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CHEER FOR THE

ODISHA

ODISH



Shri Naveen Patnaik

Hon'ble Chief Minister Odisha



Hangzhou 2022

ASIAN GAMES FINAL







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4 PM, 6 OCT 2023







Sports for Youth
Youth for Future 99

OIPR-29001/13/0065/2324





leisure



SZA SLAMS GRAMMYS AS 'THIRSTY, DARK SPACE'

Singer SZA who has won one Grammy for Kiss Me More with Doja Cat, slams the Grammys by describing it as a 'thirsty, dark space,' reports

SHEERAN REVEALS HIS BURIAL PLANS

Singer Ed Sheeran is planning to be buried in a 'hole in the ground' on his estate and has created a chapel to remember his friends who died without a will, reports femalefirst.co.uk.





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Today, you will appreciate beautiful things and exotic artefacts. You may even seriously think of pursuing a business related to such commodities. However, you may not be able to make up your mind, says Ganesha. However, you will decide to keep an open mind about it.

TAURUS

You may find it hard to stop the impending outflow of cash while shopping today, says Ganesha. You aren't the one to be dominated and God help anyone who may end up spending a small fortune, more than lavish to be precise, on the opposite sex today.

Today, you are likely to get encouragement and support for your endeavours from all quarters. You have a gift of gab and your ability to dispel tension with even the simplest of your remarks will be put to test. Still, you will rise to the occasion and

CANCER

you a good luck

If you are a stockbroker, you may feel that things are not going too well for you. Today, you may regret being a stockbroker. Manufacturers must delay the launch of a new product. However, after a waiting game, you may go on to launch the product with a fanfare. Ganesha wishes

Everyone wants to be different. But little do they realise that they already are unique, says Ganesha. Today, you may meet a lot of such different people at work, some of whom may even test your patience. Always remember that working in a team means balancing a variety of

■ VIRGO

Take time off all by yourself and introspect today, says Ganesha. Office cubicle looks set to be a war front and pay due attention there, lest things turn to be more difficult, advises Ganesha. New love may enjoy a nice guiet evening with friends

Being in charge was never easy, but it's not for nothing that leaders are made of sterner stuff. As a person in charge, you are expected to give directions in a manner that gets the best efforts out of your juniors. Move away from traditional dictatorial style, and build a consensus that enables you to pull off the spectacular,

SCORPIO

You shall be completely immersed in your routine today. It's the same old humbug of a day for you, says Ganesha. But this exhausting day may transform into an exciting evening - so be prepared to get surprised

PEANUTS

BREVITY

GOD, I HAVE TO

GET THIS DONE

FOR THE QUILT

COMPETITION

TOMORROW!

STAND HERE

BY THIS WALL, MARCIE ... THIS

CALVIN AND HOBBES

SEEMS TO ME THAT IF I'M NOT LEARNING THIS MATERIAL, YOU

GOOD TEACHER

I'LL 60 THROUGH THE GATE AND GET A FREE BASEBALL CAP...THEN I'U CLIMB DOWN THIS WALL

GIVE YOU THE CAP AND 60 AROUND THROUGH THE GATE AGAIN...

SAGITTARIUS

Cupid is hunting and you are the game today. Cupid's arrows will have you adrift on the ocean of love and turbulent emotions. Your rescue is imminent, when a member of the opposite sex answers your SOS calls. But use your discretion as to which boat you hitch a ride back home,

CAPRICORN

It's a lucky day for your sweetheart! Wonder why it's written in your horo scope? You will pamper him/her to the hilt, take them out on a shopping spree and buy whatever they lay their eyes on, even if it's way beyond reasonable,

AQUARIUS

You find solace in travel today. But if you plan to include others, beware, as you may end up doing all their dirty work too. But, you will find fulfillment even in that, which, says Ganesha, is your strong point. You know how to turn a weakness into strength.

PISCES

Today just might be the day when you invent a better mousetrap, However, your ideas have a propensity to wane and wax at the same speed, says Ganesha. Hence, keep a notebook handy to jot down all your

earth-shattering revolutionary ideas.



Bhumi's mantra to

keep trolls at bay

Even when Bhumi gained weight for

her debut film Dum Laga Ke Haisha and continued to wear clothes like she did earlier, she faced really unkind and hurt-

ful comments. However,

that helped ignite a

fire in her, and now

things like these

don't bother her

concluded the

Mumbai: It doesn't matter what one does or wears, the troll parade always stays

in place to attack at every opportunity they get. Speaking on the topic, Bhumi

Talking to a news portal, the Badhaai Do actress mentioned that ir-

It has turned into something very common. Even if she posts a pic-

She further added that earlier it was only family members used to

criticize a person but now there seems to be no wall. Therefore, she

has grown a thick skin to keep them at bay. Since her childhood, she

had had enough comments that she would look more beautiful if she

On top of that, the actress took the liberty to call the trolls hypocrites. They talk a big game of protecting and preserving the culture but use the most culturally inappropriate language to share their opinions. She added, "Our culture is all about respecting women

and minding our conduct around them. Pointing at her co-artist

Shehnaaz Gill, Bhoomi further mentioned that Sana is brave enough to read through those comments, but she can't bring

herself to do so, and thus, she avoids reading anything at all.

ture fully dressed during the festive season, then also trolls will com

Pednekar reveals what she does to deal with the trolls.

lost a few kilos, and questioned about her short dresses.

respective of what one does, the trolls will always be there.

aceshowbiz.com.

Mumbai: Actress Sunny Leone will be seen in the recreated version of Mera Piva Ghar Aaya 2.0 which is originally pic-

turised on Madhuri Dixit Nene in the 1995 movie Yaarana. A source had earlier revealed that Sunny was practising hard to recreate a renowned dance number that the iconic Madhuri had once performed. The teaser of the track Mera Piya Ghar Aaya 2.0 was un-

veiled Thursday and the song will be re-

leased October 8. Neeti Mohan has sung the song. Choreographer Vijay Ganguly recreated this dance number, which combines the sensucharm of Madhuri with the timeless music of Anu Malik and originally

Sunny's homage to Madhuri

> renowned choreographer Saroj Khan. Sunny's choice to perform on this legendary number not only pays homage to Madhuri but also promises to be a visual treat

The track was originally sung Kavita Krishnamurthy and the music was given by Anu Malik.

Amit unnerved by character's journey

Mumbai: Actor Amit Sadh, who will be seen in the upoming season of *Duranga*, has shared about the challenges ne faced in portraying the complexity and depth of his character's psychosis

The Kai Po Che actor shared, "Portraying the complexity and depth of my character Sammit's psychosis was indeed a challenge that I fully embraced. To authentically capture the character's inner world. I dedicated considerable time to researching real-life cases of individuals with similar traits." "This research allowed me to delve into the intricacies of his mental state, enabling me to convey the turmoil within him convincingly. However, immersing_ myself so deeply into Sammit's disturbed psyche had its personal challenges. There were moments when the character's darkness felt unnerving, even to me. It's a journey that actors often undertake, where the lines between the character and oneself can become blurred," said the actor. The *Avrodh* actor concluded, "The key is to keep people entertained and give them a Sammit whom they love to hate. The aim is to create a character that evokes strong emotions, ensuring that viewers are not only captivated but also intrigued by the complexity of the role.

To solve the Sudoku puzzle, fill in the boxes in such a

manner that every row, column and 3x3 box contains

6

the digits 1 to 9, without repeating any

Anupriya on playing dark roles

Mumbai: Actress Anupriya Goenka known for her works in Padmaavat, War, among many others shared how she accepted and embraced the dark side of her character in the upcoming power-packed series Sultan of Delhi. Talking about her character in the series, the *Tiger*

Zinda Hai actress said, "Shankari is one of the most interesting characters that I have played so far. On the face of it, she comes off as a completely negative character, who has ulterior motives, and can use anybody and everybody to serve her purpose, but her vulnerable side is unknown to the audience. With time, I learned to embrace the dark side of her as she deals with life without justifying anything beyond a point."

> "I have always played very righteous characters, so this one was very interesting because she can be bad without any redemption, and I would like to be lieve that she has gone through hard times in her life which has taught her lessons," shared the 36year-old actress. Sultan of Delhi is all set to release October 13, on Disney+ Hotstar.

> > BEING DRAW INTO A WEB OF CRIME.

CS TAHW

LOOMING DEADLINE

YOU WANT A

DON'T YOU, MARCIE ?!!

THINK

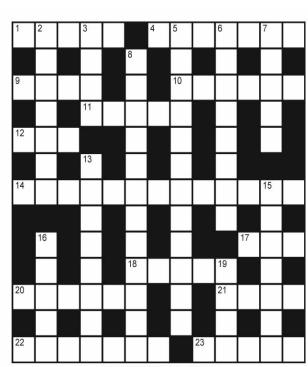
YOU'RE

WRONG.

PUM WUP.

FUN

CROSSWORD



21 Coral formation

22 Ladies' sun hats

23 Former capital

of Japan

- Across 1 Israeli port
- 4 Beach problem
- 9 Egyptian solar deity
- 10 Fanatic 11 Samoyed, e.g.
- 12 Miss the mark
- 14 Phenomenal

20 Papeete locale

- 17 Utmost degree 5 Showy or
- 18 Looked intently

<u>Down</u>

exciting display

(6-6)

- 2 New Zealand flightless bird 3 Sloughs
- 13 Type of slip 15 Sanctum

6 Not moving or

circulating

7 Perfume's

purpose

8 Earthquake

specialist

- sanctorum
- 16 Keyboard instrument
- 19 Sturdy cart

SUDOKU

5 6 3 9 2 3 6 2 5 4 3

2

2

8 4

SOLUTIONS

SUDOKU

9

CROSSWORD E A R I L

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

CHECK FOR SOLUTIONS OF THE PUZZLES TOMORROW



TRIPLE MURDER CRACKED

Cops arrest a youth in the triple murder case that rocked Sankarpala village in Kalahandi recently



AP WORKERS STAGE PROTEST

AAP workers stage a massive protest for the release of party's MP Sanjay Singh who was arrested by ED

NATIONAL



DIPIKA-HARINDER SHINES

Squash stars Dipika Pallikal and Harinder Pal Singh Sandhu clinch mixed doubles gold at Asian Games

SPORTS

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IBANESWAR | FRIDAY OCTOBER 6 | 2023

ODIA JAWAN DIES IN SIKKIM FLOOD

Chief Minister

POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar, Oct 5: Odia jawan Saroj Kumar Das, who was missing in Sikkim flash flood along with 22 other Army personnel, was found dead Thursday.

Saroj, who hailed from Kendudhipa village in Dighi panchayat under Kamakhyanagar police limits and Bhuban block of

Dhenkanal, was swept away when a sudden cloudburst triggered **Naveen Patnaik** flash flood in Teesta river in North Sikkim expressed grief in the wee hours of over the demise of Wednesday

Saroj Kumar Das While as many as 18 bodies have so far been found, more than 98 people, including the Army personnel, re-

mained missing. A pal of gloom descended on Kendudhipa village after Saroj's family members received information about the massive tragedy. Manoj, the elder brother of Saroj, received a video call

from Army authorities Thursday afternoon to identify his brother from five bodies recovered from the flood-hit area

"I don't know how to react. This is a massive tragedy for us. We are fighting to come to terms with the reality," said Manoj as grief-stricken villagers waited for arrival of the soldier's mortal remains for the last rites.

Saroi joined the Indian Army in 2011. He got married in February this

"Saroj had visited home in August and returned to the base camp in the first week of September.

He last spoke to the family members at around 10pm Tuesday. He said he and other jawans of his unit were struck in a bus due to heavy rains," an inconsolable Manoj said.

Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik expressed grief over the demise of the Army jawan and paid condolences to his family.



RESCUE OPS: Indian Army vehicles, which were swept away in Wednesday's flash floods, in North Sikkim district. Army and NDRF search teams continued to work their way through the slush in the Teesta basin and downstream north Bengal for a second day in search of people

OMC, Hindalco ink ₹8K-cr pact

Bhubaneswar, Oct 5: Stateowned Odisha Mining Corporation (OMC) Thursday inked a pact with Hindalco Industries for providing longterm raw material linkage for its refinery project coming up with an investment of ₹8,000 crore at Kansariguda in Rayagada.

The alumina refinery of Aditya Aluminum Limited at Kanshariguda is a green field project that will create 1,000 direct jobs and 4,000 indirect employment opportunities.

The agreement was signed in presence of Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik. OMC MD Balwant Singh his Hindalco counterpart Satish Pai signed the agreement for their respective organisations. The pact will speed up the work for a two-million tonne alumina refinery in Ravagada.

Terming the development as a significant milestone in the journey of Odisha's industrial growth, Patnaik said the state is poised to become an industrial hub of the East.

IRREGULAR by MANJUL



I don't trust him. Govt agencies have not raided him even once. He may betray us

MARKET WATCH

VARIATION

BOUF	SENSEX	65631.57	1	405.53
	NIFTY	19545.75	1	109.65
뿓	DOLLAR	83.21	1	₹0.01
	EURO	87.62	1	₹0.13
ULLION	GOLD	₹56,629	•	₹92
	SILVER	₹ 66.760	1	₹125

WEATHER						
	BHUB	СТК				
MAX	33.2°C	34.8°	CW			
≝ MIN	25.2°C	25.5°	Forecast			
Humidity	89%	75%	Cloudy sky			
Rainfall	Nil	Nil	with light rain			

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA New Delhi, Oct 5: Coming down heavily on CBI and Enforcement

Directorate while hearing the bail petition of former Delhi deputy chief minister Manish Sisodia in the excise policy case, the Supreme Court Thursday posed a volley of questions to the central agencies and asked the antimoney laundering wing how a case was made out against Sisodia.

The top court said merely because some lobby or pressure groups had sought a certain policy change does not imply there was corruption or commission of crime unless an element of bribery was involved.

A bench of Justices Sanjiv Khanna and SVN Bhatti grilled both the federal agencies over the alleged involvement of Sisodia in the corruption and money laundering cases, and remarked those cases won't 'stand two questions' before the trial court.

"We understand that there was a policy change and everyone will support policies which are good for business. Pressure groups are always there but policy changes without money consideration will not matter. It's the money part which makes it an offence. If we go to an extent to say that there cannot be any pressure groups, no government can function...Lobbying will always be there. Of course, bribes cannot be accepted," the

Most of the allegations in the corruption case registered by the CBI against Sisodia were 'hearsay', based on the statements made by approvers and would not

SUPREME COURT BENCH

material

bench told Additional Solicitor General SV Raju, appearing for both the CBI and the ED. Raju said the policy was tailor-made so as to benefit the wholesalers and increase their share of profit in the liquor business.

pass scrutiny before the trial

court without any concrete

"Under the old policy, there was no way you can get the kickback and hence, there arose the need for policy change," he alleged, adding that under the old excise policy, five per cent profit was fixed for the wholesalers while under the new, it was increased to 12 per cent. The bench said most of the allegations in the corruption case registered by the CBI against Sisodia were 'hearsay', based on the statements made by approvers and would not pass scrutiny before the trial court without any concrete material. "Two questions in the cross-examination and this will fall flat," Justice Khanna observed. Businessman Dinesh Arora, an accused in the case had turned approver and was recently

Stockholm, Oct 5: Norwegian

author Jon Fosse, a master of

spare Nordic writing in a sprawl-

ing body of work ranging from

plays to novels and children's

books, won the Nobel Prize in

Literature Thursday for works

that 'give voice to the unsayable.'

Nobel literature committee, said

Fosse's work is rooted 'in the

language and nature of his

called, yet at the same time not.

I have cautiously prepared my-

self for the possibility that this

could happen in the past 10

years," Fosse, 64, told Norwegian

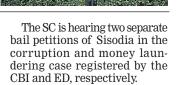
public broadcaster NRK. "It was

a great joy for me to get the

"I was surprised when they

Norwegian background'.

Anders Olsson, chair of the



Excise 'scam': SC raps CBI, ED

The bench also asked th as to how Sisodia can be booked for the offence of money laundering when there was no evidence to connect him to the alleged proceeds of crime. It was referring to the ED's allegation that Rs 100 crore, which was the proceeds of crime arising out of the changes made in the excise policy, was used by the AAP in the

Goa Assembly election campaign. "Have you established the money laundering charge against Manish Sisodia? I am on as far as the money in Goa is concerned. He has not got the possession of proceeds of crime, somebody else had. It's not an acquisition by him, but by someone else. Use is also by someone else," Justice Khanna said.

Raju said Sisodia was instru-

mental in the generation of the proceeds of crime by orchestrating change in the policy.

The bench told him, "You have to establish a chain. The money has to flow from the liquor lobby to the concerned person. We agree with you that it's difficult to establish the chain because everything is done under cover. But that's where the competence of investigators comes in and they have to establish the chain.'

The money has not gone to the petitioner (Sisodia), the bench said, adding had it been a case of a company with whom he is involved, then the court could consider fastening vicarious liability

"Otherwise the prosecution falters. Money laundering is entirely a different offence. You have to show that he is in possession of that property. You will have to go by the exact wording of the provision of PMLA and show how you will bring him in," the bench said.

The bench said, "When you give bribes, you're involved in the activity connected to the proceeds of crime. Suppose, let's assume, ultimately no money is passed on. Will PMLA trigger? What triggers in PMLA is the proceeds of crime. You have to connect the person concerned with the proceeds of crime, directly or indirectly. In the instant case, there is no material to show that he is connected with the proceeds of crime.'

Huma & Hina summoned New Delhi, Oct 5: The

Betting app case: Kapil,

Enforcement Directorate (ED) has summoned comedian Kapil Sharma, actors Huma Qureshi and Hina Khan for questioning on different dates in connection with its money laundering probe linked to the Mahadev betting app case, officials said Thursday.

The federal probe agency had already summoned actor Ranbir Kapoor for questioning October 6 at its regional office in Raipur. He is understood to have

sought about two weeks to appear. The three actors latest to be summoned have been asked to appear at the Raipur office of the agency on different dates, the officials said. The agency will record their

statement under the provisions of the Prevention of Money Laundering Act (PMLA) and try to understand the mode and flow of payment allegedly done to them by the app promoters.

These actors may not be accused in the case, it is understood. They are understood to have promoted the Mahadev app and some had entertained guests at a wedding of a promoter of the app (application) that was held

After Kapoor was asked to appear, sources had said Wednesday that around 14-15 other celebrities and actors are under the ED's scanner in the



moned soon, sources said.

The company promoted by Sourabh Chandrakar and Ravi Uppal was being operated from Dubai. It was allegedly using the online book betting application to enrol new users, create IDs and launder money through a layered web of benami bank accounts, the agency has alleged.

The ED investigation has shown that the Mahadev Online head office in the United Arab Emirates (UAE), officials said. It operates by franchising "Panel/Branches" to their known associates on a 70-30 profit ratio, the agency had said.

Large-scale hawala operations are done to siphon off the proceeds of betting to offshore accounts, it had said. A huge expenditure in cash has also been incurred in India for advertising of betting websites to attract new users and franchise (panel) seekers, it had said.

The company promoters hail from Bhilai in Chhattisgarh and the Mahadev online book betting application is an umbrella syndicate arranging online platforms for enabling illegal betting

Fresh violence rocks Imphal; houses torched

broke out in

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Imphal, Oct 5: Fresh violence broke out in Manipur's Imphal West district where at least two houses were set on fire and several rounds of bullets were fired, police said Thursday. The incident happened in New

Keithelmanbi in Patsoi police station area around 10 pm Wednesday, they said. More than 180

the accused fled the people lost their spot, triggering tenlives and several sion in the area, they hundreds were Security forces and injured since the fire services personethnic clashes

After the attack.

nel brought the blaze under control, police A mob of Meitei

Manipur May 3 women who gathered in the area following the incident was prevented by the security

forces from proceeding further, they said.

Additional security has been deployed and the situation is under control, police said.

More than 180 people lost their lives and several hundreds were injured since the ethnic clashes broke out in Manipur May 3, after a 'Tribal Solidarity March' was organised in the hill dis-

tricts to protest against the Meitei community's demand for Scheduled Tribe status. Meiteis account for

about 53 per cent of Manipur's population and live mostly in the Imphal Valley. Tribals -- Nagas and Kukis -constitute little over

One of his country's most-performed dramatists, Fosse has written some 40 plays as well as novels, short stories, children's 40 per cent and reside in the hill books, poetry and essays. The



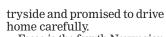
WHEN THEY CALLED, YET AT THE SAME TIME NOT. I HAVE **CAUTIOUSLY PREPARED MYSELF FOR THE**

POSSIBILITY THAT THIS COULD HAPPEN IN THE PAST 10 YEARS. IT WAS A GREAT JOY FOR ME TO GET THE PHONE CALL

JON FOSSE

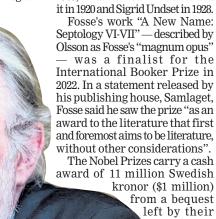
Swedish Academy, which awards the prize, said it was "for his innovative plays and prose which give voice to the un-

Mats Malm, permanent sec retary of the academy, reached Fosse by telephone to inform him of the win. He said the writer was driving in the coun-



Literature Nobel for Norwegian author Jon Fosse

Fosse is the fourth Norwegian



writer to get the literature prize. and diploma at the award cere-Bjørnstjerne Bjørnson got it in 1903. Knut Hamsun was awarded

monies in December. Last year. French author Annie Ernaux won the prize for what the prize-giving Swedish Academy called "the courage and clinical acuity" of books rooted in her small-town background in the Normandy region of northwest France.

Ernaux was just the 17th woman among the 119 Nobel literature laureates. The literature prize has long faced criticism that it is too focused on European and North American writers

as well as too male-dominated. In 2018, the award was postponed after sex abuse allegations rocked the Swedish Academy, which names the Nobel literature committee, and sparked an exodus of members. The academy revamped itself but faced more criticism for giving the 2019 award to Austria's Peter Handke, who has been called an apologist for Serbian war crimes.



creator.

Alfred

Nobel.

Winners

Swedish in-

Pact with Hindalco to speed up Rayagada alumina refinery work

Bhubaneswar, Oct 5: Stateowned Odisha Mining Corporation (OMC) Thursday signed a pact with Hindalco Industries for providing longterm raw material linkage for its refinery project at Kansariguda in Rayagada district.

The agreement was signed in presence of Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik. OMC managing director (MD) Balwant Singh and his Hindalco counterpart Satish Pai signed the agreement for their respective organisations. The pact will speed up the work for a 2 million tonne alumina refinery in Rayagada.

Terming the development as a significant milestone in the journey of Odisha's industrial growth, Patnaik said the state is poised to become an industrial hub of the East

"Let's co-create a future where business and socio-economic growth go hand in hand, making Odisha a shining example for the world," he said.

Patnaik appealed to people of Rayagada to provide support to the refinery project, so that work can start soon and make visible changes in the lives of local

In June, the state government came up with a new long-term linkage policy of minerals for industries, facilitated through the Odisha Mining Corporation

This policy was a commitment to foster an environment where industries can thrive, innovate, and contribute to the state's socio-economic fabric.

BMC launches City

cleanliness drive

Bhubaneswar, Oct 5:

Bhubaneswar Municipal

Corporation (BMC) Thursday

took a significant step to make

City cleaner by launching the

"Prelude to the City activation

"This initiative aims at fos-

tering greater community in-

volvement in BMC's efforts to

maintain the cleanliness of the

City," said Mayor Sulochana Das.

stakeholders to make all un-

derstand the joint responsibility

and required behavior for keep-

ing Bhubaneswar clean, Also

facilitating them to take own-

ership of the sanitation scenario

of their own city, city activation

will be done through advocacy

stakeholder engagement and in-

terpersonal communication.

BMC plans to work with all

for Bhubaneswar First

Thursday at its office here.

POST NEWS NETWORK

MoU Signing for Long-Term Linkage of **Raw Material for** Alumina minery Project of HINDALC ndustries ■ The alumina refinery of Aditya Aluminum Limited

■ The project would create 1,000 direct

jobs and 4,000

indirect employment

at Kanshariguda in Rayagada district is a green field project coming up with an investment of ₹8,000 crore

■ The pact will speed up the work for a 2 million tonne alumina refinery in Rayagada

Patnaik said, adding that this pact exemplifies our dedication to making Odisha a magnet for industrial investments.

The Chief Minister outlined that the alumina refinery of Aditya Aluminum Limited at Kanshariguda is a green field project coming up with an investment of ₹8,000 crore that would create 1,000 direct jobs and 4,000 indirect employment opportunities

Industries & Micro Small and Medium Enterprises Minister Pratap Keshari Deb said partnership of people is essential for industries. He said the state government is committed to the development of tribal people in mines-rich area.

Joining the MoU signing ceremony on virtual platform, the chairman of Aditya Birla Group, Kumar Mangalam Birla, said Odisha is witnessing rapid industrialisation under the leadership of Patnaik.

The Odisha-Hindalco partnership is a symbiotic success story that is an exemplar for holistic development, he said. The Utkal Alumina plant generated thousands of new jobs. and impacted lakhs of people in hundreds of villages through community development initiatives.

Birla further said that the second refinery will follow the same development model, seeding more opportunities in livelihoods and cascading more socioeconomic development. He also thanked the people of Odisha and the state government.

'I'vestable' to nurture budding state startups

POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar, Oct 5: Startup Odisha, a state MSME department initiative, Thursday launched 'I'vestable,' an acceleration programme for earlystage startups and entrepre-

The programme, which will offer mentorship and resources to young founders, has been launched in collaboration with the startup incubator Sri Sri University Innovation Foundation. In the first cohort, 24 promising startups have been selected for the acceleration programme

"This 3.5 month intensive program will provide networking avenues to catalyse growth of startups and enhance their likelihood of success," said a Startup Odisha official.

In the first cohort of startups, 30 per cent work in clean-tech,

sectors like agri-tech, food-tech, and in the social sector.

The programme will conclude with a 'demo day,' where the participants will showcase their progress and present their business blueprints to potential investors.

"I'vestable represents a significant stride towards nurturing Odisha's entrepreneurial ecosystem. With the convergence of visionary startups and seasoned mentors, this program is poised to propel innovative ideas into successful enterprises," said Startup Odisha executive chair-

man Omkar Rai. He added, "The programme embodies our dedication to fostering a culture of growth, ensuring that Odisha's promising entrepreneurs have the support they need to flourish and contribute to our state's economic prosperity.

skilling its youth, making them employable and transforming Odisha into skill capital of the world

He said BPUT has produced

Bhubaneswar, Oct 5: Chief

Chief Minister says the state has made great strides in

Minister Naveen Patnaik Thursday asked students of Biju Patnaik University of Technology (BPUT) to keep themselves abreast with the latest

PNN & AGENCIES

Patnaik said this after inaugurating the BPUT Tech Carnival-2023 at IMMT Auditorium here.

"Technology is the pivot of our future. Our growth, our wellbeing ... everything is dependent on our hold on advanced and emerging technologies. We must therefore keep ourselves engaged with the latest technology and stay ahead," the Chief Minister said.

many brilliant technocrats contributing immensely to the development of the state and the country

He emphasised the state has made great strides in skilling its youth, making them employable and transforming Odisha into the skill capital of the world. Patnaik also said the World

Skill Centre is a premier institute providing advanced skill training in several trades. "Our efforts have been highly

effective in making our children globally employable," he said.

On BPUT Tech Carnival-2023, the Chief Minister said it has been conceived to engage students in technical, cultural and sports activities. He expressed

BPUT TECH CARNIVAL-2023

CM asks students to keep engaged with latest tech

happiness that the event will be a calendar event to acknowledge and appreciate the hard work, sincerity and dedication of

Patnaik also inaugurated the web portal and a poster for the

Skill Development Minister Pritiranjan Gharai said Odisha has now become an epicentre of technical education under

the leadership of Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik.

Skill Development and **Technical Education Principal** Secretary Usha Padhi and 5T Secretary VK Pandian were also present on the occasion.

BPUT vice-chancellor Amiya Kumar Rath delivered the welcome address and registrar Nishi Punam Minz proposed the vote

It's a girl: DNA test ends Capital Hosp child swapping row POST NEWS NETWORK Bhubaneswar, Oct 5: Nine days after the sensational child-swapping allegation by a man rocked the Capital Hospital here, the DNA report Thursday put an end to the controversy. DCP Prateek Singh said the DNA report received from the State Forensic Science Laboratory has confirmed that the complainant Pranakrushna Biswal's wife had given birth to a baby girl and not a boy which

he claimed earlier. Police sources said that Biswal accepted the baby girl following confirmation by the DNA report. The DNA samples of mother and baby were collected following the SDJM court's permission October 2.

Biswal accepted the baby girl following confirmation by the DNA report. DNA samples of mother and baby were collected following the SDJM court's permission

Biswal's wife gave birth to a___ baby girl September 25. However, the attendant on duty mistakenly told him that she had delivered a baby boy Later, the onduty doctor clarified that it was slip of tongue on part of the

ADDING GLITTER: An artisan busy preparing a tableau for the upcoming Durga puja at Choudhury Bazaar Chunabhati

Govt bans harmful herbicide 'Paraquat'

POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar, Oct 5: Keeping in view its adverse impact on human and animal health, the state government has banned Paraquat, a highly toxic substance used as an herbicide.

With the ban order coming into effect, sale/stock/distribution/manufacture/use of Paraquat has been prohibited in the entire state, said a state-

ment issued by the government. As per the provisions of the Insecticides Act, 1968, the ban will be initially effective for a period of two months. The government, after eliciting scientific opinion from research institutions and



other stakeholders, will also propose the Union government for a permanent ban of this chemical in Odisha.

After getting feedback under Mo Sarkar initiative, the Chief examine the matter of banning Paraquat to prevent any further loss of human lives due to poi-In another significant deci-

Minister's Office had advised

the Agriculture & Farmers'

Empowerment department to

sion, the state government has made it mandatory for a prescription by designated officials of Agriculture and relevant government departments, as well as scientists of OUAT and agriculture research institutes, for sale of pesticides and agro-chemicals by authorised dealers. Detailed guidelines will be worked out by the Agriculture department.

lodged a case at the Capital police station accusing the hospi tal staff of swapping his baby boy with the newborn girl child. He even refused to accept the girl till the confirmation came through the DNA test.

Lalchnd Foundation's

attendant. However, a suspicious Biswal

CLASSIFIED

(I, Sarita Samantaray, W/o. Soumya Ranjan Panda, Plot No.89/20A, At: Bank Colony, Near Jagannath Ashram, Tankapani Road, PS: Badagada, Bhubaneswar-751018,Odisha declare that, by this affidavit vide no. 58AA 119381 Dtd. 12.07.2022, that now onwards, I shall be known as SARITA SAMANTARAY for all future purpose.).

I, Prabodha Kumar Sahoo, S/o-Lakshmidhar Samantaray, resident of Ward No. 10, Madhipur, P.O./P.S.- Konark, Dist.-Puri, Pin-752111, Odisha declare by this affidavit No. 23 dtd.-15.09.2023 that now onwards I shall be known as Prabodha Kumar Samantaray for all future purposes.

Miscreants vandalise UU students' union room

Bhubaneswar: Unknown miscreants vandalised the student union room on the Utkal University campus here Thursday, Students alleged that the violence was perpetrated by some non-students who forcefully entered the union room and damaged furniture, incumbency chart of student union presidents of the university and other items kept there. Sources claimed that the supporters of a students' group affiliated to a particular party were unhappy as someone had erased the name of a former president from incumbency chart kept at the students' union office a few days back, "We condemn the violent act by non-students in the union room. The Vice Chancellor is not taking any action against these miscreants who can commit similar act in other offices of the university in future too. The university campus has become unsafe for students," said a student. The students demanded stringent action against the miscreants for a safe campus. However, police are vet to receive any formal complaint over the incident.

KISS gesture: New lease of life for three orphan sisters

ARINDAM GANGULY, OP

Bhubaneswar, Oct 5: Three sisters from Puri district, who were orphaned some years ago following the demise of their parents, were given employment in KISS and KIIT, Thursday.

They were handed over the appointment letters by the founder of KIIT and KISS Achyuta Samanta. Four sisters from Raghurajpur

village near Chandanpur in Puri district were orphaned following the demise of their parents Lakshmidhar Mahapatra and his wife. Knowing about their plight from media reports, Samanta extended the necessary support for their livelihood and education.

The eldest of them Ramamani is now a post-graduate, while the other two sisters have obtained bachelor's degrees. The youngest sister is studying in



Class VIII.

Apart from ensuring the four siblings' wellbeing, Samanta motivated them to pursue their studies. He also provided fi nancial assistance to help the elder sister build their own house.

The four orphaned sisters expressed their gratitude to Samanta and the KISS Foundation for standing behind them over these years and providing them employment. The local community too has appreciated the noble gesture by Samanta

BJP accuses **AAP** of 'double standards'

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Bhubaneswar, Oct 5: Comparing the arrest of Punjab Congress MLA Sukhpal Singh Khaira with that of AAP MP Sanjay Singh, BJP leader Sambit Patra Thursday accused the Arvind Kejriwal-led party of having 'double standards.'

"Khaira was arrested in a drugs case and Sanjay Singh was held in a liquor scam. Both are allegedly involved in cases of similar nature. However, AAP adopts a different policy for its own MP. Is it not double stan-

dard?" asked Patra He told the media that everyone involved in the Delhi excise policy case will be caught one after the other. "It is in the character of AAP to practice corruption in open, but they start politics when they are caught," he said, claiming that the documents seized from Singh are likely to point to a 'very big AAP leader.'

TB efforts recognised POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar, Oct 5: The Union Health and Family Welfare Ministry acknowledged Lalchnd Foundation Trust's registration as a 'Ni-Kshav Mitra' recently. praising the Trust for joining country's fight against tuberculosis.

Notably, the Trust became a 'Ni-Kshay Mitra' by extending support to 200 adult TB patients in City under the central government's 'Pradhan Mantri TB Mukt Bharat Abhiyaan' that aims to eradicate TB from the country by 2025 with community support and participation of private bodies

The foundation's participation in the programme began after an invitation from the Bhubaneswar Municipal Corporation (BMC) October 20, 2022, as under the programme



BMC is providing nutritional assistance to TB patients, particularly those from disadvantaged sections of society. Each TB patient receives a scheduled diet comprising cereals, pulses, cooking oil and milk powder for six months.

The Lalchand Foundation Trust has extended its support for the plan by adopting 200 adult TB patients from several primary health centres in City for the six-month duration. The foundation tied up with 'Operation Asha,' an NGO entrusted by BMC to procure and distribute essential diet among TB patients.

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Jumbo protection goes haywire

AS MANY AS 10 OUT OF THE TOTAL 14 ELEPHANT CORRIDORS IN STATE DEFUNCT

POST NEWS NETWORK

Jajpur, Oct 5: Lack of proper management has rendered as many as 10 elephant corridors out of the total 14 identified in the state defunct, a report said

Funds worth ₹114 crore have been spent on conservation and upkeep of elephant corridors but this has failed to serve any purpose due to absence of proper management. As a result, mananimal conflict is on the rise and this also made the pachyderms vulnerable to external

However, no particular details are available as of now on the exact number of elephant corridors present in the state. Various agencies and outfits have identified elephant corridors differently on the basis of inputs available with them.

The matter came to the fore during a reply to a question by the state Forests, Environment and Climate Change Minister Pradip Kumar Amat in the state Assembly, September 26, 2023. Amat's reply was based on the inputs available from the divisional forest officers (DFOs) of various forest divisions and field level agencies

In his reply, Amat said that the Wildlife Trust of India (WTI)



had identified nine elephant corridors in the state in 2005. The state government in a report titled 'Gaja' published in 2011-12 had identified nine elephant corridors on the basis of their priority. The state government identified 14 elephant corridors in 2011-12. In 2017, the WTI in a report identified 12 elephant corridors in the state.

Nature Asian Conservation Foundation (ANCF) in a report identified 14 elephant corridors out of which 10 have become defunct. The report also identified a new elephant corridor in the state. The minister said that the Centre has been urged to prepare a guideline on identifying elephant corridors, management and legal security.

The minister also mentioned that funds worth ₹115.66.36,750 has been spent under various schemes for conservation of the elephant corridors during last five years from 2018-19 to 2022-23.

The Centre had prepared a long term plan for protection of the elephants in August, 2010. It also formed a taskforce and scheme titled 'Gaja' for the purpose.

Accordingly, the Odisha Chief Conservator of Forests had informed that there are 14 elephant corridors and three elephant reserve comprising 870.61 sq.km of area having a length of 420.8 km and width ranging from 0.08 to 4.6km.

However, 843 elephants have died by 2020-21 due to absence of proper management in these elephant corridors and reserve forests. A case (129/2016) has been filed in the National Green Tribunal (NGT) against the 14 elephant corridors identified by ANCF.

Two years back, hearing the case, the NGT directed to issue an ordinance on elephant corridors on the basis of **Environment Protection Act** within a period of two months. The NGT also directed the state Chief Secretary to submit an action plan before it.

The NGT has instilled hopes among the environmentalists. They thought that the restrictions imposed in eco-sensitive zones and Wildlife Protection Act could be implemented under schemes for elephant corridors.

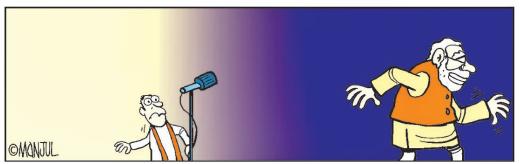
However, the action plan is yet to be properly imple mented. The government has spent ₹14.38 crore in 2018-19, ₹21.99 crore in 2019-20, ₹31.34 crore in 2020-21 and ₹25.45 crore in 2021-22 for the elephant corridors and towards protection and growth of elephant habitats. Funds worth ₹1.31 crore have been lying unspent as per sources.

Environmentalists said if government funds are properly spent, man-animal conflict can be controlled ensuring the pachy-



SHOPPING SPREE: Women were seen buying vegetables and puja materials from the special haat set up at Gole Bazaar in Sambalpur on the eve of Pua Jiuntia festival, Thursday. Also known as 'Dutibahana Osha', the festival holds special significance in the region and marks the umbilical relationship between mother and her children ор РНОТО





Youth held for Junagarh triple murder

Suspecting sorcery, the accused murdered his aunt Raimati, her infant son and another villager

POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhawanipatna, Oct 5: Police Thursday cracked the triple murder mystery at Shankarpala village under Junagarh police limits in Kalahandi district as it arrested a co-villager of the victims in this connection.

The accused was identified as Mahendra Majhi, 30, a native of the village and nephew of the deceased woman. A case was registered in this connection and the accused produced in the court, Thursday.

This was stated here by Dharamgarh sub-divisional police officer (SDPO) Dhiraj Kumar Chopdar and Junagarh police station IIC Sheshadev Behera at a press meet held



Thursday at the Junagarh police station premises.

The triple murder had occurred Sunday in which a woman Raimati Majhi, 35, her two-yearold son Shibashakti and her neighbour Mahendra Kumar, 60, were brutally killed by the accused. Mahendra left the village soon after the murders and was arrested by police by tracking his

The SDPO said the accused was falling sick frequently and suspected it to be an act of witchcraft and sorcery practice. He doubted the involvement of the deceased Mahendra and the woman Raimati for which he attacked and killed them by slitting their throats with a sharp edged

Baying for their blood, he did

the infant son of his aunt

The accused earlier attempted to eliminate Raimati but failed, police said. Finding Raimati and her son in a secluded place October 1, the accused attacked and killed them with a sharp weapon, the SDPO said, adding, "We have seized the weapon used in the crime."

At that time a villager, Mahendra Kumar, who was passing through the road, was also attacked and murdered by the accused to prevent an eyewitness in the case, he informed.

The police officials said that people are getting blinded by superstitions and committing such gruesome crimes due to

Coal production starts from JSP's Gare Palma IV-6 mines

POST NEWS NETWORK

Joda, Oct 5: Jindal Steel and Power (JSP) has started coal production from the Gare Palma IV-6 coal mines in Chhattisgarh. a report said Thursday.

Coal produced from this mine will be used in the JSP steel plant at Raigad. This mine will play an important role in enhancing the production capacity of JSP's Steel Plant at Raigad to 60 lakh tonne (6 MTPA). This was stated here in a press

release issued by JSP, Thursday. The Gare Palma IV-6 coal mine will ensure the availability of necessary raw materials for steel production and will prove to be a milestone in JSP's journey.

The present steel production capacity of Raigad steel plant



is 36 lakh tonne (3.6 MTPA) which is proposed to be increased to 96 lakh tonne (9.6 MTPA).

Managing director of JSP Bimalendra Jha said the proposed expansion of the Raigad Steel Plant will prove helpful in formation of an 'Atmanirbharsil Bharat'. "Our priority is to use our own resources in expansion of the Raigad Steel Plant which will strengthen the balance sheet of the company," he said.

Balasore: Train services in the Kharagpur-Bhadrak section of South Eastern Railway, which was hit because of land slip below the tracks following persistent rainfall between Balasore and Haldinada stations. resumed with speed restrictions from Thursday, an official said. In all 23 trains were cancelled due to the land slip near Amara bridge at Haldipada Wednesday, officials said, adding that services resumed from Thursday with controlled speed near the affected site.

Train services resume on Kharagpur-Bhadrak route

Car runs over crackers; **Doctor critical in blast**

POST NEWS NETWORK

Kendrapara, Oct 5: A doctor was critically injured in an explosion after his car ran over illegal crackers being dried on the road at Khandiabandi village under Bharatpur panchayat and Sadar police limits in Kendrapara district, Thursday.

The front portion of the car was severely damaged in the explosion. The critically injured doctor identified as Sujit Samal was rushed to the Kendrapara DHH for treatment and later shifted to SCB Medical College

and Hospital in Cuttack. Informed, police reached the spot and launched an investigation. After the incident, cracker manufacturer Ramakanta

Mallick is absconding. Ramakanta had made fire crackers for upcoming Dipavali festival. With the weather condition improving Thursday, Ramakanta had dried the crackers on the village road near his house.

A blast occurred, when Samal's car ran over the crackers lying on the road. The blast was so powerful that after the explosion the car was blown two feet

BJP's 12-hr bandh affects normal life in Sundargarh The party cadres staged road-



Rourkela, Oct 5: A dawn-todusk bandh called by the BJP in Sundargarh district passed off peacefully Thursday. The saffron party's Mahila Morcha and ST Cell had given the bandh call two days back demanding CBI enquiry into the mysterious deaths of assistant collector Sushmita Minz and Udit Nagar police ASI Alice Narmi Lugun.

"The bandh call given by our party was a total success and remained peaceful in Sundargarh. I am thankful to all the residents of the district

who cooperated with us and made this a total success. I would also thank all the party workers for their support," said BJP state spokesperson Dhiren Senapaty Thursday evening.

There was no report of any untoward incident or violence from any part of the district. Schools, colleges, banks, offices and other institutions, both private and public, downed their shutters. Only the medicine shops, milk booths and small eateries were open. Public passenger vehicles remained off the road. General public were not disturbed as they were allowed to move freely.

blocks at a couple of places but those were later cleared after instructions came from party leaders. "There was strict instruction that public should not be disturbed. We are a disciplined party. There is no news of any problem or disturbance,' said Senapaty. In all the major areas,

Sundargarh sadar, Bonai, Rajgangpur, Biramitrapur and Talsara everywhere the bandh was full and uneventful

"Both of them died under suspicious condition and the party demands CBI enquiry," said Senapaty.

Meanwhile, after remaining quiet for over 15 days, Sundargarh MP Juel Oram finally gave a statement on the matter "Tappeal for CBI enquiry so that truth will come out. And also request all to make the bandh call given by my party a success," he had said Wednesday evening. All senior leaders of the party were visible on the roads everywhere in the district.

Description of Item: STRUCTURE BOND MADE WITH M.S FLAT OF SIZE OF 40x6 MM WITH BLACK PAINTED OF 40X8 MM WITH BLACK PAINTERS SUITABLE FOR 3.00 METERS IMPLANTATION AS PER RDSO DRAWING NO. ETI/OHE/P/7000(MOD-B) OR LATEST WITH GI BOLTS SIZE 16x50x38 MM WITH NUT SPRING

WASHER AND FLAT WASHER.

Tender Value: ₹ 28,55,671/-, EMD @2% Tender closing Date & Time: At 1500

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http://www.ireps.gov.in Note: The prospective tenderers are ad to revisit the website 15 days before the dat of closing of tender to note any changes Corrigenda issued for this tender.

Sr. Divisional Signal & Telecom Enginee

Cricket WC: Artist creates micro sculptures of all captains

The height of each of the chalk-art sculptures, including the trophy, is merely one inch

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Berhampur, Oct 5: A 21-year-old chalk carving artist of Berhampur has carved an intricate miniature trophy of ICC Men's Cricket World Cup 2023 and the images of the captains of

10 participating teams in chalk.

The opening match of the world

cup started between England and

New Zealand at the Narendra Modi stadium in Ahmedabad

K Bijaya Kumar Reddy has carved these miniature sculptures in chalk to welcome the teams for the World Cup and to bring the world cricket to life in the form of chalk art through his craftsmanship.

The height of each of the chalkart sculptures, including the trophy, is merely one inch. He has used the water colour to make these more attractive.

"After the declaration of the teams and their captains to participate in the Cricket World Cup, I chalked out a plan to carve the images of their captains and the trophy in chalks. I took around 15

piece," Reddy said. The chalk carving images of the captains including Rohit Sharma (India), Babar Azam (Pakistan), Jos Butler (England), Kane Williamson (New Zealand), Temba

days to meticulously craft each

Bavuma (South Africa), Pat Cummins (Australia), Dasun Lanka). Shanaka (Sri Hashmatullah Shahidi (Afghanistan), Scott Edwards

(Netherland), Shakib Al Hasan

(Bangladesh) and also the tro-

phy were made by Reddy. After giving the finishing touches to each of his miniature sculptures, he has displayed all

of these in his home, which attracts several cricket and art lovers.

Earlier, Reddy had carved a mini sculpture of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, logo of Mann Ki Baat and its mike in chalk on the occasion of the 100th episode of the Prime Minister's monthly radio show in April and got appreciation for his craftsmanship from the Prime Minister's Office and some other Union ministers.

He had also erected the chalk art of Governor Ganeshi Lal and a pictorial booklet of former vice president M Venkaih Naidu.

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Registration is compulsory. The registration time will be from 9:30 am to 5:30 pm. It is mandatory to follow the COVID safety guidelines during the event.



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Gernot Wagner

Look beneath the

surface and you will

find that this clash

than actual policy. It

is also a distraction

of worldviews is

The True Foil

veryone needs a foil, and for many who are focused on climate and ≺ sustainability, economic growth – capitalism – is a convenient target. This is understandable. Economic expansion is the quintessential capitalist imperative, but infinite material growth on a finite planet is physically impossible. Hence the rise of "degrowth," "agrowth," "post-growth," and other concepts that have emerged to underpin seemingly sophisticated criticisms of the "standard" economic model. Look beneath the surface and you will find that this clash of world-

views is more about rhetoric than actual policy. It is also a distraction. The focus instead must be on cutting carbon and other forms of pollution. While high-carbon, low-efficiency economic activities – and some entire sectors - must shrink, low-carbon, high-efficiency activities and sectors must grow. Harnessing this natural process of "creative destruction" does not mean embracing laissez-faire, with policymakers sitting on the sidelines watching passively.

Consider the massive negative societal costs associated with burning oil, coal, and gas. According to the best estimates we have, the social cost of carbon in the United States has nearly quadrupled in the last decade, from around \$50 per ton of emitted carbon-dioxide to almost \$200 – and even that is only a partial

estimate of the true costs. All told, each barrel of oil and each ton of coal burned cause more in external damage than they add to GDP - and we haven't even yet accounted for other important environmental factors like land use and biodiversity. Given these high and mounting costs, the policy prescription has long been clear: put a price on carbon. Or better yet, price any and all negative externalities, and subsidize the positive ones.

Last year's US Inflation Reduction Act (IRA) nods in both of these directions. But while it includes a little-known direct price for methane emissions from oil and gas operations, its main focus is on subsidies and tax credits. By harnessing the potential of markets and incentivizing economic growth in specific areas, it represents 'green industrial policy" in action.

Such active government involvement in more about rhetoric the economy raises a host of questions. What is not in doubt is that hundreds of billions of dollars of government subsidies will drive the deployment of renewable energy,

battery storage, clean transportation, and other important technologies in under-developed sectors. Moreover, all that development will generate economic growth, as measured in the narrowest of ways through traditional GDP, economic value-added, and employment statistics.

Does this mean growth at any cost is good? Clearly not. Nor is "green growth" alone necessarily desirable when viewed through any number of other lenses. The rapid deployment of low-carbon energy and other climate technologies will not guarantee inclusive growth, decent work, better health, less poverty, or any number of other important global policy priorities. "Affordable and clean energy" represents only one of 17 United Nations Sustainable Development Goals for good reason.

Nor is deploying more clean energy sufficient even as a climate solution. Energy-efficiency measures also have an important role to play, which is why the IRA, for example, includes a "High-Efficiency Electric Home Rebate Program." Better-insulated buildings and more efficient modes of transportation will contribute to reducing carbon emissions long before energy and electricity are fully decarbonized. That is to say,

Better insulation also improves quality of life, by adding protection against wildfire smoke and other outdoor air pollution. Preventing toxic seepage into one's home through poorly insulated windows, doors, and walls improves human health, electricity bills, and real-estate values all at the same time.

True, this juxtaposition of clean-energy growth on the one hand and ficiency measures on the other appears to mirror the "green growth versus "degrowth" camps. But this is an illusion. Efficiency means doing more with less, which makes it effectively synonymous with economic productivity, one of the key ingredients in standard macroeconomic growth models.

This semantic point cuts both ways. There are developing countries in the Global South and specific regions in advanced economies that remain heavily dependent on extracting and exporting fossil fuels. These sectors and economies will necessarily shrink, as the rest of the world makes the transition to cleaner sources of energy, and they may well end up poorer and more destabilized. But this is not what most advocates of degrowth have in mind.

Yes, some companies and individuals have profited massively from exploiting the planet's resources, lobbying policymakers, and covering up the damage they have done. That, in many ways, is where the motivation behind much "degrowth" thinking arises. We can all point to specific activities that we would rather see less of. But the question then is about framing and strategy. I believe the productive path forward is to focus on the trillion-dollar business opportunity that rapid decarbonization presents, and the many positive stories of transformation

In the end, there is a fine balance to strike between unleashing the entrepreneurial "can-do" spirit and channeling it in the right direction; between Silicon Valley's mantra of "move fast and break things," and the physician's oath of "first, do no harm." The latter, of course, goes hand in hand with paving for one's own pollution. That pollution ought to be the true foil, rather than the economic growth that results from entrepreneurs, businesses, and governments attempting to rein it in.

> The writer is a climate economist at Columbia Business School.

WISDOM CORNER

No one is free, even the birds are chained to the sky. **BOB DYLAN**

Violence is the last refuge of the incompetent.

Don't aim to be perfect! Aim to be antifragile.

NASSIM NICHOLAS TALEB

THIS DAY **IN HISTORY**

- **1973:** On this day, on the Jewish holy day of Yom Kippur, Egypt and Syria attacked Israel, which suffered heavy casualties, but Israeli forces successfully fought back, and the war, known as the Yom Kippur War, eventually ended inconclusively.
- 1995: First exoplanet orbiting a Sun-like star was discovered. Swiss astronomers Didier Queloz and Michel Mayor announced the discovered the exoplanet called 51 Pegasi B or Bellerophon. The Jupiter-like exoplanet orbits a star called 51 Pegasi, which has a magnitude of 5.49. 51 Pegasi B takes 4.23 Earth days to orbit around its star.

FOCUS GEOPOLITICS

ETHNIC CLEANSING



OVER 88.000 REFUGEES FROM THE KARABAKH **REGION HAVE FLED TO ARMENIA IN LESS THAN A WEEK AND HUMANITARIAN NEEDS ARE**

SURGING

he latest blitz by Azerbaijan Nagorno-Karabakh and the subsequent refugee exodus to Armenia should be termed and condemned, as ethnic cleansing of the disputed conclave and socalled Islamic countries should take the lead for this initiative. Late last month's blitz against the Armenian Christians is the latest chapter in a bitter, decadeslong conflict between Armenia and Azerbaijan.

War between the two neighbours started during the collapse of the Soviet Union, of which both countries had been a part. Armenia won control over Nagorno-Karabakh and a wide surrounding region by end-1994. This also resulted in displacement of more than a million people, including hundreds of thousands of Azerbaijanis living in the disputed area.

In 2020, after a 44-day war Azerbaijan retook much of that territory, but the heart of Nagorno-Karabakh remains a de facto independent conclave. Moscow brokered a deal between the warring nations and Russian soldiers were deployed along the borders to protect the status quo.

At present, the Lachin corridor is the only available route for most of the refugees fleeing Karabakh. Armenia's decision not to defend them and instead recognise the territorial integrity of Azerbaijan --accepting Karabakh's integration -- was a bitter pill for most of the fleeing.

In fact, the conclave of Nagorno-Karabakh is recognised internationally as part of Azerbaijan but large areas of it have been controlled by ethnic Armenians for three decades, and it remains at the heart of one of the world's longest-running conflicts. Azerbaijan officials have said there would be no retribution against Karabakh residents who served in the military, except for those who had committed war crimes in previous conflicts. Further, Baku has promised to offer equal rights to all those who stay. Azerbaijan's President Ilham Aliyev said last



The latest move by Azerbaijan changes the balance of power in the South Caucasus region, a mixture of ethnicities

week that the Armenian population in Karabakh could now breathe easy, they are our citizens.

Echoing international concern, the US last week urged Azerbaijan to preserve civilian rights and allow humanitarian and monitoring missions, as hundreds of Armenians left their homes in Nagorno-Karabakh, citing fears of ethnic cleansing. Reportedly on the first day of the exodus, at least 13,550 of the 120,000 ethnic Armenians who called Nagorno-Karabakh home arrived in Armenia. US Agency for International Development chief Samantha Power urged Azerbaijan to maintain ceasefire and take concrete steps to protect rights of civilians in Nagorno-Karabakh. Power, who earlier gave Armenian Prime Minister Nikol Pashinyan a letter of solidarity from President Joe Biden, said Azerbaijan's use of force was wrong and that the US was considering a reaction. She urged Azerbaijan's President Ilham Aliyev to keep his pledge to defend ethnic Armenian rights by reopening the Lachin corridor, which connects the area to Armenia, and allowing relief supplies and an international monitoring team to enter the country. However, so far there has been

no international condemnation of the Azerbaijani action, as Armenia complains of the Russian neglect to honour its pledge to safeguard Armenians due to involvement and focus of its forces on the Ukrainian conflict. Historically, in the 1920s modern-day Armenia and Azerbaijan became part of the Soviet Union. The area designated Nagorno-Karabakh had a majority ethnic-Armenian population but was controlled by Azerbaijan. When the Soviet Union began to collapse in late 1980s, Nagorno-Karabakh's regional parliament voted to become part of Armenia. As a result Azerbaijan sought to suppress the separatist movement, while Armenia backed it. This move led to ethnic clashes and a full-scale war after both the countries declared independence from Russia. The biggest military confrontation since early 1990s started in 2020 resulting in six weeks of heavy fighting.

Azerbaijan won back territory and by the time both sides agreed to sign a Russian-brokered peace deal in November 2020, it had recaptured all territories surrounding Nagorno-Karabakh held by Armenia since 1994. Under the agreement. Armenian forces had to withdraw from these areas and have since been confined to a smaller part of the region. In fact, the latest move by Azerbaijan changes the balance of power in South Caucasus region, a mixture of ethnicities. The region is also crisscrossed with oil and gas pipelines where Russia, the US, Turkey and Iran are jostling for influence.

Since the breakup of the Soviet Union, Armenia had relied on a security partnership with Russia, while Azerbaijan grew close to Turkey, with which it shares linguistic and cultural ties. Armenia has sought closer ties with the West, in view of Moscow's neglect, which Moscow denies and has told President Pashinyan that he is making a big mistake by flirting with the US. Aliyev hinted recently at the prospect of creating a land corridor to Turkey across Armenia. Regional powers have been heavily involved in the conflict over the years. Turkish-made Bayraktar drones are said to have played a crucial role in the fighting in 2020, allowing Azerbaijan to make territorial gains.

According to latest UNHCR reports, over 88,000 refugees from the Karabakh region have fled to Armenia in less than a week and humanitarian needs are surging. Last week, UNHCR chief Filippo Grandi tweeted that more than 100,000 refugees had now arrived in Armenia from Karabakh. In fact, this was a tragedy that could have been avoided. The New York Times recently wrote about what's now happening in Nagorno-Karabakh and why "almost no one saw it coming. Nothing could be more wrong Armenians, as well as those who have followed the conflict. have warned for a long time that this was coming.

Svante Lundgren, Researcher at Lund University, Sweden in his analysis for conversation.com stated that as a result of the Azerbaijani attack on Armenians of Nagorno-Karabakh on September 19 and the forced exodus that followed it, this region would soon be empty of Armenians -- for the first time in more than two millennia.

And this has happened due to no global condemnation or action against Azeri military actions, which can't be stopped just by words but by action on

The writer is a Delhibased senior political and international affairs commentator. ©IANS

SPECTRUM INDIA POST

Staying relevant and reliable



Bruhaspati Samal

INDIA POST HAS REGISTERED **NEARLY A 227 TIMES GROWTH DURING THE LAST** 17 DECADES **IDENTIFYING ITSELF AS THE LARGEST POSTAL NETWORK IN** THE WORLD

he Post Office Act 1854 was promulgated and brought into operation on 1 October. 1854 as forerunner to govern the functions of as many as 700 Post Offices (POs) established by the British East India Company till 1854. Thus, officially, India Post entered into 170th year of its establishment this October. Since 1854, it has never looked back. From pigeon to post and from manual to digital, it has travelled a long way. From 700 POs in 1854 to 1,59,251 POs as on 31 March, 2022, India Post has registered nearly a 227 times growth during the last 17 decades identifying itself as the largest postal network in the world and providing postal facilities within reach of every citizen adopting every mode of transmission from bare foot to air route. To meet various challenges

like emergence of electronic alternatives, more demanding customers, presence of organised/ unorganised couriers for mail conveyance, financial players like banks and insurance companies on one hand and to prove itself as an efficient and reliable communication network, the

Postal department is doing a lot more than just delivering letters. Illustratively, it introduced Post Office Small Savings Scheme in 1882, Postal Life Insurance in 1884, Indian Postal Order in 1935, Speed Post in 1986, Express Parcel in 1994, Rural Postal Life Insurance in 1995, ePayment Services in 2006, Indian Railways Passenger Reservation System in 2007, adopted modernisation of POs under Project Arrow in 2008 and complete computerisation under IT Modernisation Project in 2012. It has been offering Digital Life Certificate to Pensioners since 2015, selling Gangajal since 2016, working as Post Office Passport Seva Kendra and Aadhar Enrolment and Updation Centre since 2017 and serving as Common Service Centre since 2020 providing hundreds of services to the public. To sustain its position as the

largest postal network in the world, a good number of POs are being opened every year. During 2021-22, it has opened 3007 POs (including 2849 BOs) in Left Wing Extremism affected areas. Out of 159251 POs. 25110 Departmental POs (15.77%) are headed by reg-

ular departmental employees and rest 134141 BOs (84.23%) are headed by Gramin Dak Sewaks (GDS) as Branch Postmaster. A GDS is not appointed, but engaged. As a pre-condition of engagement, a GDS has to provide an accommodation for running of the BO. Since functioning without basic facilities of toilets, ramps, counters and even without required standard furniture, these 84% BOs are not at all environment and customer friendly.

On the contrary, out of 25110 Departmental POs, 4580 POs are functioning in departmental buildings, 19451 in rented buildings and rest 1079 in rent-free accommodations provided by different organisations. The POs functioning either in rented or in rent-free accommodations also suffer from the same issues faced by the BOs. Thus, out of 159251 POs, except 4580 POs (2.88%). rest 154671 POs (97.12%) suffer from poor ambiences and infrastructure facilities and hence fail to attract new customers and satisfy the existing customers.

In spite of all such difficulties, India Post has been able to serve the entire nation with a human touch maintaining its iconic status as a unique and trusted national institution and demonstrating the highest order of integrity, transparency and professionalism only due to a team of dedicated staff starting with GDS. Having 90% post offices in rural areas most of which are still functioning either in thatched or asbestos houses in a very cramped situation even in this modern digital era, it was really incredible on the part of India Post to have its first ever 3D Printed Post Office at Cambridge Layout, Bangalore on 1 August, 2023 as a testament to our nation's innovation and progress. In all the 457 Postal Divisions under 23 Postal Circles, innumerable vacant lands are under possession of India Post. The Department needs to construct more number of 3D Printed POs and increase the ambience level to be the preferred, trusted and reliable service partner for all customers.

The writer is General Secretary, Confederation of Central Govt. Employees and Workers, Odisha State Coordination Committee. Views are personal.

etters

TO THE EDITOR

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

Orissapost B-15, Rasulgarh Industrial Estate, Bhubaneswar-751010

Drain on economy

Sir, Our efforts to control illicit funds have failed. Annually five per cent of the GDP is being funneled abroad through money laundering. Despite claims of success following demonetisation and digitisation, the UN Drugs and Crime Office reported that in the fiscal year 2021-22, when India's GDP exceeded three trillion dollars, approximately \$159 billion (about ₹10 lakh crore), equivalent to five per cent, was illicitly moved abroad. This substantial drain on the economy, akin to termites in a structure, remains a concerning issue. According to a FICCI-affiliated organisation, India surpasses the average of 122 countries in illegal trade, drugs, arms, terrorism, and organised crime. Despite a decline from 2009 to 2014, these activities increased in the subsequent four years, until 2018. During this period, an estimated ₹1 lakh crore in taxes was evaded through fake invoices related to import and export. Despite promises made during the 2014 general elections, where addressing black money was a significant concern, the intricate network of illicit funds appears resilient and challenging to dismantle. Even regulatory bodies like SEBI, investigating money laundering cases under Supreme Court orders, have admitted facing insurmountable challenges.

Amarjeet Kumar, HAZARIBAGH

Dropping IQs

Sir, We are becoming dumber, says a study report published in 2018 where a drop in cumulative IQs was seen in people born in the late 90s than the ones born in the 1960s and 1970s. As our IQs are on a slumping journey, more and more commercially viable but less innovative shows and films are getting all the accolades and monetary perks, whereas TV shows and films that are wonderfully scripted with thought-provoking storylines bomb at the box office. We can take for example an Indian sitcom Sarabhai vs Sarabhai which tried to give a new taste to viewers who were accustomed to slapstick comedies but the show did not enjoy a long run as its TRP ratings dropped rather drastically. We have to crank up that old engine, develop a reading habit of at least one hour daily, and stay away from reels that are biting away our deep thinking abilities.

Noopur Baruah, TEZPUR



TWOSTATES





FRIDAY | OCTOBER 6 | 2023 | BHUBANESWAR

PM targets Congress in Rajasthan UP cops on high alert along border

Jodhpur, Oct 5: India's voice is being heard all over the world today and the Congress has a problem with this, Prime Minister Narendra Modi said Thursday, accusing the grand old party of beginning to oppose Bharat in its pursuit to oppose the BJP.

Addressing a rally here in the poll-bound state, he slammed the Ashok Gehlot government over the issue of corruption, saying the "paper leak mafia" in Rajasthan has ruined the future of lakhs of youths and they demand justice.

He also talked about the 'red diary' -- a reference to one possessed by sacked Rajasthan minister Rajendra Gudha who claimed it contained details about financial transactions of Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot. It has every black act of corruption by the Congress" and a BJP gov ernment will have to be formed in the state to expose it, Modi said.

The BJP. he said, aims to make Rajasthan the number one state in the tourism sector and will take development to every corner on forming the government. The Congress cares neither about farmers nor soldiers, he charged. "They can't see anything except the chair... The Congress loves its vote bank more than the interest of the people.'

It is Prime Minister Modi's



MODI'S THIRD RALLY

LATER THIS YEAR

Congress has started opposing

Bharat," he alleged. "Today India's

voice is being heard all over the

world. But, the Congress has a problem with this." "The BJP government made India the

fifth largest economic

power from the 10th po-

sition, but the Congress

has a problem with

this too. But this

Modi's guarantee

that in a few years, it

(the country's econ-

omy) reaches num-

The Congress-led

ber three" he said.

state government has

made Rajasthan top in the

country in terms of corruption

and riots, he alleged. "The BJP

government at the Center is

making every effort for the de-

velopment of Rajasthan but it is

third rally within two weeks in the state that goes to polls later this year. The rally was organised at the Ravan ka Chabutara ground in the Sardarpura assembly constituency in Jodhpur, chief IS PRIME MINISTER

minister Gehlot's seat WITHIN TWO WEEKS IN THE STATE THAT GOES TO POLLS Stories of India's influence is being THE CONGRESS HAS MADE heard from RAJASTHAN TOP IN THE COUNTRY across the IN TERMS OF CORRUPTION. world -- from America to

RIOTS, AND ATROCITIES **AGAINST WOMEN AND** Singapore to **DALITS, HE SAID** Japan -- but Congress people do not like it and they feel sad, Modi told the rally, also attended by former chief minister Vasundhara Raje.

"While opposing the BJP, the

here," he said.

The Congress has made Rajasthan top in the country in terms of corruption, riots, and atrocities against women and Dalits, he said. In its five years, the Congress government here did not take even a single step forward and their power politics continues here 24 hours, he al-

"The Jodhpur city which was known for peace, there is gang war in broad daylight. A busi nessman's son is kidnapped and brutally killed. A Congress MLA says that she is not safe. We can imagine what would be the condition of sisters and daughters,'

The prime minister said the paper leak mafia ruined the future of lakhs of youth here. "The Congress, which had promised unemployment allowance at the time of elections, handed over the youth here to the paper leak mafia. The BJP government will take the strictest action against every such paper leak mafia."

When the BJP forma its government in Rajasthan, it will bring employment, wipe out the paper leak mafia, and take development to every corner of the state. "It will bring prosperity." Earlier at a different venue in Jodhpur, Modi laid the foundation stone and inaugurated development works of about ₹5,000 crore.

Uttar Pradesh's five districts in the eastern region -- Bahraich, Shravasti, Balrampur, Siddartha Nagar, Maharajganj -- and two districts of the western region, Pilibhit and

Lakhimpur Kheri, share a 599-km border with Nepal

INDO-ASIAN NEWS SERVICE

Lucknow, Oct 5: Uttar Pradesh police have sounded an alert in seven districts of the state, along the porous India-Nepal border, following violence in the Himalayan nation's Banka district bordering the state's Bahraich district.

Prashant Kumar, special DG (law and order), said: "Joint patrolling by the Uttar Pradesh Police and Sashastra Seema Bal (SSB), which guards the India-Nepal border, has been intensified across Bahraich and other six districts sharing borders with Nepal. The movement across the border has been restricted to ensure violence does not spread within Indian terri-

He said the state police was maintaining close coordination with the SSB and other central agencies to ensure peace in the

Indian territory. Uttar Pradesh's five districts in the eastern region Bahraich, Shravasti,

Balrampur, Siddartha Nagar, Maharajganj -- and two districts of the western region, Pilibhit and Lakhimpur Kheri, share a 599-km border with Nepal.

SP (Bahraich) Prashant Verma said law and order problem started in Banka district on Tuesday morning after a communal clash during Sadhbhawna rally. Initial reports from Nepal stated that stone pelting on the rally led to trouble.

"We are keeping a close watch on the situation across the border and all five police outposts on the Nepal border in Bahraich have been asked to remain extra alert and intensify vigil," he added.

On Wednesday, there were long queue of trucks at the Rupaidiha border but now the vehicles had been diverted towards other borders to enter Nepal.

"There was panic for some time on Tuesday as over one lakh people from India and Nepal cross over to their countries daily from the Rupaidiha border. Several Nepal nationals were stranded in India while many Indians were stranded in Nepal. People from both sides were allowed to cross over after confirmation of their identities,' said another police official.



Vice President of Dominican Republic Raquel Pena Rodriguez poses for photos at Taj Mahal in Agra

UP farmer takes goats to police station

INDO-ASIAN NEWS SERVICE

Kanpur, Oct 5: In a bizarre case, a farmer in Kanpur took two goats to the police station for entering his field and eating his marigold flowers.

According to Shailendra Nishad, several goats had entered his field but he managed to catch only two. The incident took place in the Gauri Kakra village of the Bhitargaon block where farmers cultivate flowers. Shailendra Nishad had been noticing that his flowers were going missing from the field. Two days ago, he

KOTA REVOKES

AUGUST ORDER

sat behind a tree in his field, hoping to catch the thieves. Towards the evening, he discovered that four to five goats had invaded his land from one side and devoured the flowers.

He tried to catch the goats but could manage to get only two of them. He went straight to the road, got an auto, loaded them into the vehicle and arrived at the police station.

The policemen were astounded to witness the man with the goats and shocked to learn the reason behind his visit. "They (goats) quietly

gorge on my flowers every day due to which I am suffering a lot of financial loss. However, the owner of the goats does not pay any attention to them. Therefore, I caught these goats and have brought them here,'

Police Inspector Pramod Kumar said that the goats belonged to a girl in the village. She has been warned to keep the goats tied so that they do not enter fields and damage crops. The matter was resolved and no First Information Report was submitted by Nishad.

Over 22 lakh youths to vote for first time in Raj

INDO-ASIAN NEWS SERVICE

Jaipur, Oct 5: Rajasthan would see a substantial number of 22 lakh first-time voters in the forthcoming Assembly elections, and at the same time 17,241 voters above 100 years of age will exercise their franchise.

The Election Commission has finalised the voter list for the Assembly Elections-2023. Compared to the 2018 Assembly elections, this time the number of voters has increased by 48, 91,545 voters. The Election Department in the state has published the voter lists containing photographs of all the 200 Assembly constituencies of

Election Commission CEO Praveen Gupta said, "This time 5, 26, 80,545 voters will exercise their franchise in the Assembly elections. Of these, 2, 73, 58,627 are male voters, while 2, 51, 79, 422 are female voters. Transgender voters are 606, while PVTG (Saharia Tribal) voters are 77,343. In the 2018 Assembly elections, there were a total of 4, 77, 89,000 voters in the state.

The number of polling booths in the state has increased from 51,187 to 51,756. This time, the youth voters are around 2.73 crore. Their age ranges from 18 to 39 years. In this, there are more than 22,6,000 such voters who will vote for the first time, whose age is between 18 to 20 years. Whereas the voters in the age group of 20 to 29 years are 1.32 crore and the voters in the



- There are a total of 11.78 lakh voters above 80 years of age and 17,241 voters above 100 years of age in the voter list
- This time these senior voters will get the option of voting sitting at home

age group of 30 to 39 years are 11.85 crore.

There are a total of 11.78 lakh voters above 80 years of age and 17,241 voters above 100 years of age in the voter list. This time these senior voters will get the option of voting sitting at home. This time, on the orders of the Supreme Court, a separate voter list of sex workers was also prepared. A total of 13,232 workers were identified in the entire state, who were included in the voter list.

Ten UP schools to become 'demo schools'

Lucknow: The Yogi Adityanath government in Uttar Pradesh has decided to upgrade 10 state-run schools situated on main roads of the state capital as well as in Barabanki district, as demo schools. The demo schools will introduce delegates and guests coming to Lucknow from different states and abroad to facilities available in UP's schools. They will also be a model in implementing the New Education Policy 2020. According to director-general school education Vijay Kiran Anand, these schools will demonstrate the quality of education imparted in Uttar Pradesh. Visitors will witness world class facilities and unique concepts like 'learning by doing' in these schools, to be selected after a gap analysis utilizing ground testing and geo-tagging

GOVERNMENT OF ODISHA OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER RURAL WORKS DIVISION, DEOGARH E-mail: eerw_deogarh@yahoo.co.in **CORRIGENDUM NOTICE**

1st Corrigendum to TCN No. SEDGH -

Online - 05 of 2023-24 Dtd.25.09.2023 No. O-1201: Due to unavoidable circumstance partial modification

hereby made to the e-Procurement Notice invited vide this TCN No. SEDGH-Online-05 of 2023-24 as follows. Availability of tender online for bidding was 05.10.2023 10.00 A.M.

to 13.10.2023 upto 5.00 P.M. Now availability of tender Online bidding is re-scheduled 09.10.2023, 10.00 A.M. to 15.10.2023, Upto 5.00 P.M

Date & time of opening of tender is remaining unchanged or

Dtd.16.10.2023. Total Nos of works have been reduced from 23 Nos. to 20 Nos. Approx. Estimated Cost of all 23 Nos. work was Rs.5.04 lakh to Rs.13.45 lakh. Now all 20 Nos. work is approx. Rs.5.04 lakh to

Rs.26.89 lakh. est of the terms and conditions remain unchanged.

Sd./- Superintending Engineer

OIPR-25087/11/0008/2324 R.W. Division, Deogarh

IIT-K expert predicts more quakes in UP

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Kota (Rajasthan), Oct 5: The Kota district administration has revoked its August order asking coaching institutes to stop conducting routine tests for students and issued six directives. including ensuring a 21-day gap between tests for students enrolled in regular courses.

In an order, District Collector OP Bunkar said the restrictions on holding routine tests in coaching institutes are lifted with immediate effect.

Listing the directives for conducting the tests, the order asked coaching institutes to ensure that there is a gap of 21 days between tests for students of regular courses and to give students

an off the day after a test. Similarly tests for students who have completed their courses will have a seven-day gap. Appearing for routine tests will not be compulsory for students and results will be declared only after three days. Students' test results will be shared individually with them and separately with their parents.



INDO-ASIAN NEWS SERVICE

Kanpur, Oct 5: A seismic expert from IIT Kanpur has predicted that earthquake tremors in Uttar Pradesh and surrounding states are likely to be more intense in the

near future. Four earthquakes hit Nepal Tuesday, sending tremors across parts of Delhi and NCR. Professor Javed Malik from IIT Kanpur said urban centres along the banks of the Ganges may experience more potent tremors in the future. He



also said that the historical pattern of earthquakes suggests that a strong one is likely to occur in the near future.

In response to a question regarding the cities that are most vulnerable to high-intensity earthquakes, Professor Malik said, "The cities located along the banks of the Ganges will bear the brunt of the earthquake. The impact will be more pronounced in these areas due to the sandy terrain, which causes buildings to suffer greater damage during seismic events." Professor Malik said that based on the history of seismic events, it is very likely that a strong earthquake will hit soon.

"An earthquake of 8.2 magnitude occurred in 1934, and in 2015, a 7.8 magnitude earthquake affected Nepal. Additionally, the largest earthquake in 1505 had a

magnitude of about 8.3," he said. "According to this, everyone should be prepared that in the

coming time, an earthquake of

high intensity will definitely occur once again and its impact will also be visible. It is very difficult to say when this earthquake will occur though," he said.

He also stressed the importance of preparedness, highlighting that the earthquakes observed so far have not reached the expected intensity. When asked about earthquake risks in Uttarakhand, Professor Malik pointed to historical evidence and said. "Uttarakhand experienced a significant earthquake in 1505 with a magnitude of about 8.3, followed by a 7.5 magnitude earthquake in 1803."

Based on this historical pattern, he cautioned that Uttarakhand may expect high-intensity earthquakes every 300 to 500 years in the future.

"This earth is situated on tectonic plates, with fluid beneath it. These plates continually move, and when they collide or come into contact, seismic energy is released, leading to earthquakes," he said, adding that the movement of these tectonic plates is directly linked to the occurrence of earthquakes.

OFFICE OF THE CDO-cum-EO ZILLA PARISHAD, KALAHANDI At: Infront of SP Office, P.O./Dist.: Kalahandi Email: kalahandidwsm@gmail.com Advertisement No. 196

Date: 04.10.2023 **Invitation of Application for Biogas Plant** under GOBARdhan Scheme of SBM-G

No. CAD-2308: Applications are invited from Comunity Groups and Institutions running Gosalas like Trusts. Milk Unions/Cooperatives, NGOs and FPOs aving cattle population of 15 or more inside a single premise in a rural areas o establish community-level Biogas plants under the GOBARdhan Schem f SBM-G. Please refer to Website https://panchayat.odisha.gov.in/ fo complete information guidelines and application format. The application format can also be downloaded from the website: kalahandi.nic.in and submitted the the CDO-cum-EO, Zilla Parishad, Kalahandi, infront of SP Office, PIN - 766001 The last date and time of submission of application is 07.12.2023. Time: 04.00 P.M. For any queries, please contact: DWSM, Section, Zilla Parishad, Kalaha Contact No. 9937388563, 9658589439).

Sd./- Chief Development Officer-cum-EO OIPR-19287/11/0011/2324 Zilla Parishad, Kalahandi

"e" PROCUREMENT NOTICE

Reference No. E.E. (A), Mayurbhanj Division, Baripada - 05/2023-24

Date: 04.10.2023 No. L-108: Bid documents consisting of work, estimate cost, cost of tender papers, EMD/BID Security Declaration, Time of Completion, Class of Contractors and the set of term and conditions of contract and other necessary documents can be seen/downloaded from

Govt. website i.e. https://tenderodisha.gov.in. No. of Work 10 Varies from Rs.168203.00 to Estimate Cost Rs.843305.00

Period of Completion

Date & time of availability of the bid Documents

Date of original bid document submission Bids shall be opened on

Name and address of the Officer Inviting Bids urther details can be seen/downloaded from the procuremen

OIPR-01474/11/0010/2324

Dt.17.10.2023 at 1.00 P.M. Dt.17.10.2023 at 3.00 P.M. Executive Engineer (Agril.) Mayurbhanj Division, Baripada

1 Calendar to 3 Calendars

Dt.05.10.2023 at 11.00 A.M. to

Dt.16.10.2023 at 5.30 P.M.

Dt.06.10.2023 at 11.00 A.M. to

portal i.e. https://tenderodisha.gov.in. Sd./- Executive Engineer (Agril.)

Mayurbhanj Division, Baripada

PHOTO POST



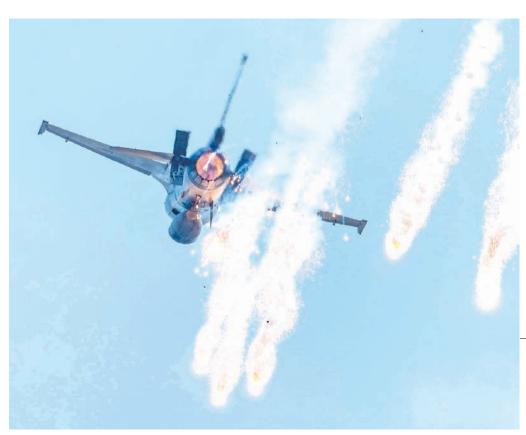
People march with flowers and portraits of those who were killed during the 1993 bloody clashes between government forces and supporters of the rebellious Parliament during a rally marking the 30th anniversary of the events in Moscow, Russia



AAP workers attempt to break police barricade during a protest against the arrest of party leader Sanjay Singh by the ED, in Chandigarh, Punjab



President Droupadi Murmu poses for group photos with officers of Central Power Engineering Service (2018, 2020 and 2021 batches) and probationers of Indian Trade Service (2022 batch) at Rashtrapati Bhavan, in New Delhi



 $A fighter jet \, releases \, flares \, during \, the \, air \, show \, marking \, the \, 78 th \, anniversary \, of \, the \, Indonesian \, Armed \, Forces \, in \, Jakarta$



Indian Air Force (IAF) personnel during a helicopter demonstration at Air Force Station, in Jammu



Women wade through a waterlogged street of Gazole after heavy rains, in Malda district, West Bengal



People commute by a BEST open deck bus which is retiring after completion of 15 years in Mumbai, Maharashtra



Indian Army Tank during mock drills at Military Station in Patiala, Punjab

AP/PTI PHOT

national



All cases are false. They (agencies) keep investigating but nothing comes out of the probe. It's a wastage of time. The way the Supreme Court was asking questions today (in connection with Manish Sisodia case) shows that it was a false case ARVIND KEJRIWAL DELHI CM

NCP SYMBOL WAR: EC TO **HEAR RIVAL FACTIONS TODAY**

Acknowledging a split in the Nationalist Congress Party (NCP), the Election Commission has called the rival factions of the party for a personal hearing Friday. The faction led by Ajit Pawar had rebelled against NCP leader Sharad Pawar and moved the poll panel staking claim over the party name and symbol





had proposed construction of 190 road in Bangalore have got the eligibility to carry out

DK SHIVAKUMAR K'TAKA DEPUTY CM

BJP knows that the mood of the people is changing here and many people want to vote in favour of Congress. Therefore, I have full confidence that the government will

SACHIN PILOT | CONGRESS LEADER

We must remember that Modi considers poverty itself to be a form of caste. And his government has helped 12 crore poor people to enter the middle-income group. This is not my claim. The International Monetary Fund said this

JAGAT PRAKASH NADDA BJP PRESIDENT

SHORT TAKES

Naidu's judicial remand extended

Amaravati: A local court here Thursday extended TDP chief N Chandrababu Naidu's iudicial remand in the Skill **Development Corporation** scam case by a fortnight till October 19. The Anti-Corruption Bureau Court extended Naidu's remand for the third time today after the second extension of remand ending Thursday. The court also posted the hearings of Naidu's bail plea and the petition by the Andhra Pradesh Police CID seeking his custody to Friday.

Cal HC reserves order on Abhishek's appeal

Kolkata: The Calcutta High Court Thursday reserved an order on an appeal by Trinamool Congress MP Abhishek Banerjee with regard to a summons by the Enforcement Directorate (ED) in connection with an alleged teaching jobs scam. In an oral observation during the hearing, the court said that the MP should provide documents sought by the ED from him by October 10. A division bench presided by Justice Soumen Sen said that the central agency, if dissatisfied with the replies, may summon him thereafter within October 19 or after October 26, with the intervening period being the Durga Puja festival.

Hosp deaths: Minister promises changes soon

Mumbai: In the wake of deaths of several patients at government-run hospitals at Nanded and Chhatrapati Sambhajinagar in a short span, Maharashtra minister Hasan Mushrif Thursday said positive changes will be brought in the functioning of the state-run medical facilities in four months. He also said the state government will submit an affidavit in Bombay High Court Friday detailing the shortcomings and difficulties faced by government-run hospitals as well as stringent action taken to rectify these issues.

CBI to probe Vishal's corruption charge

New Delhi: The CBI has lodged an FIR against three persons and unidentified officials of the Central Board of Film Certification (CBFC) on the allegation of actor Vishal that he had to pay Rs 6.5 lakh to get a certificate for the Hindidubbed version of his film 'Mark Antony", officials said Thursday. The action was followed by searches at four locations in Mumbai, including the premises of the FIR-named accused, Wednesday.

India insists Canada to reduce diplomatic staff

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, Oct 5: India Thursday asserted that Canada must reduce its diplomatic presence in the country to achieve parity in strength and alleged that some of the Canadian diplomats are involved in interfering in New Delhi's internal matters, signalling continuing slide in the ties between the two nations over the killing of a Sikh separatist leader in June.

External Affairs Ministry spokesperson Arindam Bagchi said discussions on the modalities to arrive at mutual diplomatic presence are going on and gave clear indication that India will not review its position on the issue.

Earlier this week, India asked Canada to withdraw several dozen diplomats from its missions amid the escalating diplomatic row that erupted following Canadian Prime Minister Justin Trudeau's allegation linking Indian agents to the killing of Khalistani separatist leader Hardeep Singh Nijjar in June. India strongly rejected the charges

Reports said India asked Canada to withdraw 41 diplomats by October 10. "As we mentioned earlier, given the much higher presence of Canadian diplomats here and their interference in our internal matters, we have sought parity in our respective diplomatic presence. Discussions are ongoing on the modalities to achieve this,' Bagchi said at his weekly media briefing. He said as Canadian diplomatic presence in India is much higher compared to India's strength in Canada, it is assumed that there would be a reduction.



Court sends Sanjay to 5-day ED custody

THE AAP ACCUSED THE CENTRE OF TRYING TO SILENCE ITS MP SANJAY SINGH BY ARRESTING HIM. AND CHALLENGED THE UNION GOVERNMENT LED BY IT TO MAKE PUBLIC ANY EVIDENCE THEY HAVE AGAINST HIM



PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, Oct 5: A city court Thursday sent senior AAP leader Sanjay Singh to five-day custody of the Enforcement Directorate in the Delhi Excise policy case even as the anti-money laundering agency alleged that an accused businessman Dinesh Arora had given Rs two crore cash at the Rajya Sabha MP's residence in two tranches.

Singh strongly rebutted the claim. He was arrested by the ED Wednesday in connection with its money laundering probe linked to the 2021-22 Delhi Excise policy case and was the second high profile leader after Manish Sisodia, a former deputy chief minister, to be held in this case, in a big jolt to Delhi's ruling Aam Aadmi Party (AAP).

Special Judge M K Nagpal granted the ED five-day custody of Singh to enable the central probe agency to interrogate him. The ED had sought ten-day custody of Singh, who has been a vocal voice of the AAP both inside and outside Parliament and has been targeting the BJP and

AAP WORKERS ALSO HELD A MASSIVE PROTEST OUTSIDE THEIR ROUSE AVENUE ROAD OFFICE, CLOGGING THE ENTIRE STRETCH FOR HOURS. IN SUPPORT OF THEIR DEMAND FOR RELEASE OF SANJAY SINGH

THE ENTIRE AREA WITNESSED BEEFED UP SECURITY WITH BARRICADES SET UP AT SEVERAL POINTS ACROSS THE ROAD THAT LEADS UP TO THE GRAND BJP OFFICE

Modi government over a range of issues including matters relating to the Adani group.

"Investigation by ED has re vealed that he (Dinesh Arora) has given Rs two crore cash at Saniav Singh's house on two occasions (Rs one crore at each time)," the ED alleged in its remand application. The period when the cash was allegedly given was between August 2021 and April 2022.

The ED also claimed that Singh has been involved in the conspiracy of extending favours to private persons in the Excise policy formulation even before the conspiracy relating to the

now scrapped 2021-22 Excise policy. The arrest of Singh had come a day after a city court allowed Dinesh Arora, the Delhi-based businessman, and Raghav Magunta, son of YSR Congress Party Lok Sabha MP Magunta Srinivasulu Reddy, to turn approver in the money laundering case linked to the excise policy. Senior AAP leader and Delhi minister Atishi claimed that over 500 officers of the ED and CBI conducted raids at several places linked to the AAP leaders in the last 15 months but "haven't found a single evidence" against

While being brought to the courtroom, Singh said his arrest was "an act of injustice" by Prime Minister Narendra Modi whose party was "going to lose the next Lok Sabha elections". "This is Modiji's injustice. He will lose election, he is losing election," Singh told reporters.

Later, when the court asked him whether he wanted to say something, Singh claimed he was being treated unfairly. "Sir. Amit Arora(accused businessman) gave tens of statements, Dinesh Arora gave several statements, but they did not remember my name. I'm not that unknown that they forgot my name. Now they have suddenly remembered... There's no separate law. I was not summoned even once. Why different law for me?" the AAP leader said rebutting the ED's claim he received Rs 2 crore from Dinesh Arora. During the hearing, the ED sought Singh's custody saying several people were yet to be examined and confronted with him.

Court asks police to provide FIR copy to arrested accused



NewsClick were questioned Tuesday and their mobile phones and other electronic gadgets were

JOURNALISTS' BODIES THURSDAY EXPRESSED CONCERN ABOUT THE RAIDS, SAYING WHILE THE LAW MUST TAKE ITS COURSE, THE GOVERNMENT AND ITS AGENCIES SHOULD RESPECT THE FREEDOM O THE PRESS AND ENSURE THE INVESTIGATION IS FAIR AND TRANSPAREN

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, Oct 5: The Delhi Police Thursday questioned journalists Urmilesh and Abhisar Sharma for a second time this week in the NewClick foreign funding case, even as a court here directed the authorities to provide the copy of FIR to two persons arrested in the case under anti-terror law UAPA.

This comes two days after NewsClick founder Prabir Purkayastha and HR head Amit Chakravarty were arrested in connection with the alleged funding to the NewsClick from China to peddle fake narrative about the central government.

Urmilesh and Sharma reached the Delhi Police Special Cell's office at Lodhi Colony and joined the investigation Thursday afternoon, the officials said. Meanwhile, Additional Sessions Judge Hardeep Kaur allowed the applications of Purkayastha and Chakravarty seeking a copy of the FIR. During the proceedings, the counsel for Chakravarty also sought in writing the grounds for his arrest, asserting it was a constitutional safeguard for the accused. The advocate cited some judgments of the Supreme Court and the Delhi High Court to claim that though the offences alleged against his client under the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act (UAPA) were "serious", there were no statutory grounds for the prosecution to deny him a copy of the FIR. Purkayastha's advocate, appearing through video-conferencing, argued it was the accused's right to get a copy of the FIR. Special Public Prosecutor Atul Shrivastava opposed the applications.

He cited a Supreme Court judgment to say an accused has to first approach the police commissioner who would then form a committee to consider the request. A senior police official said Urmilesh and Abhisar Sharma were questioned at the Lodhi Colony office of the Special Cell.

Sharma was questioned on Tuesday as well after which he had said he was not scared and will keep asking tough question to the government. According to the remand copy the Delhi Police submitted in the court Wednesday, the "illegally routed foreign funds" have been siphoned off by Purkayastha and his associates - Joseph Raj, Anoop Chakraborty (brother of Amit Chakraborty) and Bappaditya Sinha (promoter of Virtunet Systems Pvt Ltd).

China's assertiveness

more evident with its

rise: CDS Gen Chauhan

New Delhi: China's assertiveness is

India will have to take this aspect

into account in its overall "strategic

calculus", Chief of Defence Staff Gen

delving into various national security

challenges and profound geopolitical

changes. Delivering the annual Gen

KV Krishna Rao memorial lecture, he

dispute" along the northern borders

with China and suggested that New

Delhi will have to play its "strategic

autonomy" card well. "The strategic

autonomy may be relevant to exploit

play the strategic autonomy card...,"

opportunities rather than to take

also referred to India's "major

Anil Chauhan said Thursday while

JUMLA BOY' VS 'NEW-AGE RAVAN'

Long poster war on social media

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, Oct 5: The poster war between the Congress and the BJP intensified on social media Thursday with the ruling party sharing a poster on X portraying Rahul Gandhi as a "new age Ravan", evoking strong criticism from the opposition party which termed it "unacceptable" and "downright dangerous'

The poster came out a day after the Congress posted on X a picture of Prime Minister Narendra Modi with the caption "The Biggest Liar" and another calling him a "Jumla Boy" who was "going to hit the election rally soon"

In a sharp retort, the BJP on its official handle on X shared a poster of Gandhi with several heads with the title "Bharat Khatre Mein Hai - A Congress party production. Directed by George Soros".

Taking strong offence, Congress general secretary in charge of communications Jairam Ramesh said it is intended to incite and provoke violence against the former Congress chief whose father and grandmother were assassinated by forces that want to divide India.

"What is the real intent of an atrocious graphic portraying Rahul Gandhi as Ravan by the BJP's official handle? It is clearly intended to incite and provoke violence against a Congress MP and a former President of the party, whose father and grandmother were assassinated by forces that want to divide India," he said in a post

Later, Indian Youth Congress president Srinivas B V posted another poster on X portraying PM Modi as "MODANAV"

'The new age MODANAV is here. He is Evil. Anti Democracy. Anti Constitution. Anti People. Anti Humanity. His only aim is to destroy Bharat and the idea of INDIA," he said on X along with the poster titled "Hindustan Khatre mein hai - MODANAV. A Bharat Jumlebaaj Party production. Directed by Param Mitra Adani.'

As the battle lines between the two main parties get drawn in the run-up to the 2024 Lok Sabha elections, their leaders have intensified their attacks against each other.

The poster war between the two parties is likely to escalate further in the coming months as elections in five states and the general elections draw near.





FLYING HIGH: Fighter jet flies over Sangam area during a rehearsal ahead of the upcoming 91st Air Force Day celebrations, in Prayagraj, Uttar Pradesh

care of your threats. That's where the future should lie. We should be thinking about opportunities more,' he said. "China's assertiveness is more evident with its rise. India has a major dispute on its northern borders with China and will have to

Bribery can never be subject matter of immunity, Centre tells apex court

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, Oct 5: Bribery can never be a subject matter of immunity and a parliamentary privilege is not meant to place a lawmaker above law, the Centre Thursday told the Supreme Court which reserved its verdict on reconsideration of its judgement of 1998 when it held that MPs and MLAs enjoy immunity from prosecution for taking bribe to make a speech or cast a vote in legislature.

General R Attorney Venkataramani and Solicitor General Tushar Mehta conveved the Centre's stand before a seven seven-judge constitution bench headed by Chief Justice D Y Chandraachud.

"This is my respectful submission that bribery can never be the subject matter of immunity unless even one out of 1000

cases (of bribery) takes place inside the house," Mehta told the bench, which also comprised justices A S Bopanna, M M

Sundresh, P S Narasimha, J B Pardiwala, Sanjay Kumar and Manoj Misra. At the outset, senior advocate

against criminal prosecution".

Another senior advocate Vijay

Gopal Sankarnarayanan referred to several judgements and said the consistent point in all was that "nobody enjoys protection Hasaria supported the reconsideration of the 1998 verdict and gave the example of pendency of more than 5,000 criminal cases against lawmakers.

The apex court

is revisiting the

judgement 25

ears after the

JMM bribery

scandal

rocked the

country

The court told him it was dealing with the limited issue of bribery in relation to votes cast and speeches made in legisla-

The solicitor general focussed his submissions on the offence of bribery as defined under the Prevention of Corruption Act and said if the offence is completed outside the House, then the court does not need to go into the aspect of immunity enjoyed by a lawmaker for acts done inside

the legislature. The judgement in the case was reserved after two day-long arguments advanced by a battery of lawyers including the attorney general, solicitor general, Raju Ramachandran and amicus curiae PS Patwalia, who was assisting the court in the

The seven-judge bench is reconsidering the 1998 verdict delivered in the JMM bribery case by a five-judge bench by which the MPs and MLAs were granted immunity from prosecution for taking bribes to make a speech or vote in legislature. The apex court is revisiting the judgement — 25 years after the JMM bribery scandal rocked the country.

international



Iran has uncovered four new oil and gas fields in the past two years JAVAD OWJI | IRANIAN OIL MINISTER

BIDEN'S DOG NO LONGER AT WH

President Joe Biden's dog, Commander, is "not presently on the White House campus" following a series of biting incidents involving White House staff and US Secret Service officers, a spokesperson for first lady Jill Biden said late Wednesday





The Malaysian government will earmark 81 billion ringgit (\$17.1 billion) to subsidise essential items including electricity, fuel and food

ANWAR IBRAHIM | MALAYSIAN PM

Nepal wants to develop cordial and friendly relations not only with India and China but also with all other countries in the world, including the US, on the basis

MINISTER

NARAYAN PRAKASH SAUD NEPAL FOREIGN

want to be border guard to slow migration

of mutual benefits



SHORT TAKES

One dead, over 300 injured

Taipei: Typhoon Koinu swept southern Taiwan Thursday, killing one person and injuring more than 300 as it brought pounding rain and recordbreaking winds to the island, leading to school and office closures. One person was killed by flying glass in the central city of Taichung and at least 304 were injured around the island, Taiwan's fire department said. Gusts of wind downed trees and caused damage to some buildings. Koinu, which means "puppy" in Japanese, made landfall early Thursday in Cape Eluanbi, the southernmost tip of Taiwan, and is expected to weaken as it moves west toward the Guangdong and Fujian provinces of southern China

Trains collide, five hurt

Warsaw: Two trains collided head-on in the northern Polish city of Gdynia on Thursday morning, injuring five people, emergency services said people were taken to a hospital while a fifth person was treated on-site. The Gdynia fire brigade said all five people were railway employees. The collision occurred at 7 a.m. near the main station in Gdynia, a city on the Baltic Sea.

Imran Khan approaches IHC

Islamabad: Imran Khan Thursday approached the Islamabad High Court (IHC) seeking suspension of the trial court's verdict in the Toshakhana corruption case more than a month after it suspended the jailed former prime minister's three-year sentence for concealing details of state gifts. Khan, who turned 71 on Thursday, was arrested on August 5, 2023, and shifted to Attock jail after Additional District and Sessions Judge Humayun Dilawar sentenced him to three years in prison in the Toshakhana (national treasury gifts) graft case.

British Sikh man jailed for 9 years

London: A British Sikh crossbow-armed intruder who pleaded guilty to committing treason after telling royal guards at Windsor Castle on Christmas Day 2021 that he was there to kill Queen Elizabeth II was sentenced to nine years imprisonment by a UK court on Thursday. Jaswant Singh Chail, 21, who claimed he wanted to "assassinate" the late monarch as revenge for the 1919 Jallianwala Bagh massacre in Amritsar according to a social media video that emerged soon after his arrest, has been handed a "hybrid" sentence order to take into account his mental health issues.

RUSSIAN STRIKE KILLS 51



Kyiv, Oct 5: A Russian rocket struck a village cafe and store in eastern Ukraine Thursday. killing at least 51 civilians in one of the deadliest attacks in the war in months, according to President Volodymyr Zelenskyy and other top officials in Kyiv.

Zelenskyy, attending a summit of about 50 European leaders in Spain to drum up support from Ukraine's allies, denounced the strike in the village of Hroza as a "demonstrably brutal Russian crime" and "a completely deliberate act of terrorism".

About 60 people were in the cafe, attending a wake after a ■ ZELENSKYY DENOUNCED THE ATTACK ON THE STORE AND CAFE IN THE VILLAGE OF HROZA AS A "DEMONSTRABLY BRUTAL RUSSIAN CRIME" AND "A COMPLETELY DELIBERATE ACT OF TERRORISM"

■ THE ATTACK CAME AS ZELENSKYY ATTENDED A SUMMIT OF ABOUT 50 EUROPEAN LEADERS IN SPAIN TO DRUM UP SUPPORT FROM UKRAINE'S ALLIES

funeral, said Internal Affairs Minister Ihor Klymenko, who provided the death toll. Among the dead was a 6-year-old boy, and seven other people were wounded, said presidential chief of staff Andrii Yermak and Kharkiv Gov. Oleh Syniehubov.

According to preliminary information from Kyiv, the village was hit by an Iskander missile. Emergency crews searched the smoldering rubble of damaged buildings. Ukrainian prosecu-

tors released photos showing bloodied bodies.

Hroza, which had a population of about 500 before the war, is located in the northeastern Kharkiv region. The village and other parts of the region were seized by Russia early in the war and recaptured by Ukraine in September 2022

The village is only 30 kilometers (19 miles) west of Kupiansk, a key focus of the Russian military effort. Zelenskyy had vis-

Putin warns West

Moscow: Russian President Vladimir Putin said Thursday that the West had lost touch with reality over the Ukraine war and warned that if its leaders had forgotten how to compromise then the world would have to see where such arrogance led. Putin accused the West of fomenting the conflict in Ukraine, which he cast as part of a much larger struggle between Russia and an arrogant West which he said had lost a sense of reality. "Our interlocutors in the West seem to have completely forgotten that there are such concepts as reasonable selfrestraint, compromises, willingness to give in to something in order to achieve an acceptable result for everyone," Putin said. 'They are literally obsessed with only one thing - to push their interests at any cost. If that's their choice, let's see what comes of it," Putin told a meeting of the Valdai Discussion Club in the Black Sea resort of Sochi.

ited the area Tuesday to meet with troops and inspect equipment supplied by the West. On Thursday, Zelenskyy was at a summit of the European Political Community in Granada, Spain, where he asked for more Western support, saying that "Russian terror must be stopped"

"Russia needs this and similar terrorist attacks for only one thing: to make its genocidal aggression the new norm for the whole world," he said in a statement posted on his Telegram channel.

2023 set to become hottest year on record



Scientists have said climate change combined with the emergence this year of the El Nino weather pattern, which warms movements. surface waters in the eastern and central Pacific Ocean, have fuelled recent

record-breaking

temperatures

REUTERS

Brussels, Oct 5: This year is on track to become the hottest on record, with the global mean temperature to date this year 0.52 degrees Celsius higher than average, the European Union's Copernicus Climate Change Service said Thursday.

Scientists have said climate change combined with the emergence this year of the El Nino weather pattern, which warms surface waters in the eastern and central Pacific Ocean, have fuelled recent record-breaking

The unprecedented temperatures for the time of year observed in September - following a record summer - have broken records by an extraordinary amount. This extreme month has pushed 2023 into the dubious honour of first place on track to be the warmest year and around 1.4C above preindustrial average temperatures", Samantha Burgess, Deputy Director of Copernicus, said in a statement.

The global temperature for January-September is also 1.4C

higher than the preindustrial average (from the years 1850 to 1900), the institute added, as climate change pushes global temperatures to new records and short-term weather patterns also drive temperature Last month was the warmest

September on record globally, 0.93C above the average temperature for the same month in 1991-2020, and the global temperature of the month was the most atypical warm month of any year in the ERA5 dataset, which dates back to 1940.

'Two months out from COP28 the sense of urgency for ambitious climate action has never been more critical," said Burgess, referring to the United Nations Climate Change Conference.

Last year was not a record, though the world was 1.2C warmer than pre-industrial times

The previous record belonged to 2016 and 2020 when temperatures were an average of 1.25 degrees C higher. What is especially worrying

is that the warming El Niño event is still developing, and so we can expect these recordbreaking temperatures to continue for months, with cascading impacts on our environment and society," said World Meteorological Organization Secretary-General Petteri Taalas. referring to the climate phenomenon that drives extreme heat.

The average sea surface temperature for September over 60°S–60°N reached 20.92C, which is the highest on record for September and the second highest across all months, behind August 2023, Copernicus said.

US jet shoots down Turkish drone in Syria Washington/Ankara, Oct 5:

The United States Thursday shot down an armed Turkish drone that was operating near its troops in Syria, US officials said, the first time Washington has brought down an aircraft of NATO ally Turkey. A Turkish defence ministry of-

ficial said the drone shot down by the U.S.-led coalition did not belong to the Turkish armed forces but did not say whose property it was. Turkey's National Intelligence

Agency carried out strikes in Syria against Kurdish militant targets after a bomb attack in Ankara last weekend, a Turkish security source said Thursday

Two US officials, speaking on the condition of anonymity, said an F-16 shot down the Turkish drone after the United States called Turkish military officials multiple times to warn them they were operating close to US ground forces. The officials said the Turkish drone was believed to be armed.

The Syrian Observatory for Human Rights and a local security source said the U.S.led coalition had shot down a Turkish drone near a base in northeastern Syria. The incident comes at a delicate moment for US-Turkish relations, with the United States hoping Turkey will ratify NATO membership for Sweden.



Women soldiers dance during a parade marking the 78th anniversary of the Indonesian Armed Forces in Jakarta,

Imran masterminded May 9 violence: Usman Dar

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Islamabad, Oct 5: Pakistan's jailed former Prime Minister Imran Khan masterminded the May 9 violence and planned the attacks on sensitive military installations with an aim to remove Army Chief General Asim Munir, his close aide Usman Dar

Dar, regarded as one of Khan's trusted aides, had reportedly gone underground after unrest broke out in Pakistan following the Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) party chief's arrest by paramilitary Rangers on May 9, The Express Tribune newspaper reported.

Dozens of military and state buildings, including the Army



headquarters in Rawalpindi and the ISI building in Faisalabad, were torched and vandalised by many PTI activists during the unprecedented violence that broke out after Khan's arrest.

Dar, who served as the head of the PTI's Tiger Force, an organisation comprising young volunteers, was allegedly "abducted" a couple of weeks ago by intelligence agencies from the country's Sindh province.

reemerged Wednesday, levelling serious allegations against Khan on a TV programme.

The former federal minister claimed that the planning to target sensitive installations in the May 9 violence was done in a meeting chaired by Khan.

As tensions rise, Canadian colleges seek to reassure students

INDIA IS BY FAR CANADA'S LARGEST SOURCE OF GLOBAL STUDENTS IN THE COUNTRY'S FAST-GROWING INTERNATIONAL **EDUCATION BUSINESS. MAKING UP FOR ROUGHLY 40% OF STUDY PERMIT HOLDERS**

REUTERS

Toronto/Amritsar, Oct 5: Canadian universities are reassuring Indian students of their safety and offering resources to deal with the uncertainty triggered by the diplomatic crisis between the two countries as they seek to limit the fallout on a booming business.

As Canadian colleges prepare to kick off another semester, some students are considering delaying their courses, while others are assessing whether higher education could become a collateral damage of the current crisis

The diplomatic drift between India and Canada began in September after Canadian Prime Minister Justin Trudeau said New

Delhi may have had a hand in the murder of a Sikh separatist advocate in British Columbia. India denies the allegation vociferously.

India is by far Canada's largest source of global students in the country's fast-growing international education business, making up for roughly 40% of study permit holders. International students contribute over C\$20 billion (\$14.6 billion) to the Canadian economy each year.

According to estimates by consultants in India, over 100,000 students were preparing for the English language proficiency test and arranging financing to study in Canada next year. Top universities in response are offering courses costing up to C\$40,000 a year while colleges provide short-term, cheaper courses, to connect with students to ensure that the diplomatic spat does not damage one of Canada's better-known

Reuters spoke to more than a dozen universities and consultants in Canada and India who said they were taking measures to reassure students."We've also reached out to various partners in India, some of them are educational institutions, and foundations that we are working with to reassure our progress that we are committed to continuing on collaboration," said Joseph Wong, vice president of the University of Toronto, which has more than 2,400 international students from India out of 86.297 it enrolled in 2022-23.

Canadian universities say the

questions linger about the upcoming semesters and students are asking about safety in Canada. Ashok Kumar Bhatia,

impasse may be short-lived, but President of Association of Consultants for Overseas Studies said many Indian students are worried about their safety in

the backdrop of heightened diplo-

matic tensions.

International students have seen a strong growth in recent years, helping the industry to emerge as one of Canada's biggest export sectors outpacing auto parts, lumber or aircraft. Last week, Canadian Immigration Minister Marc Miller described international students "an asset that is very lucrative"

York University's President Rhonda Lenton, who was in India when the news broke, expressed confidence the two governments will resolve the situation. But in India, families and hopeful candidates in the state of Punjab are worried. In Punjab, which has a population of 30 million, almost every fourth family has a member studying or preparing to study in Canada.

business



The auction of critical mineral blocks will take place in the next few weeks

SANJAY LOHIYA | MINES ADDITIONAL SECRETARY

IRAO CRACKS DOWN ON \$

Iraq will ban cash withdrawals and transactions in US dollars as of January 1 2024 in the latest push to curb the misuse of its hard currency reserves in financial crimes and the evasion of US sanctions on Iran, a top Iraqi central bank official said





for branded homes enabled us to deliver our best-ever quarterly pre-sales.

This was despite the fact that this is generally the weakest quarter of the year and we had no new locations launched in this quarter

ABHISHEK LODHA MD & CEO, MACROTECH DEVELOPERS

India's rich cultural tapestry and diverse landscapes

offer immense potential for extraordinary hospitality. With our commitment to sustainability and the 'Joy of Giving,' we aim to create a hospitality legacy

DIPTI RANJAN PATNAIK CHAIRMAN, ATMOSPHERE HOSPITALITY

in India

Artificial Intelligence can help monitor driver behaviour, detect signs of fatigue. distraction, or

impaired driving and provide warnings or take control of the vehicle to prevent accidents

AMIT KUMAR | SENIOR DIRECTOR, NETRADYNE

SHORT TAKES

FCI sells 1.89LT wheat, 5KT rice

New Delhi: State-owned Food Corporation of India (FCI) sold 1.89 lakh tonne of wheat and only 5,000 tonne of rice to bulk consumers like flour millers in the 15th weekly e-auction held Wednesday. Wheat and rice are being sold under the Onen Market Sale Scheme (OMSS) to bulk users to improve the domestic availability and cool down retail prices. According to the food ministry, about 1.89 lakh tonne of wheat was sold in the weekly e-auction held October 4 against 2.01 lakh tonne offered. However. FCI continued to get lukewarm response for weekly e-auction of rice under OMSS with traders purchasing just 5,000 tonne of grains against 4.87 lakh tonne offered.

Bajaj Finance to raise ₹10K-cr

New Delhi: Indian non-bank lender Bajaj Finance said Thursday it will raise up to Rs 10,000 crore (\$1.20 billion) by issuing shares to institutional investors and warrants to its largest shareholder. The plan comes as demand for loans surges and competition heats up in the sector with the entry of Jio Financial Services, carved out of billionaire Mukesh Ambani's Reliance Industries. Bajaj Finance will raise up to 88 billion rupees through a qualified institutional placement of shares, and another Rs 12 billion by issuing warrants convertible into shares to top shareholder Bajaj Finserv.

Services shine in Sept Markets rebound

THE STRONG DEMAND BODES WELL FOR ASIA'S THIRD-LARGEST ECONOMY, WHICH IS EXPECTED TO BE THE FASTEST-GROWING MAJOR ECONOMY THIS FISCAL YEAR, DEFYING A GLOBAL SLOWDOWN TREND

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, Oct 5: The services sector growth in India rose to a 13-year high in September on sharp increase in new business amid strong demand conditions, and job numbers continued to increase as overall business mood improved, a monthly survey said Thursday.

The seasonally adjusted S&P Global India Services PMI Business Activity Index rose from 60.1 in August to 61 in September, signalling a sharp upturn in output.

The reading was above the 50mark separating growth from contraction for a 26th consecutive month. In Purchasing Managers' Index (PMI) parlance, a print above 50 means expansion while a score below 50 denotes contraction.

The survey is compiled from responses to questionnaires sent to a panel of around 400 service sector companies

The latest data showed a substantial increase in new business placed with Indian service providers, one that was the second-fastest since June 2010.

Besides the rise in total sales, firms noted an upturn in demand from abroad, particularly from clients based in Asia, Europe and North America.

"The latest PMI results brought more positive news for India's

India, UAE to expand

rupee-dirham trade

Abu Dhabi, Oct 5: India and the

UAE are looking at ways to fur-

ther expand the rupee-dirham

trade, as it would have a "huge"

impact on bilateral trade,

Commerce and industry Minister

Pivush Goval said here Thursday.

countries in making remittances

flow from the UAE to India at a

expanding the rupee-dirham

trade, which has been opera-

tionalised with the efforts of the

central bank of the UAE and the RBL" he told reporters here.

sions with the RBI and the central

bank and we have agreed that

we will work with industry and bankers to speed up and opera-

tionalise rupee-dirham trade

much faster, much bigger," he

He added that trade in do-

mestic currencies will help save

at least 5 per cent on all trade be-

Meanwhile NPCI International

Payments Ltd, the international

arm of the National Payment

Corporation of India, Thursday

inked an agreement with Al

Etihad Payments of UAE to pro-

vide real-time and cost-effective

cross-border remittances for the

It would be as seamless as a do-

users of both countries

tween the two countries.

told reporters here.

"I have just completed discus-

"We have looked at further

lower cost.

He also said it will help the two

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA



Sep Oct Nov Dec Jan Feb Mar Apr May Jun Jul Aug SEP

GRAPHICS.

Source: Nikkei, Markit

News on prices was encouraging. Services charges rose at a softer rate as cost pressures receded to one of the lowest in two-anda-half years

2022

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

service economy, with September seeing business activity and new work intakes rising to one of the greatest extent in over 13 years," said Pollyanna De Lima, **Economics Associate Director** S&P Global Market Intelligence.

According to the survey, confidence in the outlook improved, with survey members forecasting healthy market dynamics and buoyant demand for the year

The level of positive sentiment was at its highest for over nine years. An upturn in business optimism about the year ahead, fuelled by buoyant demand conditions, bode well for further growth across the service sector. Job creation also stayed solid, with firms continuing to hire for a 16th straight month as the business mood improved.

Yes Securities sees rise in investor interest in state

Bhubaneswar: Yes Securities, a leading financial services company, has witnessed a

75% rise in opening of new demat accounts in Odisha since 2022. With this surge in

increase in demat account holding in the past 1 year. The company reckons that the

state offers immense potential to further expand investor participation in equity

are women investors. According to the company's data, Bhubaneswar, Rourkela,

equity investments from across Odisha, Bhubaneswar tops the list by witnessing a 60%

markets, by virtue of the on-going developments by the government in making Odisha

that nearly 90% of the investors are between the age group of 18-30, out of which, 10%

a global hotspot. The demographics of Yes Securities' investor base in Odisha shows

Cuttack, Barbil, and Sambalpur emerge as the top 5 markets in Odisha. The company

aims to tap cities such as Berhampur, Damanjodi, Koraput, etc also in the near future

and spread investor awareness thus promoting financial literacy among new market

investors. Anshul Arzare, Joint Managing Director and CEO, Yes Securities said, "At Yes

While the new business subindex - a key gauge of demand rose slightly to 61.2 last month. export growth eased to the slowest pace since June but remained in expansionary territory for an eighth consecutive month. "Services charges rose

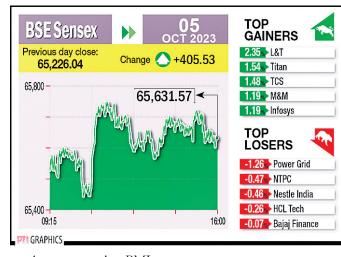
at a softer rate as cost pressures receded to one 60.1 IN AUG TO 61 IN SEPT of the lowest in two-and-FOR STRAIGHT 26TH MONTH a-half years. Although BUSINESS SENTIMENT AT ITS HIGHEST LEVEL SINCE 2014 the latter indicates that FIRMS CONTINUE HIRING near-term output price inflation may cool,

worries about potential fluctuations in food prices due to El Niño means the RBI is highly unlikely to cut rates until early next year," Lima said.

The RBI governor-headed sixmember Monetary Policy Committee (MPC) started its three-day meeting Wednesday Governor Shaktikanta Das will announce the decision Friday (October 6)

Meanwhile, the S&P Global India Composite PMI Output Index was up from 60.9 in August to 61 last month. Buoyant demand for Indian goods and services underpinned the secondsharpest increase in aggregate new business for over 13 years in September, the survey said.

after 2-day slump



An encouraging PMI data bolstered sentiment, even as relentless foreign capital outflows trimmed gains

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Mumbai, Oct 5: Equity benchmark indices Sensex and Nifty rebounded sharply SENSEX Thursday after sliding for the past two ses-CLIMBS 405.53 POINTS TO sions, propelled by bar-SETTLE AT 65,631.57

gain hunting in capital goods, banking, and IT stocks amid a sharp correction in global crude prices.

The 30-share BSE Sensex climbed 405.53 points or 0.62 per cent to settle at 65.631.57. During the day, it rallied 527.16 points or 0.80 per cent to 65,753.20. Nifty advanced 109.65 points or 0.56 per cent to end at 19,545.75.

The positive signal from the PMI data and the correction in the crude price boosted the market sentiment. While regarding RBI policy, positively, the market expects the interest rate to be hold-on as external demand outlook indicates muted trend fearing disinflationary trend in the future, said Vinod Nair, Head of Research at Geojit Financial Services.

Larsen & Toubro was the biggest gainer in the Sensex pack, rising 2.35 per cent, followed by Titan, Tata Consultancy

Services, Maruti, Mahindra & Mahindra, Infosys, ICICI Bank and Asian Paints. In contrast, Power Grid, Nestle, NTPC, HCL Technologies and Bajaj Finance were among the laggards.

In the broader market, the BSE smallcap gauge climbed 0.59 per cent and the midcap index dipped 0.03 per cent. Among the indices, capital goods jumped 1.31 per cent, services climbed 1.03 per cent, IT (0.98 per cent), in-

dustrials (0.95 per cent), consumer discretionary (0.93 per cent), teck (0.83 per cent) and auto (0.81 per cent). FMCG. NIFTY ADVANCED telecommunication, util-**109.65 POINTS TO** ities and metal were the END AT laggards. 19,545.75

> 83.25 against the US dollar Thursday, following a recovery in the American currency. Forex traders said the rupee consolidated in a narrow range as investors preferred to stay on

> gains to settle 1 paisa lower at

The rupee pared initial $^{-}$

the sidelines ahead of the Reserve Bank of India's rate decision. Global oil benchmark Brent crude declined 0.89 per cent to

\$85.05 a barrel. Foreign institutional investors remained net sellers in the cap-

ital market, offloading shares worth Rs 1,864.20 crore. The BSE benchmark declined_ 286.06 points or 0.44 per cent to

settle at 65,226.04 Wednesday. Nifty slipped 92.65 points or 0.47 per cent to end at 19,436.10.

NEW LAUNCHES PUSH DEMAND

Electric two wheeler sales surge 20% YoY

INDO-ASIAN NEWS SERVICE

New Delhi, Oct 5: Electric twowheeler (E2W) sales volume rose 20 per cent (year-on-year) and 2 per cent (on-month) in September this year and despite leading the segment by volume, Ola Electric (Ola) continued to lose market share (month-on-month), dropping to 29 per cent (-66 bps), a new report showed Thursday.

Bajaj Auto (11.1 per cent, +57 bp) gained the most market share, while Ola lost the most, followed by Okinawa, according to BNP Paribas India EV report-October 2023.

Among the top-five original mestic transaction, using a benequipment manufacturers eficiary identifier (mobile num-(OEMs), monthly sales volume ber VPA), according to the pact. rose the most for Bajaj Auto, while it declined the most for

Securities, we see tremendous potential of acquiring more clients in Odisha as the middle-class population is

with digitalised financial solutions and diversified investment options like our curated wealth baskets. With a

our continued efforts to make equity investments accessible to all investor classes across Odisha.'

shifting from fixed income financial instruments such as fixed deposits and small saving instruments to equity,

mutual funds, ETFs and other financial products available in the market. To achieve the same, we are well-equipped

remarkable 75% surge in demat holdings in Odisha since 2022, we lead the way in inclusive and effortless investing.

YSIL's differentiation lies in its research-backed guidance and having one of the largest research teams. It will be in

"Among the states we track, month-on-month sales volume growth was mixed, with Rihar recording the highest growth (27 per cent). Penetration improved the most in Karnataka at 9.9 per cent from August's 9.5 per cent," said Kumar Rakesh,

its peak in March this year.

EV penetration in passenger vehicles (PVs) also deteriorated slightly to 1.5 per cent from 1.7

analyst, IT and Auto. Electric passenger vehicle

(EPV) sales volume grew 71 per cent (year-on-year) but fell 9 per cent (on-month), the third consecutive decline on a monthly basis and down 23 per cent from

MARKET SHARE BAJAJ AUTO OLA ELECTRIC, HIGHEST 27% MONTHLY SALES

per cent (on-month), according "As of FYTD24, EPV pene-

tration was at 1.8 per cent. In terms of penetration, Kerala witnessed the highest decline,

'Cricket WC a major boost for economy'

with penetration falling to 3.7 per cent from 4 per cent in August. Tata Motors' EV mix deteriorated to 10 per cent from 11 per cent in August (onmonth)," said Rakesh.

The report mentioned that new model launches at attractive prices would continue to catalyse E2W sales and structurally improve EV penetration.

'PV electrification, however, remains under pressure, with penetration and volume declining in recent months. For PVs, new model launches have been the key driver for penetration. and in the absence of any new model launches, we expect this trend to continue in the near term," the report noted.

Price for thalis fall as tomato gets cheaper

The average cost of veg and non-veg thalis dropped as tomato and cooking fuel prices cooled, but onion raised the heat

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Mumbai, Oct 5: The cost of veg and non-veg thalis in India witnessed a decline on a month-onmonth basis in September thanks to falling tomato prices, a report said Thursday.

According to Crisil Market Intelligence and Analytics monthly indicator of food plate cost - Roti Rice Rate (RRR), the cost of veg and non-veg thalis fell by 17 per cent and 9 per cent, respectively, in September, compared to the previous month.

Tomato price, which declined 62 per cent, month-on-month, to Rs 39 per kg in September from Rs 102 per kg in August, was a major factor for the decline in

On a year-on-year basis, however, the cost of veg thali was marginally down by 1 per cent



in September, while the non-veg thali was marginally up by 0.65 per cent due to high wheat and

palm oil prices, the report said. The report further revealed that onion prices rose by 12 per put is expected to be muted.

Meanwhile, the decline in the

cost of a non-vegetarian thali

cent month-on-month in September and are likely to remain firm as kharif 2023 outwas limited to 9 per cent in September, as prices of broiler chicken, which is more than 50 per cent share in the total thali cost, witnessed a marginal increase of 2-3 per cent, the report

The report also revealed that the fuel companies, which account for 14 per cent and 8 per cent of total cost of vegetarian and non-vegetarian thalis, re spectively, declined 18 per cent sequentially in September, as the cost of a 14.2 kg LPG cylinder fell to Rs 903 from Rs 1,103.

Prices of chillies also provided some relief as the prices declined by 31 per cent compared to the previous month, it

The weighted average prices of chillies in September was Rs 30 per kg, down from Rs 44/kg in

CRICKET WORLD CUP LIKELY TO ADD ₹22K-CR TO ECONOMY

AGENCIES

New Delhi, Oct 5: The Cricket World Cup may boost host country India's economy by as much as Rs 22,000 crore (\$2.6 billion), according to economists at Bank of Baroda estimate.

The quadrennial tournament, which starts Thursday and runs through mid-November, is expected to draw large numbers of visiting fans domestically and internationally.

With the matches played across 10 cities, that will mostly benefit the travel as well as hospitality sectors, wrote economists Jahnavi Prabhakar and Aditi Gupta in a note.

The event, which is being hosted in India for the first time



Indian viewership for the tournament, including both on television and streaming platforms may generate ₹10,500 crore to ₹12,000 crore in TV rights and sponsorship revenue

since 2011, also coincides with the three-month festive season that started in September and will be particularly beneficial for the retail sector as many people will make "sentimental purchases of merchandise," they added.

The economists expect total Indian viewership for the tournament, including both on television and streaming platforms, to be far larger than the 552 million seen in 2019. That may generate Rs 10,500 crore to Rs 12,000 crore in TV rights and sponsorship revenue "on a conservative basis.

However, the World Cup may also fan inflation. Airline tickets, hotel rentals have surged for the period, and service charges in the informal sector in the 10 host cities could show substantial increases on top of the festive-season impact, the economists said. Overall, inflation may rise between 0.15% -0.25% for October and November, they said.

The tournament will also support the central government coffers through increased tax collections on ticket sales, goods and services taxes on hotels. restaurants and food delivery, giving the country additional fiscal space, the economists added.

Double delight for archers



THE GOLDEN TROIKAS: Women archers Jyothi Surekha Vennam, Parneet Kaur and Aditi Gopichand Swami pose for photos with compatriot Ojas Pravin Deotale, Prathamesh Samadhan Jawkar and Abhishek Verma, Thursday

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Hangzhou, Oct 5: The women's combine emerged triumphant in an edge-of-the-seat thriller while the men's outfit secured the top prize without fuss as Indian compound archers swept all three gold medals on offer in team events, further bettering their best-ever show at the Asian Games, here Thursday.

The women's compound team edged Chinese Taipei by the thinnest of margins, securing the gold medal win by just one

point with Jyothi Surekha Vennam, Aditi Swami and Parneet Kaur shooting 60 out of 60 in the final round of a heartstopping final.

Having knocked out two-time defending champions South Korea, the Chinese Taipei trio of Chen Yi-Hsuan, Huang I-Jou and Wang Lu-Yun fought till the end but the top-seeded Indian team

The scores were locked 200-200 till the last set but the young Indian team that has two teenagers - Aditi and Parneet -

remained ice-cool to find three more 10s in the final three arrows.

It put the pressure back on their opponents who were to shoot last and needed to match with three 10s to force a shootoff. But Chinese Taipei started off with a nine that sealed the gold for India.

Having conquered the world less than two months back, it also completed India women's compound team's domination by becoming the Asian champions.

In the afternoon session, the men's trio of Abhishek Verma,

title, taking on South Korea's So Chaewon in the compound individual final on Saturday. India have confirmed at least

line for a hat-trick of gold as she will fight for the Asian Games

five medals in archery at the continental showpiece as Deotale and Abhishek Verma are assured of a top-two finish by making it an all-India men's compound individual final.

India's previous best show in archery at the Asian Games was in Incheon 2014 where they had claimed one gold, one silver and

In the final, India had a onepoint lead after three arrows but Parneet slipped into the red ring with an 8 in the second set of arrows, while Aditi and Jyothi also dropped a point each to trail 54-56 after first end.

Chinese Taipei trio stepped up with three 10s to race to a 86-82 lead after nine-arrow each but Parneet started off with a 10 as they made it all perfect socres while their rivals stumbled with a seven to concede a one-point lead.

Both teams went neck-andneck in the fourth end that saw 171-all, and the stalemate prevailed in first set of arrows in the decider before their final flourish with three 10s nailed it.

The Indian women's team began the day pocketing an 11point win over Hong Kong (231-220) and in the semifinal they were even better, crushing Indonesia by 14 points.

The compound men's team of Deotale, Jawkar and Verma, who are seeded second, followed the suit of the women's trio to storm into the final with two lopsided

Veteran Verma dropped four points but that did not matter much as the young duo of Deotale and Jawkar were on a 10-hitting spree to down Bhutan 235-221 in the quarterfinals. Chinese Taipei were no match to the Indians who once again totalled 235, en route to the final.

Dipika-Harinder bags mixed doubles gold



PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Hangzhou, Oct 5: Veterans Dipika Pallikal and Harinder Pal Singh Sandhu survived some anxious moments to clinch the mixed doubles gold, but Saurav Ghosal settled for singles silver Thursday as Indian squash players recorded their best-ever performance at the Asian Games.

Dipika and Harinder eked out a 11-10, 11-10 win over Malaysian duo of Aifa Binti Azman and Mohammad Syafiq Bin Mohd Kamal in a tense 35 minute final to fetch India's second gold medal in squash at the ongoing event.

However, it was disappointment for India's top player Ghosal as he lost to Malaysia's Eain Yow Ng 11-9, 9-11, 5-11, 7-11 in a little over an hour.

But that wouldn't take sheen out of India's brilliant outing in the squash competition in Hangzhou, where they bettered the country's effort in the Incheon

India had won a historic gold in the men's team event nine years ago, with two silver and a bronze to boot with. However, in the ongoing Games, India have won two gold, a silver and

Both pairs were neck and neck in the opening game, with none of them able to hold on to the lead. Dipika kept fetching points with her fantastic forehand. The Indians saved two game points before taking the first game after Aifa erred in hitting a forehand.

Leading 9-3 in the second game, the Indian duo was on course for an easy win. But the Malaysians had other plans as they capitalised on Dipika and Harinder's slightly sluggish movement to take seven consecutive points and rise from 3-9 to 10-9.

The encounter then became more tense as the 10-9 point had to be played multiple times due to let (obstruction). The 34-yearold Harinder then hit two backhand winners to seal the fixture

PRANNOY, SATWIK-CHIRAG END 41-YEAR WAIT, SINDHU BOWS OUT

Contrasting fortunes for shuttlers

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Hangzhou, Oct 5: A valiant HS Prannoy battled his way to the semifinals, becoming only the first Indian in 41 years to win a badminton medal in men's singles at the Asian Games but it was curtains for PV Sindhu in women's singles here Thursday.

Satwiksairaj Rankireddy and Chirag Shetty then progressed to the last four, becoming the second Indian men's doubles pair to secure a medal after Leroy D'sa and Pradeep Gandhe won a bronze in 1982.

Playing with a taping on his lower back and a belt under his shirt, Prannoy battled severe back spasm to dish out a performance for the ages, outshining Malaysia's Lee Zii Jia 21-16, 21-23, 22-20 in the quarterfinals to assure India a second badminton medal at the ongoing Games. India had won a silver in men's team championships last Sunday.

After fighting his way through a marathon 78 minute contest, the 31-year-old from Kerala fell on the court in disbelief. He then removed his shirt, fist-pumped and ran into the arms of chief coach Pullela Gopichand.

Prannoy thus ended India's long wait for a men's singles medal at the Asian Games with Syed Modi winning the first – a bronze – at the 1982 edition in New Delhi.

While it was ecstacy for Prannoy, Sindhu had to endure the pain of returning without a medal for the first time in nine years after she lost 16-21, 12-21 to World No.5 Chinese He Bingjiao in 47 minutes to bow out of the competition.

Gold dream ends

Favourites India endured a forgettable 0-4 drubbing at the hands of China in the women's hockey semifinals, a result that not only pushed the team out of the gold medal race but also denied it a direct entry to the Paris Olympics.

Last edition's silver medallist India, the highest-ranked team in the tournament at World No.7. were no match to China, who were the bronze medallist in 2018 in Jakarta. Jiaqi Zhong (25th minute), Meirong Zou (40th), Meiyu Liang (55th) and Bingfeng Gu (60th)

scored the goals for China. India will now play the loser



of the second semifinal between Japan and South Korea in the bronze medal match Saturday.

India beat Vietnam

Arjun Erigaisi's win on the fourth board helped the topseeded Indian men beat Vietnam 2.5-1.5 in the seventh round of the chess team competition. The second-seeded women's team were held to a 2-2 draw by Kazakhstan.

Both the men and women's teams from India are in second spot with 11 Match Points (MPs) each with a couple of rounds to be played. The Indian men will face Republic of Korea in the eighth round Friday. Iran continues to lead the field with 12 MPs, while Uzbekistan is third with 10 MPs.

China outgunned Indonesia 3.5-0.5 to take their tally to 13 MPs and extended the lead over the second-placed India by two MPs. The eves take on Hong Kong in the eighth round Friday.

Climbers in semifinals

The Indian climbers started their campaign in boulder and lead events on a positive note as all four advanced to the semifinals. In the men's qualification match, Aman Verma finished eighth with a combined score of 118.8 (64.8 in boulder and 54 in lead) and advanced to the last four. Bharath Stephen

Kamath Pereira followed suit after finishing 13th with a combined score of 97.8 (69.7 in boulder and 28.1 in lead).

In the women's event, Saniya Farooque Shaikh, who finished 17th with a score of 51.4 (44.3 in boulder, 7.1 in lead) and Shivani Charak who finished 18th with a score of 45.9 (39.8 in boulder. 6.1 in lead) entered the semifinals.

India to face Pak

Seven-time champions India Thursday set up a semifinal clash with Pakistan in the men's kabaddi competition after topping their group following an unbeaten run. India first thrashed Chinese Taipei 50-27 to enter the semifinals and assure a medal and then notched up a 56-28 win over Japan in their last league match to top group A.

Wrestlers impress

Four Indian wrestlers, including talented Antim Panghal, made it to the bronze-medal round with three of them coming through the repechage route. Antim (53kg), Mansi Ahlawat (57kg) and 130kg Greco-Roman grappler Naveen all made it to the bronze-medal contest after the rivals they had lost to in the earlier rounds secured berths in the finals. The fourth wrestler Pooja Gehlot, lost her 50kg semifinal to Japan's Yoshimoto Remina and will fight for bronze.

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Ahmedabad, Oct 5: Unbeaten centurions Devon Conway (152 n o. 121b, 19x4, 3x6) and Rachin Ravindra (123 no, 96b, 11x4, 5x6) produced their own version of bruising 'Bazball' as New Zealand hammered defending champions England by nine wickets in the World Cup opener here

Ojas Deotale and Prathamesh

Jawkar downed South Koreans

235-230 to seal their sixth medal

India's second gold in archery

also assured the country of at

least five medals in archery at the

ongoing Asian Games. India's

mixed team had won a gold

For 27-year-old Jyothi this was

also a double gold from this edi-

tion, having secured the top spot

in the podium with Ojas Deotale

in the compound mixed team

in archery.

Wednesday.

After England posted a below oar 282/9 largely due to Joe Root's pragmatic 77 (86b, 4x4, 1x6), New Zealand romped to 283/1 in just 36.2 overs, courtesy buccaneering hundreds by Conway and

While New Zealand, who regularly punch above their weight in the ICC events, put the rest of the teams on notice with that brutal onslaught, England will have to do more than one boardroom session to regain some confidence.

Kiwis would thank Conway and Ravindra for that, who creamed a record-breaking 273 off 211 balls during their stunning unbroken second wicket alliance. For the record, this was

Swapna tenders apology for transgender remarks

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Hangzhou, Oct 5: India's Swapna Barman Thursday tendered an "unconditional apology" for her sensational allegations that she lost out on a bronze medal in the women's heptathlon competition of the ongoing Asian

Games to a "transgender" athlete. She alleged that Nandini Agasara was ineligible to compete in the women's event as she is a "transgender" but later deleted her post.

"I wish to tender my unconditional apology for my tweet the other day specially to my coathlete (it) was the sheer disappointment and momentous emotional outburst which made me react in this manner against the ethos of sports and deeply feels sorry everyone for my emotional reaction," Swapna wrote on X.

"I have lost my Asian Games bronze medal to a transgender woman at the 19th Asian Games held in Hangzhou, China. I want my medal back as it is against the rules of athletics. Help me and support me please," Barman had said after the event.



Ravindra, Conway show NZ version of 'Bazball'

the fourth highest stand for any wicket in the World Cup.

The 23-year-old Ravindra, who became the third youngest batter to score a hundred on World Cup debut, and Conway produced a masterclass of cricketing shots all around to ground to

leave England gasping for breath. To drive in a bit of perspective to Ravindra's innings, he stands behind Virat Kohli (22 years) and Andy Flower (23 years, 301

days) in that list of young century makers.

England might have hoped for a better outcome when left-arm pacer Sam Curran (1/47) had Kiwi opener Will Young's wicket. But after that early success, what transpired was completely demoralising for England.

Earlier, the Kiwis made regular inroads to keep England's long batting line-up in check and restrict the defending champions to a moderate total. With his part-time spin, Glenn Phillips delivered an unexpected but successful spell of 3-0-17-2 accounting

for Root and Moeen Ali (11). Mitchell Santner's 2/37 and pacer Matt Henry's 3/48 were the other key performances that helped NZ keep England under 300 on a surface that offered a good amount of turn and grip in the first session. The first runs of the 2023 World Cup came off a six when Jonny Bairstow (33).

BRIEF SCORES: England 282/9 (Joe Root 77, Jos Buttler 43; Matt Henry 3/48, Glenn Phillips 2/17. Mithell Santner 2/37) lost to New Zealand 283/1 (Devon Conway 152 n o, Rachin Ravindra 123 n o) by 9 wickets.



NEWCASTLE CRUSH MBAPPE'S PSG

ASSOCIATED PRESS

Newcastle, Oct 5: Two years after being bought by Saudi Arabia's sovereign wealth fund, Newcastle pulled off the biggest win of its new era by beating Kylian Mbappe and Paris Saint-Germain 4-1 Wednesday in the English club's first Champions

League home game since 2003. The scorers on one of the great nights at St. James' Park were Miguel Almiron, Dan Burn, Sean Longstaff and Fabian Schar players who are far from the 'galacticos" many thought Newcastle might be signing under the richest owners in football.

Newcastle powered 3-0 ahead after 50 minutes. Lucas Hernandez pulled a goal back in the 56th for PSG, for whom Mbappe was relatively quiet on the latest tough night for the French champions in their first season since the departures of Lionel Messi and Neymar. Schar's stoppage-time goal added to the pain.

Torres seals Barca win

Ferran Torres scored after replacing the injured Robert Lewandowski to help Barcelona



win 1-0 at Porto Wednesday, while teenager Lamine Yamal became the youngest starter in the history of the Champions League. **Alvarez, Doku lift City**

Manchester City substitutes Julian Alvarez and Jeremy Doku combined for late goals to lead the title-holders to a 3-1 win at Leipzig. Alvarez fired the ball inside the far post in the 84th minute after Doku picked him out on the edge of the penalty area, and the Argentina star returned the favor for Doku to seal the win on a counterattack in injury time. It was after Lois

Openda cancelled out Phil Foden's opener. **Morata scores twice**

Alvaro Morata scored two goals and Antoine Griezmann added another to lead Atletico Madrid to a 3-2 comeback win over Feyenoord. Morata scored his first in the 13th minute to cancel out an own-goal by teammate Mario Hermoso. David Hancko made it 2-1 for Feyenoord in the 34th before Griezmann levelled the score just before halftime. Morata then struck the winner two minutes into the second half.

