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# leisure

## FORTUNE FORECAST

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### ARIES

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 Ganesh. 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 Ganesh. You aren't the one to be dominated and God help anyone who tries to dictate terms to you today. You may end up spending a small fortune, more than lavish to be precise, on the opposite sex today.

### GEMINI

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 prove your mettle.

### CANCER

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. Ganesh wishes you a good luck.

### LEO

Everyone wants to be different. But little do they realise that they already are unique, says Ganesh. 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 egos and opinions.

### VIRGO

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

### LIBRA

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, says Ganesh.

### SCORPIO

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

### 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, says Ganesh.

### CAPRICORN

It's a lucky day for your sweetheart! Wonder why it's written in your horoscope? 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, says Ganesh.

### 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 Ganesh, 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 Ganesh. Hence, keep a notebook handy to jot down all your earth-shattering revolutionary ideas.

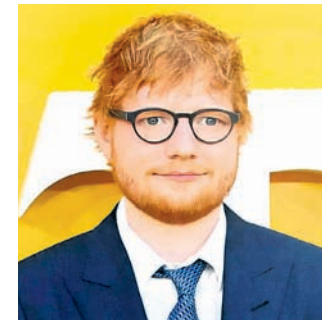


## SZA SLAMS GRAMMYS AS 'THIRSTY, DARK SPACE'

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 [aceshowbiz.com](https://www.aceshowbiz.com).

## 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](https://www.femalefirst.co.uk).



# Bhumi's mantra to keep trolls at bay

**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 Pednekar reveals what she does to deal with the trolls.

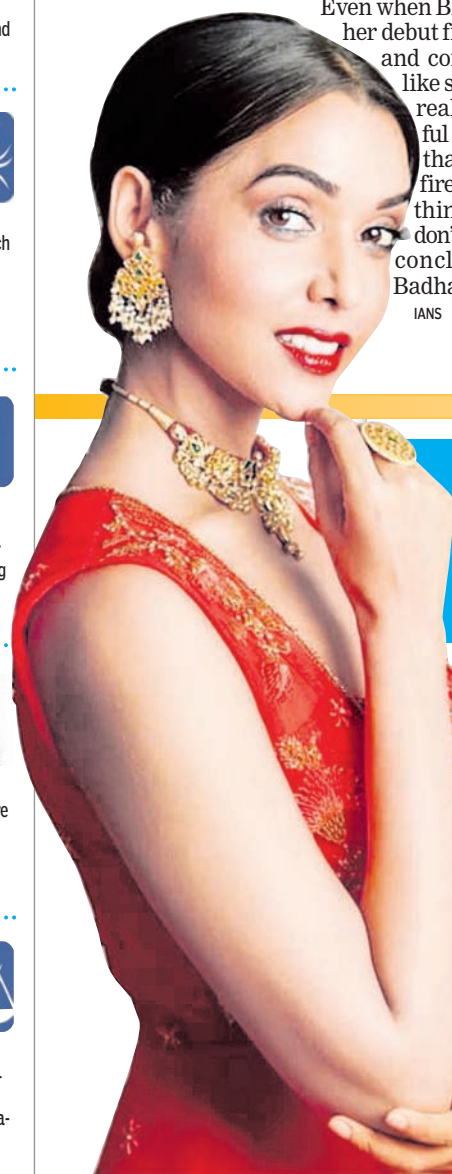
Talking to a news portal, the *Badhaai Do* actress mentioned that irrespective of what one does, the trolls will always be there.

It has turned into something very common. Even if she posts a picture fully dressed during the festive season, then also trolls will comment.

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

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.

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 hurtful comments. However, that helped ignite a fire in her, and now things like these don't bother her, concluded the *Badhaai*



# 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 believe that she has gone through hard times in her life which has taught her lessons," shared the 36-year-old actress. *Sultan of Delhi* is all set to release October 13, on Disney+ Hotstar.



# Amit unnerved by character's journey

**Mumbai:** Actor Amit Sadh, who will be seen in the upcoming season of *Duranga*, has shared about the challenges he 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 *Avroddh* 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."

## PEANUTS



## CALVIN AND HOBBS

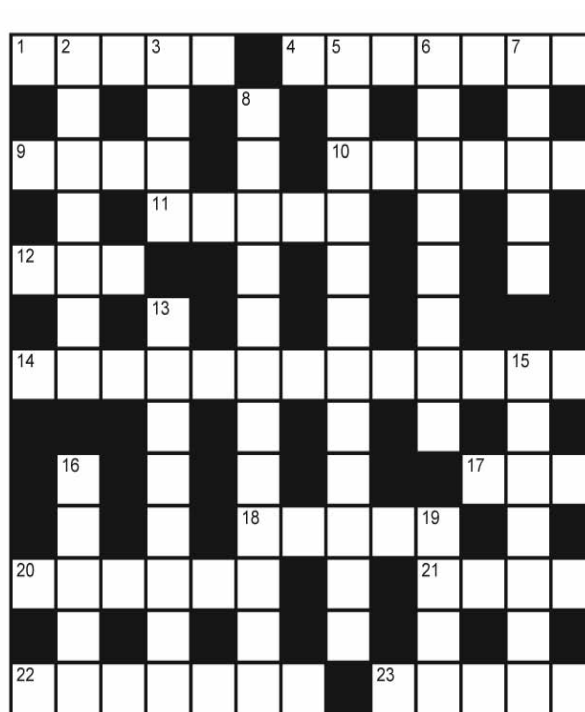


## BREVITY



## FUN post

## CROSSWORD



- Across**
- 1 Israeli port
  - 4 Beach problem
  - 9 Egyptian solar deity
  - 10 Fanatic
  - 11 Samoyed, e.g.
  - 12 Miss the mark
  - 14 Phenomenal
  - 17 Utmost degree
  - 18 Looked intently
  - 20 Papeete locale
  - 21 Coral formation
  - 22 Ladies' sun hats
  - 23 Former capital of Japan
  - 6 Not moving or circulating
  - 7 Perfume's purpose
  - 8 Earthquake specialist
  - 13 Type of slip
  - 15 Sanctum
  - 16 Keyboard instrument
  - 19 Sturdy cart

## SUDOKU

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

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

## SOLUTIONS

### CROSSWORD

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

### SUDOKU

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

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

STATE P3



## AAP WORKERS STAGE PROTEST

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

NATIONAL P7



## DIPIKA-HARINDER SHINES

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

SPORTS BACK PAGE \*\*\*\*

# ODIA JAWAN DIES IN SIKKIM FLOOD

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 flash flood in Teesta river in North Sikkim in the wee hours of Wednesday.

While as many as 18 bodies have so far been found, more than 98 people, including the Army personnel, remained 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.

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

"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.

**Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik expressed grief over the demise of Saroj Kumar Das**



**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

AGENCIES

**Bhubaneswar, Oct 5:** State-owned Odisha Mining Corporation (OMC) Thursday inked a pact with Hindalco Industries for providing long-term 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 Kansariguda 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 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.

## IRREGULAR by MANJUL



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

# Excise 'scam': SC raps CBI, ED

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 anti-money 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 pass scrutiny before the trial court without any concrete material**

SUPREME COURT BENCH



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.

"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 granted bail.

The SC is hearing two separate bail petitions of Sisodia in the corruption and money laundering case registered by the CBI and ED, respectively.

The bench also asked the ED 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."

# Betting app case: Kapil, Huma & Hina summoned

AGENCIES

**New Delhi, Oct 5:** The 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 abroad.

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



case and they will also be summoned 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 Book App is run from a central 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 websites.

# Fresh violence rocks Imphal; houses torched

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.

After the attack, the accused fled the spot, triggering tension in the area, they added.

Security forces and fire services personnel brought the blaze under control, police said.

A mob of Meitei 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 districts 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 40 per cent and reside in the hill districts.

**More than 180 people lost their lives and several hundreds were injured since the ethnic clashes broke out in Manipur May 3**

# Literature Nobel for Norwegian author Jon Fosse

AGENCIES

**Stockholm, Oct 5:** Norwegian author Jon Fosse, a master of spare Nordic writing in a sprawling 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.'

Anders Olsson, chair of the Nobel literature committee, said Fosse's work is rooted 'in the language and nature of his Norwegian background'.

"I was surprised 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," Fosse, 64, told Norwegian public broadcaster NRK. "It was a great joy for me to get the phone call."

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

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JON FOSSE

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

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

tryside and promised to drive home carefully.

Fosse is the fourth Norwegian

writer to get the literature prize. Bjørnstjerne Bjørnson got it in 1903, Knut Hamsun was awarded it in 1920 and Sigrid Undset in 1928.

Fosse's work "A New Name: Septology VI-VII" — described by Olsson as Fosse's "magnum opus" — was a finalist for the International Booker Prize in 2022. In a statement released by his publishing house, Samlaget, Fosse said he saw the prize "as an award to the literature that first and foremost aims to be literature, without other considerations".

The Nobel Prizes carry a cash award of 11 million Swedish kronor (\$1 million) from a bequest left by their creator, Swedish inventor Alfred Nobel. Winners also receive an 18-carat gold medal

and diploma at the award ceremonies 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.



# Pact with Hindalco to speed up Rayagada alumina refinery work

**Bhubaneswar, Oct 5:** State-owned Odisha Mining Corporation (OMC) Thursday signed a pact with Hindalco Industries for providing long-term raw material linkage for its refinery project at Kanshariguda 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.

Termining 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 people.

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

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



**HIGHLIGHTS**

- The alumina refinery of Aditya Aluminum Limited at Kanshariguda in Rayagada district is a green field project coming up with an investment of ₹8,000 crore
- The project would create 1,000 direct jobs and 4,000 indirect employment opportunities
- 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 socio-economic development. He also thanked the people of Odisha and the state government.

# CM asks students to keep engaged with latest tech

Chief Minister says the state has made great strides in skilling its youth, making them employable and transforming Odisha into skill capital of the world

**Bhubaneswar, Oct 5:** Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik Thursday asked students of Biju Patnaik University of Technology (BPUT) to keep themselves abreast with the latest technology.

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

"Technology is the pivot of our future. Our growth, our well-being... 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.

He said BPUT has produced 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



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

Patnaik also inaugurated the web portal and a poster for the event.

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 5<sup>th</sup> 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 of thanks.

# BMC launches City cleanliness drive

POST NEWS NETWORK

**Bhubaneswar, Oct 5:** Bhubaneswar Municipal Corporation (BMC) Thursday took a significant step to make City cleaner by launching the "Prelude to the City activation for Bhubaneswar First" Thursday at its office here.

"This initiative aims at fostering greater community involvement in BMC's efforts to maintain the cleanliness of the City," said Mayor Sulochana Das.

BMC plans to work with all stakeholders to make all understand the joint responsibility and required behavior for keeping Bhubaneswar clean. Also facilitating them to take ownership of the sanitation scenario of their own city, city activation will be done through advocacy stakeholder engagement and interpersonal communication.

# '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 early-stage startups and entrepreneurs.

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,

while the rest of them work across 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 chairman 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."

# 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 statement 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

Minister's Office had advised the Agriculture & Farmers' Empowerment department to examine the matter of banning Paraquat to prevent any further loss of human lives due to poisoning.

In another significant decision, 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.

# CLASSIFIED

## AFFIDAVIT

(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 purposes.)

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 yet 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 financial 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 standard?" 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.'

# Lalchnd Foundation's 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-Kshay 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 Mukh 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

**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 Thursday.



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, man-animal conflict is on the rise and this also made the pachyderms vulnerable to external threats.

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.

The Asian Nature 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.

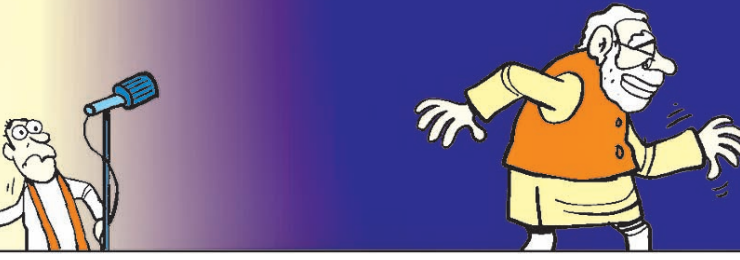
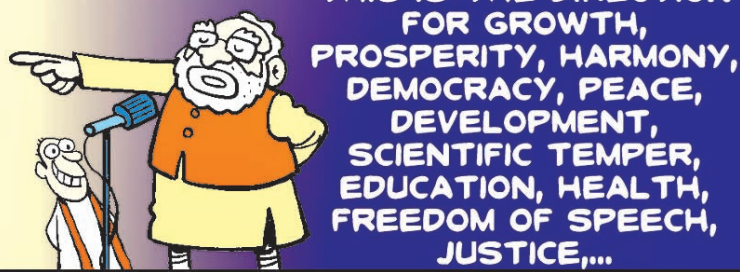
However, the action plan is yet to be properly implemented. The government has spent ₹14.38 crore in 2018-19, ₹21.99 crore in 2019-20, ₹31.34 crore in 2020-21 and ₹25.45 crore in 2021-22 for the elephant corridors and towards protection and growth of elephant habitats. Funds worth ₹1.31 crore have been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

Environmentalists said if government funds are properly spent, man-animal conflict can be controlled ensuring the pachyderms' safety.



**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. OP PHOTO

## POLITICKLE by MANJUL



# 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 Dharangarh 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-year-old 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 mobile phone.

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 weapon.

Baying for their blood, he did not even mind killing his cousin,

the infant son of his aunt Raimati.

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 lack of awareness.

# 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

# 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 up in the air.

# BJP's 12-hr bandh affects normal life in Sundargarh



POST NEWS NETWORK

**Rourkela, Oct 5:** A dawn-to-dusk bandh called by the BJP in Sundargarh district passed off peacefully Thursday. The safety 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.

The party cadres staged roadblocks 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, Raigangpur, 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: "I appeal 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.

# 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.

New Zealand at the Narendra Modi stadium in Ahmedabad Thursday.

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 chalk-art 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 par-



ticipate 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 days to meticulously craft each 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

Bavuma (South Africa), Pat Cummins (Australia), Dasun Shanaka (Sri Lanka), Hashmatullah Shahidi (Afghanistan), Scott Edwards (Netherlands), Shakib Al Hasan (Bangladesh) and also the trophy 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 Venkiah Naidu.

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Tender No. 40235727  
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Tender Value : ₹ 28,55,671/-, EMD @2%: ₹ 57,110/-  
Tender closing Date & Time: At 1500 hrs. on 27.10.2023.  
Complete details available at : www.ireps.gov.in  
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Tender Value: ₹ 54,37,715/-, EMD: ₹ 1,08,800/-  
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No manual offers sent by Post/Courier/ Fax or in person shall be accepted against the e-tenders.  
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FOCUS GEOPOLITICS

# ETHNIC CLEANSING



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

The latest blitz by Azerbaijan in Nagorno-Karabakh and the subsequent refugee exodus to Armenia should be termed and condemned, as ethnic cleansing of the disputed conclave and so-called 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, decades-long 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

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.

Swante 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 ground.

The writer is a Delhi-based senior political and international affairs commentator. @IANS



Asad Mirza

**OVER 88,000 REFUGEES FROM THE KARABAKH REGION HAVE FLED TO ARMENIA IN LESS THAN A WEEK AND HUMANITARIAN NEEDS ARE SURGING**



Gernot Wagner

**Look beneath the surface and you will find that this clash of worldviews is more about rhetoric than actual policy. It is also a distraction**

Let nothing short of Perfection be your ideal in work and you are sure to become a true instrument of the Divine.

THE MOTHER



## The True Foil

Everyone 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 worldviews 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 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, efficiency cuts carbon pollution.

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 efficiency 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 that go with it.

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 paying 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. @PROJECTSYNDICATE

SPECTRUM INDIA POST

# Staying relevant and reliable

The 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 1,59,251 POs, 25,110 Departmental POs (15.77%) are headed by reg-

ular departmental employees and rest 1,34,141 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 25,110 Departmental POs, 4,580 POs are functioning in departmental buildings, 19,451 in rented buildings and rest 1,079 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 1,59,251 POs, except 4,580 POs (2.88%), rest 1,54,671 POs (97.12%) suffer from poor ambiances 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.

WISDOM CORNER

- No one is free, even the birds are chained to the sky. BOB DYLAN
- Violence is the last refuge of the incompetent. ISAAC ASIMOV
- 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.

## Letters

TO THE EDITOR

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

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

### 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

# PM targets Congress in Rajasthan

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

**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 government 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



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 minister Gehlot's seat.

Stories of India's influence is being heard from across the world -- from America to Singapore to 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 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 position, but the Congress has a problem with this too. But this Modi's guarantee that in a few years, it (the country's economy) reaches number three" he said.

**IT IS PRIME MINISTER MODI'S THIRD RALLY WITHIN TWO WEEKS IN THE STATE THAT GOES TO POLLS LATER THIS YEAR**

**THE CONGRESS HAS MADE RAJASTHAN TOP IN THE COUNTRY IN TERMS OF CORRUPTION, RIOTS, AND ATROCITIES AGAINST WOMEN AND DALITS, HE SAID**

The Congress-led 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 development of Rajasthan but it is

very sad to see the situation 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 alleged.

"The Jodhpur city which was known for peace, there is gang war in broad daylight. A businessman'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," he said.

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 forms 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.

# UP cops on high alert along border

Uttar Pradesh's five districts in the eastern region -- Bahraich, Shravasti, Bahrapur, Siddhartha Nagar, Maharajanji -- 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 territory."

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, Bahrapur, Siddhartha Nagar, Maharajanji -- 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

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," he said.

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 the state.

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.

# KOTA REVOKES AUGUST ORDER

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 O P 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.

# IIT-K expert predicts more quakes in UP

**PROFESSOR JAVED MALIK FROM IIT KANPUR SAID URBAN CENTRES ALONG THE BANKS OF THE GANGES MAY EXPERIENCE MORE POTENT TREMORS IN THE FUTURE**

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 Uttar Pradesh, 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 Uttar Pradesh 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.

# 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 technology and Prerna portal.

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

**Letter No. 3566 Dated: 04.10.2023**  
**1st Corrigendum to TCN No. SEDGH - Online - 05 of 2023-24 Dtd.25.09.2023**

No. O-1201: Due to unavoidable circumstance partial modification is 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 for 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 on 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.

Rest of the terms and conditions remain unchanged.

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

OIPR-25087/11/0008/2324

**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 Dated: 04.10.2023**  
**Invitation of Application for Biogas Plant under GOBARDHAN Scheme of SBM-G**

No. CAD-2308: Applications are invited from Community Groups and Institutions running Gosalas like Trusts, Milk Unions/Cooperatives, NGOs and FPOs having cattle population of 15 or more inside a single premise in a rural areas to establish community-level Biogas plants under the GOBARDHAN Scheme of SBM-G. Please refer to Website <https://panchayat.odisha.gov.in/> for complete information guidelines and application format. The application format can also be downloaded from the website: [kalahandi.nic.in](mailto:kalahandi.nic.in) and submitted to 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: DWISM, Section, Zilla Parishad, Kalahandi. (Contact No. 9937388563, 9658589439).

Sd./- Chief Development Officer-cum-EO  
 Zilla Parishad, Kalahandi

OIPR-19287/11/0011/2324

**"e" PROCUREMENT NOTICE**  
**Reference No. E.E. (A), Mayurbhanj Division, Baripada - 05/2023-24**

**No. 1719 Dated: 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
- Estimate Cost : Varies from Rs.168203.00 to Rs.843305.00
- Period of Completion : 1 Calendar to 3 Calendars
- Date & time of availability of the bid Documents : Dt.05.10.2023 at 11.00 A.M. to Dt.16.10.2023 at 5.30 P.M.
- Date of original bid document submission : Dt.06.10.2023 at 11.00 A.M. to Dt.17.10.2023 at 1.00 P.M.
- Bids shall be opened on : Dt.17.10.2023 at 3.00 P.M.
- Name and address of the Officer Inviting Bids : Executive Engineer (Agril.) Mayurbhanj Division, Baripada

Further details can be seen/downloaded from the procurement portal i.e. <https://tenderodisha.gov.in>.

Sd./- Executive Engineer (Agril.)  
 Mayurbhanj Division, Baripada

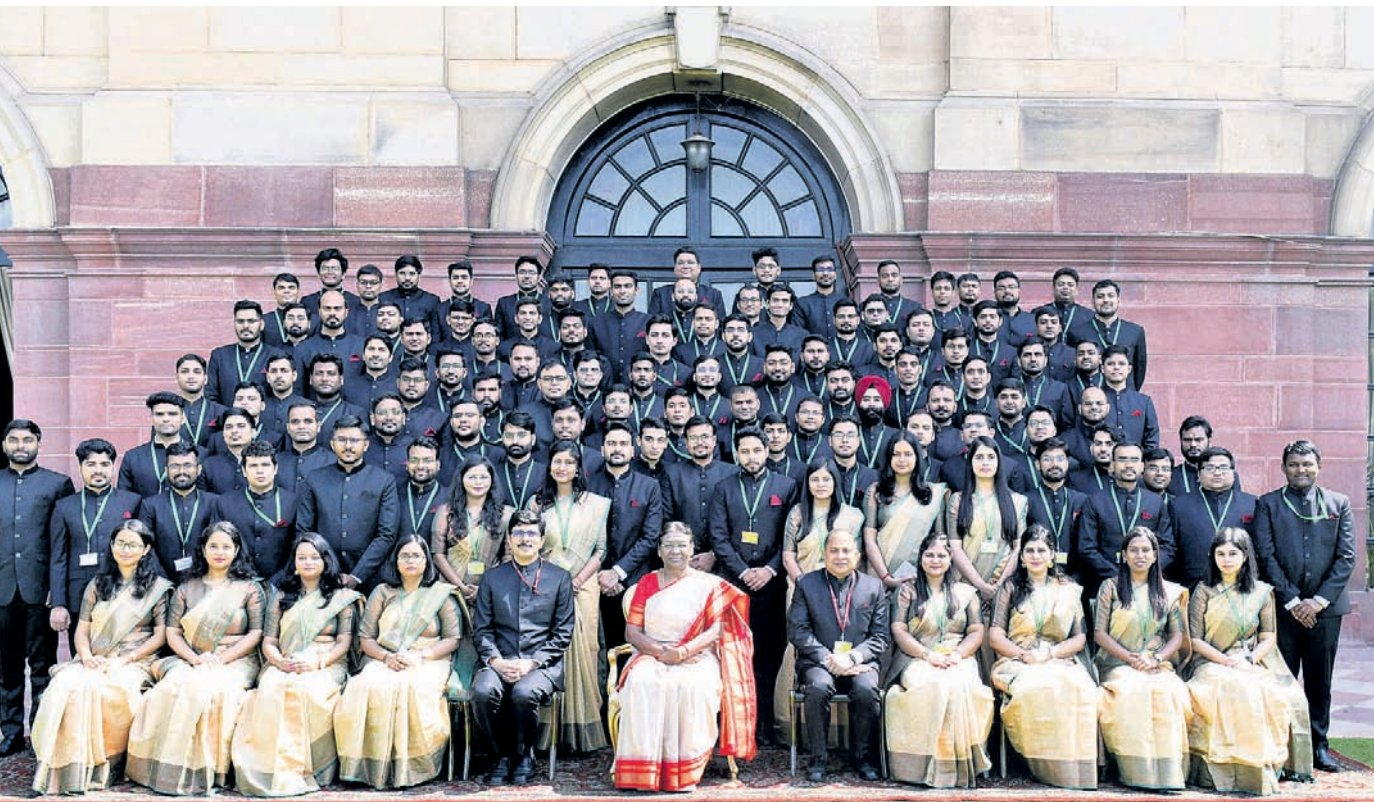
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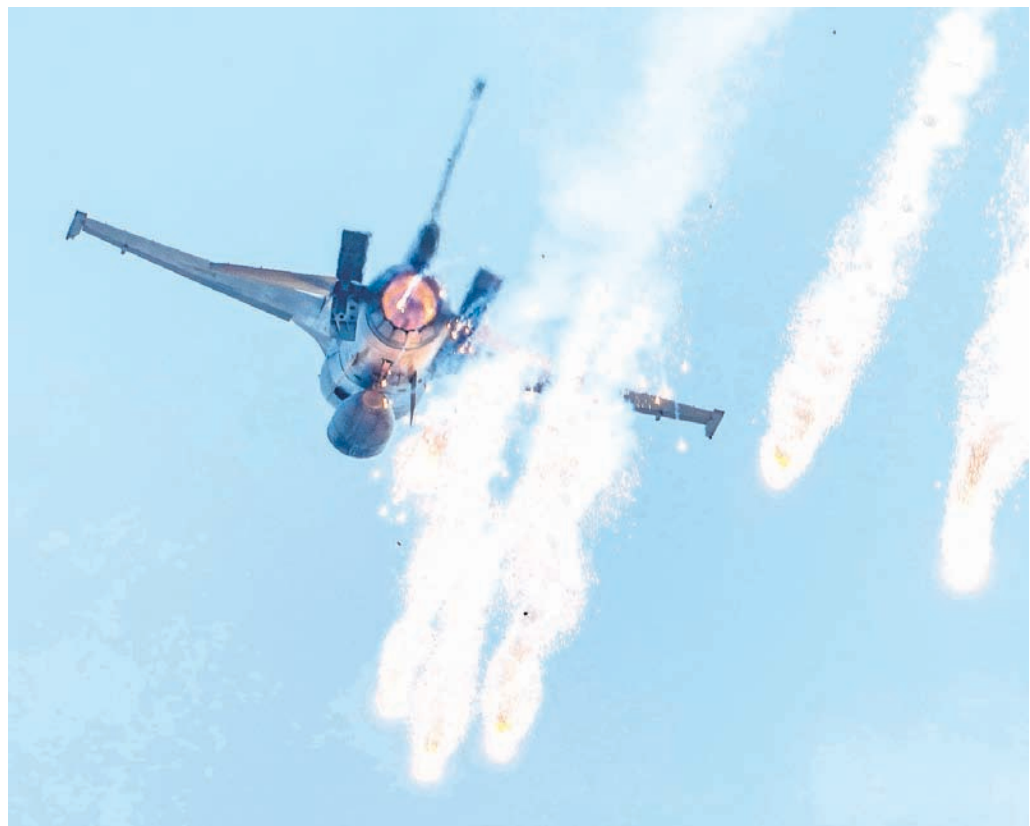
People march with flowers and portraits of those who were killed during the 1993 bloody clashes between government forces and supporters of the rebellious Parliament during a rally marking the 30th anniversary of the events in Moscow, Russia



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 78th anniversary of the Indonesian Armed Forces in Jakarta



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



Women waded 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 PHOTOS



of the day quote

The government had proposed construction of 190 kilometer long tunnel road in Bangalore and eight companies have got the eligibility to carry out the project

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 be formed by our party

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

SHORT TAKES

Naidu's judicial remand extended

Amravati: A local court here Thursday extended TDP chief N Chandrababu Naidu's judicial remand in the Skill Development Corporation scam case by a fortnight till October 19.

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.

Hosp deaths: Minister promises changes soon

Mumbai: In the wake of deaths of several patients at government-run hospitals at Nanded and Chhatrapati Sambhajnagar 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.

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 Hindi-dubbed version of his film "Mark Antony".



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

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.



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.

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.

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.



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.

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

Modi government over a range of issues including matters relating to the Adani group. "Investigation by ED has revealed that he (Dinesh Arora) has given Rs two crore cash at Sanjay Singh's house on two occasions (Rs one crore at each time), the ED alleged in its remand application.

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

NEWSCLICK CASE

Court asks police to provide FIR copy to arrested accused



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 OF THE PRESS AND ENSURE THE INVESTIGATION IS FAIR AND TRANSPARENT

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.

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.

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.

'JUMLA BOY' VS 'NEW-AGE RAVAN' BJP, Cong 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 Param Mitra Adani."

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.

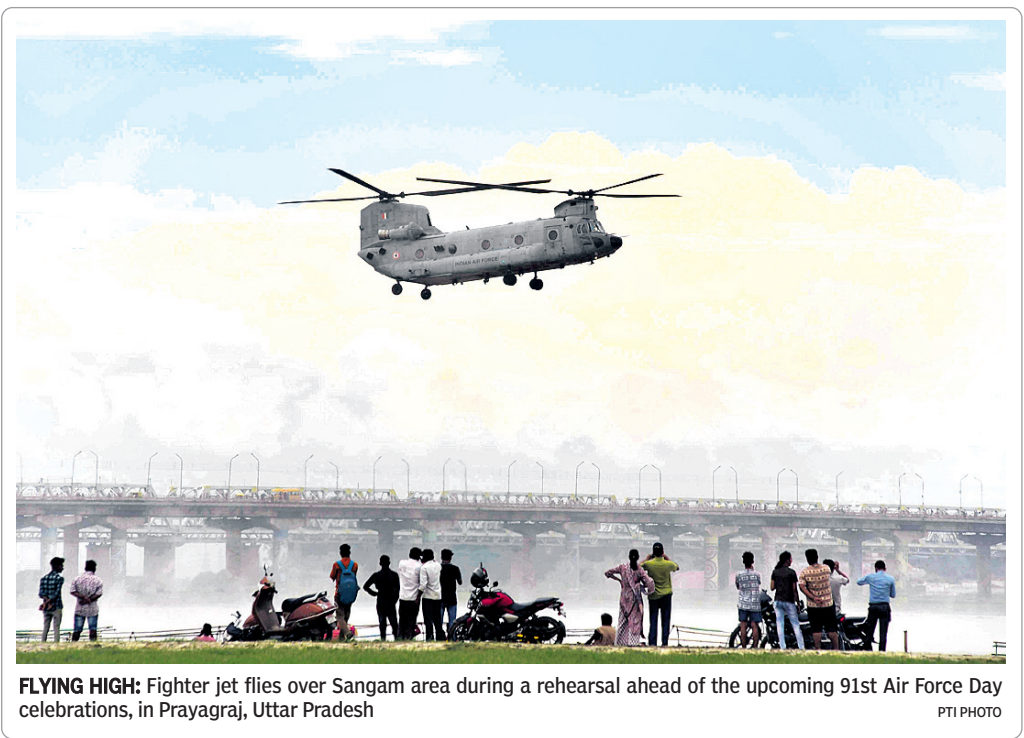
"What is the real intent of an atrocious graphic portraying Rahul Gandhi as Ravan by the BJP's official handle? It is clearly intended to incite and provoke violence against a Congress MP and a former President of the party, whose father and grandmother were assassinated by forces that want to divide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

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

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.

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

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



The apex court is revisiting the judgement 25 years after the JMM bribery scandal rocked the country

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 Gopal Sankarnarayanan referred to several judgements and said the consistent point in all was that "nobody enjoys protection against criminal prosecution".

Hasaria supported the reconsideration of the 1998 verdict and gave the example of pendency of more than 5,000 criminal cases against lawmakers.

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

The solicitor general focussed his submissions on the offence of bribery as defined under the Prevention of Corruption Act

China's assertiveness more evident with its rise: CDS Gen Chauhan

New Delhi: China's assertiveness is more evident now with its rise and India will have to take this aspect into account in its overall "strategic calculus", Chief of Defence Staff Gen Anil Chauhan said Thursday while delving into various national security challenges and profound geopolitical changes. Delivering the annual Gen KV Krishna Rao memorial lecture, he also referred to India's "major dispute" along the northern borders with China and suggested that New Delhi will have to play its "strategic autonomy" card well.



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



## of the day quote

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 of mutual benefits  
NARAYAN PRAKASH SAUD | NEPAL FOREIGN MINISTER

Tunisia doesn't want to be Europe's border guard to slow migration  
KAIS SAIED | TUNISIA'S PRESIDENT

# RUSSIAN STRIKE KILLS 51

# 2023 set to become hottest year on record



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

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

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 prosecutors 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 self-restraint, 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.



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 temperatures

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 movements. 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 record-breaking 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.

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 temperatures. "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

## 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 record-breaking 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. Four 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.

## US jet shoots down Turkish drone in Syria

REUTERS

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 official 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, Indonesia, Thursday

# 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 has said.

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. He reemerged on 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 the 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 exports. 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



impasse may be short-lived, but questions linger about the upcoming semesters and students are asking about safety in Canada. Ashok Kumar Bhatia,

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.



