certificate/conveyance, if any, shall be borne by the successful bidder. 4) The Authorized Officer will not be held responsible for any charge, lien encumbrance, property tax or any other dues to the Government or anybody in respect of the property under sale. 5) The Authorized Officer has the absolute right to accept or reject any bid or adjourn/postpone/cancel the sale without assigning any reason thereof. It may be noted that nothing in this notice constitute or deemed to constitute any commitment or representation on the part of the bank to sell the property.					
STATUTORY 15 DAYS SALE NOTICE UNDER RULE 9(1) OF THE SECURITY INTEREST (ENFORCEMENT) RULES, 2002.					
Borrowers/Co-Borrowers/Guarantors/Mortgagors are hereby notified to pay the total dues along with up to date interest and ancillary expenses before the date of E-Auction, failing which the property will be auctioned/ sold and balance dues, if any, will be recovered with interest & cost.					
Place: Bhubaneswar, Date: 02.09.2023				Sd/-Authorised Officer, Indian Bank	



There is no greater pride and glory than to be a perfect instrument of the Master.

SRI AUROBINDO



Reckless, Relentless

I have a novel out this month, and also an event that discusses the role of fiction writing in engaging with the material world. The lawyers who represented Rahul Gandhi in his case in Surat have also just published a work of fiction titled "Theory of Suspicion." Kirit Panwala and Rohan Panwala (they also represent me in a similar case in Surat filed by the same BJP legislator) draw on their experience as lawyers practising on the criminal side to tell a story. The core of the book is a multiple murder mystery and the authors say that they draw their inspiration from an actual series of events.

Their novel is unusual because in India few professionals write books and even fewer write fiction centred around their area of expertise. On my shelves I can see a couple of autobiographies by two Pakistan chief justices, MC Chagla's *Roses in December* and MC Setalvad's memoirs but there is not much else from those in the legal profession. For this reason we must be grateful to the authors who, woven into their murder mystery, give us insights into how the police functions, what the protocols of State are with respect to the judiciary, the conduct of lawyers and some tips for handling interrogation. For these alone the book is worth reading.

I wanted however to discuss another aspect outside of the mystery that the Panwalas take up and that is regarding jurisprudence and innovation. They start and build their story around a judge who develops a theory that discards what we call common law and begins to adjudicate cases on whim. In brief his theory may be described as suspicion being the same as guilt and then this finding of "guilt" followed swiftly by punishment. This reflects in many ways the view of large parts of our nation in these times.

The modern criminal justice system is designed around the rights of the accused because the power in a criminal case is overwhelmingly with the State. The government controls the police, it has a veto on the appointment and transfer of judges, it conducts prosecutions and carries out incarcerations. The accused has little power or agency in comparison and for this reason democracies construct their justice system around the rights of those the State goes after.

This will surprise those, likely the majority of the population, who think it should be centred around the State's ability to punish bad people. Such a sentiment is common even among those who are or have been part of the State. In 2007, the fifth report of the Administrative Reforms Commission on public order opens with this quotation from APJ Abdul Kalam. "If real criminals in our society are left without punishment for years, because of delay in criminal justice for various reasons, it will indeed result in the multiplication of people taking to criminal acts." This is of a piece with those who demand the death penalty and hangings on the assumption that State violence against 'real criminals' produces a just society.

This attitude, this mindset is the reason why independent India has tightened laws to give more power to the State against defendants, and either not undone colonial era laws or made them even harsher. The massacre at Jallianwala Bagh came after a gathering that protested the Rowlatt Act, which gave the government sweeping powers of detention without trial. Few might know that the law was never applied and was in fact rescinded. But in every state of India today there are laws worse than the Rowlatt Act and people are jailed without trial and even without crime, under laws that allow preventive detention.

Has this harshness resulted in curbing crime? The numbers produced by the Union government say no. The conviction rate in IPC cases was 64.8 per cent in 1961. In 2005 it was 42.4 per cent. The 2017 National Crime Record Bureau data shows that for murder the conviction rate is 43 per cent in India. For rape it is 32 per cent, for kidnapping 26 per cent, for injury including acid attacks 29 per cent and for rioting 20 per cent. Harsher laws have not in fact resulted in what the former President Kalam wanted.

The acquittals have another story to tell. Criminal law has the power to destroy lives and its use for this reason must be guarded, measured and calibrated, not recklessly and relentlessly applied as is the case unfortunately in our nation. These are the thoughts one has when reading the Panwalas' story about the judge and his family. Their judge is fictional but he has real life parallels when it comes to going rogue. Consider, to give one example, how many judges in the lower judiciary "overturn" judgements and explicit Supreme Court directives when it comes to arrests and the application of such charges as sedition, when there is no call or incitement to violence. It is in the middle of this reality that this novel has been written. Without revealing much I should say that the judge in the novel gets his comeuppance in more ways than one. For this reason to me the book was satisfying.



Aakar Patel

The modern criminal justice system is designed around the rights of the accused because the power in a criminal case is overwhelmingly with the State



DV Ramana

WE NEED TO EXAMINE DIFFERENT MODELS OF DEVELOPMENT AND LEVERAGE THE POWER OF SMALL BUSINESSES

SMALL IS BEAUTIFUL

FOCUS ECONOMY

On National Small Industries Day, Union Minister for Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises Narayan Rane announced on 'X' that 16 lakh youths have been trained benefiting over 3 lakh MSME units in the last 9 years, through 18 tool rooms and technology centers run by the Ministry of MSME across the country. It is a great achievement indeed. But the problem of unemployment cannot be solved only with such achievements. We need to examine different models of development and leverage the power of small businesses.

It may not be a bad idea to revisit "Small is Beautiful: A Study of Economics as if People Mattered," a highly influential book published 50 years ago. The book was written by EF Schumacher, a German-British statistician and renowned economist. I was introduced to the underlying principles of this book by Professor Malcolm Harper in the early 1990s. He is the Professor of Enterprise Development at Cranfield, UK, and he worked extensively with small enterprises of Odisha during the 1990s. He made us, a group of young doctoral scholars, to see the power of small enterprises in creating wealth.

Though the book is 50 years old, the issues discussed by Schumacher seem to be more relevant for today's world. Schumacher examined the economy which was thriving on big business, through which anonymous owners and leaders had accumulated great wealth through the labour of their "employees." Schumacher called it a "parasitic" relationship.

Throughout the world, governments were privatising everything from electrical utilities to hospitals, from railroads to education. People of Odisha too are witnessing such shifts in every sphere. Large private universities have taken the place of public universities; small movie



The disconnect between people and industry can be bridged if businesses are set up using local resources for the benefit of local people

halls were closed and multiplex movie theatres are ruling the roost; and people visit malls more frequently than their neighbourhood markets. Most of these organisations are large and driven by the objective of maximisation of shareholders' wealth.

The obsession with "big," "mass production," and "profit driven private ownership" was challenged by Schumacher. He stressed that such organisations led to a dehumanisation of people. People working in such an organisation remain like anonymous individuals in the sea of humanity, where decisions are taken on the basis of profitability rather than human needs. The book did not stop at just identifying the problems with the prevailing system. Schumacher provided alternatives too. One of the powerful recommendations was developing people centred organisations. He stressed such organisations need to be small and community owned.

Small, as perceived by Schumacher, is not just another manifestation of the physical size of an enterprise. It represents a school of thought, which gives importance to human relationships, which shifts the focus from maximisation of profit to creation of environmentally sustainable enterprises.

It is time to do away with the

investment-based definition of small-scale business enterprises. It is time to create a different type of entrepreneurial ecosystem which will be evaluated not on the basis of financial performance alone. As envisaged by Schumacher, the new enterprises need to be organised as locally as possible, and on a smaller scale. Schumacher used Buddhist economics to drive the importance of small businesses. According to Buddhist economics, the most rational form of production is production from local resources to meet local needs. The goal is self-sufficiency, not surplus production. "Economic progress" is needed only to achieve self-sufficiency, and anything beyond will lead to destruction. According to Schumacher, industry needs to serve people, not the other way round. Disconnect between people and industry happens when the industry is driven only by growth and maximisation of owners' wealth.

The disconnect between people and industry can be bridged, if businesses are set up using local resources for the benefit of local people. Such community based businesses create an environment where local residents directly shape the community and its well-being. Large busi-

ness houses are forced to spend crores of rupees for socially relevant activities as per the CSR guidelines, but they fail to understand the local community.

According to the National Sample Survey Office, nearly one in three young Indians between the ages of 15 and 29 is engaged in neither education, employment, or training (popularly known as NEET). Community based small local businesses may help in addressing the NEET problem by providing jobs to local youths, and also help in reducing the problem of migration. Is Schumacher's proposal feasible today? The answer depends on the commitment of the government. It cannot happen suo motu without the enabling policy support of government. Governments need to work on this issue meticulously keeping the larger interest of society.

Let us examine the potential of community based small businesses in addressing NEET in Bhubaneswar. The city has 67 municipal-wards and 436 slums. More than 80,000 households stay in these slums. More than 30% of the population stay in the slums. Promoting community level small business enterprises may help in meeting the needs of the youths who are at present NEET.

There is a need for a vision and framework at state, city, and municipal-ward level to strengthen small community-owned businesses. State governments need to come up with a municipal-ward level small business policy to make each ward economically vibrant.

Policymakers ignored Schumacher for 50 years. Now, we have one more opportunity to use small businesses to create a larger impact on society. It is time to reiterate that small is beautiful and can create bigger social impact even today.

The writer is a professor at XIMB.

SPECTRUM CURRENCY

Crypto is here to stay

When the Venetian merchant Marco Polo travelled the Silk Road in the thirteenth century, he encountered not only unfamiliar peoples, but also new (to him) forms of finance. In China, he was shocked to learn that Kublai Khan had introduced paper money. It was lighter, easier to transfer and store, and more valuable than the metal coins packed in his purse. After returning to Venice, Marco Polo taught his fellow merchants how to use the Khan's innovation. Even though some rejected the flat, foldable currency, arguing that it was no gold and never would be, paper money would change the world.

Like those stubborn thirteenth-century merchants, many today refuse to accept the newest form of money: cryptocurrency. The United States Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) recently filed lawsuits against Binance and Coinbase, the world's two largest cryptocurrency exchanges, accusing them of operating as unregistered securities exchanges. For years, Coinbase, a publicly traded company with a large US customer base, has been asking American regulators for reasonable rules, to no avail.

Let us be clear: cryptocurrency is not digital money. All

metal and paper fiat currencies have been digitised for half a century - your bank account is a digital asset. Crypto, on the other hand, monetises the exclusive right to send data by a new accounting technology called blockchain. When transferring an Avax or Ethereum to someone else, the right to transfer data is sent from one location to another, and this transaction is registered on the blockchain without the need for a bank or a state. Accountants, also called miners, carry out the book-keeping in exchange for crypto.

Recognising this radically new money and accounting is the first step in regulating crypto markets. But since the SEC, the CFTC, the IRS, and similar institutions in other countries are designed for paper currency and its digital versions, they have struggled to adjust to the realities of data-money economies. Without a profound shift in thinking about finance, no regulation will be fit for purpose.

Many policymakers also wrongly believe that crypto is a speculative vehicle. But that ignores the blockchain's revolutionary innovation: it enables economic actors to make their own monies and transact with minimal cost. Thousands of cryp-

tocurrencies are already being exchanged for goods, services, and other (crypto)currencies by governments, companies, and individuals in more than 45,000 markets, operated by 524 centralised exchange platforms.

Regulators must understand four things about crypto. First, it is not an alternative to the dollar, the euro, or other fiat currencies. In fact, my research has shown that crypto contributes to dollarisation. Second, cryptocurrency exchanges undermine blockchains by using their own centralised bookkeeping: more than 90% of Bitcoin traded in 2021 was kept as custodial assets in exchanges. That means, if markets go bust, customers lose their money. Third, many decentralised blockchains are based on centralised economic services, such as commodity trade accounting; crypto is an innovation that creates order, not chaos. Lastly, various forms of fiscal logic are already embedded in crypto economies, making them more suited to regulation than many people expect.

As for how to regulate the industry a central bank digital currency (CBDC) is crucial, because it would provide governments with a financial instrument whose transaction speed matches that

of cryptocurrencies. Currently, stablecoins are beyond the reach of central banks, imitating fiat currencies like the dollar without bearing the political and economic costs of fiat maintenance. Moreover, it would be easier to regulate exchanges by following a cryptocurrency's value once it could be expressed and transacted with reference to a CBDC.

Above all else, regulators must ensure a level playing field. That means preventing exchange platforms from issuing their own data monies or tradable crypto assets; otherwise, they will be competing on their own platforms. Crypto exchanges should also be required to keep all custodial assets beyond the reach of their own traders or owners - a simple regulatory measure that would have protected customers' investments following the collapse of FTX. For now, policymakers continue to act like those obstinate Venetian merchants. The problem is not with crypto, but rather its regulation. It is time to accept that crypto is here to stay and put the right rules in place to govern it.

The writer is Associate Professor of Strategic Design and Management at The New School.

PROJECT SYNDICATE

WISDOM CORNER

The two most important days in your life are the day you are born and the day you find out why. MARK TWAIN

If you love life, don't waste time, for time is what life is made up of. BRUCE LEE

Build your own dreams, or someone else will hire you to build theirs. FARRAH GRAY

WORDSWORTH

Mummer

Strictly speaking, if you're a mummer you're keeping mum, that is, you're staying silent. Traditional mummies acted in dumb-show or mime. The word was used in Britain from the sixteenth century onwards for groups of local people who went from door to door on high days and holidays through the year - especially at Christmas - performing traditional plays that are often called mummer's plays. There are many local names for the performers in Britain, such as Christmas rhymers, plough bullocks, plough jags, and tipteerers, as well as guisers. The plays featured characters such as St George and the Dragon, Robin Hood, the Turkish Knight (an echo of the Crusades) and Beelzebub. A key character is a comical quack doctor who at the end of the play brings back to life the loser of a sword fight between a hero and his opponent. Despite the name, most mummer's plays are actually spoken, usually in rhyme, and can also include singing. For that reason, the more formal term is folk plays. The tradition still exists in a few places in Britain and other countries. The word mum comes from an old Germanic root and seems to be echoic. If you make inarticulate noises with your mouth closed, it comes out sounding like "mummmmm". Some scholars argue that the word for the performers comes instead from a French source meaning a mask, since the characters in such plays often wore fantastic costumes that included masks. This seems not to be the case. In the nineteenth century mummer became a contemptuous term for a ham actor, because the objective of the traditional local mummer's play was humour, not the quality of the performance, and the standard was often atrocious. Hence also the theatrical term Mummeret for a crudely-rendered, non-specific, all-purpose yokel accent, as a pun on the name of the English county, Somerset.



Koray Caliskan

ALL METAL AND PAPER FIAT CURRENCIES HAVE BEEN DIGITISED FOR HALF A CENTURY - YOUR BANK ACCOUNT IS A DIGITAL ASSET

Car safety

Sir, India has the dubious distinction of recording the highest number of road accidents in the world. Speedy and reckless driving has been the most pronounced cause for road accidents. But one vital factor that has not received much attention in India is the vehicle safety mechanism to withstand crashes. Finally, the government's Bharat New Car Assessment Programme (BNCAP) is set to roll out from October that will grade the cars with regards to their crash safety on a scale of 1 to 5. Adult occupant protection, child occupant protection and car safety technologies are the three aspects upon which cars will receive ratings during their crash tests. The programme will help car manufacturers to design or refurbish their cars with safety in mind. Customers can make a prudent choice with rating of their potential cars at the back of their minds. Also, on roads, owners will have the added advantage of a thorough knowledge of their cars' in-built safety features.

Ganapathi Bhat, AKOLA

End nuclear tests

Sir, UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres has made the crucial statement that a nuclear test ban is a fundamental step towards a world free of nuclear weapons. He strongly emphasised the immense suffering caused by nuclear tests. He highlighted that these tests have polluted the air and devastated landscapes. The Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty (CTBT) is a global effort to put an end to these destructive tests, demonstrating the world's united stance against them. In the face of rising global distrust and division, CTBT remains a vital instrument to counter the threat of nuclear tests. Guterres expressed his concerns about the alarming increase in mistrust worldwide. This concern is especially pertinent at a time when there are nearly 13,000 nuclear weapons stockpiled globally, and countries are continuously working to enhance their precision, range, and destructive capabilities. Such a scenario could potentially lead to catastrophic consequences. Guterres called upon all countries that have not ratified the treaty to do so immediately, without any preconditions. The goal is clear: to put an end to nuclear testing once and for all. The message is clear - it's time to end nuclear tests forever.

Bishal Kumar Saha, MURSHIDABAD

Letters

TO THE EDITOR

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

OrissaPOST

B-15, Rasulgarh Industrial Estate, Bhubaneswar-751010

'Hold LS, UP polls simultaneously'



This will reveal the Election Commission's capability and the public opinion, and the BJP will also get to know how eager the people are to remove it from power

Lucknow, Sept 2: Samajwadi Party president Akhilesh Yadav Saturday said before implementing 'One Nation, One Election' in the country, the BJP government should carry out an experiment by holding the Uttar Pradesh assembly elections simultaneously with the Lok Sabha polls this time.

The Centre Friday constituted a committee led by former president Ram Nath Kovind to explore the feasibility of simultaneous Lok Sabha and state assembly elections.

In a post in Hindi on 'X', Yadav wrote, "An experiment is done before doing any big work... we are suggesting that before implementing 'One Nation, One Election', the BJP government should hold simultaneous Lok Sabha and the Vidhan Sabha elections in Uttar Pradesh, which

has the highest number of Lok Sabha and Vidhan Sabha seats, this time."

The last assembly polls in Uttar Pradesh were held in 2022 and the next elections are scheduled in 2027.

Yadav went on to suggest that the public was angry with the BJP and will ensure its defeat. "This will reveal the Election Commission's capability and the public opinion, and the BJP will also get to know how eager the people are to remove it from power," he added. Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath has supported the 'One Nation, One Election' model.

Uttar Pradesh has 80 Lok Sabha and 403 assembly seats. In the 2019 Lok Sabha elections, the BJP won 62 seats while the SP could only win five. In the assembly election held last year, the BJP won 255 seats while the SP secured victory on 111 seats.

From royal ironsmiths to homeless nomads

NO SPECIAL SCHEMES HAVE BEEN PROPOSED OR IMPLEMENTED FOR THE GADIA LOHARS LIVING IN UTTAR PRADESH

INDO-ASIAN NEWS SERVICE

Saharanpur, Sept 2: As the sun's rays break through the foggy morning, Sarla (40), a mother of five, carries some iron utensils which she hopes to sell door-to-door. Made by her husband, she has chosen a kadai (a wide, round iron utensil) and two other large vessels. For 30 years now, this is the only life Sarla has ever known, save for when she has fallen ill or was asked by her husband to stay home.

Sarla resides with her family in a small, makeshift settlement of the Gadia Lohar community by the roadside in Saharanpur. Gadia Lohar women traditionally go door-to-door, selling metal goods crafted by their husbands. Hailing from Rajasthan, the ironsmiths lead a nomadic life, their bullock carts serving as mobile homes. Hence the name Gadia Lohar (Gadia means 'cart' in Hindi). Present in many states of India, the Gadia Lohars are known by different names in each region. In Rajasthan, they are called Gadulia Lohar while in Madhya Pradesh, Delhi, Maharashtra, Uttar Pradesh and Haryana, they are known as



Gaddi Lohar, Bhuvriya or Gadia and Bhubalia Lohar, respectively. Although their mother tongue is Mewari, they are fluent in Hindi.

No solution to caste debate

The ambiguity in the status of their caste means they have no caste certificates, leaving them unable to avail the benefits of schemes designed for marginalised communities. Unlike many other nomadic tribes who are considered 'Scheduled Tribes' in most states, Gadia Lohars are categorised as OBC. No special schemes have been proposed or implemented for the Gadia Lohars living in Uttar Pradesh.

Proud of their Rajput heritage, they are unwilling to compromise on their identity. Sarla points to a metal sign that reads 'Maharana Pratap Colony' and states, "We want this settlement to be converted into a colony where we can build our houses without interference."

A few metres away from her makeshift hut, Bundo Devi (60) sits on a cot while sewing a blanket. Community members seek Bundo's advice on matters such as marriage and other major life decisions. She proudly shares the origins of her Rajput community. "We won't compromise on our identity for caste certi-

ates. Being Rajput is an honour for us," Bundo says determinedly.

At the edge of the settlement which accommodates around 40 families, Ramesh Kumar (44), a man with a handlebar moustache, sits, smoking a hookah. As pradhan or chief of the Gadia Lohar settlement near Beri Bagh, Saharanpur for the past 12 years, Ramesh is a respected figure in the area. The pradhan is selected by mutual consent of the community.

Ramesh believes that the absence of a caste certificate is the reason the community remains unable to access basic services. "We are Rajputs," he too states like

the others, "and the government does not have any criteria to help people without seeing their caste certificates." His ancestors left Rajasthan years ago. He has no certificates to prove his citizenship. Already struggling to acquire a permanent area to live in, he opines that the recently introduced Citizenship Amendment Act will impact the community negatively.

Ancestral oath kept alive

Sarla says that the Gadia Lohars served as blacksmiths in Maharana Pratap's army in Mewar. The 13th king of Mewar, he was revered for putting up a strong fight against the onslaught by the Mughals in the north-western region of Rajasthan. When Mewar fell to the Mughals, the Gadia Lohar community vowed to the king that they would never return or settle elsewhere until his reign was restored. They then took to travelling across India by bullock cart, crafting and repairing agricultural tools and kitchenware for villagers on the way.

The entrance to Chittorgarh Fort in Rajasthan bears an inscription stating that the Rajputs and Gadia Lohars took an oath before leaving the fort to follow a simple lifestyle until Chittor was liberated and the Mughals defeated. They promised to never enter the fort, live in houses, sleep on beds, use lamps or draw water from wells using ropes. The community members have adhered to these vows made by their ancestors for almost 400 years.

Gujarat govt alters agri power plan

INDO-ASIAN NEWS SERVICE

Gandhinagar, Sept 2: The Gujarat government has undergone a change in strategy concerning power supply to the agricultural sector by opting to provide 10 hours of electricity across all districts in the state, which was initially announced for 14 districts.

State Energy Minister, Kanubhai Desai, earlier said that farmers in 14 districts would be granted an additional two hours of power supply due to the delayed onset of rainfall in August. The decision was a response to the particularly parched weather conditions experienced throughout August 2023, making it the driest month in the past decade.

However, the state government on Thursday unveiled a fresh directive, amending the power supply distribution.

The updated plan designates Bhavnagar, Porbandar, Gir Somnath, Botad, and Morbi districts to receive 10 hours of power supply starting from September 2. For the remaining districts, the allocation of agricultural power will commence September 5, enabling 10 hours of supply.

The previously indicated 14 districts will be receiving the revised 10-hour power supply from September 1.

Tourist footfall in UP goes up by 1.1 crore

INDO-ASIAN NEWS SERVICE

Lucknow, Sept 2: Over 14 crore tourists visited various destinations in Uttar Pradesh in the first half of the year, according to an official data shared by the UP tourism department.

"This is almost 1.1 crore over the number recorded in the previous year for the same period. This is an outcome of the steps taken by the state government towards boosting the tourism sector," said the official spokesman.

Officials said that the tourism sector has massive potential for income generation and job creation, especially with the Ram Temple in Ayodhya set to open in the beginning of 2024.



Officials also revealed that in 2022, nearly 31.86 crore tourists came to UP - a 190 per cent increase over the previous year.

"The UP government is poised to open the doors of employment opportunities through domestic tourism. Last year witnessed an astounding 190 per

cent surge in the number of tourists, and the current year's pace is even more remarkable. In January, once the Ram Temple's sanctum sanctorum is unveiled, we will witness a surge of pilgrims from across India. The tourism sector has huge potential for employment, and, as Prime Minister Narendra Modi said, will act as a catalyst for economic growth and job creation," said the official.

Jaiveer Singh, minister of tourism and culture said, "The growth in the number of tourists in UP is a promising sign. The continuous development of religious, historical, and cultural sites is expected to further boost tourism."

Gujarat gang targets interfaith couples

After intercepting couples, they would thrash them in the name of moral policing and make their video viral

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Vadodara, Sept 2: Days after the arrest of three persons in Gujarat's Vadodara city for allegedly targeting interfaith couples, harassing them and uploading their videos on social media, 14 more have been apprehended in connection with the case, the police said.

Of those 14 apprehended Wednesday, five were arrested and nine were kept under detention for further questioning, said a release by the Vadodara police. A preliminary probe has revealed that 500 people had joined a WhatsApp group named 'Hussaini Army' created by some of the accused a few months back to indulge in moral policing, which could cause enmity among religious groups, the release said. The group was then relaunching as 'Army of Mahdi' by the accused, it said.

Considering the sensitive nature of the case, city police chief Anupam Singh Gehlot handed over the probe to the crime branch Thursday, said officials.

Those arrested Wednesday are Aqib Ali Saiyed, Mohsin Pathan,

Noman Shaikh, Abrar Khan and Moin Shaikh, all from Vadodara city, said the release. They were active members of the WhatsApp group 'Army of Mahdi'. August 28, three administrators of the group - Mustakim Sheikh, Burhan Saiyad and Sahil Sheikh - were arrested after a video of an interfaith couple went viral on social media platform X, formerly Twitter. A probe showed that the gang would target such couples and share their videos on 'Army of Mahdi' as a warning. The main accused first created a group called 'Hussaini Army' that had nearly 500 members, said Gehlot.

"Their aim was to keep a watch on women of their faith if they are seen with men from other faiths. Members used to track the couple's movements using their vehicle number and pass on that information to other members who live in the area from where the couple would pass," he said. "After intercepting the couple, they would thrash them in the name of moral policing and make their video viral. They would call the woman's parents to blackmail them (to force the woman to end the relationship)."

Biometric system for food distribution

The effort is to check misuse of food supplies at anganwadi centres

INDO-ASIAN NEWS SERVICE

Lucknow, Sept 2: To check misuse of food supplies at anganwadi and mini-anganwadi centres, the Yogi Adityanath government has decided to implement a biometric system for food distribution under the supplementary nutrition scheme.

The proposal for 'poshahar' distribution through ePOS machines under the supplementary nutrition programme to ensure

that nobody can take the food supply meant for beneficiaries has been approved by the cabinet. Uttar Pradesh Development System Corporation Limited (UPDESCO) has been nominated as the executive body for the installation and operation of e-POS machines.

Under the supplementary nutrition scheme, food is being provided to children from six months to six years, including highly malnourished children, pregnant

and lactating women and adolescent girls aged between 14 and 18 in aspirational districts. The UPDESCO has been made responsible for preparing the request for proposal (RFP) through e-tendering along with the tender for the installation of e-POS machines. The process is being conducted through the UP government's e-procurement portal.

A purchasing committee headed by the UPDESCO director will be formed.

INTERNATIONAL VULTURE AWARENESS DAY

Shahjahanpur sees rise in vulture population

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Shahjahanpur, Sept 2: On the eve of International Vulture Awareness Day Saturday, forest officials said the population of the carrion-eating bird has increased in the district in the last few years.

The population of vultures was once on the verge of extinction, they added.

Divisional Forest Officer (DFO) Prakhhar Gupta told PTI that vultures had become extinct two years ago in Shahjahanpur, but some were seen at the Kakra Kalan slaughterhouse at the end of 2021. Their numbers have increased gradually since then, he added.

"At present, there are around 51 vultures in the district. It is nothing short of a miracle. We are trying our best to sustain the vulture population in the district," the officer said.

According to experts, the population of vultures declined due to the use of a painkiller in animals that caused renal failure in vultures, a scavenger. The government has now banned the use of such painkillers in animals.

"Vultures are natural cleaners as they consume the meat of dead animals and cattle. This makes them an important aspect of the food chain," the forest officer said.

The forest department organised a camp in the district on the

occasion to spread awareness about the importance of vultures and the existential threat they face. Farmers and locals from various parts of the district attended the event, the DFO said.

AT PRESENT, THERE ARE AROUND 51 VULTURES IN THE DISTRICT. IT IS NOTHING SHORT OF A MIRACLE. WE ARE TRYING OUR BEST TO SUSTAIN THE VULTURE POPULATION IN THE DISTRICT

PRAKHAR GUPTA | DFO



EAST COAST RAILWAY

SL. NO.	ASSETS DESCRIPTION
1	PROVISION OF TEA STALL (SMU-FREEDOM FIGHTER/WAR WIDOWS AND WIDOWS OF RAILWAY EMPLOYEE, PEOPLE WHO HAVE BEEN DISLOCATED/ DISPLACED DUE TO THEIR LAND HAVING BEEN TAKEN OVER BY THE RAILWAY FOR ITS OWN USE) AT BARGARH ROAD "B" CATEGORY (BRGA)/PF01 RAILWAY STATION FOR 05 YEARS. STATION: BARGARH ROAD (BRGA).
2	PROVISION OF FRUIT/ FRUIT JUICE (SMU-SC) AT BARGARH ROAD "B" CATEGORY (BRGA)/ PF01 RAILWAY STATION FOR 05 YEARS. STATION: BARGARH ROAD (BRGA).
3	PROVISION OF TEA STALL (SMU-UR) AT JHARSUGUDA ROAD "E" CATEGORY (JSGR)/ PF01 RAILWAY STATION FOR 05 YEARS. STATION: JHARSUGUDA ROAD/PF01 (JSGR).
4	PROVISION OF TEA STALL (GMU) AT NORLA ROAD STATION CATEGORY (NRLR)/ PF01 RAILWAY STATION FOR 05 YEARS. STATION: NORLA ROAD (NRLR).
5	PROVISION OF TEA STALL (SMU-M) AT JUNAGARH ROAD STATION "D" CATEGORY (JNRD)/PF01 RAILWAY STATION FOR 05 YEARS. STATION: JUNAGARH ROAD.

Auction Start Date & Time : 11.09.2023, 1100 Hrs. (for all sl. no.).
Auction Close Date & Time : 11.09.2023, 1210 Hrs. (for all sl. no.).

Complete information including e-tender documents are available in website: <http://www.reps.gov.in>

Sr. Divl. Commercial Manager, Sambalpur
PR-528/O/23-24

EAST COAST RAILWAY

(1) Tender No. ST-OT-AMC-EL-ANGALDO-332, Date: 26.08.2023
NAME OF WORK : PROVISION FOR COMPREHENSIVE ANNUAL MAINTENANCE CONTRACT FOR ELECTRONIC INTERLOCKING SYSTEMS MAKE MIS ANSALDO STS TRANSPORTATION SYSTEMS INDIA PVT. LTD., BANGALORE (MIS HITACHI RAIL STS INDIA PVT. LTD.) IN KHURDA ROAD DIVISION OF EAST COAST RAILWAY FOR A PERIOD OF THREE YEARS.

Tender Value : ₹ 6,87,95,706.06, EMD : ₹ 4,94,000/-, TDC in (₹): 11,800 (Including 18% GST)

(2) Tender No. ST-OT-TELE-AM-HQ-BBS-333, Date: 26.08.2023
NAME OF WORK : TELECOM ASSET MAINTENANCE AT HQ, BHUBANESWAR FOR THE YEAR 23-24 (ATTENDING BREAK DOWN & MAINTENANCE OF TELECOM SERVICES, EXECUTION OF TELECOM WORKS AND SUPPLY OF CRITICAL TELECOM MATERIALS BY OUTSOURCING AGENCY) FOR HEAD QUARTERS OFFICES OF EAST COAST RAILWAY AT RAIL SADAN, RAIL VIHAR, CRW/ MANCHESWAR, CENTRAL HOSPITAL, MANCHESWAR, GSD DEPT MANCHESWAR & RESIDENTIAL QUARTERS AT RAIL VIHAR, RAIL KUNJ, RAIL KUTIR, MANCHESWAR AND RAIL AWAS COLONY IN THE SECTION OF SSE/ TELE/HQ UNDER ASTE/TM/BBS FOR A PERIOD OF TWELVE MONTHS.

Tender Value : ₹ 1,36,96,484.84, EMD : ₹ 2,18,500/-
Bidding Start Date : 04.09.2023 (for all tenders).
Tender Closing Date and Time : At 1100 Hrs. of 18.09.2023 (for all tenders).

No manual offers sent by Post/Courier/ Fax or in person shall be accepted against the e-tenders even if these are submitted on firm's letter head and receipt in time. All such manual offers shall be considered invalid and shall be rejected summarily without any consideration. Complete information including e-tender documents of the above e-tender is available in website: <http://www.reps.gov.in>

Note : The prospective bidders are advised to visit the website 15 days before the date of closing of tender to note any changes/compenda issued for this tender.

Divisional Railway Manager (S&T), Khurda Road
PR-528/O/23-24

PUBLIC NOTICE FOR DHARAMGARH BRANCH RELOCATION DCB BANK

DCB Bank Limited hereby informs customers and public at large of the change of address for the Dharamgarh branch in Odisha.

Existing Address	New Address
College Road, Dharamgarh, District - Kalahandi, Odisha - 766015	Ground Floor, Plot No. 70 and 71, College Road, Dharamgarh, District - Kalahandi, Odisha - 766015

The existing branch shall remain operational up to Saturday, 18th November 2023, till the close of business day and will begin to operate at the new address the next working day. All the existing services and facilities shall remain unchanged and will continue at the new address from 20th November 2023.

For clarification kindly contact Mr. Bikash Chandra Sahoo - Branch Service Operations Manager (landline 7304560541, cellphone 8249994762 or email bikash.chandrasahoo@dcbbank.com or DCB Customer Care at customercare@dcbbank.com

Sd/-
DCB Bank Limited

PUBLIC NOTICE

Notice is hereby given to all concerned that Suwendu Kumar Satpathy, S/o late Kambupani Satpathy resident of Dhalapur, P.S.- Motanga, District- Dhenkanal, Odisha has lost Regd. Sale deed No.4697 dtd.23.11.2004 executed by Laxmidhar Sahoo in favour of Susama Sahoo pertaining to Plot No. 1265/1726/1919 (Gharabari) area Ac.0.07 decimals under Khata No.163/528 of Mouza Nayabgharathipur Purbabad, Tahasil Odapada, District-Dhenkanal. Suwendu Kumar Satpathy of the above address has applied for a housing loan to the LIC Housing Finance Ltd., Cuttack by offering mortgage of the said property title documents in the name of his wife Smt. Jyotirmayee Satpathy. All concerned therefore having any claim over the property purchased under the said documents, i.e. Original Regd. Sale Deed No.4697 dtd.23.11.2004 are required to file their claim with the undersigned within 15 (fifteen) days from the date of publication of this notice, failing which it will be presumed that the property having link with the said document is free from encumbrances and any claim in respect thereof against the applicant as a mortgagor and the Company as the mortgagee shall be void and ineffective after the lapse of 15 (fifteen) days of publication of this notice.

Cuttack
(U.K. MISHRA)
Advocate, Phone- 9437314816
LIC Housing Finance Ltd., Cuttack Area Office
Linik Road, Cuttack
Dt.02.09.2023



Children take part in a protest demanding restoration of peace in Manipur in Imphal



Tony Leung Chiu-wai poses for photographers with the Golden Lion for Lifetime Achievement award during the 80th edition of the Venice Film Festival in Venice, Italy



Poet Varavara Rao with lawyer Indira Jaising during the launch of his book 'Varavara Rao: A Life in Poetry' in Mumbai



Artistes perform 'Thiruvathira' during the Onam cultural pageantry in Thiruvananthapuram



Nigar Shaji, the project director of the 'Aditya L1' mission, speaks as Union Minister of State (Ind. Charge) Science & Technology Jitendra Singh and ISRO Chairman Somanath applaud after the successful launch of India's first solar mission, in Sriharikota



Mahila Mangal Samiti workers walk during a 'Kalash Yatra' taken out from Goraknath Temple in Gorakhpur



Anti-Eritrean government activists clash with supporters of the Eritrean government in Tel Aviv, Israel. Hundreds of Eritrean asylum seekers smashed shop windows and police cars in Tel Aviv Saturday and clashed with police during a protest against an event organised by the Eritrea Embassy



Chief of Army Staff General Manoj Pande interacts with soldiers during a visit to review the forward areas in Rajouri Sector of Jammu and Kashmir

national



The Indian government has been talking about showing red eyes to the Chinese, but there are no red eyes, but only red flags of the neighbour

HONOURING TEACHERS

A total of 75 teachers from across the country have been selected for the National Teachers' Award which will be conferred upon them by President Droupadi Murmu September 5, according to Ministry of Education officials



of the day quote

The state government has decided to present the ground realities before the Cauvery Water Management Authority and Cauvery Water Regulation Committee before going to the Supreme Court on the issue of releasing Cauvery river water to neighbouring Tamil Nadu

There are no achievements in the nine years of the BJP regime. Day by day this government is becoming unpopular whereas the INDIA alliance is becoming popular

Atal residential schools, named after former Prime Minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee, will not only provide education to underprivileged children but also instill Indian values and gurukul traditions

SHORT TAKES

PM to visit Jakarta

New Delhi: Prime Minister Narendra Modi will visit Indonesia's capital Jakarta on September 6 and 7 to attend the ASEAN-India and East Asia summits, the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) said Saturday.

Naresh Goyal sent to ED custody

Mumbai: The money borrowed by Jet Airways was misused by its founder Naresh Goyal for "personal gains and enrichment", the Enforcement Directorate (ED) Saturday told a court here while seeking his custody in a case of an alleged ₹538 crore loan fraud.

Maratha quota violence: 360 booked

Aurangabad: A day after an agitation for reservation for the Maratha community turned violent in Maharashtra's Jalna district leading to several people including dozens of police personnel getting injured, the situation was under control Saturday, an official said.

NIA arrests two

Jammu: The National Investigation Agency (NIA) has arrested two persons for allegedly harbouring terrorists who had killed seven innocent civilians in Dhangri village of Jammu and Kashmir's Rajouri district early this year.

ISRO readies mission to enhance understanding in astronomy

Bangalore, Sept 2: After the launch of Chandrayaan-3 Moon lander and Aditya-L1 ventures, ISRO has readied a mission aimed at enhancing cutting edge scientific understanding in astronomy. XPoSat (X-ray Polarimeter Satellite) is India's first dedicated polarimetry mission to study various dynamics of bright astronomical X-ray sources in extreme conditions.

rays) will measure the polarimetry parameters (degree and angle of polarization) in medium X-ray energy range of 8-30 keV photons of astronomical origin. The XSPECT (X-ray Spectroscopy and Timing) payload will give spectroscopic information in the energy range of 0.8-15 keV, according to ISRO.



While the spectroscopic and timing information by various complex physical processes and are challenging to understand.

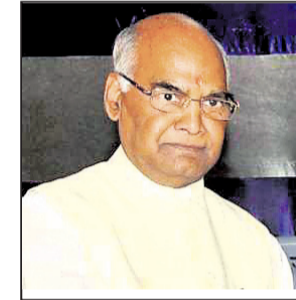
space-based observatories provide a wealth of information, the exact nature of the emission from such sources still poses deeper challenges to astronomers, ISRO officials say. "The polarimetry measurements add two more dimensions to our understanding, the degree of polarisation and the angle of polarisation and thus is an excellent diagnostic tool to understand the emission processes from astronomical sources," ISRO said.

oretical models of astronomical emission processes, the space agency said on the upcoming mission. This would be the major direction of research from XPoSat by the Indian science community. POLIX is an X-ray Polarimeter for astronomical observations in the energy band of 8-30 keV. The instrument is made of a collimator, a scatterer and four X-ray proportional counter detectors that surround the scatterer, which is made of low atomic mass material which causes anisotropic Thomson scattering of incoming polarised X-rays.

Govt notifies 8-member Kovind panel

AGENCIES

New Delhi, Sept 2: The government Saturday notified an eight-member high-level committee to examine and make recommendations at the earliest on the issue of holding simultaneous elections to the Lok Sabha, state assemblies, municipalities and panchayats.



- The notification said the panel will commence functioning immediately and make recommendations "at the earliest", but did not specify a timeframe to submit the report
The committee will be headed by former President Ram Nath Kovind and will have Home Minister Amit Shah, Congress leader in Lok Sabha Adhir Ranjan Chowdhury, former leader of the Opposition in Rajya Sabha Ghulam Nabi Azad and former finance commission chairman NK Singh as members

The notification said the panel will be headed by former President Ram Nath Kovind and will have Home Minister Amit Shah, Congress leader in Lok Sabha Adhir Ranjan Chowdhury, former leader of the opposition in Rajya Sabha Ghulam Nabi Azad and former finance commission chairman NK Singh as members.

on the Committee whose terms of reference have been prepared in a manner to guarantee its conclusions. It is, I am afraid, a total eyewash," he said in his letter. The government notification said the panel will commence functioning immediately and make recommendations "at the earliest", but did not specify a timeframe to submit the report.

ings of the committee as a special invitee, while Law Secretary Niten Chandra will be the secretary to the panel. The committee will examine and recommend specific amendments to the Constitution, the Representation of the People Act and any other laws and rules which would require amendments for the purpose of holding simultaneous elections. It has also been tasked to suggest a framework for synchronisation of elections and "specifically suggest the phases and timeframe within which simultaneous elections may be held if they cannot be held in one go..."

It will also examine and recommend if the amendments to the Constitution would require ratification by the states. Certain amendments to the Constitution require ratification by at least 50 per cent of the state assemblies.

INDIA bloc makes more appointments

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, Sept 2: Opposition bloc INDIA Saturday made some additional appointments in some of the committees set up at its Mumbai meeting to get battle-ready for the Lok Sabha polls. The bloc had formed a 14-member coordination-cum-election strategy committee comprising members of various parties.



An artisan works on an idol of Lord Krishna ahead of Janmashtami festival in Amritsar

The opposition alliance had also announced a campaign committee with Congress' Gurdeep Singh Sappal, JD(U)'s Sanjay Jha, Anil Desai (Shiv Sena), Sanjay Yadav (RJD), PC Chako (NCP), Champai Soren (JMM), Kiranmoy Nanda (Samajwadi Party), Sanjay Singh (AAP), Arun Kumar (CPI-M), Binoy Vishwam (CPI), Hasna In Masoodi (NC), Shahid Siddiqui (RLD), NK Premachandran (RSP), G Devarajan (AIFB), Ravi Rai (CPI-ML), Thirumavalan (VCK), KM Kadar Moidin (IUML) and Jose K Mani (KC-M) as its members.

No Question Hour during Parl session

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, Sept 2: A session of both Houses of Parliament will be held from September 18-22 without Question Hour or private members' business, the Lok Sabha and the Rajya Sabha secretariats said Saturday.

The session will have five sittings and members will be informed about the provisional calendar separately, the secretariats said. "Members are informed that the Thirteenth Session of the Seventeenth Lok Sabha will commence on Monday, the 18th September, 2023," the Lok Sabha Secretariat said in a bulletin Saturday.

Members are informed that the Two Hundred and Sixty First Session of the Rajya Sabha will commence on Monday, the 18th September, 2023," the Rajya Sabha secretariat said. On Thursday, Parliamentary Affairs Minister Pralhad Joshi had announced a "special session" of Parliament for five days from September 18, but kept the agenda for it under wraps, triggering speculation.

Generally, three parliamentary sessions are held in a year -- Budget, Monsoon and Winter sessions. Sources had said the "special session" could see parliamentary operations being shifted to the new Parliament building which was inaugurated by Prime Minister Narendra Modi on May 28.

The TMC was to give a name for the committee later. In a statement released on Saturday, the names of Tiruchi Siva of the DMK and Mehboob Beg of the PDP were added to the campaign committee. While the names of Congress' Pawan Khera and DMK's Kanimozhi Karunanidhi were added to the working group for media, DMK's Dayanidhi Maran and RLD's Rohit Jakhad find a place in the bloc's working group for social media.

Woman disrobed, paraded in Raj

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Jaipur, Sept 2: As the incident of a 21-year-old tribal woman being stripped and paraded in a Rajasthan village sparked outrage, police Saturday said they have arrested 10 people, including her husband, and detained a minor.

with another man and was staying with him, according to Dhariyawad SHO Peshawar Khan. The police said the in-laws of the woman kidnapped her and took her to their village. DGP Mishra said a Special Investigation Team (SIT) has been formed under the supervision of IG, Banswara Range, and SP Pratapgarh will investigate all aspects of the incident and submit the report to the state government and police headquarters.

The opposition BJP targeted the Congress government, accusing it of failing to contain crimes against women in the state. Pratapgarh Superintendent of Police P Amit Kumar Budaniya said they have arrested 10 people, including the woman's husband, and detained a minor in connection with the incident that occurred Thursday. Initial investigation revealed that the woman was in a relationship

tried in a fast-track court and given the strictest punishment. "Such tragic and inhuman incidents should be condemned in one voice by the ruling and opposition parties," he said. The opposition BJP targeted the Congress government, accusing it of failing to contain crimes against women in the state. Pratapgarh Superintendent of Police P Amit Kumar Budaniya said they have arrested 10 people, including the woman's husband, and detained a minor in connection with the incident that occurred Thursday. Initial investigation revealed that the woman was in a relationship

A day after the video of the incident appeared on social media, Rajasthan Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot met the victim and her family in Dhariyawad in Pratapgarh. He announced financial assistance of ₹10 lakh and a government job for the woman. Gehlot said the accused will be

tried in a fast-track court and given the strictest punishment. "Such tragic and inhuman incidents should be condemned in one voice by the ruling and opposition parties," he said. The opposition BJP targeted the Congress government, accusing it of failing to contain crimes against women in the state. Pratapgarh Superintendent of Police P Amit Kumar Budaniya said they have arrested 10 people, including the woman's husband, and detained a minor in connection with the incident that occurred Thursday. Initial investigation revealed that the woman was in a relationship

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Union minister's son booked under Arms Act

Lucknow: Union minister Kaushal Kishore's son has been booked under the Arms Act, a day after a 30-year-old man was shot dead under mysterious circumstances at his home here, police said Saturday. Three men were arrested in connection with the case on Friday, police said. According to the minister, his son Vikas Kishore lives at his Lucknow residence but he was in Delhi when Vinay Srivastava, described as his friend, was murdered at the house. The pistol used by the accused to shoot Vinay is a licensed weapon owned by Vikas. His arms licence was valid only in Uttar Pradesh, so he did not take the pistol with him, Kaushal claimed.

OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER, JHARSUGUDA (R&B) DIVISION
E-mail ID: eepwdjsg2014@gmail.com; Telephone: 06645-271242
Kalimandir Road, Jharsuguda, 768202
No. 3842/Dt.31.08.23
1st Corrigendum to e-Procurement Notice BID No.- SE R&B-JSG-07 of 2023-24

WATCO (A Govt. of Odisha Undertaking)
OFFICE OF THE GENERAL MANAGER
WATCO, SEWERAGE DIVISION, BHUBANESWAR
2nd FLOOR, PHEO BUILDING, UNIT-V, BHUBANESWAR-751001
ODISHA, INDIA, E-MAIL: pe_bs@owssb.in
No. 2360/SD-WATCO, Dt. 31.08.23
INVITATION FOR BIDS (IFB)
Bid Identification No. 06/OWSSB, Dt. 31.08.2023

GOVERNMENT OF ODISHA
OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER
RURAL WORKS DIVISION-II, BALASORE
e-procurement Notice for Road works
Bid Identification No. e-procurement Notice NO. 11/EERW-II/BLS/2023-24

GOVERNMENT OF ODISHA
OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER, RURAL WORKS DIVISION-II, MALKANGIRI
E-mail: ruralworksdivisionmalkangiri@yahoo.in
INVITATION FOR BIDS
NATIONAL COMPETITIVE BIDDING

international



Nuclear energy is over. The issue of nuclear energy in Germany is a dead horse. Anyone who wanted to build new nuclear power plants would need 15 years and would have to spend 15-20 billion euros
OLAF SCHOLZ | CHANCELLOR, GERMANY

MODI TO SKIP UNGA SESSION

Prime Minister Narendra Modi will not attend the annual UN General Assembly session later this month and External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar will address the high-level week, according to the latest provisional list of speakers issued by the UN



of the day quote

The Silk Road did not bring the results we expected. We will have to evaluate, the parliament will have to decide whether or not to renew our participation
ANTONIO TAJANI | FOREIGN MINISTER, ITALY

This is the first time the dialogue has been held since early 2020 and it represents another step towards increasing bilateral engagement and stabilizing our relationship with China
PENNY WONG | FOREIGN MINISTER, AUSTRALIA

The British people expect their police to focus on cutting crime and protecting communities - political activism does not keep people safe, solve crimes or support victims, but can damage public confidence
SUELLA BRAVERMAN | HOME SECRETARY, UK

SHORT TAKES

Pope's dig at China

Ulaanbaatar: Pope Francis, in words that appeared to be aimed at China rather than the neighbouring country he was visiting, said Saturday that governments have nothing to fear from the Catholic Church because it has no political agenda. Francis, 86, made his comments in Mongolia, which has only 1,450 Catholics and where the tiny Church has good relations with a government that has expressed appreciation for its social, health and charitable activities. In an address to bishops, priests, missionaries and pastoral workers, he said Jesus gave no political mandate to his apostles but told them to alleviate the sufferings of a "wounded humanity" through faith. Beijing has been following a policy of "Sinicisation" of religion, trying to root out foreign influences and enforce obedience to the Communist Party. A landmark 2018 agreement between the Vatican and China on the appointment of bishops has been tenuous at best, with the Vatican complaining that Beijing has violated it several times.

Clashes hurt 100

Jerusalem: More than 100 people were injured in violent clashes in Tel Aviv between Eritrean government supporters celebrating an Eritrea Day event and opponents of President Isaias Afwerki. Israeli police fired stun grenades to break up the clashes, while some protesters hurled stones at police and set fire to trash bins, Reuters journalists at the scene said. Footage on social media showed Eritrean government supporters beating anti-government protesters with clubs. Israeli medical officials said more than 114 people had been treated for injuries, including about 30 police officers. The violence broke out around an event organised by the Eritrean embassy to mark Revolution Day September 1, which commemorates the start of the Eritrean War of Independence against Ethiopia in 1961. Isaias has ruled since Eritrea gained independence in 1993.

18 killed in Iraq

Baghdad: A bus carrying pilgrims to the Iraqi city of Karbala overturned north of Baghdad Saturday, killing 18 people, medical officials said. Millions of believers converge on the city each year for the Shiite pilgrimage of Arbabeen, regarded as the largest annual public gathering in the world. Pilgrims come from various parts of Iraq as well as from Iran and the Gulf countries, with many making their way to Karbala on foot.

HEAVY CRITICISM

Nobel Foundation retracts Russia, Iran, Belarus invitations

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Stockholm, Sept 2: The Nobel Foundation Saturday withdrew its invitation for representatives of Russia, Belarus and Iran to attend this year's Nobel Prize award ceremonies after the decision announced a day earlier "provoked strong reactions."

Several Swedish lawmakers said Friday they would boycott this year's Nobel Prize award ceremonies in the Swedish capital, Stockholm, after the private foundation that administers the prestigious awards changed its position from a year earlier and invited representatives of the three countries to attend, saying it "promotes opportunities to convey the important messages of the Nobel Prize to everyone."

Some of the lawmakers cited Russia's war on Ukraine and the crackdown on human rights in Iran as reasons for their boycott. Belarusian opposition figure Sviatlana Tsikhanouskaya Friday called on the Swedish Nobel Foundation and the Norwegian Nobel Committee not to invite representatives of Belarusian President Alexander Lukashenko's "illegitimate regime to any events."

The foundation said Saturday it recognised "the strong reactions in Sweden, which completely overshadowed this message" and therefore it had decided not to invite the ambassadors of Russia, Belarus and Iran to the Nobel Prize award ceremony in Stockholm.

However, it said that it would follow its usual practice and invite all ambassadors to the ceremony in the Norwegian capital, Oslo, where the Nobel Peace Prize is awarded.

This year's Nobel prize winners will be announced in early October. The laureates are then invited to receive their awards at glittering prize ceremonies December 10, the anniversary of award founder Alfred Nobel's death in 1896.

AFTER US WITHDRAWAL

8,40,000 AFGHANS WHO'VE APPLIED FOR KEY US RESETTLEMENT PROGRAMME STILL IN AFGHANISTAN

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Washington, Sept 2: More than 8,40,000 Afghans who applied for a resettlement programme aimed at people who helped the US war effort in Afghanistan are still there waiting, according to a report that lays out the challenges with a programme intended to help America's allies in the two-decade long conflict.

The report released Thursday by the State Department's inspector general outlines steps the department took to improve processing of special immigrant visas for Afghans. But two years

Future of more than 8L Afghans in limbo

after the US pullout from Afghanistan and the return of the Taliban to power, challenges remain.

The visa programme was started in 2009 to help Afghans who worked side-by-side with Americans and faced significant risks for doing so. A similar programme exists for Iraqis. Both programmes have been plagued by criticism that cases move much too slowly, leaving applicants in dangerous limbo.

And since the US left Afghanistan the number of people applying for the visas has skyrocketed. According to the



report, there were a little less than 30,000 applicants in October 2021, but by December 2022 that number had grown to roughly 1,55,000. Those figures do not include family members who are

allowed to resettle with them if their application is approved.

The State Department estimates that as of April of this year more than 8,40,000 applicants for the special visa pro-

gramme and their family members remain in Afghanistan, the report said. Not everyone who applies is accepted; the State Department noted that about 50% of applicants do not qualify when their applications are reviewed at a key stage early in the process.

The department also said since the start of the Biden administration in January 2021 through Aug. 1 of this year it's issued nearly 34,000 visas for the applicants and their family members, which it said was a substantial increase from previous years.

BLOODY WAR Controversial arms to Ukraine

In its new military package, Biden administration plans to send controversial armor-piercing munitions containing depleted uranium to Ukraine

REUTERS



The use of depleted uranium munitions has been fiercely debated, with opponents like the International Coalition to Ban Uranium Weapons saying there are dangerous health risks from ingesting or inhaling depleted uranium dust, including cancers and birth defects

\$375 million depending on what is included.

The value and contents of the package were still being finalized, the officials said. The White House did not immediately respond to a request for comment.

Although Britain sent depleted uranium munitions to Ukraine earlier this year, this would be

the first US shipment of the ammunition and will likely stir controversy. It follows an earlier decision by the Biden administration to provide cluster munitions to Ukraine, despite concerns over the dangers such weapons pose to civilians.

A by-product of uranium enrichment, depleted uranium is

used for ammunition because its extreme density gives rounds the ability to easily penetrate armor plating and self-ignite in a searing cloud of dust and metal.

While depleted uranium is radioactive, it is considerably less so than naturally occurring uranium, although particles can linger for a considerable time.

The United States used depleted uranium munitions in massive quantities in the 1990 and 2003 Gulf Wars and the NATO bombing of former Yugoslavia in 1999.

The UN nuclear watchdog, the International Atomic Energy Agency, says that studies in former Yugoslavia, Kuwait, Iraq and Lebanon "indicated that the existence of depleted uranium residues dispersed in the environment does not pose a radiological hazard to the population of the affected regions."

Still, the radioactive material could add to Ukraine's massive post-war clean-up challenge. Parts of the country are already strewn with unexploded ordnance from cluster bombs and other munitions and hundreds of thousands of anti-personnel mines.

US CAPITOL RIOT

Proud Boys leader gets 18 years in jail

REUTERS

Washington, Sept 2: A leader of the far-right Proud Boys was sentenced Friday to 18 years in prison over the US Capitol attack, equaling the longest punishment in the case so far, while another member sentenced to 10 years yelled "Trump won" as he left court.

The pair were the latest members of far-right groups sentenced for taking part in the January 6, 2021, assault on Congress, an attempt to overturn Donald Trump's election defeat.

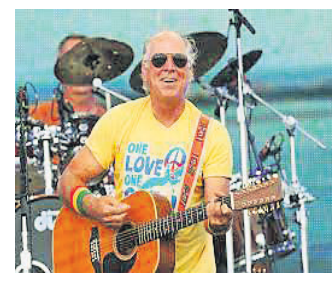
The 18-year sentence for Ethan Nordean, a leader of the Proud Boys convicted of seditious conspiracy, fell short of the 27 years prosecutors had sought and tied the sentence handed down to Oath Keepers founder Stewart Rhodes in May.

"If we don't have a peaceful transfer of power in this country, we don't have anything," said US District Judge Timothy Kelly. Dominic Pezola, a member of the Proud Boys, did not play a leadership role but was convicted of felonies including obstructing an official proceeding and assaulting police. He yelled, "Trump won!" as he left the courtroom after being sentenced to 10 years in prison.

Thousands of Trump supporters attacked the Capitol following a speech in which the Republican then-president falsely claimed that his November 2020 election defeat was the result of widespread fraud. Trump has continued to make those false claims even as he leads the Republican race for the 2024 nomination to challenge Democratic President Joe Biden.

Five people including a police officer died during or shortly after the riot and more than 140 police officers were injured. The Capitol suffered millions of dollars in damage. More than 1,100 people have been arrested on charges related to the Capitol assault. Of those, more than 630 have pleaded guilty and at least 110 have been convicted at trial.

Jimmy Buffett no more



REUTERS

pire, has died at the age of 76. "Jimmy passed away peacefully on the night of September 1st surrounded by his family, friends, music and dogs. He lived his life like a song till the very last breath and will be missed beyond measure by so many," a statement on the website said Saturday.

Buffett, nominated for two Grammy awards and winner of numerous Country Music Awards, built his name touring his folk-country songs around the United States in the 1970s.

Buffett released over two dozen albums and played countless concerts over six decades.



ECONOMIC CRISIS: Supporters of Jamaat-e-Islami chant anti-Pakistan government during a strike against inflation in Hyderabad, Pakistan. Pakistani traders went on strike against the soaring cost of living, including higher fuel and utility bills and record depreciation of the rupee against the dollar, which has led to widespread discontent among the public

PIO LEADERS DOMINATING WORLD POLITICS

NEWLY ELECTED SINGAPORE PREZ JOINS GROWING LIST OF INDIAN-ORIGIN LEADERS LEAVING THEIR MARK ON WORLD POLITICS

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Singapore, Sept 2: With Tharman Shanmugaratnam winning Singapore's presidential election, he joins a long list of Indian-origin leaders who are dominating politics at important world capitals.

Shanmugaratnam, 66, received 70.4 per cent of the votes in the presidential election held Friday. He is among several leaders of Indian heritage who have ascended to the highest echelon of public service globally. His victory signifies the rising influence of Indians across the globe.

UNITED STATES
In the US, the growing influence of the Indian-American



community can be seen in the success of Kamala Harris, who became the first woman and the first coloured Vice President of the country. She was a senator for California from 2017 to 2021. Harris, a Democrat, also served as the attorney general of California from 2011 to 2017. She was born to Indian and Jamaican parents in California.

In the crucial midterm elections in November, a record five Indian-American lawmakers from the ruling Democrat Party - Raja Krishnamoorthi, Ro Khanna, Pramila Jayapal, Ami Bera and Shri Thanedar - were elected to the US House of Representatives. Harmeet Dhillon, a promi-

According to the 2021 Indiaspora Government Leaders List, more than 200 leaders of Indian heritage have ascended to the highest echelons of public service in 15 countries across the globe, with over 60 of them holding Cabinet positions

nent politician in California, recently contested the election for

the chairmanship of the Republican National Committee (RNC).

Indian-origin leaders like Nikki Haley, and Vivek Ramaswamy have launched their bid for the White House in 2024.

UNITED KINGDOM

Rishi Sunak became Britain's first Indian-origin Prime Minister last year. He is the youngest British prime minister in 210 years. He is also Britain's first Hindu Prime Minister: Goan-origin Suella Braverman is serving as his Home Secretary.

Claire Coutinho is the second Goan-origin minister after Braverman in the Sunak Cabinet. She recently got a big promotion as his new Energy Security

and Net Zero Secretary.

Under Sunak's predecessor, Boris Johnson's Cabinet, Priti Patel was the Home Secretary. Alok Sharma was the International Development Secretary in the Johnson Cabinet.

EUROPE

Ireland's Prime Minister (Taoiseach) Leo Eric Varadkar is also of Indian origin. Varadkar is the third child and only son of Ashok and Miriam Varadkar. His father, a doctor, was born in Mumbai and moved to the United Kingdom in the 1960s.

Antonio Costa has been the Prime Minister of Portugal since 2015. He is half Indian and half Portuguese.

CANADA

Anita Anand is the first Hindu to become a federal minister in Canada. Anand assumed the role of President of the Treasury Board July 26, 2023, as part of a major cabinet shuffle.

Anand's parents were Indians. Her father was from Tamil Nadu and her mother was from Punjab.

Apart from Anand, Canadian Prime Minister Justin Trudeau's Cabinet has two more Indian-origin members - Harjit Sajjan

and Kamal Khara.

OTHER NATIONS

Priyanka Radhakrishnan is the first person of Indian origin to become a Minister in New Zealand. Born in Chennai to Malayali parents, she is currently the Minister for the Community and Voluntary Sector.

Pravind Jugnauth has been serving as the prime minister of Mauritius since January 2017. He was born into a Hindu Yaduvanshi family in 1961. His great-grandfather migrated to Mauritius from the Indian state of Uttar Pradesh in the 1870s.

Prithvirajsing Roopun, the president of Mauritius since 2019, was born in an Indian Arya Samaj Hindu family. Pritam Singh, an Indian-origin lawyer, and author, has been serving as Leader of the Opposition in Singapore since 2020. Devanand "Dave" Sharma became the first person of Indian origin to become a Member of the Australian Parliament in 2019.

With more than 32 million people of Indian origin (PIOs) globally, according to India's Ministry of External Affairs, Indians are the largest community population in the world.

business

of the day quote

The PMI results for India painted a vibrant picture of the nation's manufacturing landscape in August. Robust and accelerated increases in new orders and production suggest strong contribution to second quarter (fiscal) economic growth

POLLYANNA DE LIMA | ECONOMICS
ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR, S&P GLOBAL

As we scan the gaming landscape, we see that gamers are a versatile and varied group, and Lenovo Legion likewise endeavors to provide gamers with solutions that suit them

JUN OUYANG | VICE PRESIDENT, LENOVO

The acquisition of this US FDA (US Food and Drug Administration) approved facility, our first in the US, will complement Biocom's existing manufacturing capabilities and strengthen our foothold in the US

SIDDHARTH MITTAL | MD AND CEO, BIOCON

SHORT TAKES

Viacom18 scores big

New Delhi: Leading media & entertainment firm Viacom18 Saturday said it has bagged streaming and broadcast rights for all domestic and international cricket in India for five years from September 2023 to March 2028 for a consideration of Rs 5,963 crore. The Reliance Industries-controlled media house, which earlier this year disrupted the market by live streaming the IPL matches through its OTT platform JioCinema, was competing with rival media houses such as Star India and Sony for the five-year rights. The e-auction of media rights was held August 31. Reliance-backed Viacom18 had earlier acquired digital rights for IPL for the 2023-27 cycle for a whopping Rs 20,500 crore.

RINL sees sales feat

Visakhapatnam: Rashtriya Ispat Nigam Ltd (RINL) or Vizag Steel Plant logged its best ever monthly sales of value-added steel products in August since inception at 1.57 lakh tonne, said an official Saturday. In August, the steel plant sold 99,000 tonne of rounds (steel variety), which is the best ever sales milestone for this variety, and also logged similar performances in the sale of wire rod coils (79,000 tonne), rebars (2 lakh tonne) and structurals (46,000 tonne). "The sales volume of 1.57,000 tonne of value-added steel achieved in August 2023 by RINL is the best ever monthly sales of value-added steel sales for any month since inception," said the official in a press release.

EL NINO STRENGTHENS

With global inflation shooting up, El Nino's storm clouds gather over global food prices

REUTERS

Singapore, Sept 2: An unusually dry August has taken a toll on cereal and oilseed crops in Asia as El Nino intensified, and forecasts for lower rainfall in September are further threatening to disrupt supplies.

While wheat output forecasts are being revised lower due to dry weather in Australia, the world's second largest exporter, record-low monsoon rains are expected to reduce the volume of crops, including rice, in India, the world's biggest shipper of the grain, meteorologists and analysts said.

Insufficient rains in Southeast Asia, meanwhile, could dent supplies of palm oil, the world's most widely used vegetable oil, while extreme weather in top corn and soybean importer

Windfall tax on crude cut

India imposed the windfall tax on crude oil producers in July last year and extended the levy on exports of fuels after private refiners wanted to make gains from robust refining margins in overseas markets, instead of selling at home

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, Sept 2: The government has cut the windfall profit tax on crude oil produced in the country while the levy on exports of diesel and ATF has been hiked, an official notification said.

The tax, levied in the form of special additional excise duty or SAED, on domestically produced crude oil was reduced to Rs 6,700 per tonne from Rs 7,100 a tonne.

SAED on the export of diesel was increased to Rs 6 per litre from Rs 5.50 a litre and on jet fuel or ATF to Rs 4 per litre from Rs 2, the notification said.

SAED on export of petrol will continue to be zero. The new tax rates came into effect from Saturday, the order dated September 1, said.

India first imposed windfall profit taxes July 1 last year, joining a growing number of nations that tax supernormal profits of energy companies. At that time, export duties of Rs 6 per litre (\$12 per barrel) each were levied on petrol and ATF and



TAX ON PETROLEUM CRUDE CUT TO ₹6,700 PER METRIC TONNE FROM ₹7,100
TAX ON DIESEL RAISED TO ₹6 PER LITRE FROM ₹5.50
TAX ON ATF WILL INCREASE TO ₹4 PER LITRE FROM ₹2
LEVY ON PETROL WILL REMAIN AT ZERO

Rs 13 a litre (\$26 a barrel) on diesel.

A Rs 23,250 per tonne (\$40 per barrel) windfall profit tax on crude oil produced by compa-

We expect (retail) inflation to start coming down from September. Although August's (retail) inflation will be very high, we expect inflation to start coming down from September

SHAKTIKANTA DAS | GOVERNOR, RBI

ARM'S STELLAR IPO DREAMS

Arm Holdings Ltd, the chip designer owned by SoftBank Group Corp, is planning to ask investors to pay \$47 to \$51 for each of its shares when it begins marketing its initial public offering (IPO) next week. The price range, which has not been previously reported, would translate into a valuation for Arm of roughly between \$50 billion and \$54 billion, and an offering of \$5 billion to \$5.4 billion

SURPRISE MOVE

Canada shuns FTA talks with India

OVER HALF A DOZEN ROUNDS OF TALKS HAVE BEEN HELD BETWEEN THE COUNTRIES ON THE TRADE PACT SO FAR

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, Sept 2: In an unexpected move, Canada has paused negotiations for a free trade agreement with India and now both countries will mutually decide on resuming the talks in the future, an official said.

"The Canadian side conveyed that they were taking a pause in India-Canada negotiations on the Early Progress Trade Agreement. This will enable us both to take stock of progress and next steps. We will decide by mutual agreement when negotiations will resume," the official told PTI.

However, the official did not provide more details about the issue. The development assumes significance as Canadian Prime Minister Justin Trudeau will be here next week to attend the G20 Summit on September 9-10.

In March last year, the two countries re-launched negotiations for an interim agreement, officially dubbed as Early Progress Trade Agreement (EPTA).

In such agreements, two countries significantly reduce or eliminate customs duties on the maximum number of goods traded between them. They also liberalise norms for promoting trade in services and attract investments.

Indian industry was looking at duty-free access for products like textiles and leather besides easy visa norms for the movement of professionals. Canada has interests in areas like dairy and agricultural products.

No benefits
Think tank Global Research Initiative (GTRI) Co-Founder



The bilateral trade between the countries has increased to \$8.16 billion in 2022-23 from \$7 billion in 2021-22

Ajay Srivastava said that halting of India-Canada free trade agreement negotiations does not harm Indian trade interests as more than half of Indian products already enter Canada duty-free and would not have benefited from this pact.

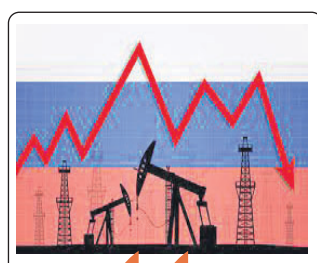
Indian services sector firms in hospital or education sectors are not globalised enough to establish physical business in Canada, he said.

"Stopping the FTA may harm Canadian exports, which would have benefited from the crumbling of the high tariff wall in India. The on-again, off-again FTA negotiations began in 2010, stopped in 2017, restarted in 2021, and have halted again. This is likely due to Canada's reluctance to meet India's service-related requests, especially concerning the movement of professionals (Mode IV)," Srivastava said, adding Canada may have found India's goods offer lacking, with significant exclusions.

Global trade dynamics are shifting rapidly, with major players like the US and European Union (EU) imposing stricter regulations on imports, especially in climate and technology. "It's advisable for countries to focus on building domestic resilience and delay further trade openings until there's a clear and favourable economic justification," he said.

7-MONTH LOW

India's splurge on cheap Russian oil may be over



India's fuel demand is expected to rise in the next two months due to festivals, and that could further boost imports from the Middle East

EHSAAN UL HAQ | ANALYST, REFINITIV

REUTERS

New Delhi, Sept 2: India's imports of Russian oil fell in August to a seven-month low as refiners curbed purchases due to planned maintenance outages at some plants and lower discounts for Russian grades.

However, oil imports from Saudi Arabia surged to a multi-month high, according to preliminary data from Kpler and Refinitiv trade flows.

Refiners in India have been snapping up discounted Russian oil after some Western buyers shunned purchases over Russia's full-scale invasion of Ukraine in February last year.

But India's monthly imports

of Russian oil have been declining since June as discounts began to shrink, the data from the two agencies show.

"Imports of Russian oil are likely to remain at subdued levels for a couple of months due to lower discounts, and that would force suppliers of Russian oil to provide deeper discounts," said Refinitiv analyst Ehsan Ul Haq.

Discounts on Russian oil for October loading are below \$5 a barrel to benchmark dated Brent, a refinery source said, adding his company had not yet placed an order for October Russian oil.

Buying Russian oil in spot markets gives Indian refiners greater flexibility than Middle Eastern purchases that are mostly under annual contracts.

A government source last month said Indian refiners could cut imports of Russian oil as narrowing discounts were raising the price of Russian grades to above the \$60 per barrel ceiling set by Western nations.

India's Russian oil imports in August declined by a fifth from July to about 1.5 million barrels per day (bpd) while those from Saudi Arabia leapt by about 63%, according to Refinitiv data.

According to Kpler estimates, India imported 1.35 million bpd of Russian oil in August, down from about 1.9 million bpd in July. Imports from Saudi Arabia rose to 825,000 bpd from 522,000 bpd in July.

MCL signs MoUs with CIPET

Sambalpur: Mahanadi Coalfields Limited signed two Memorandums of Understanding (MoU) with CIPET, Bhubaneswar for skill training development projects this morning. Under these projects 1000 youths from Odisha will be provided skill training in machine operator courses and 40 youths will be trained under ITI courses. All the courses are residential which will be provided at skill training institutes of CIPET, Bhubaneswar. Mahanadi Coalfields Limited will be providing Rs.11.70 crores to these projects under its CSR initiative project 'Kovida-2'. This is one of the many developmental projects which is being undertaken by MCL for generating sustainable livelihood for the youths in the State of Odisha. On behalf of MCL, Rajnikant Panigrahi, General Manager, CSR inked the MoU with BP Patro, Director & Head, CIPET (Bhubaneswar).

BIZ BUZZ

Uday quits as MD, CEO of Kotak Mahindra

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, Sept 2: Uday Kotak, the founder and promoter of Kotak Mahindra Bank, has resigned as Managing Director and CEO of the private sector lender three months ahead of Reserve Bank's deadline.

He has ceased to be the Managing Director & CEO of the bank, with effect from September 1, 2023, on account of his resignation considered at the bank's board meeting held Saturday.

Kotak, whose holding in the bank stands at 26 per cent, has become a non-executive director of the bank, Kotak Mahindra Bank said in a regulatory filing Saturday.

As per the regulatory man-



date restricting a managing director and chief executive's term to 15 years, the board of the bank had earlier this year decided to appoint Uday Kotak as the non-executive director after his current term ends in December.

As an interim arrangement, Dipak Gupta, the Joint Managing Director, will carry out the du-

UK in talks with Tata Steel over \$630mn funding

REUTERS

London, Sept 2: The British government is in advanced talks with Tata Steel, the country's biggest steel producer, to provide 500 million pounds (\$629 million) of funding to help secure the long-term future of a key part of its steel industry, Sky News reported Saturday.

The funding would be pumped into the Port Talbot steelworks in south Wales alongside 700 million pounds (\$881 million) from Tata Steel's Indian parent company and a commitment from the company to build electric arc furnaces, Sky News said.

British officials have been talking to the country's two biggest steelmakers, Tata and British Steel, for months about state support to help fund the transition to the more environmentally-friendly method of producing steel from electric arc furnaces.

But the talks have faced difficulties over potential job losses because the new style furnaces require fewer staff.

About 8,000 people are employed by Tata Steel in Britain and Sky News cited industry sources as saying the company had warned that it may need to make as many as 3,000 redundancies in the future.

Tata Steel has in the past warned that without government support, it will need to consider closing its sites.

The company did not immediately respond to a Reuters request for comment, while a spokesperson for the government's Department for Business and Trade said it did not comment on ongoing negotiations.

From rice to palm oil, Asian crops output hope lower

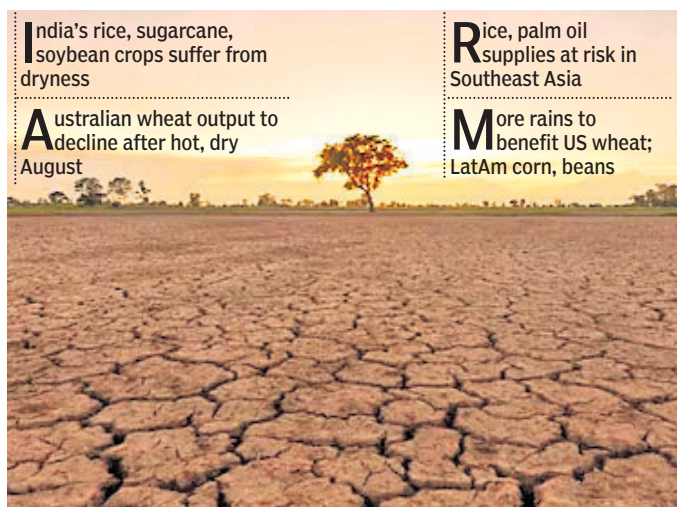
REUTERS

China is putting food output at risk. El Nino is a warming of Pacific waters which typically results in drier conditions over Asia and excessive rains in parts of North and South America.

LACK OF RAINS IN INDIA, OZ
India's monsoon rains, crucial for summer crops such as rice, sugarcane, soybeans and corn, are poised to be the weakest in eight years.

"The impact of El Nino is much greater than we had anticipated," said a senior India Meteorological Department official. "This month is going to end with a deficit of over 30%, marking it as the driest August on record. El Nino will also affect September's rainfall."

India, which accounts for 40% of global rice exports, has curbed



India's rice, sugarcane, soybean crops suffer from dryness

Australian wheat output to decline after hot, dry August

Rice, palm oil supplies at risk in Southeast Asia

More rains to benefit US wheat; LatAm corn, beans

shipments, lifting prices to 15-year highs.

Australia's wheat output estimates are being revised lower by analysts for the first time in four years as key growing areas have had insufficient rain in

August.

"Wheat production is going to be three million (metric) tons lower than our initial estimate of 33 million tons," said Ole Houe, director of advisory services at agricultural brokerage IKON

We are in full-blown El Nino weather in several parts of the world and it is going to intensify towards the end of the year. The weather pattern in Asia will correlate with dry El Nino conditions

CHRIS HYDE | METEOROLOGIST, MAXAR TECHNOLOGIES

Commodities. "If the dryness continue in September, we are looking at an even lower crop."

Australia has had three straight years of bumper wheat output, boosting supplies for importers such as China, Indonesia and Japan.

TROPICAL SOUTHEAST ASIA HIT BY DRYNESS

Rice, palm oil, sugarcane and coffee crops have received lower-than-usual rainfall in Southeast Asia, with Indonesia and Thailand the worst hit. "Eastern parts of Indonesia

and much of Thailand has had very little rain in the last 30 to 40 days," Chris Hyde, a meteorologist at US-based Maxar Technologies, a climate data analytics platform said.

"In these areas, precipitation has been 50% to 70% of average. Most of September is going to be largely below normal rains in Thailand and Indonesia."

In the United States, corn and soybean crops have suffered in recent weeks due to dryness, although the weather is not associated with El Nino, said Drew Lerner, president of World Weather Inc.

From November to February, however, US farms will see a bigger impact from El Nino with above-average precipitation in southern states, benefiting winter wheat, Lerner said.

South American weather is expected to be crop-friendly for soybeans and corn which will be harvested early 2024.

RAIN PLAYS SPOILSPORT Never count out Djoko

ASSOCIATED PRESS

New York, Sept 2: Everyone should know by now to never count out Novak Djokovic. No matter how big a deficit he faces. No matter how poorly he might be playing.

And so it made sense that Djokovic would manage to come all the way back from a two-set deficit to beat Laslo Djere 4-6, 4-6, 6-1, 6-1, 6-3 in the third round of the US Open, avoiding what would have been his earliest exit there since 2006.

The match began under the lights in Arthur Ashe Stadium Friday night and did not wrap up until more than three and half hours later, concluding just after 1:30 am. It was Djokovic's eighth career victory after dropping the opening two sets of a match. He also improved to 38-11 in five-setters over his career.

One he seized control, he held on tight and never let Djere recover. In the crucible of a fifth set, Djokovic was cool as can be, collecting 12 of the initial 14 points to leave no doubt how this would go.

Djokovic has won three of his men's-record 23-time Grand Slam titles at Flushing Meadows and been the runner-up a half-dozen times, including in 2021. The 36-

year-old from Serbia did not compete in the US Open last year because he couldn't travel to the United States as a foreigner who is not vaccinated against COVID-19; that rule was lifted this May.

Djokovic is seeded No.2 in New York behind Carlos Alcaraz, and pretty much everyone has been expecting the two of them to meet for the championship Sept 10. That would be a rematch of their riveting final at Wimbledon in July, which Alcaraz won in five sets.

Rybakina bows out
Elena Rybakina was knocked out of the US Open by Sorana Cirstea, at No.4 becoming the highest-seeded women to be eliminated thus far. The No. 30-seeded Cirstea won 6-3, 6-7(6-8), 6-4 to reach the fourth round in Flushing Meadows for the first time.

Rybakina was also seeking to reach the last 16 at the US Open for the first time. The 2022 Wimbledon champion from Kazakhstan had high hopes after her strong results on hard courts earlier this year, reaching the Australian Open final, winning the title at Indian Wells and then getting to the final in Miami. Cirstea advanced to face No. 15 Belinda Bencic Sunday.

Gauff advances

Things were not going well for Coco Gauff at the US Open. Friday night her shots were off. She was struggling to hold serve. She dropped a set. All the while, Gauff was talking to her coaches, Brad Gilbert and Pere Riba. Talking to herself. Slapping her thigh or putting her palm to her face.

And when the No.6-seeded Gauff, who made it to the quarterfinals in New York a year ago, needed to get headed in the right direction before it was too late, she did just that grabbing the last 10 games for a 3-6, 6-3, 6-0 victory over No.32 Elise Mertens to reach the fourth round at Flushing Meadows. Now, she will face Caroline Wozniacki, a 33-year-old who is playing in her third event since coming out of retirement.

Bopanna-Ebden through
India's Rohan Bopanna and his Australian partner Matthew Ebden entered the men's doubles third round with a straight-set victory over Kazakhstan's Andrey Golubev and Russian Roman Safullin.

The sixth seeded Indo-Australian pair won 6-3, 6-3 and would meet the unseeded British team of Henry Patten and Julian Cash in the pre-quarterfinals.



PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Pallekele (Sri Lanka), Sept 2: Rain played spoilsport to India's campaign opener against Pakistan in the Asia Cup as both the sides share points, Saturday.

It was after the wonderful rescue act of Hardik Pandya (87, 90b, 7x4, 1x6) and Ishan Kishan (82, 81b, 9x4, 2x6) helped India overcome a fiery opening spell from Shaheen Shah Afridi (4/35) to post a healthy 266.

Kishan and Pandya kept Pakistan bowlers at bay with a 138-run fifth wicket stand off 141 balls to give their side a fine chance to make a winning start to the tournament.

They joined forces after Pakistan pacers Afridi, who accounted for Rohit Sharma and Virat Kohli early, and Haris Rauf (3/58) combined to reduce India to 66/4 in 14.1 overs.

In a sense, it was a rather unfamiliar job for both Pandya and Kishan, who generally love to give a wallop to the bowlers. But the conditions at Pallekele, which always

had a lick of drizzle, and a high-octane bowling attack meant that the Indian pair would have to curb their shot-making instincts.

They had to be precise in the selection of each shot, and needed to be extra patient. Afridi tailed the ball in, Naseem Shah (3/36) tested their awareness outside the off-stump and Rauf pounded in those heavy balls, but the Indian duo soaked in all those tough moments.



The boundaries and big shots were not easy to come by but the Indian pair pushed the board ahead with singles and their 50-run partnership came in just 52 balls.

Pandya was happy to play the sidekick role to Kishan. This was the first time the left-hander was batting below the No.4 slot in his career, and he didn't show any signs of nerves.

That Pakistan captain opted to

give a longer spell to his spinners - Shadab Khan, Mohammad Nawaz and Salman Agha - also played its part in Kishan getting settled in the middle. Kishan brought his 50 in a mere 54 balls and he could have easily converted it into a three-figure score.

But his attempt to play a big pull off Rauf ended in the hands of Babar inside the circle. However, his innings might have eased some worries in the Indian camp about a wobbly middle-order in the absence of KL Rahul.

Once Kishan departed, Pandya took charge of the Indian innings. However, Afridi returned to snap his stay off a slower ball. From thereon, a few beefy blows by Jasprit Bumrah carried the side past the 250-run mark. Just after the end of the Indian innings, another spell of steady downpour started.

BRIEF SCORES: India 266 (Hardik Pandya 87, Ishan Kishan 82; Shaheen Shah Afridi 3/35, Naseem Shah 3/36, Haris Rauf 3/58) vs Pakistan. No result.



Haaland, Son shine as City, Spurs script wins



ERLING HAALAND
REUTERS

Manchester, Sept 2: Erling Haaland and Son Heung-min scored stunning hat-tricks to help their respective teams secure comfortable wins in Premier League, Saturday.

Haaland, who won the UEFA Player of the Year award Thursday night, netted a second-half hat-trick as pacesetters Manchester City maintained their 100% record in the Premier League with a 5-1 thrashing of Fulham.

Julian Alvarez and Nathan Ake opened the scoring for the champions, who have beaten Fulham in their last 15 league meetings and now top the table with a perfect 12 points from four games. Fulham, who scored an early equaliser through Tim Ream before being overrun, have four points from their four games.

Haaland, who broke several scoring records last season, added another Saturday, becoming the fastest player to reach 50 goal involvements, with 42 goals and nine assists in just 39 Premier



SON HEUNG-MIN
REUTERS

League appearances. Son, on the other hand, opened his EPL 2023-24 account in style as Spurs demolished Burnley 5-2 at Turf Moor after the visitors had gone behind. Burnley, still without a point, got a dream start when Lyle Foster finished neatly in the fourth minute.

But Tottenham soon hit their stride and Son levelled in the 16th minute with a dinked finish before defender Cristian Romero's rasping shot gave the Londoners the lead in first-half stoppage time.

James Maddison made it 3-1 with a delightful curled finish in the 54th minute before Son struck twice in quick succession just past the hour mark to complete an emphatic win that put Tottenham second in the table on 10 points from four games. Burnley grabbed a late consolation through Josh Brownhill.

Chelsea lose at home
Nottingham Forest substitute Anthony Elanga struck early in the second half to earn a 1-0 win against toothless Chelsea at Stamford Bridge. The 21-year-old Swede kept his cool to push the ball neatly past goalkeeper Robert Sanchez in the 48th minute after being put through by Taiwo Awoniyi following a Chelsea mix-up in midfield.

PREMIER LEAGUE	
Liverpool vs Aston Villa (6:30 pm)	Arsenal vs Man United (9 pm)
Telecast: <i>Star Sports Select & Disney+Hotstar</i>	
LA LIGA (SPANISH LEAGUE)	
Atletico vs Sevilla (10 pm)	Osasuna vs Barcelona (12:30 am, Monday)
Telecast: <i>Sports 18 & Jio Cinema</i>	

2026 FIFA WORLD CUP AND 2027 AFC ASIAN CUP JOINT QUALIFIERS Bhubaneswar to host India-Qatar match

POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar, Sept 2: The iconic Kalinga Stadium here will play host to the much-anticipated India versus Qatar match, a critical fixture in the FIFA World Cup 2026 and AFC Asian Cup 2027 joint qualifiers. The match will be played November 21, the All India Football Federation (AIFF) announced Saturday.

After the successful hosting of the FIFA U-17 Women's World Cup and Intercontinental cup matches at the Kalinga Stadium here, football fans of Odisha now have another reason to cheer for.

This significant decision by AIFF reaffirms Odisha's growing reputation as a sports hub and a destination of choice for international events. This promises to be a momentous occasion for football enthusiasts across the nation.

Brook states case again for ODI WC

ASSOCIATED PRESS

Manchester, Sept 2: Harry Brook could hardly be doing any more to convince England to take him to the Cricket World Cup. Brook smashed 67 (36b, 5x4, 5x6), teaming up with Jonny Bairstow; 86 n o (60b, 8x4, 4x6), to help England post 198/4 that proved too much for New Zealand in the second T20I of the four-match series Friday.

The New Zealanders were dismissed for 103, losing by 95 runs in Manchester to fall 2-0 behind in the series. Brook starred in the first T20, too, when he hit 43 not out off 27 balls in England's seven-wicket win in Durham Wednesday.

Dovetailed with his stunning performances in the latest edition of The Hundred, Brook is delivering quite the riposte across the shorter formats to being left out of England's provisional 15-man squad for the 50-over World Cup in India starting next month.



Bhubaneswar, the host city, also has five FIFA standard natural pitches that further adds to the state's ability to host marquee football tournaments.

"We are immensely honored and thrilled to host the India vs Qatar match for the FIFA World Cup 2026 and AFC Asian Cup

2027 joint qualifiers," said Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik.

"This event not only showcases Odisha's passion for football but also highlights our commitment to promoting Football in the state. We look forward to welcoming players, fans, and football enthusiasts from across

the nation to witness this historic moment in Odisha," he added.

The match holds immense significance as both teams vie for qualification in the prestigious 2026 quadrennial event and AFC Asian Cup the next year. Fans can expect a thrilling contest that will be remembered for years to come.

This announcement comes as a testament to Odisha's world-class sporting infrastructure, dedicated fan base, and its unwavering support for sports at all levels. As always, Odisha will try to ensure the successful execution of this high-profile match, providing top-notch facilities and security for players and spectators alike.

AIFF's decision to entrust Odisha with this event reflects the confidence placed in the state's ability to organize and manage international sporting events of this magnitude.

EUROPEAN SUMMER TRANSFERS' DEADLINE DAY



Cancelo, Felix join Barcelona on loan

BARCELONA: Barcelona had a hectic final day of the summer transfer window, acquiring Portugal players Joao Felix and Joao Cancelo on loan while shipping out Ansu Fati and other players. Felix arrived Friday from Atletico Madrid and Cancelo from Manchester City to reinforce a Barcelona side that want to defend their Spanish league (La Liga) title and return to the elite of Europe by once again challenging for the Champions League. Barcelona sent 20-year-old Ansu Fati to Brighton on a single-season loan. They sold Abde Ezzalzouli to Real Betis for 7.5 million euros (USD 8.1 million). Defender Eric Garcia was loaned to Girona, while Clement Lenglet went to Aston Villa.

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PSG sign Kolo Muani

PARIS: French champion Paris Saint-Germain finally confirmed the signing of Randal Kolo Muani from Eintracht Frankfurt at the end of final day of the transfer window. PSG confirmed it 30 minutes after the window shut at midnight Friday and Eintracht said the deal was worth 95 million euros (USD 103 million). PSG and Eintracht reportedly agreed terms much earlier in the day, but the deal was frozen because PSG forward Hugo Ekitike rejected three offers to join Eintracht as part of the deal. Kolo Muani will form an all-French attack alongside World Cup star Kylian Mbappe and Ousmane Dembele.



Salah-Saudi deal off



LONDON: Mohamed Salah is still a Liverpool player despite a mammoth offer from Saudi Arabia. Liverpool were standing firm in the face a reported verbal offer totalling 150 million pounds (USD 188 million) by Al-Ittihad, insisting the 31-year-old forward is not for sale. Chelsea roped in the 21-year-old winger Cole Palmer from Man City for 40 million pounds (USD 50.7 million). Central midfielders were also the priorities Friday for Liverpool, who bought Netherlands international Ryan Gravenberch from Bayern Munich in a deal worth 40 million euros (USD 43.1 million), and Man United, which signed Morocco anchorman Sofyan Amrabat from Fiorentina on a season-long loan deal in the final hours of the window.

SHORT TAKES



India colts triumph

SALALAH (OMAN): India emerged champions in the Men's Hockey5s Asia Cup here Saturday, beating arch-rivals Pakistan 2-0 in a shootout after both teams were locked at 4-4 in regulation time. With the win, India have booked their place in the FIH Men's Hockey5s World Cup 2024. For India, Mohammed Raheel (19th and 26th), Jugraj Singh (7th) and Maninder Singh (10th) were the goal scorers during the regulation time, whereas Gurjot Singh and Maninder Singh managed to beat the goalkeeper in the shootout. Pakistan, Abdul Rehman (5th), captain Abdul Rana (13th), Zikriya Hayat (14th) and Arshad Liaquat (19th) were on target for Pakistan.

Colts' narrow win

THIMPHU: The India U-16 men's team secured a hard-fought 1-0 win over Bangladesh to open their SAFF U-16 Championship campaign here Saturday. The Ishfaq Ahmed-coached side, playing their first-ever international match, were kept at bay by some solid goalkeeping from Bangladesh's Nahidul Islam before Thougamba Singh Usham netted the winning goal in the 74th minute. India now have a four-day rest before they face Nepal in their second and final group match September 6.

Sable finishes 5th

XIAMEN (CHINA): India's Avinash Sable finished a creditable fifth in the men's 3000m steeplechase event of the Xiamen leg Diamond League Meeting on Saturday to qualify for the grand finale in Eugene, USA later this month. The 28-year-old Sable, who had failed to qualify for the final round in the World Championships in Hungary last month, clocked 8 minutes 16.27 seconds, well below his season's best of 8:11.63 and national record time of 8:11.20. Sable collected four points from the race for a total of 11 points from four events this season. He qualified for the September 16 Diamond League finals in Eugene, USA, at sixth place. This will be his maiden Diamond League final appearance.