



UNPLEASANT MEMORY

Actor Shilpa Shetty reveals how she was denied a photo with Hollywood star Arnold Schwarzenegger by his security personnel

LEISURE P2



20 KILLED IN EXPLOSION

20 people killed and nearly 300 others injured by an explosion at a gas station in Nagorno-Karabakh

INTERNATIONAL P10



GOLD IN EQUESTRIAN

India claims the team dressage gold in equestrian at the Asian Games, breaking a 41-yr-old jinx at the event

SPORTS P12

'Baby swapping' at Capital Hosp

POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar, Sept 26: A man from Kendrapara district Tuesday alleged that staffers at the Capital Hospital here swapped his new born baby boy with a girl after birth.

Pranakrushna Parija from Rajkanika area told media persons that Monday night he was informed by a hospital attendant that his wife had given birth to a baby boy. However, the hospital staffers handed over a female child to his mother-in-law.

Meanwhile, Laxmidhar Sahoo, director Capital Hospital said that a committee comprising the superintendent, deputy superintendent and head of gynecology department head has been constituted to probe into the matter. "If the compliant refused to accept the report, we will hand over the case to police," he said adding that the police will take the call for DNA test to find out the biological parents of the child.



BACK ON TRACK: A toy train runs on Kalka-Shimla heritage railway track as train services resume after more than a month of their suspension due to damage caused to the tracks by heavy rainfall and landslides, in Shimla, Tuesday

SHORT TAKES

ED suppl chargesheet against Biswal, wife

New Delhi: Enforcement Directorate (ED) Tuesday said they have filed second supplementary prosecution complaint against former Cuttack MLA Pravat Ranjan Biswal, his wife Laxmi Bilasani Biswal, Seashore Securities Ltd., Seashore Multipurpose Co-operative Ltd, their two directors: Prashanta Kumar Dash, Pravat Kumar Dash and three others before a Special Court (PMLA), in Bhubaneswar. The Court has taken cognisance of the prosecution complaint.

Sept 28 govt holiday

Bhubaneswar: In a partial modification of its earlier notification, Odisha government Tuesday declared September 28 as a holiday to mark the birthday of Prophet Muhammad. "The Government of Odisha is pleased to declare a holiday of September 28 instead of September 29 on account of the birthday of Prophet Muhammad for state government offices as well as the Revenue and Magisterial courts," it said.

IRREGULAR by MANJUL



Why are you going to the West to learn about new tech, sir? Aren't we the Vishwaguru now?

MARKET WATCH

INDEX	VAIATION
SENSEX	65945.47 ↓ 78.22
NIFTY	19664.70 ↓ 9.80
DOLLAR	83.29 ↑ ₹0.14
EURO	88.27 ↓ ₹0.24
GOLD	₹58,448 ↓ ₹253
SILVER	₹71,708 ↓ ₹442

WEATHER

	BHUB	CTK
TEMP MAX	34.6°C	33.2°C
TEMP MIN	24.5°C	25.0°C
Humidity	85%	84%
Rainfall	Trace	Nil
Forecast	Cloudy sky with light rain	

'Won't be quiet next time'

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, Sept 26: "Today, I am quiet because the attorney general has sought a very short time, next time I will not be quiet. Use your good office to see these issues are resolved," Justice Sanjay Kishan Kaul of the Supreme Court told Attorney General R Venkataramani Tuesday while expressing his dismay over the 'delay' in the appointment of judges with 70 collegium recommendations still stuck with the Centre since last November.

"I thought of saying a lot, but since the attorney general is only seeking seven days time, I'm holding myself," said Justice Kaul, whose bench also comprised Sudhanshu Dhulia, after Venkataramani sought a week's time to come back with instructions on the pending recommendations for judges' appointment to the high court.

Justice Kaul said the judiciary tries to get the best talent but due to the pendency, lawyers whose names were recommended for judgeship have withdrawn their

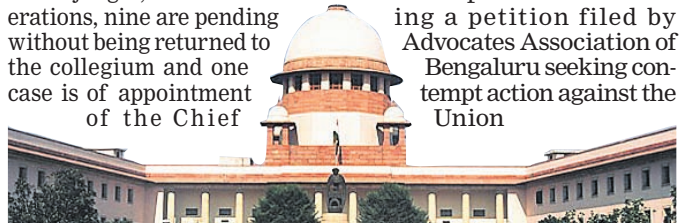
names. The way good candidates withdraw their consent to be a judge is "really worrisome", he said, adding the apex court will monitor the appointment process at regular intervals.

The appointment of judges through the collegium system has in the past become a major flashpoint between the Supreme Court and the Centre with the mechanism of judges appointing judges drawing criticism from different quarters. "There were 80 recommendations pending until last week when 10 names were cleared. Now, the figure is 70, of which 26 recommendations are of transfer of judges, seven are reiterations, nine are pending without being returned to the collegium and one case is of appointment of the Chief

SC miffed over pendency of 70 collegium recommendations, including appointment of the chief justice to a sensitive HC

Justice to a sensitive high court," the bench said. Justice Kaul said there is a seven-month hiatus since something substantial was done on the recommendations which are pending and these needed basic processing only. "We have endeavoured to push things and monitor closely. I have told the attorney general that every 10-12 days this matter will be taken up, so that before I demit office (December 25), substantial work is done," said Justice Kaul, who is part of the apex court collegium which looks after the appointment of judges in the top court and the high courts.

The top court was hearing a petition filed by Advocates Association of Bengaluru seeking contempt action against the Union



Ministry of Law and Justice for not allegedly adhering to the timeline set by the court in a 2021 judgement.

During the hearing, advocate Prashant Bhushan, appearing for another petitioner NGO Common Cause, submitted a chart related to pending recommendations with the government.

He said what is more worrisome is that even after a batch of names is recommended by the collegium at one time, the government segregates it and makes selective appointments.

Justice Kaul, while agreeing with the views of Bhushan, said there are nine such names, where the government has kept the names pending without reverting them back.

"I agree that the way good candidates withdraw their consent to be a judge is really worrisome. We try to get the best talent but due to pendency, lawyers whose names have been recommended for judgeship have withdrawn their names," Justice Kaul said, as he posted the matter for further hearing October 9.

HOUSE CLEARS APARTMENT BILL

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Bhubaneswar, Sept 26: A day after its introduction, the state Assembly Tuesday passed the Odisha Apartment (Ownership and Management) Bill, 2023 to regulate apartment ownership and management, replacing the Odisha Apartment (Ownership and Management) Ordinance, 2023.

The Bill would help regulate the use of common area in an apartment, create a common fund to meet the common expenses of an apartment and create necessary provisions relating to registration of common area in favour of association of allottees in line with the provisions of Real Estate Regulatory Authority (RERA) Act.

Besides, it would clearly spell out the accountability and responsibility of promoters, provide for rights and responsibilities of each apartment owner in relation to the association of apartment owners.

The legislation provides for formation of association of apart-

ment owners and to create provisions for insurance of the apartment and ensure its structural stability.

According to the new legislation, a builder or promoter will have to handover the ownership certificate of common area to the owners' association within 30 days of giving occupancy certificate to the flat buyer.

If the promoter fails to form the owners' association or sells flats without issuing occupancy certificate, he will be liable to ₹5 lakh as fine.

The Odisha Apartment Ownership Act, 1982 and Odisha Apartment Ownership Rules 1992 intended to promote apartment and group housing. However, over a period of time it had become essential to provide the individual apartment owners with the rights on common areas and facilities appurtenant to such apartment and the responsibility of its proper maintenance and to make such apartment and interest heritable and transferable.

Waheeda & Dutt's lifelong relationship started with a buffalo

REHMAN WAS NAMED RECIPIENT OF THE DADASAHEB PHALKE AWARD, TUESDAY -- OCCASION FOR CINEPHILES TO DIG INTO HER REMARKABLE FILMOGRAPHY

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, Sept 26: It all started in 1955 with an errant buffalo and Guru Dutt's car. The animal got in the way and totaled the car, forcing Dutt and his friends to stay on in Hyderabad for a few days. It was then that he spotted a young woman from across the street and made inquiries.

She was, of course, Waheeda Rehman. And the rest, as they say, is cinematic history.

Tuesday, Rehman was named recipient of the Dadasaheb Phalke award, occasion for cinephiles to dig into her remarkable filmography.

The Dutt-Rehman story - which starred gems such as "Pyaasa" (1957), "Kaagaz Ke Phool" (1959) and "Sahib Bibi aur Ghulam"

(1962) - was recalled by film writer Abrar Alvi in "Ten Years With Guru Dutt" by Sathya Saran.

"Waheeda has a buffalo to thank for the fact that we signed her on," Alvi recalls in the book, flipping back to the time when Rehman, then a budding dancer, had just started out in the south and Dutt was impatiently looking to add another hit to the list of "Aar Paar" (1954) and "Mr and Mrs '55" (1955).

Looking to remake Tamil hit "Missamma" (1955) in Hindi, Dutt along with Alvi and their production controller Guruswamy had decided to travel to Hyderabad in a car.

A tired Alvi drove the car into a startled buffalo on the road and the trio had to extend their stay in Hyderabad by a couple of



days due to the smashed up car. On one of those days, sitting at the office of a distributor in Secunderabad, Dutt's attention was grabbed by a young woman who got down from a car and entered the building opposite. The distributor then informed,

"She is a dancer in a Telugu film 'Rajulu Marayi', which is a super hit thanks to her dance number."

Dutt showed interest in meeting her and Rehman was called into the office, "very plainly dressed, without even lipstick to relieve the monotony of her face" and "spoke softly in near monosyllables in response" to the queries.

Waheeda Rehman had been discovered!

She had appeared in two Telugu films "Rajulu Marayi" and "Jayasimha" that year. The following year, Dutt introduced her to Hindi audiences through the blockbuster "CID" (1956), produced by him and directed by Raj Khosla. That was also the first time Rehman and Dev

Anand appeared together on screen.

With Dutt in the lead role, Rehman went to perform one of her most memorable roles in "Pyaasa".

The duo went on to work in "12 O'Clock" (1958), "Chaudhvin Ka Chand" (1960), and "Kala Bazar" (1960).

The partnership is remembered not just for their movies but for the many songs that live on in nostalgia and also modern-day playlists.

And here's a sampler - "Waqt ne kiya kya haseen sitam" (Kaagaz Ke Phool), "Aaj sajan mohe rang laga do" and "Jaane kya tune kahi" (Pyaasa), the title track of "Chaudhvin ka Chand", "Bhanwra bada nadaan hai" (Sahib Bibi Aur Ghulam).

leisure

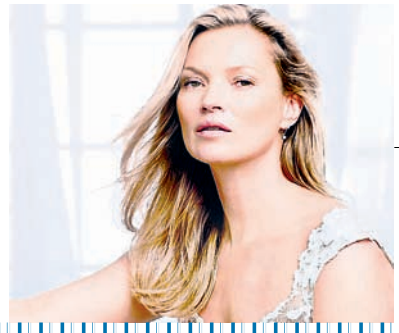


KEITH RICHARDS CONSIDERS MOBILE PHONE AS A 'DRUG'

Rock legend Keith Richards considers mobile phones as a 'drug'. The rocker shared that he prefers to lose himself in a book as it keeps him 'sane' instead of listening to the charts, reports *Female First UK*.

KATE MOSS LOVES MOONBATHING

Model Kate Moss has revealed that part of her new lifestyle involves 'moonbathing,' in which she lies under the night sky to absorb lunar energy, reports *aceshowbiz.com*.



FORTUNE FORECAST



ARIES

Today, you may be stumped by some mysterious and wonderful event. That, or you may encounter an unexpected yet advantageous incident. It may not exactly be path-breaking, but it is sure to make you take stock of things. Also, you may find it difficult to meet deadlines today.

TAURUS

Hoist the sails and prepare to leave port. Your sugar-coated words will seal business deals with ease, predicts Ganesh. The activity and action may slow down as the day progresses. Resist the urge to get sentimental as it could lead to conflicts that will haunt you in the days to come, warns Ganesh.

GEMINI

You will tend to be religiously inclined today, feels Ganesh. For this purpose, you may spend some time visiting a temple, mosque or church. You are also likely to go shopping, and chances are that this too is for a religious purpose. May God bless you, says Ganesh.

CANCER

Today, you will be at the centre of all your plans. Your responsibilities at home are likely to be unnecessary digressions for you, with your help-yourself-only attitude. However, you may feel that you are not getting enough returns of your hard work.

LEO

If you are wondering whether you'll get the carrot or the stick today, then Ganesh has some good news for you: the day promises to bring only rewards for you. This will be especially true for your workplace, where your innate talents get recognised today.

VIRGO

A sudden bend in the journey of life is important to understand it better, says Ganesh. Excellence will drone on throughout the day today. Top on the list are money matters and your loved ones - not necessarily in that order! Much of your time may be spent in appeasing the Gods.

LIBRA

Get a bigger wallet, since it is very likely that today shall prove to be a money-making day for you. It might be through some sort of a partnership deal that this may happen, predicts Ganesh. Destiny lends you a helping hand and guides you in your goals. But it is your sentiments that may darken your thoughts today. Don't stress yourself out too much, and try and keep your expectations under control.

SCORPIO

Two words will define your day - eloquence and elegance. Sweet talk and compliments may take you a long way, but do not become complacent and get carried away with your success. Sometimes, saying the right thing may be more beneficial than saying what the other person wants to hear.

SAGITTARIUS

Friendship with a few like-minded people is likely to develop today. You shall spend a large share of your time discussing issues like attitude, beliefs and values. Those with you will enjoy sharing their ideas and opinions, and casting them in a new mould.

CAPRICORN

Paradise is where patience leads you, success is the other terminus, says Ganesh. Keeping your cool will benefit you in more ways than you would have imagined, so think twice before you unleash your vengeance on your foes. You are also likely to have a heart-to-heart conversation with your beloved and make him/her feel wanted.

AQUARIUS

Today, you will understand the value of your job. You decide to do away with everything that has been hampering your work till now. You realise you need to set some long-term goals in your career. Grab the opportunity while the intention lasts, says Ganesh.

PISCES

Your inherent talents, competitive colleagues and supportive superiors will spur you on to great heights at the workplace, beginning today. Make sure that you do not get carried away by little victories, says Ganesh.



The Actors' Guild of Guwahati presented the Assamese play *Abhinandan Macbeth*, adapted from Shakespeare's classic *Macbeth* by director Jyotinarayan Nath, at Rabindra Mandap, Tuesday. The play highlighted how man's high ambition and greed for power can push a peaceful kingdom towards total destruction. Eminent director Manoj Pattnaik was feted with Odisha Natya Sangh Samman on the occasion. Odisha Sangeet Natak Akademi secretary Prabodh Rath, ONS president Haren Sahoo, and theatre personalities Prasanna Mishra and Biplab Keshari Satpathy were among the dignitaries who graced the occasion.

Statewide celebration of Natya Sangh's 36th Foundation Day

Bhubaneswar: Theatre workers Tuesday celebrated the 36th Foundation Day of Odisha Natya Sangh (ONS), a confederation of over 150 drama troupes across Odisha, by conducting meetings, seminars, padyatras, and short plays. Over a hundred people, including several eminent theatre personalities like Manoj Pattnaik, ONS president Haren Sahoo, secretary Shubhakanta Padhi, Lala Biren Roy, Prasanna Mishra, Upendra Pati, Bhajakrushna Mohanty, and Pragyandutta Sahoo, took part in a march that kicked off near Budha Mandir here and culminated at Rabindra Mandap. They recalled the contributions of the founding members of the ONS and discussed its future programmes.



Audience always put tags on actors: Daisy

Mumbai: Actress Daisy Shah recently made a move towards Indian TV with the reality show *Khatron Ke Khiladi* and it seems like the experience was not as great as everyone talks about and shares how it was a new experience for her, and something she was not prepared for. "Film industry does not have an environment where everybody wants to boss around. Nobody is trying to impose their decisions on you. Every time there is a misunderstanding or a disagreement, two people sit together and come on a common ground. However, it's very different in TV," she adds. "No actor would want to do only TV or only OTT or only films. I think it's the audience putting tags because I have never heard an actor saying they do not want to be part of a certain platform. Even with TV, they might not opt for daily soaps but I think reality shows are something that interests most people. So I don't understand how these tags always come up," she ends.



Mrunal's serene bond with nature

Mumbai: In today's fast-paced world, finding solace in the embrace of nature can be a rejuvenating experience. Recently, actress Mrunal Thakur gave her fans and followers a glimpse into her serene bond with the natural world through a stunning collection of Instagram posts.

Within this mesmerising gallery of images, the Dhamaka actress adorns a resplendent flamingo pink gown, a hue that harmonises perfectly with her vibrant personality. In some of the images, the actress stands gracefully beside a serene lake, where the tranquil waters mirror the serenity of the surroundings. The combination of the glistening lake and the lush green landscape imparts an aura of peace to the composition. In alternate photographs, she graces the frame against the backdrop of a towering tree, its curving trunk resembling protective outstretched arms. It serves as a poignant reminder that, even amidst the bustling concrete landscapes of the entertainment industry, there is an opportunity to find solace and embrace the inherent beauty of nature.

The post garnered an impressive response, amassing over 500,000 likes from her fans. Affectionately, her admirers referred to her as 'son pari', while some drew comparisons, likening her to a 'Disney Princess' due to her enchanting presence amid the natural beauty.



No pic with Arnold, Shilpa told

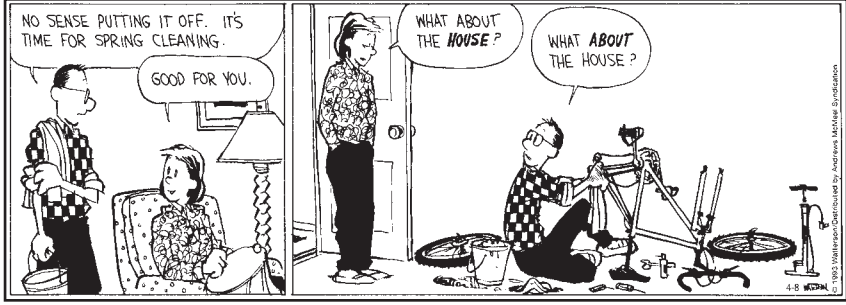
Mumbai: Shilpa Shetty has been part of the industry for over 30 years, and in this long career, there have been many incidents that have changed the way she operates. She narrated one such incident after which she tries to never say no to a fan for a picture with her. She was in conversation with Shehnaaz Gill for her latest film *Sukhee* and mentioned that she had gone somewhere and

guards didn't let her through and instead ended up pushing her. This made her husband really angry. She added that he got into an argument with them and told them she is a very famous Indian actress, but they didn't let them meet him and she was disheartened. Next day, she was at the same event as Arnold and when he got to know about Shilpa, he clicked a picture with her. After that incident, Shilpa never turns down her fans for photos as she was once denied.

PEANUTS



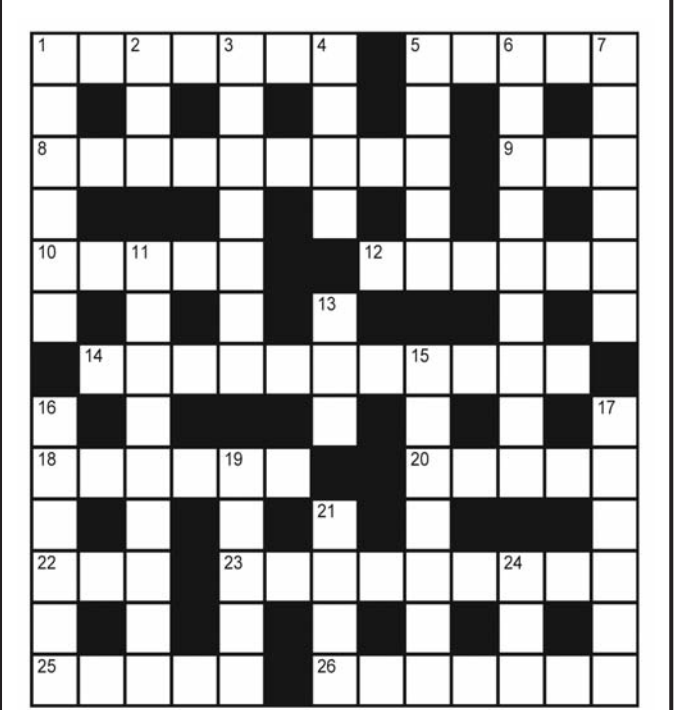
CALVIN AND HOBBS



BREVITY



FUN post CROSSWORD



- Across**
- 1 Plaid weave fabric
 - 5 Massage target
 - 8 Sweets
 - 9 Mangy mutt
 - 10 Small three-masted vessel
 - 12 Debacle
 - 14 Impediment
 - 18 Reddish-brown colour
 - 20 Fritter away
 - 22 Zag's partner
 - 23 Flannel material
 - 25 Underground chamber
 - 26 Wild boars, e.g.
 - 6 Progenitors
 - 7 Holy man
 - 11 Pram (4,5)
 - 13 Squeeze
 - 15 Frustrates
 - 16 *La Cousine Bette* author
 - 17 Drives back
 - 19 Thesaurus name
 - 21 Passing mention?
 - 24 Hoarfrost

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.

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

SOLUTIONS

CROSSWORD

T	H	O	R	M	A	C	K	I	N	A	W
A	I	L	T	R	O	E	H				
P	I	L	G	R	I	M	R	A	B	B	I
W	E	A	A	A	E	U	P				
A	D	D	P		D	E	A	D	L	L	Y
T		K		A		A		L			U
E	X	P	E	C	T		W	A	T	S	O
R	L					B		O			C
B	A	N	A	N	A		C	R	U	E	T
H	T		T			M	A	N			U
O	C	T	E	T		B	U	R	R	I	T
L	A	R	K			O		T			O
D	A	R	K			R	O	O			U

SUDOKU

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

CHECK FOR SOLUTIONS OF THE PUZZLES TOMORROW

Odisha tourism eyes a shining future

'State making significant strides in developing tourism sector'

Following the devastating Super Cyclone in 1999, tourism sector in Odisha limped back to normalcy in the subsequent years. The sector was again hit in 2020 and 2021 owing to Covid-19 pandemic but it again started recovering in 2022 with a significant rise in footfall of domestic and foreign tourists. A major contributor to the state's revenue, the tourism sector has received an increased outlay of ₹660 crore in the 2023-24 state budget as against ₹590 crore in the previous financial year, exuding renewed hope for a robust sectoral growth. On World Tourism Day 2023, **Orissa POST** takes a sneak peek into the growth and prospects of tourism in the state.

Tourism dept to organise its annual flagship camping event 'Eco Retreat' at seven locations from December 1

Odisha witnessed 875% growth in inflow of foreign and 110% growth in domestic tourists in 2022 as compared to 2021



Experts suggest collaboration between government, and travel enthusiasts & professionals to bring hidden gems to limelight and create homestays or other modes of accommodation for travelers

Local culture, mouth-watering Odia cuisine, aesthetic folk music and dance will be on the platter. According to educationalist and Odisha tourism enthusiast Jitu Mishra, "Odisha Tourism in recent years has come up with a range of innovative ideas showcasing Odisha's hidden tourism potential. Eco Retreat at several destinations is one such innovative ideas that is gradually changing the perception of tourists about Odisha from beyond the borders. Odisha Walks in the Capital city of Bhubaneswar is yet another such innovative idea that even found place in Time magazine." Mishra also suggested that both the government, and travel enthusiasts & professionals should work in collaboration to bring hidden gems to limelight and create homestays or other modes of accommodation for travelers. They can also create more local resource persons who can provide more authentic curated experience to travelers, he added.

Srinivas Subudhi, working president of Hotel & Restaurant Association of Odisha (HRAO), said "Attracting more and more foreign tourists is the need of the hour. Although the launch of direct flights connecting Bhubaneswar with Dubai, Bangkok and Singapore will help in attracting more tourists from abroad, infrastructure development like more number of good hotels in the state is highly required. Also, we need good skilled workforce and a good brand ambassador who has the charisma to attract people towards the state like Amitabh

11,01,508, 2,06,140 and 1,96,700 tourists visited the state in 2022. The top three countries from where Odisha gets the maximum number of international tourists are: USA (3,446 tourists), Japan (2,378 tourists) and Germany (1,476 tourists). The Tourism department attributed the reasons for the growth to multiple factors. Tourism director Sachin Ramchandra Jadhav said that the state government has prepared a robust roadmap to revive the tourism industry post-Covid. "People wanted to travel after remaining indoors owing to Covid-induced restrictions. There were restrictions on flight movements. The Odisha government made a vibrant marketing and branding initiative to woo the tourists. We launched 'Odisha by road' campaign to explore the state by road," Jadhav said.

With recent launch of direct flights connecting Bhubaneswar to Dubai, Bangkok and Singapore under the 'Viability Gap Funding' scheme, the Odisha government is hopeful of doubling its foreign tourist footfall by 2025 as compared to the pre-pandemic levels, Jadhav said.

"The target is to double the foreign tourist arrivals by 2025 to 2.5 lakh from the pre-Covid peak of 1.2 lakh witnessed in 2019," he added.

OTDC chairman Lenin Mohanty said the Eco Retreat event has become the face of Odisha Tourism that promotes sustainable tourism in the state.

On this World Tourism Day, I would like to urge upon the tourists to board on an unforgettable journey to the heart of Odisha, the best kept secret that boasts a rich tapestry of culture, history, and natural beauty. Nestled on the eastern coast of India, Odisha is a hidden gem waiting to be unraveled.

As we're witnessing faster development in the fields of sports, tourism, beautification, modernisation and upgradation of various iconic tourist places of Odisha, we're optimistic that the prospects of Odisha tourism are highly promising and the state has been making significant strides in developing its tourism sector. Odisha government, under the dynamic leadership of Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik, has declared tourism a priority subject and is giving utmost importance to the development of tourism infrastructure.

Odisha is blessed with a diverse range of natural landscape including pristine beaches, mangroves, wildlife safaris, eco-tourism destinations, serene lakes, rich cultural heritage, UNESCO World Heritage sites and hosts a wide array of colorful festivals throughout the year. However, to compete with the neighbouring states, the government has to take more initiatives for adequate direct international as well as domestic flight connectivity; adequate number of classified star category

hotel rooms, accord hotels with industry status to avail a range of benefits as per industrial tariff, massive promotion of tribal tourism, Buddhist tourism, medical tourism, MICE tourism in conjunction with neighbouring states is required.

Subsidies and grants should be provided to the tourism sector. Introduction of luxury train in Odisha will be an added attraction for tourists. Odisha government and financial institutions must come on board and collaborate to allocate loans specifically for hotel projects at reasonable and long-term interest rates.

Hotel and Restaurant Association of Odisha (HRAO), the largest body of travel trade professionals, is making utmost efforts to promote tourism in the state, by interacting with Central and state government officials and putting up the critical issues affecting the tourism since 1985. HRAO, in cooperation with Tourism department, is conducting various seminars/workshops/conclaves, highlighting the needs and potential of Odisha Tourism for its growth and submitting the key suggestions/recommendations to the government for their implementation.

Dr. JK Mohanty,
Chairman - HRAO & IATO, Eastern Region

Tourism sector in Odisha is expected to receive the much needed boost with the state government announcing hosting of the annual flagship camping event 'Eco Retreat', at seven locations from December 1, said sources. The fifth edition of 'Eco Retreat' will be organised at Konark, Putsil, Sonapur, Daringbadi, Bhitarkanika, Satkosia and Hirakud. Unparalleled glamping experience with luxury, adventure,

Happy World Tourism Day

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Bike rally, food fest

On the occasion of World Tourism Day-2023, a Super Bike Rally titled 'Kalinga Rides Adventure' with a cause will be launched from Hotel Sandy's Tower, Bhubaneswar at 6:30am. This apart, a food festival at Silver City Boat Club, Cuttack will be organised at 9am with delicious food, musical performances and many more. A cultural programme will also be organised at Bhanja Kala Mandap in the evening.

3 must-visit tourism sites

Chandragiri- The Mini Tibet of Odisha
Located in Gajapati district, Chandragiri is known as the Mini Tibet of Odisha as the place has been populated by thousands of Tibetans since 1959. The scenic beauty surrounded by luxuriant tropical forest, gurgling rivers and exquisite mountain slopes make it a perfect adobe for travellers.

Debrigarh Wildlife Sanctuary
Debrigarh Wildlife Sanctuary in Bargarh district is a must-visit for nature and wildlife lovers. You can enjoy a fun jungle safari tour here, where you can spot wild animals like leopards, bears, bison, sambar deer, wild boars and others. There are also waterfalls along the hillsides of the sanctuary.

Potagada Fort
The Potagada Fort is an archaeological wonder in Ganjam district built around 247 years ago. Spread over a vast area, the star-shaped fort houses three residential buildings designed separately by French, British and Muslim rulers.

Best Wishes for World Tourism Day September 27

HOTEL NEW SEA HAWK (PURI)
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Website: www.hotelnewseahawk.com
Contact: 06752-231500, 06752-231400

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Email: hotelpulinpuri@yahoo.com
Website: www.hotelpulinpuri.com
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Assembly passes six bills

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Bhubaneswar, Sep 26: After remaining paralysed since Monday, normalcy returned to the Odisha Assembly Tuesday evening and the House passed six bills.

Opposition BJP members, who had created a ruckus earlier alleging that some of their questions were rejected without showing any reason, later participated in the proceedings while the Congress staged a walkout.

Normalcy returned to the House after Speaker Pramila Mallik in a ruling asked the Assembly secretary to find out the reasons behind not informing the BJP members whose questions were rejected.

Wearing black badges, the saffron party members had staged a protest in the well of the House protesting rejection of their questions.

"The (BJP) members should be given satisfactory reply on the reason for rejecting any question raised by them. The questions were rejected whimsically," said opposition chief whip Mohan Majhi.

In their bid to counter the agitating BJP members, the ruling BJD MLAs wondered why the Centre did not hike the MSP of paddy. Later, the House passed six Bills on Municipal Law Amendment, GST amendment and others.

While the BJP members participated in the discussion during the passage of the Bills, the Congress MLAs led by their leader Narasingha Mishra walked out of the House alleging that they were not allowed to speak on the Bills.

Though Speaker Mallik sent Parliamentary Affairs Minister Niranjan Pujari and some other senior leaders to convince the Congress members to join the House, they refused to return. The Bills were passed in the absence of Congress members.

Earlier on the day, the House witnessed ruckus for the second consecutive day as opposition and treasury benches shouted slogans against each other. Noisy scenes broke out as soon as the House assembled for the question hour.

The exchange of slogans between the BJD and BJP members forced Speaker Pramila Mallik to adjourn the House first till 12 noon and convene an all-party meeting to restore normalcy.

The meeting was held at the speaker's chamber and the proceedings resumed at 12 noon.

However, the commotion broke out again forcing the speaker to adjourn the House till 4 pm.



IN THE HOUSE

As the House remained paralysed, Mallik in a ruling asked the Assembly secretary to inquire into the allegations of the BJP members. BJP MLA Suryabanshi Suraj alleged that the government was avoiding questions in the House.

"It (the government) is filtering questions as per their convenience which is not acceptable. The voice of democracy is being choked in Odisha," he said.

Government chief whip Prashant Muduli alleged that the BJP members are disrupting the House proceedings without any reason. "It is unfortunate. They too have a moral respon-

Over 28K villages yet to get piped water supply: Amat

Bhubaneswar: Over 28,000 villages in the state are yet to get piped water supply, Drinking Water Minister Pradip Kumar Amat told the Assembly Tuesday.

Replying to a written question by Congress MLA Narasingha Mishra, he said piped water connections have been provided to 19,131 of the total 47,274 villages in the state till September 22.

Amat said work is underway to provide piped water supply to the remaining 28,143 villages, which is around 60 per cent of the total villages in the state.

The Mayurbhanj district, which has a significant tribal population, has the highest number of villages, 2,727, that are yet to get the water connections. Of the 3,720 villages in the district, piped water supply has been provided to 993 villages so far, the minister said.

Mayurbhanj is followed by Kandhamal, where only 100 out of 2,367 villages have got piped water supply, he said.

The state government has spent a total of Rs 23,286 crore for the project in the last 10 years, 2013-14 to 2022-23, Amat said.

The government spent Rs 441.73 crore for the project in 2013-14, which went up to Rs 5,913.76 crore in the last financial year, he said.

ability to ensure functioning of the House," he added.

Congress member Tarapasad Bahinipati blamed both BJD and BJP for the impasse in the House.



UP IN ARMS: Members of 'Odisha Raja Ashakarmi Sangh' stage a protest at Lower PMG in Bhubaneswar seeking fulfillment of their 12-point charter of demands, Tuesday

3 new departments soon at City AIIMS

PNN & AGENCIES

Bhubaneswar, Sept 26: AIIMS-Bhubaneswar will soon get three more departments that will help in enhancing patient care, its executive director Ashutosh Biswas said Tuesday.

These are the Department of Infectious Diseases, the Department of Bioinformatics, and the Department of Biostatistics, he said.

Approval has already been received regarding it, he added.

Biswas said AIIMS-Bhubaneswar has commenced several new academic programmes, such as a six-year M.Ch in Paediatric Surgery, DM in Paediatric Pulmonology and Intensive Care, DM in Nephrology and specialised pro-



grammes in Paediatric Infectious Diseases. He said the new departments along with these academic pro-

grams will contribute significantly to the betterment of patient services and the advancement of medical knowledge.

On the AIIMS Bhubaneswar's 11th Annual Day celebrations, the executive director also acknowledged the staff's effort in managing the dead bodies from the Bahanaga train tragedy. "AIIMS extends heartfelt appreciations to all individuals involved in the compassionate and efficient management of the Bahanaga tragedy," he said.

As the chief guest, Shreepad Karmalkar, director of IIT Bhubaneswar, congratulated AIIMS for its outstanding healthcare services and applauded the institution's dedication to research and patient care. The City institution unveiled an annual souvenir 'The Insight' and a book titled 'Clinical Features of Melioidosis,' authored by its faculty members.

CLASSIFIED AFFIDAVIT

I, Shreyashree Devi, D/o. Surendra Sabar, resident of MIG-53, BDA Colony, Phase-1, Pokhaript, Bhubaneswar, Odisha-751020, declare by this affidavit No.403, dtd. 04.09.2023 that now onwards I shall be known as Shreyashree Devi for all future purposes.

LOST

Sale Deeds Lost- By virtue of an affidavit sworn before Notary, Dhenkanal, I, Sudhir Kumar Samal, aged 61 years S/o. Late Adhikari Samal, At/PO: Kharagprasad, PS- Motanga, Dist.- Dhenkanal do hereby state that the original copy of RSD No. 10501502493/2015, from Bhaskar Ch. Nath and others, A 7.80 dec., Mouza-Kharagprasad, Tahasil- Odapada, Dist.- Dhenkanal executed my favour at Sub-Registrar, Dhenkanal got misplaced and couldn't be traced out despite repeated search and it is beyond recovery. As such, lodged Dhenkanal Town PS, GD No. 013, dtd. 15.09.23 to that effect. This declaration regarding untraceability of the above mentioned Sale Deeds is required for all official purposes, which I have obtained a certified copy of the Sale Deeds may kindly be treated as original.

NIGERIAN DELEGATION TO STUDY RICE FORTIFICATION

PNN & AGENCIES

Bhubaneswar, Sept 26: A high-level delegation of the Nigerian government arrived in Odisha Tuesday to learn the state's experience in rice fortification.

The delegation led by John Uruakpa, the director of Nigeria's federal ministry of health, held a meeting with Development Commissioner Anu Garg at the Lok Seva Bhawan.

The Nigerian government is formulating a national strategy to tackle micronutrient deficiencies. The government has identified rice, one of the staples in that country, as a part of the national fortification programme, officials said.

India's rice fortification implementation experience is a valuable example for Nigeria, especially in the manner in which the ecosystem has been created around it, they said.

Uruakpa said this visit aims to provide first-hand experience



and knowledge to the stakeholders, equipping them to efficiently kick-start a rice fortification pilot project in Kebbi state using the school feeding program as a delivery mechanism.

Garg said that Odisha completed the introduction of fortified rice across the state in all food-based schemes a year ahead of the deadline given by Centre.

Odisha began the first rice fortification programme in the country, in 2012 in the Gajapati district, she said, adding that the state government is open to sharing its experiences and learning, especially towards addressing malnutrition and cre-

ating food security.

The country director of World Food Programme in India Elisabeth Faure said, "The visit aims to learn from India's implementation journey's successes, challenges, and lessons. Also, to identify how these learning can be adapted and implemented in the Nigerian context."

The delegation will visit rice fortification sites to understand the process, machinery used, quality control measures, and safety standards, officials said.

They will also meet food regulation officials to discuss regulatory aspects and compliance measures.

Meet on holistic assessment at RIE

ARINDAM GANGULY, OP

Bhubaneswar, Sept 26: To discuss how novel assessment practices can be used for holistic development of students, a two-day national conference was inaugurated here Tuesday at the Regional Institute of Education (RIE), a constituent of NCERT.

"The key objectives of the conference are to provide a forum for teachers, educators, researchers and practitioners of the country to deliberate on current trends, practice and innovations on holistic assessment and to reflect on opportunities and priorities of effective implementation of recommendations of NEP 2020," said a RIE official.

Joining the national conference virtually, Dhananjya Joshi, vice chancellor of Delhi Teachers University reiterated the need for holistic assessment to incorporate principles of equity and inclusivity. "Innovations in assessment even in small scale may be disseminated for quality improvement of school education," he said.

SAI ranks 1st in nat'l survey

ARINDAM GANGULY, OP

Bhubaneswar, Sept 26: SAI International School secured first rank for 2023-24 in a national survey of day-cum-boarding schools conducted by Education World in collaboration with Centre for Forecasting and Research, New Delhi.

The City-based SAI International School secured first rank jointly with Emerald Heights International School of Indore, while ODM Public school got the 10th position in the same category.

In the national government day-schools category, Odisha Adarsh Vidyalaya (OAV), Budhapal, in Deogarh secured the eighth rank while Odisha Adarsh Vidyalaya Sangathan in Baripada got 9th rank.

Similarly, in the co-ed boarding schools category, SAI International Residential School in Cuttack secured the 10th rank nationwide. And in the philanthropy school category, Kalinga Institute of Social Sciences (KISS) here got the 6th rank.

The 17th annual Education World India School Rankings



(EWISR) 2023-24 survey was released in Bengaluru, Tuesday. The survey rates and ranks the country's Top 4,000 schools in four main and 23 sub-categories, namely 'Day: Co-ed, boys and girls, Day-cum-boarding; Boarding: co-ed, Girls and Boys; International: Day, Day-cum-boarding and fully Residential. It also rates and ranks the best government day and boarding schools, as well as special needs and philanthropy schools.

"The EWISR 2023-24 is outcome of an elaborate field survey. Over a period of four months, 127 field researchers conducted interviews in 34 cities across the country. They persuaded fees paying parents, teachers, principals, educationists and senior school students to rate the schools they were aware of on a 100-point scale under 14 parameters of education excellence," said Premchand Palety, promoter-COE of Centre for Forecasting and Research.

Fire in Metro Tower; 2 minors rescued

Bhubaneswar: Fire broke out in Metro Tower at Vani Vihar Square here late Monday night. Fire services personnel claimed electric short-circuit as the reason behind the blaze. "We received a call regarding fire in the fifth floor of Metro Tower at Vani Vihar Square at around 2am. Two persons identified as Sk Mohamad, 15, and Musfiqur Mohamad, 16, were rescued from the 5th floor that was engulfed by smoke," said a fire service official. "During investigation, we found that the minors were engaged in interior work of a shop at Metro Tower. The spark, caused due to short circuit, came in contact with the waste material kept near an electronic

board in a corner of the shop and caught fire after a few minutes," said the official. Meanwhile, child rights activist Benuhar Senapati raised serious objections over police action in the issue. He said that they have drawn the attention of OSCPCR, additional CWC and DCPD in the matter of trafficked children who were rescued from Metro Tower. "The children were found to be trafficked from Kolkata to Bhubaneswar for the purpose of work. But Saheed Nagar police handed over the children without even investigation and without producing before CWC. This is clear violation of child trafficking laws, JJ Act and SOP of NHRC," alleged Senapati.

SC miffed over absence of state counsel

POST NEWS NETWORK

New Delhi, Sept 26: The Supreme Court has expressed dissatisfaction over the non-appearance of a standing counsel of the Odisha government in a matter of personal liberty despite the notice being served.

A three-judge bench of Justices BR Gava, PS Narasimha and PK Mishra, while hearing a petition related to bail, was irked by the non-appearance of a standing counsel of Odisha. The bench observed that it cannot wait endlessly for the state to respond to the notice, at least in the matters

concerning personal liberty of citizens. The bench further observed that it was the duty of the state to have represented before this court when the notice was duly served.

"We deprecate the practice of the State of Odisha in not authorising the Standing Counsel to appear in the matter and take notice, particularly in the matters seeking bail," the SC said.

The apex court was hearing a special leave petition filed by Kirti Ranjan Bastia against an order of the Orissa High Court imposing several conditions for bail. The apex court quashed

PERSONAL LIBERTY



the conditions imposed by the HC of security deposit and cash

security. The SC also noted that the petitioner has already been incarcerated for a period of more than seven years. The bench directed to release the petitioner on bail in connection with a FIR registered with Economic Offences Wing, Bhubaneswar on furnishing solvent surety in the sum of Rs 50,000 with one or more sureties in the like amount.

The bench also directed the apex court Registry to forward a copy of this order to the Chief Secretary of Odisha, who shall personally look into the matter and take necessary steps.

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NO LIGHT AT END OF TUNNEL

Construction of 3 truck terminals in Sambalpur still a distant dream due to lack of funds

POST NEWS NETWORK

Sambalpur, Sept 26: Delay in construction of three truck terminals to ease traffic problems on national and state highways connecting this city to various parts of the state and country, is causing innumerable problems to commuters and vehicles.

Hundreds of heavy vehicles ply daily on the national and state highways as there are a number of industrial units in this town as well as on its outskirts. Illegal parking of vehicles by drivers for hours together leads to traffic snarls and also cause inconvenience to people who use the roads.

To eradicate this problem, it was decided by the administration of Sambalpur district a few years back to construct three truck terminals at strategic locations.

The estimate for the three projects was fixed at ₹60 crore. However, till date the Odisha government has not released the funds and the terminals are yet to see the light of the day. This delay has created huge resentment among the inhabitants of this city. Frequent road mishaps due to traffic



FILE PHOTO

snarls also add to their woes.

Sources informed Tuesday that one of the truck terminals was to come up close to the Sambalpur-Rourkela Biju Expressway and 11 acres land had been identified for the purpose.

Another, 10 acres of land was identified near Jamankira-Rasibeda on National Highway-55 for the second terminal while a third was to come up on 10

acres of land at Patrapali on National Highway-53.

After identifying the land, the district administration handed over the plots to the Regional Transport Office and submitted a detailed project report (DPR) for appraisal by the state government. The total budget for the three projects was earmarked at ₹60 crore with each construction needing an investment of ₹20 crore. However,

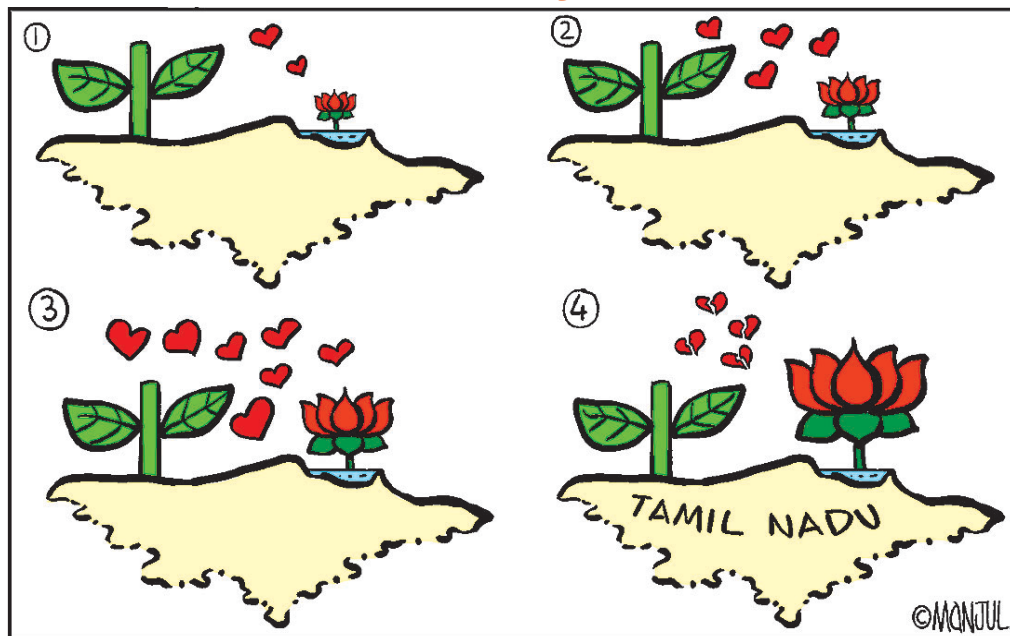
till date not even a single pillar has been built. The project will be implemented by the Works department after the state government sanctions funds, RTO Ramdas Tudu said. He agreed that the present-day traffic problem is due to rampant illegal parking of vehicles.

Tudu informed that the proposed truck terminals will have a host of facilities for truck drivers like garages, toilets, rest rooms, restaurants and medicine shops. He stated that on an average over 4,000 heavy vehicles ply daily on the Biju Expressway. Moreover, thousands of trucks also ply daily on NH-53 connecting Mumbai with Kolkata and NH-55 connecting Sambalpur with Cuttack.

Deben Pati, chairman of Maa Samaleswari Multi-Utility Truck Owners' Association here welcomed the decision to construct the terminals. However, he asserted that work on the project should start immediately.

Pati stated that there have been a number of cases when heavy vehicles parked on the roadside have been stolen. He added that terminals will ensure safety of the vehicles.

POLITICKLE by MANJUL



Friends murder Class X student in Steel City

POST NEWS NETWORK

Rourkela, Sept 26: Police recovered Tuesday the body of a minor, who had gone missing Sunday. He was last seen with his friends on the way to watch immersion of Ganesh idols. The deceased has been identified as Rudra Padhi, 14, a resident of Balughat locality in this town. He

was studying in Class X of a local school here.

When Rudra, son of businessman Padmanava Padhi, did not return home Sunday night, worried family members started looking for him. Local residents found out that his friends had returned, but there was no trace of Rudra.

Smelling a rat, Rudra's family members and neighbours grilled

his three friends. It has been alleged that the three confessed to murdering Rudra and dumping his body at a desolate place. The three were then handed over to the police.

Meanwhile police after questioning the three recovered Rudra's body near Hecket Road, just adjacent to Rourkela Steel Plant's boundary wall.

Man on way to work killed by elephant

POST NEWS NETWORK

Angul, Sept 26: There are no let-ups in deaths due to elephant attacks in the state. In the latest incident, a man was trampled to death by a tusker at Gadasantri village under Banarpal block in Angul district in the wee hours of Tuesday. The man was on his way to attend office. Earlier Monday, a woman had been killed by an elephant in Keonjhar district.

The deceased was identified as Prafulla Bhoi, 42, a native of Baijhalia Sahi locality in Gadasantri village. He was working as a casual labourer in an agency. He was cycling his way to his office when the elephant attacked him and brutally trampled him to death only 500 metres from his residence.

The tragic death of Prafulla sparked tension in the locality. His family members and other villagers staged a protest demanding compensation. Forest department officials rushed to the spot and held talks with the agitating villagers in an effort to pacify them.

Officials handed over ₹20,000 to Prafulla's family and promised further financial assistance after completion of necessary formalities. Later, BJP state executive member Pratap Chandra Pradhan called officials of the agency where Prafulla was working and asked them to help out the distressed and bereaved family.

The agency gave an ex-gratia of ₹25,000 and also provided a written assurance promising to provide financial assistance of ₹1,25,000 later. Following the developments, the villagers finally relented and allowed the police to send the body of Prafulla for post-mortem. A case of unnatural death was registered.

24 new scrub typhus cases in Sundargarh

Sundargarh: There are no signs of scrub typhus cases decreasing in this district. Twenty four new scrub typhus cases were reported Tuesday from this district taking the total tally of infected people to 244. With numbers rising rapidly, the Sundargarh district administration along with the Health department is trying its best to prevent the rapid spread of the disease. Massive awareness drives have been launched to sensitise people about the disease and the preventive measures that need to be adopted. While ASHA workers are creating awareness among people using public address system on a regular basis, in rural areas, 'pala' shows are being organised to make people aware of the symptoms and treatment of the disease. The chief district medical officer (CMO) of Sundargarh district headquarters hospital, Dr Dharani Ranjan Satpathy asserted that only awareness can prevent the spread of the disease. "Even though cases of scrub typhus are increasing in Sundargarh district, but people shouldn't panic. If they take proper preventive measures, they can get prevent disease," said Satpathy.



STRICKING A POSE: Dancers perform a traditional number at the district-level Nuakhai festival held at the Keonjhar auditorium, Tuesday

OP PHOTO

Couple hacked to death over sorcery

POST NEWS NETWORK

Mohana, Sept 26: A couple was allegedly hacked to death at Ghodapanka village under Adaba police limits in Gajapati district late Monday night over black magic and witchcraft. The deceased were identified as Kapilendra Mallick and his wife Sasita Mallick, both residents of the same village.

Sources said that a group of people armed with sharp-edged weapons barged into Kapilendra's house and attacked him. When his wife tried to protect Kapilendra she was also at-

tacked. She tried to run away, but the assailants chased her down and then hacked her to death. Both Kapilendra and Sasita died on the spot.

Police after being informed reached the crime scene to find the two bodies lying in a pool of blood. Police also found the murder weapons, an axe and two knives. Police sent the bodies for post-mortem and till Tuesday have detained 16 people. They are being questioned for their alleged involvement in the murder, police said.

Police informed that earlier also there was an attempt to kill

Kapilendra. He was shot at February 11 this year and suffered injuries. He had to undergo treatment at a hospital in Berhampur for more than a month. Initially after being discharged from the hospital, Kapilendra was residing at Adaba village. Only last month he had shifted back to Ghodapanka.

Police said that Kapilendra had developed enmity with a group of people over practicing of sorcery. They were planning to eliminate him and they carried out the murderous assault Monday night.

LIGHTNING KILLS 3 IN KALAHANDI

Bhawanipatna: Three members of a family including two women and a minor girl were killed after lightning struck them Tuesday on their farmland at Chitamunda village under Parla panchayat of Dharmagarh block in Kalahandi district. The deceased were identified as Jayanti Limgochia, 58, her relative Rup Limgochia, 45, and granddaughter Lata Limgochia, 17, in the village. The two women and the minor were clearing weeds on their farmland when lightning struck them during a thunderstorm. They died on the spot. Family members rushed to the accident scene and found the three lifeless figures and informed Dharmagarh police who arrived at the spot and sent the bodies for post-mortem.

Efforts on to revive 'Maadli', 'Dhap' dance forms

PNN & AGENCIES

Sambalpur, Sept 26: To preserve Western Odisha's rich cultural heritage, the 'Centre of Excellence, Regional Development and Tribal Studies' of Sambalpur University has embarked on a mission to revive two dance forms, the 'Maadli' and 'Dhap'. Both these dance forms are on the verge of extinction.

While the 'Maadli' dance, which belongs to the indigenous communities of Western Odisha, holds a special place in the hearts of people, tribal dance of the region, 'Dhap' is also known for its rhythmic beats and energetic movements.

Nodal officer of the Centre, Arun Kumar Acharya said Tuesday that these dance forms, once vibrant expressions of the region's tribal communities, have faded into obscurity over the years. "However, meticulous efforts have been made to document, record and preserve these cultural treasures," Acharya stated.

Acharya said, that with the passage of time and gradual erosion of tribal



FILE PHOTO

traditions, the unique dance form 'Maadli' is on the brink of extinction. However, the Centre of Excellence has formed a team of researchers, anthropologists and artists to document the intricate movements, costumes, and cultural significance associated with the dance form.

The process of documentation involved working closely with tribal elders who could remember Maadli's choreography and its connection to tribal rituals, Acharya stated.

Additionally, the team conducted interviews, collected old photographs and meticulously transcribed

oral histories related to the dance and songs. The effort resulted in a comprehensive record that provided a vivid snapshot of the past glory of 'Maadli', Acharya stated.

"Similarly, efforts have also been undertaken to revive 'Dhap', a dance form that was also on the verge of extinction. The team undertook field visits to remote villages, collaborating with the local communities to resurrect 'Dhap'. The team also interviewed the last surviving practitioners of the dance form and documented their knowledge," Acharya said.

The Centre of Excellence also organised a workshop recently here to promote awareness about 'Maadli' and 'Dhap'. On the occasion, the Centre also released a comprehensive documentation titled 'Maadli Dance on Verge of Extinction: Revamping the Indigenous Tribal Culture' and 'Dhap: Representation of Socialism in Western Odisha'. "The Centre of Excellence will continue its work to preserve the western Odisha's rich cultural heritage," asserted Acharya.

OFFICE OF THE DHENKANAL MUNICIPAL COUNCIL, DHENKANAL
 E-Procurement Notice
 Tender Call Notice No. 3801/DKMLPLTY/Date 25.09.2023

1. Name of the Work	Individual Civil Construction Work Published in the website.
2. No. of works put to tender	20 Nos. individual works
3. Estimated Cost	Rs. 1.76 Lakhs up to 12.71 Lakhs
4. Period of completion	45 Days.
5. Date and time of availability of bid document in the portal	from 11.00 hours of Dt.27.09.2023 to 17.30 of Dt. 06.10.2023
6. Last date/Time for receipt of bids	17.30 hours of Dt.06.10.2023
7. Date and time of opening of bid	11.00 hours of Dt. 09.10.2023
8. Name and address of the Officer Inviting Bid	Executive Officer, Dhenkanal Municipality, Dhenkanal

Further details can be seen from the e-procurement portal <https://tenderorissa.gov.in>
 Sd./- Executive Officer, Dhenkanal Municipality
 OIPR-13146/11/0023/2324

Government of Odisha "e" procurement Notice
 e-mail ID- rw_sambalpur@yahoo.co.in; Phone No. 0663-2401850
 No. 4940, dated. 25.9.23

Bid Identification No. TENDER ONLINE SBPR-07 OF 23-24
 No. O-1118:-

1. Name of the work	Road & Building Works as per DTGN available in the website www.tendersodisha.gov.in
2. Total No. of Work	07 (Seven) Nos.
3. Estimated Cost	Varies from Rs.5.04 lakhs to 25.21 lakhs
4. Period of Completion	01 (One) to 04 (Four) Calendar months
5. Period and time of availability of bid document in the portal for bidding	28.09.2023 at 11.00 A.M. to 10.10.2023 upto 5.00 PM
6. Date and time of opening of Tender	09.10.2023 at 11.00 AM
7. Name and address of the officer inviting bid	S.E.R.W. Divn. Sambalpur

(1) Other details can be seen from detailed notice inviting tenders, available in website www.tendersodisha.gov.in
 (2) Corrigendum if any shall only be published in the website: www.tenderodisha.gov.in
 Sd./- Superintending Engineer, Rural Works Division, Sambalpur
 OIPR-25076/11/0013/2324

Justice for Sushmita Minz

SC/HC judge. The memorandum stated. Members of the Adivasi Manch gheraoed the ADM office here for more than three hours. Among other prominent tribal leaders present were Bandana Toppo and Roshan Beck. In the memorandum the Adivasi Manch also raised some questions. They asked as to why the police did not hand over Sushmita to her family when they knew she was 'depressed'. They also asked as to how Sushmita managed to reach the pond when she was under police surveillance while staying at the Radhika Hotel here.

FORM No. 13 BEFORE THE DEBTS RECOVERY TRIBUNAL, CUTTACK, ORISSA
 C-71, SECTOR - 7 CDA, CUTTACK, ODISHA
 O. A. No. 129/2023
 KOTAK MAHINDRABANK LTD. ... Applicant
 Versus
 Dhiren Kumar Bhoi & Another ... Defendant(s)

To,
 1) Dhiren Kumar Bhoi
 Age about 31 years
 S/o- Purusottam Bhoi
 Vill- Masinabila, GP- Tentalapashi, PS- Pandapada, Kendujhar, Odisha Pin - 758079, PAN: BHTPB3934L
 2) Niki Bhoi, Age- W/o- Purusottam Bhoi
 Vill - Masinabila, GP - Tentalapashi, PS Pandapada, Kendujhar, Orisha, Pin - 758079

SUMMONS BY PAPER PUBLICATION FOR SHOWING CAUSE AS TO WHY THE RELIEF PRAYED SHOULD NOT BE GRANTED
 Take Notice that the applicant has instituted an O.A. No. 129/2023 in the Court of the Debts of Recovery Tribunal, Cuttack for recovery of Rs. 36,28,008.57 only together with current and future interest, costs and other reliefs. The above mentioned defendants are therefore, directed to appear before this Tribunal in person or through an Advocate or duly authorised agent, in support of their defence to show cause within 30 days from the publication of on 31.10.2023 at 10.30 a.m. as to why reliefs prayed should not be granted. Take notice that in case of default, the application will be heard and determined in their absence. Given under my hand seal of this Tribunal on this 12th day of September, 2023.

Sd./- (Nikhila Ranjan Pati) Registrar

EAST COAST RAILWAY
 Tender Notice No.: MSM-COACHWATERING-19-23

Name of the Work :- WATERING OF COACHES OF TRAINS DURING THEIR HALT AT SAMBALPUR, TITLAGARH AND KANTABANJI RAILWAY STATIONS FOR A PERIOD OF TWO YEARS.

Approx Cost of the work :- ₹ 3,11,38,700.57, EMD: ₹ 3,05,700/-, Cost of tender document: ₹ 11,800/-, Completion period of the work : 24 Months.

Tender closing date & time :- at 1100 hrs. of 09.10.2023.

No manual offers sent by Post/Courier/Fax or in person shall be accepted against such e-tenders even if these are submitted on firm's letter head and received in time. All such manual offers shall be considered invalid and shall be rejected summarily without any consideration.

Complete information including e-tender documents of the above tender is available in website <http://www.ireps.gov.in>

Sr. Divisional Mechanical Engineer, PR-604/O/23-24 Sambalpur

Witness and stand back from Nature, that is the first step to the soul's freedom. SRI AUROBINDO



Only Brave Talk

When China's President Xi Jinping told the International Olympic Committee chief Thomas Bach in Hangzhou a day before the opening ceremony of the ongoing Asian Games in Hangzhou, China that he vowed to uphold the principle of "non-politicisation of sports," it was the height of hypocrisy, at least from India's perspective.

As if taking a cue from the top, a Chinese foreign ministry spokeswoman indulged in diplomatic duplicity and equivocation by asserting that her country welcomed athletes from all countries "with valid legal documents." This means Beijing did not recognise the Indian passports that the three Indian WuShu (a martial art) participants from Arunachal Pradesh possess.

India construed the Chinese decision as a "targeted and pre-mediated" act. This is all the worse since in February last year, Beijing sought to rub India the wrong way by selecting the People's Liberation Army's commander involved in the Galwan Valley clash between Indian and Chinese soldiers.

Understandably the organisers of the events - then and now - tried to gloss over China's patently political and uncalled for actions as they appear to be powerless to take on China, given its status as a willing host and strong financial backer of such international sports events.

The acting President of the Olympic Council of Asia, Randhir Singh, who met President Xi in Hangzhou, took a meek stand as he told the media that India's matter was being discussed instead of slamming the denial of entry to the athletes outright.

The Chinese action however is a reflection of the current distrust in bilateral relations as much as the absence of adequate channels of communication to sort out thorny issues, including visas.

India's protest in the form of sports minister Anurag Thakur's cancellation of his visit to the Games was too little too late. The decision to send the remaining WuShu squad to take part in the games dilutes the protest and shows India accepts the treatment meted out to the three members of the team caught in the diplomatic cross-fire.

India's response appears to be timid in the backdrop of China's continuous attempts for the past few months to disrespect India's territorial integrity. Earlier this year China ratcheted up tension by giving Chinese names to 11 locations in Arunachal Pradesh.

WISDOM CORNER

- Only those who will risk going too far can possibly find out how far one can go. TS ELIOT
People think of education as something they can finish. ISAAC ASIMOV
Always fight for quality, whether giving or receiving. WALT DISNEY

THIS DAY IN HISTORY

- 1066: After being delayed by bad weather, William, duke of Normandy, embarked his army and set sail for the southeastern coast of England in what would be known in history as the Norman Conquest.
1905: The physics journal Annalen der Physik publishes Albert Einstein's paper "Does the Inertia of a Body Depend Upon Its Energy Content?," introducing the equation E=mc^2.
1937: Native to the Indonesian island of Bali, the Bali Tiger was made extinct due to human activities and hunting.
1996: The Taliban, led by Mohammad Omar, seized the capital city of Kabul, declaring all of Afghanistan an Islamic state.

LOL

BOY & MONKEY

A boy with a monkey on his shoulder was walking down the road when he passed a policeman who said, "Now, now young lad, I think you had better take that monkey the zoo." The next day, the boy was



walking down the road with the monkey on his shoulder again, when he passed the same policeman. The policeman said, "Hey there, I thought I told you to take that monkey to the zoo!" The boy answered, "I did! Today I'm taking him to the cinema."



Dani Rodrik & Ishac Diwan

THE WORLD DESPERATELY NEEDS TO MAKE PROGRESS TOWARD A MORE SUSTAINABLE FUTURE

FOCUS DEVELOPMENT

BRIDGING THE GAP

Low-income countries are in the throes of a liquidity crunch that is not only undermining their economic development but also deepening the global climate crisis. In 2020 and 2021, net financial transfers to Africa were close to zero - their lowest level in a decade - despite record transfers from multilateral development banks (MDBs).



The goal is to create value through coordination, with the presumption that a country can grow out of debt if it is provided with liquidity, and if it pursues policies to achieve sustainable growth

To be sure, only a handful of LMICs have defaulted on their external debts, and many others still hope to weather the storm and re-enter the market when it reopens. But with their debt-service obligations having grown vastly larger than the official support they can secure, their fiscal space is being squeezed.

A series of international gatherings - culminating with the recent G20 declaration - has sought to reform the global financial and development architecture, placing special emphasis on scaling up MDB support.

Private lenders have also resisted deep debt relief, even as they remain unwilling to provide liquidity. During the Latin American debt crisis of the 1980s, when liquidity rather than insolvency was seen as the problem, the few banks involved at least could agree on coordinated rescheduling.

During the pandemic, many observers foresaw that massive insolvencies loomed on the horizon. While promising proposals were made for wholesale debt relief, world leaders failed to agree on ambitious solutions.

Much of the opposition to debt relief came from China, the largest bilateral donor. It argues that LMICs' external debts remain relatively low, averaging only 40% of GDP compared to 100% just before the Highly Indebted Poor Countries (HIPC) Initiative was launched in 1996.

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But the situation will worsen if these countries cannot refinance the principal on their outstanding debt when it reaches maturity. Consider Kenya. It has embarked on an ambitious programme of stabilisation and reforms, backed by a large fiscal stabilisation effort equal to 4% of GDP.

nance the principal on their outstanding debt when it reaches maturity. Consider Kenya. It has embarked on an ambitious programme of stabilisation and reforms, backed by a large fiscal stabilisation effort equal to 4% of GDP.

The alternative - defaulting - is equally unattractive, considering that Kenya's external debt stands at only 38% of gross national income. To overcome this dilemma, the African Union's Nairobi Declaration on Climate Change proposes that countries be allowed to reschedule debts coming due to create fiscal space for new "green growth" policies and reforms.

Our own proposal for a "bridging compact" operationalises this idea. Led jointly by the United Nations, the World Bank, and the IMF, it would support not just insolvent countries in need of debt haircuts, but also illiquid countries in need of rescheduling. Countries that have experienced negative net transfers with important creditors could choose to enter an adjustment programme that postpones their debt obligations in exchange for

a commitment to reforms. The goal is to create value through coordination, with the presumption that a country can grow out of debt if it is provided with liquidity, and if it pursues policies to achieve sustainable growth. To be effective, this bridging compact must be anchored in a national renewal program that includes measures to constrain budgets and reforms to move onto a new growth path.

To avoid leakages to other creditors, some debts would have to be rescheduled during the programme period. The interest rate used should be no higher than the growth rate envisioned under the renewal programme, so as not to exacerbate the debt situation. The approach should be accepted ex-ante by all creditor groups, but the obligation to reschedule loans that can't be refinanced would have to be enforced by an IMF threat to lend into arrears.

The world desperately needs to make progress toward a more sustainable future. Our proposed approach would help bridge the great divide between our aspirations and our realities.

In the absence of such an initiative, the goal of mobilising trillions of dollars for climate-friendly development will remain a pipe dream.

Dani Rodrik is Professor of International Political Economy at Harvard Kennedy School. Ishac Diwan is Research Director at the Finance for Development Lab.

IN JEST THIS

Remote work is ending for many



Melvin Durai

EVEN ZOOM, THE COMPANY WHOSE VIDEO COMMUNICATION SOFTWARE MADE IT EASIER FOR PEOPLE TO WORK REMOTELY, IS ASKING ITS EMPLOYEES TO RETURN TO OFFICE

"It was too good to be true. I knew it wouldn't last."

That's what a lot of office workers around the world are saying, as they say farewell to full-time remote work, also known as WFH (work from home).

Even Zoom, the company whose video communication software made it easier for people to work remotely, is asking its employees to return to the office a couple of days a week. This is like McDonald's asking its employees to go vegan a couple of days a week.

Here's the message that Zoom employees heard: "Zoom is a great place to work, but if you want to keep working for Zoom, you need to zoom back to the office or your paycheck will zoom to someone else."

Remote work has existed for a long time, but it became prevalent among office workers during the pandemic - a good way to keep COVID from spreading from one worker to another.

While some of these workers missed the office environment, the vast majority found remote work to be nothing short of pure heaven. Here, for example, is a diary entry from a remote worker:

"Dear Diary, I still can't believe it. I am being paid to work from home. I started working this morning without taking a shower, without getting stuck in traffic, and without apologising for being 10 minutes late. I didn't even have to wear a suit. I just changed from my red pajamas to my green pajamas. It is important to maintain certain standards and one of mine is to not wear the same pajamas for sleeping and working. In the afternoon, before the Zoom meeting with my co-workers, I wore a nice shirt over my pajamas and even combed the front portion of my hair. Working remotely saves me more than two hours a day. I don't have to travel to work and I don't have to discuss cricket with my co-workers. I am also saving money on petrol, water and deodorant. I am using the extra time to do yoga with my wife in the morning and go for walks with her in the afternoon. I have very good work-life balance."

Remote workers enjoy a number of benefits that allow them to have a good work-life balance. One of the most important benefits is the ability to take care of their children or elderly parents while they work. Another benefit is having a flexible schedule. As long as they remain productive, they can work whenever they want and wherever they want. They may even be able to switch from WFH (work from home) to WFB (work from beach).

But after allowing employees to work remotely since the pandemic, many companies are calling them back to the office, at least for a few days a week. They want workers to interact and collaborate with each other face-to-face. They also want to provide feedback directly to employees

and ensure that productivity remains high. Employers also face pressure from governments and businesses that rely on commuter traffic. It isn't good for them when offices and restaurants are empty, and fewer people are using public transportation.

WFH is good for work-life balance, but it's ending for many workers, much to their chagrin: "Dear Diary, I still can't believe it. I am being asked to return to the office. My boss says that I will be more productive in my cubicle. He wants to give me feedback directly - without having to call or email me. I asked him if I can be a hybrid worker: four days at the office, the rest of the year at home. He laughed and told me that the pandemic is over. He's right: the pandemic is over. But that doesn't mean we should stop taking precautions. It's much safer to work from home, where there is far less exposure to harmful substances and dreadful bosses."

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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

Systematic discrimination

Sir, A BJP MP uses anti-Muslim slurs in the Lok Sabha against a fellow MP from the Muslim community. And 76 years after achieving independence, this is the state of our beloved India, that is Bharat. The blatant assault by the South Delhi BJP MP Ramesh Bidhuri against Danish Ali of the BSP is highly abominable and marks a new low in the political and social life of the country.

Ranganathan Sivakumar, CHENNAI

Silent killer

Sir, It's high time we pay attention to the devastating impact of "hypertension," often referred to as the world's "silent killer." According to the maiden report from the WHO, nearly 80% of people worldwide with high blood pressure are not receiving adequate treatment. Shockingly, only 37% of Indians with hypertension are diagnosed, and a mere 30% receive treatment, despite the abundance of effective medications, highly skilled physicians and numerous articles warning about its dangers.

Bishal Kumar Saha, MURSHIDABAD

TN BJP in a spot

This Bengal hamlet bags 'Best Tourism Village' crown

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Berhampur (WB), Sept 26: A comparatively new immaculate red-and-white temple stands beside the ruins of a 1000-year-old shrine overtaken by nature. Muslims take active part in Hindu puja rituals. A temple roof is made combining Buddhist, Muslim and Hindu architectural styles.

Welcome to Kiriteshwari village in Murshidabad district of West Bengal, which has recently been selected by the Centre's Ministry of Tourism as the Best Tourism Village of India. The village was named after the Kiriteshwari temple, one of the 'Shakti peeths'. Legend has it that the upper part of goddess Sati's skull had fallen here.

Several other new temples and ruins of older shrines co-exist here. The village, also known as Kiritkona, located around 20 km from district headquarters Berhampur, is a sleepy hamlet with just a little more than 1,200 voters, whose main oc-

cupation is farming.

The place is a classic example of communal harmony. Here, the temple committee has members from the Muslim community, and they participate actively in various rituals related to the Hindu religion and culture. The Muslims have also given a piece of land to the Hindus since a portion of a temple was there.

"My grandfather wanted to donate a piece of land for the temple and that was given according to his wish. The paperwork was completed around two years ago," said Sirajul Islam, a member of the Kiriteshwari Temple Committee.

A grand feast is organised on the day of Ashtami during the Durga Puja festival every year and 7,000 to 8,000 people including many Muslim families participate in it, said 62-year-old Islam who has been taking part in temple rituals since he was in his early 20s.

According to Dilip Kumar Bhattacharya, a priest of the Kiriteshwari temple, the shrine



was built by Rani Bhavani of Natore, around 300 years ago, and pujas are performed every day. Later, Maharaja of Lalgola, Yogendra Narayan Roy, repaired it around a century back, he said. "But very little is known about the other temple which is 900-1000 years old. It is now in ruins. We also don't know much about the other ancient temples around the village. Some say those were Shiva temples," Bhattacharya said.

The speciality of the 300-year-

old Kiriteshwari temple lies in its structure as its roof has the influence of Buddhist, Muslim and Hindu architecture, the priest said.

The design of the 'garbha griha' (sanctum sanctorum) where a black stone is worshipped as the goddess, also reflects Hindu, Buddhist and Muslim architecture, he said. After the village got the honour last week, tourists from other areas have started coming.

A tourist from Kolkata, Madan

Mohan Mitra, said, "I have heard about the temple earlier. But the zeal to visit the place increased after it bagged the Centre's award a few days ago. I liked the place."

Villagers Hemanta Mondal, Paban Das and Uttam Das who run small shops selling puja items near the temple feel their lives are about to change in the coming future as the award will bring more tourists.

"We are happy to hear about the award but a lot of infrastructure development is required to boost tourism. We will need lodges, a hospital and a police station," the priest said. The village now has a small lodge that can accommodate only a few pilgrims.

Murshidabad District Magistrate Rajarshi Mitra said that the award has been given considering the immense potential of the place to grow into a tourism hub. "The temple here is very old yet functional. The state government has sanctioned funds for restoration of the ruins," Mitra said.



INDO-ASIAN NEWS SERVICE

Chennai, Sept 26: Close on the heels of losing power in Karnataka, the BJP's move to break the jinx and get few seats from Tamil Nadu also seems tapering.

The saffron party, which was planning to piggyback on the solid base of the principal opposition party of Tamil Nadu, AIADMK, faced a severe setback and a slap on the face of its state president, K. Annamalai when the AIADMK walked out of the alliance.

Annamalai, from day one since assuming office as state president of BJP, has been taking aggressive postures and the AIADMK was sore that the young BJP leader was time and again insulting the legacy of its leaders.

It was after the attack on C.N. Annadurai, the iconic Dravidian leader and former Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu, that the AIADMK took a decision to snap ties with the BJP.

The party had in a last minute patch-up bid, met the senior leadership of the BJP in New Delhi but it seems to have not received a positive response from the saffron camp leading to the party taking such a decision.

It will be an uphill task for the BJP in Tamil Nadu now as without the support of a Dravidian major, the national parties like the Congress and the BJP does not have any political say in Tamil Nadu and with AIADMK snapping ties, the saffron party has turned a cropper in the state.

The BJP leaders from Tamil Nadu were guarded in their response to the decision of the

K. Annamalai from day one since assuming office as state president of BJP, has been taking aggressive postures and the AIADMK was sore that the young BJP leader was time and again insulting the legacy of its leaders

It was after the attack on C.N. Annadurai, the iconic Dravidian leader and former Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu, that the AIADMK took a decision to snap ties with the BJP

AIADMK. While party state president K. Annamalai said that it was the national leadership of the party who will take a call, some other leaders spoke on television channels and social media platforms that AIADMK leaving the alliance was good.

However, these leaders were chided by the party state leadership and immediately withdrew the comments. R. Amarnath, social scientist and professor of social sciences in a private college said, "It will now be very difficult for the BJP to climb up the political ladder while snapping ties with the BJP is beneficial to the AIADMK.

"The minorities, Dalits and Other Backward Classes will now vote for the AIADMK or rather they do have a choice to forge an alliance. "The BJP, if they were planning a long term game, should have made compromises and continued with the alliance. "The arrogance of K. Annamalai and the national BJP leadership will take its toll on the BJP in Tamil Nadu," the professor said.

TN to hold 1,000 medical camps to check dengue

INDO-ASIAN NEWS SERVICE

Chennai, Sept 26: The Tamil Nadu health department will hold 1,000 medical camps to screen dengue from October 1, state Health Minister Ma Subramanian announced Tuesday.

In his announcement, the minister said that the camps are being held so that the disease can be diagnosed at the earliest and treated.

He said that a medical team will visit the fever-affected areas every day and conduct medical camps, adding that a total of 476 mobile medical teams will be pressed into service for creating awareness among the public.

Subramanian said that about 805 Rashtriya Bal Swasthya Karyakram (RBSK) Mobile School Teams will establish fever screening camps in schools to check the students and treat the ones who are unwell.

He said that teachers have also been instructed to provide the details of the students with



The minister said that the camps are being held so that the disease can be diagnosed at the earliest and treated

fever to medical officers and health personnel.

The minister added that school authorities have been instructed

to spray mosquito repellants to prevent Aedes mosquito breeding in school premises to prevent the spread of dengue fever. Subramanian appealed to the people to visit fever camps and to consult doctors if they have symptoms of fever and not to treat on their own. Several cities in Tamil Nadu have reported an increase in the number of dengue cases in September as compared to August.

50 camera traps installed to monitor poachers in TN

INDO-ASIAN NEWS SERVICE

Chennai, Sept 26: In an effort to monitor the movement of poachers, the Tamil Nadu Forest Department has installed 50 camera traps in the Mukurthi, Nilakottai and Thepekkadu forest ranges that come under the Madumalai Tiger Reserve (MTR).

The camera traps are installed to monitor the movement of people within the forest range and to ascertain whether poaching was taking place. The Department has not made public the locations of the camera traps which are camouflaged within the forest ranges.

Sources in the MTR said that the cameras are connected with GPS and the battery life of each camera is only 20 days. After the completion of 20 days, the Department will remove the chips from the traps and hand it over to the Deputy Director's



Office at MTR.

The sources said that the Department has already deputed around 45 anti-poaching wardens and beat forest officers to monitor the areas physically. The development comes following the death of 10 tigers, including cubs, in the Nilgiri forest range in a span of 34 days. Among the dead tigers, a male big cat was poisoned to death by a farmer whose cow was killed by the carnivore.



Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman gives the appointment letter to a candidate during 'Rozgar Mela' in Chennai

PTI PHOTO

BJP stages protest over dengue outbreak

The Leader of the Opposition in the West Bengal Assembly, Suvendu Adhikari and 22 BJP MLAs Tuesday afternoon went to Swasthya Bhawan to submit a deputation regarding the dengue outbreak

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Kolkata, Sept 26: The West Bengal BJP unit Tuesday staged a protest rally outside the Swasthya Bhawan - the health department office - over the menace of dengue outbreak in the state and alleged that the steps taken by the TMC government are just an "eyewash" to hide its "failures".

The Leader of the Opposition in the West Bengal Assembly, Suvendu Adhikari and 22 BJP MLAs Tuesday afternoon went to Swasthya Bhawan to submit a deputation regarding the dengue outbreak.



But as Adhikari and BJP MLAs were about to enter the state health department office they were stopped by the police, citing security concerns.

A heated argument broke out between the two followed, and BJP MLAs resorted to shouting slogans against the state government over its "failure" to control the dengue outbreak.

"We just wanted to submit a deputation. The police are saying they will only allow me into the building. Why are other BJP MLAs not allowed? The state government is busy stopping us but has failed to control the dengue situation," Adhikari said.

Speaking on the steps the state government took to control the

situation, the BJP leader dubbed it "eyewash". "The state government is in denial mode and dubs it an unknown fever. The state government is trying to hide the real situation, and the steps taken are just eyewash," Adhikari said.

Reacting to the allegations, the TMC asked the BJP to refrain from politicising the issue. "The state government is doing everything possible to address the issue. The BJP is just trying to politicise the issue. Public awareness is needed most to combat the situation," TMC leader Kumal Ghosh said.

The West Bengal government Monday directed the districts to immediately clean all dengue hotspots, based on entomological alerts, amid the increase in such cases in the state, officials said.

They said the state also asked the central government offices in West Bengal to ensure cleanliness and adequate preventive measures at under-construction projects, including those of the Kolkata Metro.

TMC to send over 50L letters to PM seeking release of MGNREGA dues

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Kolkata, Sept 26: The Trinamool Congress will send more than 50 lakh letters from people denied MGNREGA benefits in West Bengal to Prime Minister Narendra Modi ahead of the party's much-touted protests in New Delhi next month against the alleged withholding of funds by the Centre.

The party has accused the BJP-led NDA government of withholding Rs 15,000 crore of dues to Bengal under the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA) and Gramin Awas Yojana.

The party will also send letters

to Union Panchayati Raj Minister Giriraj Singh. "West Bengal stands united against the central government's injustice, determined to claim what's rightfully ours. People's power reigns supreme in democracy," TMC's national general secretary Abhishek Banerjee said on X, formerly Twitter.

"People of Bengal are raising their voice against 'injustice', and those adversely impacted have written letters to the PM, seeking their rightful dues", the party said on the microblogging site.

"We have people, who are yet to get their dues even after working under the MGNREGA, to write these letters. Till now, we

have collected more than 50 lakh letters. They have all sought the release of dues to Bengal under the rural jobs scheme. We are sending these letters to the offices of Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Union Minister Giriraj Singh," a senior TMC leader said.

Abhishek Banerjee, the party's national general secretary, and TMC MPs, MLAs and leaders from the districts will pay their respects to Mahatma Gandhi at Rajghat in the national capital on October 2 on his birth anniversary.

Chief Minister and TMC supremo Mamata Banerjee, who was supposed to attend the programme in New Delhi, might



not go there as she was advised ten days of rest by doctors after she suffered an injury on her left knee during a recent trip to Spain and Dubai.

A TMC delegation will meet Singh October 3 and place before him the issue of "non-release of dues" under the MGNREGA, Bengal minister

Chandrima Bhattacharya had said on September 23. The TMC had planned to stage protests in New Delhi for dues under the rural jobs scheme to Bengal.

The ruling party in the state had claimed that despite several requests to the Delhi Police, it was denied permission to hold demonstrations in the national capital. The TMC had, on August 30, said that it was denied permission to hold demonstrations in New Delhi as the BJP-led Union government wanted to "scuttle the voice of Bengal", a charge dubbed as "baseless" by the saffron camp.

During the TMC's Martyrs' Day rally on July 21, Abhishek Banerjee had announced that

the party would launch a massive protest in Delhi on Gandhi Jayanti on October 2 against the alleged blocking of funds by the central government for Bengal under the MGNREGA and other schemes.

The chief minister held a two-day sit-in in March this year against the Centre's alleged move of "not releasing funds" to the state for MGNREGA and other welfare schemes.

The Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act 2005 aims at enhancing the livelihood security of households in rural areas by providing at least 100 days of guaranteed wage employment in a financial year.



Indian Air Force fighter planes rehearse over the upper lake ahead of an air show to commemorate the 91st anniversary of IAF in Bhopal, Madhya Pradesh



Chiefs of Armies and delegates of various countries lay wreaths at the National War Memorial in New Delhi



A metro train being put on the track for a trial run from Subhash Nagar Depot to Rani Kamalapati Railway station in Bhopal, Madhya Pradesh



BJP women supporters attend 'Nari Shakti Vandana - Abhinandan' event addressed by PM Narendra Modi, in Ahmedabad, Gujarat



Patients under mosquito nets being treated at a hospital in Nadia, West Bengal



Defence Secretary Girdhar Aramane poses for group photos at the Mazagon Dock Shipbuilders Limited (MDL) shipyard in Mumbai, Maharashtra



People perform 'aarti' of Lord Ganesh before immersion at Dussehra Ghat behind Taj Mahal in Agra, Uttar Pradesh



Commuters on a road during rain in Hubballi, Karnataka

of the day quote

August 23 has become immortal in the country as the National Space Day. Soon after the success of its lunar mission, India launched its solar mission

NARENDRA MODI | PRIME MINISTER

We are going to win with a huge majority in Madhya Pradesh and Chhattisgarh. Rahul Gandhi himself has admitted that they are losing in Rajasthan

PRALHAD JOSHI | UNION MINISTER

We are preparing an action plan to curb winter pollution in Delhi on the basis of reports given by the departments concerned. Instructions have been issued to all construction agencies to strictly follow the norms related to dust pollution

GOPAL RAI | DELHI ENVIRONMENT MINISTER

SHORT TAKES

Amethi hosp row: SP joins protest

Amethi (UP): The row over the suspension of licence of Sanjay Gandhi Hospital, run by a trust headed by Sonia Gandhi, intensified on Tuesday with SP joining the Congress' protest here and Union minister and local MP Smriti Irani lashing out at them. Over 400 employees have also started an indefinite dharna at the hospital gate against the state government's decision. The licence was suspended September 17 following the death of a woman patient who was admitted there for a minor operation September 14.

Arrest warrant against Manpreet

Chandigarh: A court in Bathinda Tuesday issued an arrest warrant against former Punjab finance minister Manpreet Singh Badal in connection with alleged irregularities in the purchase of a property. The Punjab Vigilance Bureau had registered a case against Badal and five others in connection in the matter. Three of them had been arrested.

SP among 6 cops booked

Chandigarh: A superintendent of police and five other policemen have been booked for subjecting a lawyer in their custody to torture that included forcing him into sex with a co-accused, according to an FIR registered in Punjab's Muktsar district. Lawyers affiliated with the Bar Association of Punjab and Haryana High Court abstained from work Tuesday, demanding the policemen's dismissal and arrest.

Army major, wife arrested

Haflog (Assam): An Army major and his wife have been arrested in Assam's Dima Hasao district for allegedly torturing their domestic help, a top police officer said Tuesday. Dima Hasao SP Mayank Kumar said they received information Sunday that the minor girl, who had accompanied the couple to Palampur in Himachal Pradesh, was "tortured brutally".

Endangered turtles rescued in Assam

Guwahati: At least 74 endangered turtles were rescued by the Railway Protection Force (RPF) and Criminal Investigation Department in Assam's Lumding railway station, officials said Tuesday. According to officials, the turtles were retrieved from boxes kept underneath the seats at Lumding Railway Station after receiving precise information.



Be it participation of women in the Navy, Army and Air Force or their reservation...all were done when Congress was in power. Unfortunately, it appears that no one briefed the Prime Minister about it which is why he made such remarks

SHARAD PAWAR | NCP CHIEF

NITISH'S SURPRISE VISIT

Several top ministers of the Bihar government were found absent from their offices when Chief Minister Nitish Kumar paid a surprise visit to their offices Tuesday



CAUVERY ROW B'lore bandh evokes partial response

'Karnataka Jala Samrakshana Samiti', an umbrella outfit of farmers' associations and other organisations led by Kuruburu Shanthakumar, had given the call for Tuesday's dawn to dusk (6am to 6pm) shutdown, and it found the backing of opposition BJP and the JD(S). The protest affected normal life



Police personnel detain activists protesting during bandh

Karnataka has been maintaining that it is not in a position to release water, taking into account its own need for drinking water and irrigation for standing crops in the Cauvery basin areas, as there has been water scarcity due to deficit Monsoon rains

Accusing the two opposition parties of politicising the Cauvery row, Karnataka Chief Minister Siddaramaiah rejected allegations his government has failed on the issue, and said his administration has never lagged behind in protecting the interests of the state, its people and farmers.

On Tuesday, Shanthakumar and other leaders of the Samiti were detained by the police at the Mysuru Bank circle, as they were trying to lead a protest march towards Town Hall. Several activists of pro-Kannada organisations were also whisked away by the police at Town Hall, as they gathered

there to stage a protest. The activists hit out at the government for allegedly using police force to curtail the protests and the bandh.

Farmers and pro-Kannada organisations with their leaders, including Shanthakumar and others, later staged protests at Freedom Park, which is the only designated place for such demonstrations. Transport Minister Ramalinga Reddy met protesters there and received a memorandum from them and said he will take it to the notice of the Chief Minister.

The five-point memorandum includes demands that water is

not released from Cauvery to Tamil Nadu, an election commission-like body be put together to assess things during distress years and implementation of the Mokedatu balancing reservoir project.

Shanthakumar claimed the bandh was successful.

The samiti set a 3-day deadline for the government to announce its decision, failing which it will intensify protests.

City police had taken all adequate security measures to respond to any violent situations that may happen during the protests.

Bangalore Police Commissioner B Dayananda said prohibitory orders under section 144 will be in place across the city from midnight on Monday to midnight Tuesday.

There were reports of some miscreants allegedly trying to shut hotels that were open in Jayanagara area and trying to damage property. Police registered a case.

Meanwhile, 'Kannada Okkuta', an umbrella organisation for pro-Kannada organisations led by activist Vatal Nagaraj, which has called for a statewide bandh September 29, did not support today's bandh.

Yet, Nagaraj and other Kannada Okkuta leaders tried to lay siege to Raj Bhavan, but were stopped midway by the police, who detained them and whisked them away.

Educational institutions in the city were shut today.

Though cab services, autos, and hotels/restaurants were seen operating, drivers and hotel operators said not many people patronised the services.

Rajnath Singh calls for collaborative efforts in the Indo-Pacific region



AGENCIES

New Delhi, Sept 26: India Tuesday called for concerted efforts by like-minded nations to realise the shared vision for a free, open and rules-based Indo-Pacific with Defence Minister Rajnath Singh flagging concerns over the region facing a "complex web" of security challenges, including boundary disputes.

His comments at the opening session of the India-hosted 13th Indo-Pacific Armys Chiefs' Conference (IPAC) came against the backdrop China's growing military assertiveness in the Indo-Pacific as well as the border row in eastern Ladakh.

In his remarks, Army Chief Gen Manoj Pande said the Indo-Pacific emerged as "pivotal theatre" in contemporary "geo-strategic" canvas and that India's outlook for the region emphasises respect for sovereignty and territorial integrity of all states as well as peaceful resolution of disputes.

"While efforts by countries are converging towards effecting a free and stable Indo-Pacific, yet we are witnessing manifestations of interstate contestations and competitions," Gen Pande said.

Chief of Staff of the US Army Gen Randy George said the partnership between the US and Indian Army is crucial for stability in the Indo-Pacific, noting the region is facing a challenging strategic environment.

The two-day conference, being attended by delegates from over 30 countries which included chiefs of around 15 armies. The US Army is the co-host of the event.

Chief of Staff of the US Army Gen Randy George said the partnership between the US and Indian Army is crucial for stability in the Indo-Pacific, noting the region is facing a challenging strategic environment

India also showcased some of its indigenously-developed military platforms at an exhibition that has been organised as part of the two-day conference. In his address at the opening session of the conclave, Defence Minister Singh emphasised that the Indo-Pacific is no more a maritime construct, but a full-fledged geo-strategic issue, and that the region is facing "a complex web" of security challenges, including boundary disputes and piracy.

Army Chief Gen Pande said India's commitment towards "positively engaging" all stakeholders in the Indo-Pacific has been "unwavering and enduring" over the years.

Highlighting the geo-political significance and geo-economic weight of the Indo-Pacific nations, Gen Pande said it is evident from the fact that, the region accounts for 65 per cent of the world's population, 63 per cent of the global GDP and 50 per cent of the world's maritime trade.

Gen Pande observed that these challenges are manifesting as "threats, singularly or plurally, impacting one or more nations amongst us."

SC asks ED not to summon Kavitha

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, Sept 26: The Supreme Court asked the Enforcement Directorate (ED) Tuesday to not summon BRS leader K Kavitha in the Delhi excise policy case till it hears her plea November 20.

A bench of Justices Sanjay Kishan Kaul and Sudhanshu Dhulia gave the direction after Additional Solicitor General S V Raju, appearing for the ED, said the court will not call Kavitha, a Lok Sabha MP, for questioning till the court hears her plea challenging the summons.

"We have to hear the matter. Don't call her in the meantime," the bench told Raju. At the outset, senior advocate Vikram Chaudhary and advocate Nitesh Rana, appearing in the court on behalf of Kavitha, submitted that no coercive action be taken till then and the interim order passed by the bench September 15 be extended.

Justice Kaul informed the lawyers that Chief Justice D Y Chandrachud has constituted a special bench comprising him and Justices Sanjiv Khanna and Bela M Trivedi to hear review petitions challenging a July 27, 2022 verdict that had upheld the constitutional validity of the Prevention of Money Laundering Act (PMLA) and the ED's power of arrest under the anti-money laundering law. He said the special bench will sit on October 18 and issue procedural directions with regard to the pleading.



Saints Of Swaminarayan Gurukul pray to Lord Swaminarayan with a religious bath on the 'Jal Jilani Ekadashi', at Swaminarayan Gurukul in Surat, Gujarat

HC rejects Disha Ravi's bail term plea for foreign visit

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, Sept 26: The Delhi High Court Tuesday rejected a plea by climate activist Disha Ravi, who is facing prosecution for her alleged involvement in sharing a toolkit linked to the 2021 farmers' protest, seeking modification of the bail condition where she needs prior permission of the trial court before travelling abroad.

She had urged the high court to modify the condition to the extent that she shall intimate the trial court before going abroad.

The high court said the trial

court's order portrayed a fine balancing as "it is not a blanket ban or infringement of her fundamental right to travel abroad but a reasonable restriction by the court meant to enforce through the legal system".

However, the high court directed that in case an application seeking permission to go abroad is filed before the trial court by Ravi at least one month prior to her intended visit, the State shall expeditiously file an appropriate response to it while giving sufficient time to the trial court to pass an order.

The trial court order is such



that neither the investigation nor the trial is affected by the absence or non-availability of the accused, while interfering in the most minimal manner with the convenience and fundamental right of the petitioner, Justice Swarana Kanta Sharma said in the order. The high court noted

JOSHIMATH DISASTER

Lack of building permit system led to damages: Report

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, Sept 26: The absence of a building permit system is cited as one of the primary reasons for the extensive damage to houses in the subsidence-hit area of Joshimath in Uttarakhand, according to a post-disaster needs assessment conducted by government agencies.

Starting January 2, a number of houses and civil structures in an area located near Joshimath-Auli road began to display major cracks due to land subsidence, prompting the relocation of 355 families.

According to local residents, land subsidence had been no-

Starting January 2, a number of houses and civil structures in an area located near Joshimath-Auli road began to display major cracks due to land subsidence

According to local residents, land subsidence had been noticed over several years but became increasingly severe from January 2 to January 8



ted over several years but became increasingly severe from January 2 to January 8.

A 35-member team consisting of professionals from the National Disaster Management Authority, UN agencies, Central Building Research Institute, National Institute of Disaster Management, and other agen-

cies conducted a "Post Disaster Needs Assessment" from April 22 to April 25 to assess the damage caused and to identify the assistance required for the long-term recovery and reconstruction of the affected sectors.

The report highlights that although building bylaws exist,

Valid document must for financial aid

Financial assistance should not be provided if the affected households in the subsidence-hit region of Joshimath in Uttarakhand do not have a valid land-ownership document or the buildings have been illegally encroached, a government report has recommended. The report also recommended designating no-building zones in the land-use maps and denying any grant or relief to buildings constructed in such zones should there be a disaster.

they are not mandatory for residential buildings.

"People obtain permits only when they need a loan or for other government requirements. One of the primary reasons for Joshimath's current situation is the absence of a building permit system. Had there been risk-based building bylaws in place and existing buildings

were in compliance with them, the extent of damage would have been less, and retrofitting would have been less expensive," the report said.

The agencies emphasised the immediate need for the development of a prospective plan with the objective of creating a safe and resilient Joshimath for the next 10-15 years.

After Moon mission, ISRO eyes Venus, exo-planets: Somanath

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, Sept 26: After the success of the Moon mission, ISRO has set sights on unlocking the mysteries of dying stars and exo-planets some of which are known to have atmosphere and are considered habitable, Indian Space Research Organisation Chairman S Somanath said Tuesday.

Delivering a lecture organised by the Indian National Science Academy (INSA), Somanath said the space agency was also planning a mission to study the planet Venus, two satellites to study space climate and its impact on the earth, and conceptualising a project to land a spacecraft on Mars.

He said the XPOsat or the X-Ray Polarimeter Satellite, meant to study bright X-ray pulsars or stars that are in the process of death, was ready for launch in December this year.

"We are also conceiving a satellite called ExoWorlds, a mission for looking at exo-solar planets or planets that are outside our solar system and orbiting other stars," Somanath said in a statement.

He said there were more than 5,000 known exo-planets of which at least 100 were considered to have atmospheres. The ExoWorlds mission will study the atmosphere of exo-planets and whether they are livable or they host life.

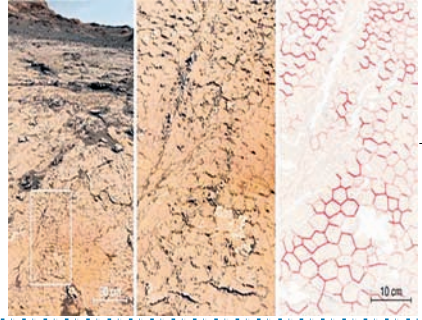
international



The Asia Pacific Economic Cooperation summit in San Francisco in November should promote cooperation rather than provoke confrontation and the US should show fairness and inclusiveness to create better conditions for a smooth meeting
WANG YI | CHINA FOREIGN MINISTER

NOVEL METHOD

Scientists have developed a novel Artificial Intelligence-based method that can test for signs of past or present life on Mars and other planets



of the day quote

He (Biden) has made America far more dependent on communist China. Yet the pandemic proved that we should never rely on an enemy for critical supplies
NIKKI HALEY | REPUBLICAN PRESIDENTIAL ASPIRANT

I'm certainly confident that Indigenous Australians will overwhelming be voting yes in this referendum
ANTHONY ALBANESE | AUSTRALIA PM

Moscow's disinformation operation is a multimillion-euro weapon of mass manipulation aimed both internally at the Russians as well as at Europeans and the rest of the world
VERA JOUROVA | EUROPEAN COMMISSION VICE PRESIDENT

SHORT TAKES

Five Bulgarians appear in UK court

London: Five Bulgarians living in the UK who were charged with spying for Russia appeared Tuesday in court for an initial hearing. The three men and two women were accused of "conspiring to collect information intended to be directly or indirectly useful to an enemy," namely Russia, between August 2020 and February this year. The five are alleged to be part of a network conducting surveillance on behalf of Russia. Much of the activity took place abroad, but coordination took place in the UK, prosecutors said.

Two explosions rock Sweden

Stockholm: Two powerful explosions ripped through dwellings in central Sweden overnight, injuring at least three people and damaging buildings, with bricks and window sections left spread outside. Late on Monday, an explosion occurred in Hasselby, a suburb of the capital, Stockholm. In the early hours of Tuesday, a blast in Linköping, some 175 kilometers (110 miles) to the southwest, ripped the facade off a three-story building, leaving debris strewn across a parking area. It was not known whether the blasts were related to each other.

Eight electrocuted

Cape Town: Eight people including four children were killed by electrocution in two separate events after days of heavy rain caused floods in impoverished informal settlements near the South African city of Cape Town, emergency services said Tuesday.

STRAIN IN THE 'IRONCLAD' FRIENDSHIP

CPEC expansion plan hits roadblock

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Islamabad, Sept 26: China has refused to further expand cooperation in the areas of energy, water management, and climate change under the multi-billion dollar China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC), it emerged on Tuesday, signalling a strain in the 'ironclad' friendship between the two all-weather allies.

Cash-strapped Pakistan also gave up its opposition to setting up a new imported coal-fired power plant in Gwadar in Balochistan province and agreed to a number of Chinese demands to address Beijing's concerns, The Express Tribune newspaper reported, citing the signed minutes of the 11th Joint Cooperation Committee (JCC) of the CPEC.

The JCC is a strategic decision-making body of the CPEC and its 11th meeting was held virtually on October 27 last year on the insistence of the Pakistan Muslim League-Nawaz (PML-N)-led government that wanted to showcase some progress.

However, the minutes of the meeting were signed almost a year later on July 31 during the visit of Chinese vice premier He Lifeng, highlighting the dif-



ference of opinions on both sides that led to such a huge delay in reaching a consensus, the report said. When contacted, the Ministry of Planning stated that it was a global practice for the minutes of meetings between two countries to be signed by both sides only after due consultation and evolving consensus.

Interestingly, the final draft shared with Beijing by Pakistan and the final minutes signed by

both sides were different in many ways, the report said. China's disagreement to further expand cooperation in areas of energy, water management, and climate change under the CPEC underscores "the challenges that both the sides are facing in deepening the economic ties", it said.

The USD 60 billion CPEC, which connects Gwadar Port in Pakistan's Balochistan with China's Xinjiang province, is the flagship project of China's am-

bitious multi-billion-dollar Belt and Road Initiative (BRI). The BRI is seen as an attempt by China to further its influence abroad with infrastructure projects funded by Chinese investments all over the world.

The CPEC is a collection of infrastructure and other projects under construction throughout Pakistan since 2013. India has protested to China over the CPEC as it is being laid through Pakistan-occupied Kashmir (PoK).

The details of the final minutes of the 11th JCC showed that China did not agree to a host of measures that Pakistan had proposed in the areas of energy, water management, climate change and tourism in Gilgit-Baltistan, Khyber-Pakhtunkhwa, PoK and the coastal areas.

China excluded cooperation in the areas of cross-border tourism in Gilgit-Baltistan, Khyber-Pakhtunkhwa, PoK and cooperation for the promotion of coastal tourism from the final minutes, the details showed.

China also did not agree to Pakistan's proposal for the inclusion of Water Resources Management and Climate Change and Urban Infrastructure Development in the CPEC framework.

THE CPEC IS A COLLECTION OF INFRASTRUCTURE AND OTHER PROJECTS UNDER CONSTRUCTION THROUGHOUT PAKISTAN SINCE 2013
INDIA HAS PROTESTED TO CHINA OVER THE CPEC AS IT IS BEING LAID THROUGH PAKISTAN-OCCUPIED KASHMIR

Russian video shows fleet commander alive

REUTERS

Moscow, Sept 26: Admiral Viktor Sokolov, the commander of Russia's Black Sea Fleet, was shown on Russian state television Tuesday attending a defence leaders' meeting remotely, a day after Ukrainian special forces said they had killed him.

In video and photographs released by the defence ministry, Sokolov was shown as one of several fleet commanders on video apparently joining an in-person meeting of Defence Minister Sergei Shoigu and other army chiefs, although not speaking. It was not clear when the video was filmed.

Ukraine's special forces said Monday that Sokolov had been killed along with 33 other officers in a missile attack last week on the headquarters of Russia's Black Sea Fleet in the port of Sevastopol in Crimea, seized from Ukraine in 2014.

In response to the Russian video, the Ukraine special forces said on Telegram: "Since the Russians were urgently forced to publish a response with Sokolov allegedly alive, our units are clarifying the information."

Kremlin spokesman Dmitry Peskov had declined to comment on the Ukrainian claim, referring reporters to the ministry.

In the video, Shoigu said more than 17,000 Ukrainian soldiers had been killed in September and that more than 2,700 weapons, including seven American Bradley fighting vehicles, had been destroyed. Reuters could not independently verify battlefield claims.



French President Emmanuel Macron hugs Italian President Sergio Mattarella on the occasion of the funeral of former Italian President Giorgio Napolitano in Rome

Jaishankar makes veiled attack on Canada at UNGA

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

United Nations, Sept 26: India Tuesday asked the UN member states not to allow "political convenience" to determine responses to terrorism, extremism and violence, in a veiled attack on Canada amidst the diplomatic standoff over the killing of a Khalistani separatist.

Addressing the 78th UN General Assembly session here, External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar also said respect for territorial integrity and non-interference in internal affairs cannot be "exercises in cherry picking" as he asserted that the



days when a few nations set the agenda and expected others to fall in line are over.

"We must never again allow an injustice like vaccine apartheid to recur. Climate action too cannot continue to wit-

ness an evasion of historical responsibilities. The power of markets should not be utilised to steer food and energy from the needy to the wealthy." Nor must we countenance that political convenience determines responses to terrorism, extremism and violence. Similarly, respect for territorial integrity and non-interference in internal affairs cannot be exercises in cherry picking," the minister said, in an apparent reference to the US, which reportedly provided Canada with intelligence after the killing of Sikh separatist Hardeep Singh Nijjar.

Jaishankar's remarks on the

"political convenience" appears to be directed at Canada whose Prime Minister Justin Trudeau recently alleged "potential" involvement of Indian agents in the killing of a Khalistani extremist on his country's soil on June 18 in British Columbia, a charge angrily rejected by New Delhi as "absurd" and "motivated".

"They (Canadians) have made the allegations, they have taken action on them. To us, it seems or it appears that these allegations by the government of Canada are primarily politically driven," External Affairs Ministry spokesperson Arindam Bagchi said last week.

CIPHER CASE

Imran's judicial remand extended

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Islamabad, Sept 26: Pakistan's former Prime Minister Imran Khan and his close aide Shah Mahmood Qureshi will continue to remain in jail till October 10 as a special court Tuesday extended for the third time their judicial remand in a case related to the alleged disclosure of state secrets.

Khan, also the chief of the Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) party, was arrested last month after a case was filed against him for allegedly violating the Official Secrets Act by disclosing a secret diplomatic cable (cipher) sent by the country's embassy in Washington last year in March.

Judge Abul Hasnat Zulqarnain conducted the proceedings inside the high security Attock Jail where the former prime minister has been detained since August 5 after his arrest following conviction in the Toshakhana case. Khan's sentence was suspended by the Islamabad High Court on August 29 in the Toshakhana case, but he continues to remain in Attock prison in the cipher case.



SOUTH KOREA HOLDS LARGEST ARMED FORCES DAY

CONCERNS ARE GROWING THAT NORTH KOREA IS SEEKING RUSSIAN HELP IN EXPANDING ITS NUCLEAR ARSENAL IN RETURN FOR SUPPLYING MOSCOW WITH CONVENTIONAL ARMS EXHAUSTED BY ITS WAR WITH UKRAINE

ASSOCIATED PRESS

Seoul, Sept 26: South Korea paraded thousands of troops and an array of weapons capable of striking North Korea through its capital as part of its biggest Armed Forces Day ceremony in 10 years Tuesday, as its President vowed to build a stronger military to thwart any provocation by the North.

Concerns are growing that North Korea is seeking Russian help in expanding its nuclear arsenal in return for supplying Moscow with conventional arms exhausted by its war with Ukraine. "After looking at your

imposing march today, I believe our people would trust you and have faith in our national security," President Yoon Suk Yeol told cheering soldiers at the end of the ceremony in a central Seoul plaza. "I'll always support you together with our people."

Earlier, South Korea rolled tanks, artillery systems, drones and powerful ballistic missiles capable of hitting all of North Korea through the streets of Seoul, amid steady autumn rains. About 4,000 South Korean troops carrying rifles or flags followed them, accompanied by about 300 US soldiers, in



the first such military parade since 2013.

As the soldiers and their

weapons went past, Yoon waved, clapped and flashed a thumbs-up. Since taking of-

fice last year, he has been pushing hard to beef up South Korea's defense capability while expanding military drills with the United States in response to North Korea's advancing nuclear arsenal.

But a complication in Seoul and Washington's efforts to curb the North's nuclear ambitions is the latest North Korean push to deepen military cooperation with Russia. Earlier this month, North Korean leader Kim Jong Un travelled to Russia's far eastern region to meet with President Vladimir Putin and visit key military sites.

North Korea reportedly

wants to receive Russian technologies to help its development of spy satellites, nuclear-propelled submarines and powerful long-range missiles. Such weapons would pose a major security threat to South Korea and the US.

In a formal Armed Forces Day ceremony at a military airport near Seoul earlier Tuesday, Yoon said he'll strive to build "a strong military that instills fear in the enemy". "Based on battle-ready combat capabilities and a solid readiness posture, our military will immediately retaliate against any North Korean provocation," he said.

of the day quote

International MNCs spend 20-25% of their profits in research and innovation while for Indian companies the average is around 10%. Till the time we do not come out with research-led innovative products, we cannot lead the segment globally

MANSUKH MANDAVIYA | UNION MINISTER

We are creating a viable ecosystem and modernizing all the ports across the country be it for cargo movement, transportation of goods or reduction of costs

SARBANANDA SONOWAL | UNION MINISTER

We feel that the more the EV ecosystem grows, the more will be the growth of brands

SANTOSH IYER | MERCEDES-BENZ INDIA MD AND CEO

SHORT TAKES

GST Council to meet October 7

New Delhi: The GST Council, chaired by Union finance minister and comprising state ministers, will meet October 7. "The 52nd meeting of the GST Council will be held on 7th October, 2023 at Vigyan Bhawan, New Delhi," the GST Council said in a post on X. In the previous meeting August 2, the council had approved amendments to the Goods and Services Tax (GST) laws to provide clarity on the taxation of casinos, horse racing and online gaming. A 28 per cent GST is levied on full face value of bets in the three supplies.

Zerodha profit surges 39%

New Delhi: Online stock broking platform Zerodha Tuesday reported a 39 per cent jump in profit after tax to ₹2,907 crore for the financial year ended March 31, 2023. In comparison, the brokerage house had posted a Profit After Tax (PAT) of ₹2,094 crore in the financial year 2022-23. Also, the company's revenues surged by 38.5 per cent to ₹6,875 crore in FY23 from ₹4,964 crore a year ago. "We continued to see phenomenal growth even in FY 22/23. That said, the business has plateaued in terms of revenue and profitability over the last three years to huge interest in the markets, especially in the F&O segment."

REC partners with PNB

New Delhi: Power PSU REC Ltd and public lender Punjab National Bank Tuesday inked an agreement to co-finance projects in power, infrastructure and logistics projects. The two entities will jointly finance loans worth ₹55,000 crore, REC said in a statement. "REC Limited signed an MoU with Punjab National Bank (PNB) Tuesday to jointly explore the possibility to fund the Power Sector and Infrastructure and Logistics Sector projects under the consortium arrangement. REC and PNB will associate with each other to co-finance loans amounting to ₹55,000 crore over the next three years," the statement said. The memorandum of agreement was signed between TSC Bosh, Executive Director (Infra & Logistics), REC, and PNB Chief General Manager Rajeeva in the presence of other senior officials of the two companies.



India is one of the most competitive aviation markets in the world and there is also a lot of competition in the market

PIETER ELBERS | INDIGO CEO

BOURSES ANNOUNCE ASM FOR SME STOCKS

Leading stock exchanges BSE and NSE have said that stocks in the small and medium enterprises (SME) segment will come under the framework of Additional Surveillance Measures (ASM) and trade-to-trade settlement to curb volatility in such shares.



India to start carbon trading from 2025

Carbon emission reduction targets will be set for four fossil fuel dependent sectors

REUTERS

New Delhi, Sept 26: India will set carbon emission reduction targets for four fossil fuel dependent sectors, as the country looks to align its industry with the country's greenhouse emissions reduction target, two government officials said.

The country will fix carbon emission intensity benchmarks and reduction targets for three years for companies in petrochemicals, iron and steel, cement and pulp and paper, two government officials, who did not want to be named, told Reuters. The market trading cycle will be annual, they said.

The companies in the four sectors are also likely to be the first ones to trade on the country's carbon trading market from April 2025, the officials added, which will enable them buy and sell carbon credits to meet their goals.

Companies which exceed their targets earn carbon credits that can be sold to firms which fall short of their goals.

"The mandates will be applicable from 2024-25 and the (carbon) trade will start in 2025-26,"



Companies which exceed their targets earn carbon credits that can be sold to firms which fall short of their goals

one top government official said. The targets will be aligned with the country's emission intensity - the total amount of greenhouse gas emissions emitted

for every unit increase of gross domestic product (GDP) reduction goals submitted to the United Nations, the officials said.

India has committed to cutting its ratio of greenhouse emissions to gross domestic product by 2030 to 45% of its 2005 level and to net zero by 2070.

The carbon credits will be traded on the proposed carbon market provided under a legislation cleared by the Indian Parliament in

December last year.

India's ministries of environment and power did not respond to a query from Reuters.

The proposed Indian carbon market is different from those created in developed countries as they set a limit on emissions and then allocate tradable permits, or credits, to emitter industries.

The targets for reducing each sector's emissions are being set by a committee comprising of key ministries such as environment, power and renewable energy.

The rules and targets for the industries are likely to be announced before December, the two officials said.

India already has a market for trading certificates in above-target energy savings for entities in 13 sectors.

Green energy companies formed a group in October to mediate between the government and industry. They included Adani Green, owned by billionaire Gautam Adani, Hero Future Energies, Ayana Renewable Power and global private equity major KKR's Virescent Infra.

I-T depart notifies 'Angel Tax' rules

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, Sept 26: The Income Tax Department has notified new angel tax rules that comprise a mechanism to evaluate the shares issued by unlisted startups to investors.

While previously the angel tax - a tax levied on capital received on the sale of shares of a startup above the fair market value - applied only to local investors, the Budget for 2023-24 fiscal (April 2023 to March 2024) widened its ambit to include foreign investments.

As per the Budget, the excess premium will be considered as 'income from sources' and taxed at the rate of up to over 30 per cent. However, startups registered by the DPIIT are exempt from the new norms. The Central Board of Direct Taxes (CBDT) in a September 25 notification spelled out the valuation methodology.

As per the changes in Rule 11UA of I-T rules, the Central Board of Direct Taxes (CBDT) provides that the valuation of compulsorily convertible preference shares (CCPS) and equity shares issued by unlisted



startups can be based on the fair market value.

The amended rules also retain the five new valuation methods proposed in the draft rules for consideration received from the non-residents - (i) Comparable Company Multiple Method, (ii) Probability Weighted Expected Return Method, (iii) Option Pricing Method, (iv) Milestone Analysis Method, and (v) Replacement Cost Method.

Deloitte India Partner Sumit Singhanian said from an investors' standpoint, revised rules offer a wider range of valuation methodologies to work with, and that ought to make compliance less onerous henceforth.

"Also, safe harbour permitting 10 per cent deviation from fair value makes room for valuation adjustments when needed. Overall, the trajectory is to align tax valuation methodologies with permissible exchange control norms," Singhanian said.

Sluggish demand to hit diamond exports: Icara



PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, Sept 26: India's export of cut and polished diamonds is projected to decline by 22 per cent to USD 17.2 billion in the current fiscal due to weakened demand from the key consuming nations, according to rating agency Icara.

In the first five months of the current fiscal, cut and polished diamond exports witnessed a sharp year-on-year decline of 31 per cent following lower export volumes and higher polished diamond prices, it said. Export of cut and polished diamonds has been on a declining trend since the first half of 2022-23, it added.

"The export contraction is primarily being driven by weak underlying demand conditions in key consuming nations like the US and Europe due to the inflationary pressures, leading to a shift in spending away from di-

amonds," Icara Vice President and Sector Head Sakshi Suneja said in a statement. The demand from China, which accounts for 10-15 per cent of the global demand, has also not picked up meaningfully so far, she said.

In addition, competition from lab-grown diamonds, which are priced at a significant discount to natural diamonds, also accentuated the dip in volumes, particularly for the large-sized diamonds in the range of one to three carats. The share of lab-grown diamonds within India's total cut and polished diamonds exports continues to rise, she added. Icara said prices of rough diamonds remain elevated in FY2024, with current prices hovering around the 15-year median level, despite some softening seen in recent months. These prices had soared in the last two years, following limited supply from mining companies.

Shares tread water as rate worries dent risk appetite

SELECT PROFIT TAKING IN IT AND BANKING STOCKS

AGENCIES

Mumbai, Sept 26: Benchmark BSE Sensex declined by 78 points in a listless trade Tuesday due to select profit taking in IT and banking shares in line with weak Asian markets and continuous foreign fund outflows.

The 30-share BSE Sensex fell 78.22 points or 0.12 per cent to settle at 65,945.47 with 14 of its components closing lower and 16 advancing. During the day, it declined 158.06 points or 0.23 per cent to a low of 65,865.63.

The broader Nifty dipped 9.85 points or 0.05 per cent to end at 19,664.70. As many as 23 Nifty shares declined while 27 closed in the green.

Among Sensex shares, IndusInd Bank fell the most by 1.29 per cent, followed by Tech Mahindra (1.28 per cent), Kotak Bank (1.24 per cent) and Infosys (1 per cent).

Asian Paints, ICICI Bank, Titan, and Bajaj Finserv were among the losers.

On the other hand, Nestle India rose the most by 1.58 per cent. Tata Steel, Mahindra &



Mahindra, Bajaj Finance, HDFC Bank and Tata Consultancy Services were among the gainers.

In the broader market, the BSE midcap gauge dipped 0.09 per cent and the smallcap index climbed 0.33 per cent.

Among the indices, IT fell 0.46 per cent, bankex declined 0.45 per cent, teck (0.36 per cent), consumer durables (0.23 per cent) and financial services (0.21 per cent).

Commodities, consumer discretionary, FMCG, industrials and telecommunication were among the gainers.

In Asian markets, Seoul, Tokyo, Shanghai and Hong Kong ended lower.

Global oil benchmark Brent crude declined 0.79 per cent to USD 92.55 a barrel.

Foreign Institutional Investors (FIIs) offloaded equities worth ₹2,333.03 crore Monday, according to exchange data.

Historic milestone for Rolls-Royce's hydrogen research project

ROLLS-ROYCE HAS PROVEN A CRITICAL ENGINE TECHNOLOGY THAT MARKS ANOTHER SIGNIFICANT STEP IN THE JOURNEY TO ENABLING HYDROGEN AS AN AVIATION FUEL

INDO-ASIAN NEWS SERVICE

New Delhi, Sept 26: Rolls-Royce Tuesday announced a further key milestone, a world industry first, has been achieved in its hydrogen research project.

Both Rolls-Royce and its partner easyJet are committed to being at the forefront of the development of hydrogen combustion engine technology capable of powering a range of aircraft, including those in the narrow-body market segment, from the mid-2030s onwards.

Now, working with Loughborough University in the UK and the German Aerospace Centre Deutsches Zentrum für Luft-und Raumfahrt (DLR), Rolls-Royce has proven a critical engine technology that marks another significant step in the journey to enabling hydrogen as an aviation fuel.

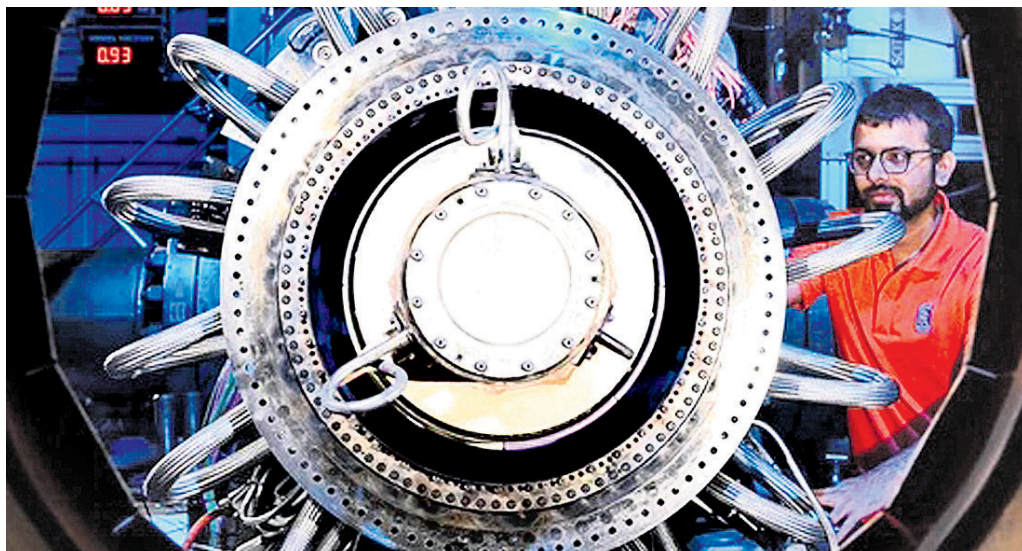
Tests on a full annular combustor of a Pearl 700 engine at DLR in Cologne running on 100 per cent hydrogen have proven

the fuel can be combusted at conditions that represent maximum take-off thrust.

Key to that achievement has been the successful design of advanced fuel spray nozzles to control the combustion process. This involved overcoming significant engineering challenges as hydrogen burns far hotter and more rapidly than kerosene. The new nozzles were able to control the flame position using a new system that progressively mixes air with the hydrogen to manage the fuel's reactivity. Rolls-Royce is pleased to confirm that combustor operability and emissions were both in line with expectations.

The individual nozzles were initially tested at intermediate pressure at Loughborough's recently upgraded test facilities and at DLR Cologne before the final full-pressure combustor tests took place at DLR Cologne.

Last year, easyJet and Rolls-Royce also set a world first by successfully running a modern aero



engine, an AE2100, on green hydrogen at Boscombe Down, UK.

These recent tests mean the combustion element of the hydrogen programme is now well understood, while work continues on systems to deliver the fuel to the engine and integrate those systems with an engine.

Grazia Vittadini, Chief Technology Rolls-Royce, said: "This is an incredible achievement in a short space of time. Controlling the combustion process is one of the key tech-

nology challenges the industry faces in making hydrogen a real aviation fuel of the future. We have achieved that, and it makes us eager to keep moving forward. I want to thank easyJet, Loughborough University and DLR for their dedication and support to reach this milestone."

Johan Lundgren, CEO of easyJet, said: "We believe hydrogen is the future of short-haul aviation and the success of this test and progress being

made demonstrates that this is becoming ever closer. We remain optimistic that it will play a critical role in helping us achieve the ambitious goals we set out in our net zero roadmap."

Professor Dan Parsons, Pro Vice-Chancellor for Research and Innovation, Loughborough University, said: "In conjunction with its partners, the National Centre for Combustion and Aerothermal Technology (NCCAT) at Loughborough is delighted to have supported the

landmark testing and development of advanced aerospace fuel spray nozzles utilising hydrogen fuel. This is a major advance towards net zero aviation."

Markus Fischer, Divisional Board Member Aeronautics of DLR, said: "This is an outstanding success story and we are more than happy to have contributed our hydrogen testing capabilities. It was very exciting supporting this technology journey and seeing the burner technology mature in various rigs at our Institute of Propulsion Technology. This underlines again DLR's capabilities in complex applied research and the achievement, at such a high pace, was supported by our experience in real-scale testing of ground-based gas turbines."

The technologies tested at Loughborough and DLR will now be incorporated into the learning from the Boscombe Down tests as Rolls-Royce and easyJet prepare for the next stage of testing - a full gas hydrogen ground test on a Pearl engine.

That will in turn lead to a full ground test on a Pearl engine using liquid hydrogen - both easyJet and Rolls-Royce have a shared ambition to then take the technology to flight.

INDIAN DRESSAGE TEAM CLAIM FIRST ASIAN GAMES YELLOW METAL, EQUESTRIAN'S FIRST IN 41 YEARS

Horse riders' golden ride

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Hangzhou, Sept 26: India's dressage team centered to their first ever Asian Games gold and only second medal in this discipline in the history of the sport with the quartet of Sudipti Hajela, Divyakriti Singh, Vipul Hriday Chheda and Anush Agarwalla living up to expectations, here Tuesday.

The Indian quartet was performing well in the selection trials as their scores either matched or were better than the Asian Games medal winners from the previous editions.

It was more about the colour of medal they would win and they grabbed the top place on the podium by aggregating 209.205 percentage points, leaving behind China (204.882 %) and Hong Kong (204.852%).

In dressage, the horse and rider are judged on how they perform a series of movements. Each movement is marked out of 10 (from 0 to 10). Each rider gets an overall score and from there, a percentage is worked out. The rider with the highest percentage is the winner of his class. Top three scorers in a team are counted to determine the winner.

It was a long and difficult journey for the Indian team which has an interesting mixture of riders. All of them left home at a young age and have been training in Europe separately for the last few years away from their family.

They took part in the Asian Games selection trials organised in Europe by the Equestrian Federation of India. Their horses were quarantined in Aachen in Germany for seven days under strict rules before they were brought to China September 21.



KNOW THE QUARTET

The 21-year-old Sudipti, who hails from Indore, is the youngest of the quartet. She currently trains at Pamfou in France. She began horse riding at the age of six as a hobby but later took it seriously as a sport on the insistence of her father. The name of her horse is Chinski.

The 23-year-old Anush left his home in Kolkata in 2017 to train in Germany after having difficulties in finding a coach. He is currently based in Borchon. He developed his passion for horse

The last time the sport of equestrian contributed to India's Asian Games tally was in 1986 when the country won a dressage bronze in the 1982 edition in New Delhi, the Indian team had grabbed 3 gold medals in Eventing and Tent Pegging competitions

Raghuraj Singh had won a gold in individual Eventing in 1982 and then added another yellow metal in Team Eventing alongside Ghulam Mohammed Khan, Bishal Singh and Milkhia Singh. Rupinder Singh Brar won the third gold medal in individual Tent Pegging

riding after his parents took him to a club in Kolkata. He soon began having horse riding lessons at the age of eight. Anush became the first male dressage rider from India to compete at the

World Championships at the 2022 edition. His horse's name is Etro.

For Divyakriti, who is hailing from Jaipur, the achievement was also due to their horses.

She took to horse riding when she was in the seventh grade. In 2020, she moved to Europe for training. She was training at Hagen ATW in Germany before the Asian Games. She rides Adrenalin Firofod.

Hailing from Mumbai, the 25-year-old Vipul, a business management degree holder from University of London, also began horse riding at a young age. Since 2013, he began training with top foreign players in Europe. He rides Chemxpro Emerald.

LANKAN LIONS AIM TO STUN TITLE FAVOURITES

Sri Lanka, a team who were once one of the powerhouses in world cricket, are struggling in recent time. The 1996 World Cup winners would look to make use of the sub-continent conditions to reach the knockouts.

However, it's easier said than done. The Lankan Lions finished runners-up in 2011 edition - hosted by India. It was their second successive runners-up finish in the quadrennial event.

They were even doing wonders in T20Is, finishing runners-up in ICC World T20 2009 and 2012 before finally ending their ICC title drought in 2014 winning the tournament.

However, after losing Kumar Sangakkara, Mahela Jayawardene, Tillakaratne Dilshan and Lasith Malinga one after the other, the Sri Lankan cricket dropped quite a bit. Other than Angelo Mathews, none of the Lankan cricketers could perform consistently at the highest level. As a result, the team saw so many new faces in every series.

However, under the leadership of Dasun Shanaka, the team, although slowly, is making its return to the top level. They won the 2022 Asia Cup T20 beating Pakistan in the final. They continued their good run and reached the final at the recently concluded Asia Cup (50-over tournament). Despite being outplayed by



eventual champions India in the final, their appearance in the two successive finals shows that they are slowly but surely rising towards the top. Sri Lanka are a team who can beat any side in the world on their day. However, star all-rounder Wanindu Hasaranga's absence would be huge blow for the team as the leg-spinner was ruled out of the WC due to a hamstring injury. Hasaranga was a vital component during the Qualifiers, topping the tournament's wicket-takers chart with an impressive 22 wickets in just seven games. The Lions went unbeaten throughout the Qualifiers to seal their place at the World Cup.

Sometimes a bit of a kick up the rear end (indicating their humiliating 10-wicket loss to India in Asia Cup final) is not the worst thing going into a World Cup. It's one of those things we can't dwell on too much. So there are lessons to learn, questions to be asked in the dressing room, and we have to move forward from this



HOLDING THE KEYS TO SUCCESS
Dasun Shanaka, Kusal Mendis, Dimuth Karunaratne, Maheesh Theekshana & Matheesha Pathirana

CHRIS SILVERWOOD | HEAD COACH

Rampant India eye rare ODI clean sweep vs Oz



PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Rajkot, Sept 26: Skipper Rohit Sharma would fancy a perfect culmination to Indian team's World Cup preparations as hosts eye a rare clean sweep of Australia in the third and final ODI here Wednesday.

Never before in the history have India whitewashed Australia in the ODI format. In fact, neither of them have achieved such a result, home or away, irrespective of the number of matches played in a series.

Given how perfectly everything has panned out for the World Cup leaders in the lead up to the mega tournament, it would only be fitting that India finish with a deserving 3-0 scoreline.

It will be no exaggeration in saying India have battered Australia in the first two ODIs despite both the rivals making plenty of changes to keep their top guns fresh, while also putting miles in the legs of those who would not usually feature in first-choice XI.

There could, however, be some respite for the Australian bowlers as India have rested their young gun Shubman Gill, along with Mohammed Shami and Shardul Thakur. Hardik Pandya will also be unavailable.

India's batting mainstays Rohit and Virat Kohli are expected to return and so are the in-form Kuldeep Yadav for a brief resting period. The likes of Ishan Kishan, Suryakumar Yadav, Shami and even Mohammed Siraj have transformed this Indian outfit into as formidable a unit can get. Shreyas Iyer is also likely to consolidate his position in the middle-order.

Much to the delight of the

MATCH SCHEDULE
INDIA vs AUSTRALIA
3rd One-Day International
Time: 1:30 pm
Telecast: Sports 18 channels
Stream: JioCinema

Indian camp, Rahul has delivered the goods with the bat and behind the stumps at the most appropriate time. Like Rahul, Jasprit Bumrah too has proven his fitness and form in a few matches after a long injury lay-off. After resting from the second ODI, India's premier bowler is available for selection.

Even though the team management appears tilted in favour of injured Axar Patel, oldest member of the Indian squad Ravichandran Ashwin would like to make this opportunity count before the contingent is finalised for the World Cup.



INDIA MEN MAUL SINGAPORE

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Hangzhou, Sept 26: Skipper Harmanpreet Singh and Mandeep Singh slammed a hat-trick each as favourites India mauled lowly Singapore 16-1 to register their second consecutive win in the men's hockey competition at the Asian Games here Tuesday.

The Indians continued their goal-scoring spree after the 16-0 rout of Uzbekistan in their tournament opener as they found the net at will against World No.49 Singapore. India will next face defending champions Japan Thursday.

Harmanpreet (24th, 39th, 40th, 42nd minutes) and Mandeep (12th, 30th, 51st), Abhishek (51st, 52nd), Varun Kumar (55th, 55th), Lalit Kumar Upadhyay (16th), Gurjant Singh (22nd), Vivek Sagar Prasad (23rd), Manpreet Singh (37th), Shamsher Singh (38th) were the goal scorers for India. **NAGAL, RAINA IN QUARTERS**



Counter-puncher Sumit Nagal blunted the challenge of big-serving Beibit Zhukayev with his perseverance while Ankit Raina out-gunned Adithya P Karunaratne without fuss as the two Indians inched closer to singles medals by reaching the quarterfinals.

Kazakhstan's Zhukayev served big but Nagal controlled the points better for a 7-6(11-9), 6-4 in a riveting men's singles third round while Raina cruised to a 6-1, 6-2 win over her Hong Kong's opponent in the third round of the women's singles event.

However, the singles challenge of Ramkumar Ramanathan and



Rutuja Bhosale came to a halt at the Asian Games. In the mixed doubles, the top-seeded Indian pair of Yuki Bhambhani and Ankit Raina reached the pre-quarterfinals with a 6-0, 6-0 thrashing of Pakistan's Aqeel Khan and Sarah Khan.

NO MEDAL FOR TULIKA
Indian judoka Tulika Maan missed out of a chance to win a medal after going down to Mongolia's Amaraikhan Adiyasuren in the bronze-medal play-off of the women's +78kg event. The 25-year-old from Delhi, a silver medalist at the 2022 Commonwealth Games, lost to Adiyasuren 0-10 by ippon at Xiaoshan Linpu Gymnasium here.

SACHIN IN PRE-QUARTERS
Indian boxer Sachin Siwach put up a dominant display in his opening 57kg bout to sail into the pre-quarterfinals. The 23-year-old managed to dominate the match from the beginning wading off flurry of attacks from the Indonesian with ease using his flashy footwork. He will face Turki Abuquthailah of Kuwait in the Round of 16.

COMFORTABLE VICTORIES
The Indian squash contingent began its campaign with comfortable victories over Singapore and Pakistan, in the men's and women's team competitions respectively.

The women's team comprising 15-year-old Anahat Singh, veteran

Joshna Chinappa and Tanvi Khanna blanked Pakistan 3-0 in its opening Pool B match. In the men's event, top seeds India comprising Harinder Pal Sandhu, Saurav Ghosal and Abhay Singh outplayed Singapore 3-0.

MISSING OUT ON MEDAL
Divyansh Panwar and Ramita Jindal buckled under pressure as they squandered a big lead to lose to Korea in an engrossing bronze medal match of the 10m air rifle mixed team event.

Divyansh and Ramita were leading 8-0 initially but the Korean pair of Park Hajun and Lee Eunseo made a remarkable comeback to win the match 20-18.

In the women's 25m pistol, Manu Bhaker was at the top spot after the precision event while Esha Singh was third. Rhythm Sangwan was lying at 11th. The Indian trio also topped the team chart with 876 points after the precision section.

BHAVANI DEVI LOSES
Star Indian fencer Bhavani Devi's impressive run at the Asian Games came to an end in the quarterfinals, suffering a 7-15 loss to local favourite Yaqi Shao in the women's sabre individual category. **INDIA FINISH SIXTH**
The Indian men's volleyball team finished sixth at the Asian Games after going down 0-3 to arch-rivals Pakistan. The

Pakistani team dominated all three sets and outplayed India 25-21, 25-20, 25-23.

SWIMMERS SET NEW NR
The Indian men's 4x100m medley relay team obliterated the national record (NR) for the second time in the day but it was not enough to grab a medal as they finished fifth.

The quartet of Srihari Nataraj, Likhith Selvaraj, Sajan Prakash and Tanish George Mathew bettered the 3:40.84 timing set earlier in heat 1 in the day, clocking 3:40.20 in the final. China won the gold with an Asian record timing of 3:27.01, while the silver and bronze went to Korea (3:32.05) and Japan (3:32.52) respectively.

In the morning session, the Indians had bettered the national record of 3:44.94 set by Nataraj, Sandeep Sejwal, Prakash, Aarun D'Souza in the last edition of the Games in Jakarta.

VIDIT JOINT SECOND
Third-seeded Indian Grandmaster Vidit Gujrathi went down to top-ranked Chinese player Wei Yi in the seventh round of the men's individual chess event. Despite the defeat, the 28-year old Indian is in joint second place with 5 points from 7 rounds, half-a-point behind Yi. Uzbekistan's Nodirbek Abdusattorov is sharing the second place with Gujrathi.

Arjun Erigaisi, the other Indian in the fray, beat Indonesia's Novendra Priasmoro in the seventh round to reach 4.5 points. He shares the joint third spot with three other players.

In the women's event, Koneru Humpy and D Harika posted wins in the fifth round after a below par showing Monday. Both Humpy and Harika have 4.5 points each and are half a point behind third placed Hou Yifan (China) and Bibissara Assaubayeva (Kazakhstan). Zhu Jiner is on top with six points from 7 rounds.

Neha sails to silver, Eabad Ali to bronze



PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Ningbo (China), Sept 26: Neha Thakur, 17, led the show with a silver while Eabad Ali claimed a bronze, as India bagged two medals in sailing at the Asian Games here Tuesday.

Neha powered India to the first medal of the day when she finished second in girl's dinghy ILCA-4 event. India's second medal came in the men's windsurfer RS:X event where Ali with a net score of 52 points came third behind Nattaphong Phonopparat of Thailand and gold medalist Wonwoo Cho of Korea.

In a gruelling 14-race event, Ali's worst race was second and third where he did not finish as seven points were deducted from his total 59 points. In the end, there was a big 23-point gap between Ali and the silver medalist.

A rising sailor from National Sailing School Bhopal, Neha finished with a total of 32 points but her net score of 27 helped her earn the second spot behind gold medalist Noppasorn Khunboonjan of Thailand.



Eabad Ali (L)

Teams announced for National Roll Ball Championship

POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar, Sept 26: The U-11 boys and girls teams announced Monday for the upcoming 13th National Roll Ball Championship, which will take place at the TNPESU Indoor Stadium in Chennai, September 27-30.

The boys' team will be captained by goal-keeper Shibesh Gorai, having Adheev Chanduka as his deputy, while Ashlesha

Panda will lead the girls' team and Madhukshara Mishra has been named the vice-captain.

The send off ceremony of the teams took place at the Kalinga Stadium by Sports and Youth Services Dept, Govt of Odisha officials - Sailendra Jena (Joint Secretary), Sonali Chand (OSD), Sidharth Dash (OSD) and Kshyanaprava (SO), as well as Odisha Roll Ball Association officials - Haresh Mishra (Vice-President), Soudamini Patra



(Secretary), Susant Sahoo (Member), Soumya Pradhan (Member) and Partha Sarathi

Jena (Founder Member). **THE TEAMS: (Boys)** Shibesh Gorai (C & GK), Seyash Adhikari,

Shriyansh Patra, Saharsh Pattnaik, Adheev Chanduka (vc), Ajitesh Pradhan, Kirti Kosik Dash, RN Aayan, Ashmit Das, Manan Kashyap, Devbrat Nayak and Sreyash Shryansh; (Girls) Ashlesha Panda (C), Avyuktha Panda, Simon Shreya, Ichini Dibyanjali, Arshi Kanungo, Madhukshara Mishra (vc), Sudikshaa Swain, Susanna Roul, Gunjan Rout, Aanvi Sudip Kumari, Divyanshee Behera and Giitika Giitimaya (GK).