

PRESSING DEMAND: Congress workers take out a protest rally from Saradha Bali to SJTA office on Grand Road in Puri, Monday, demanding immediate reopening of all the four gates of Srimandir for devotees (REPORT P3) OP PHOTO

'Can't stop heartbeat' **NITHARI SERIAL KILLINGS** Koli, Pandher acquitted **TOP COURT REJECTS PLEA OF MOTHER OF TWO TO TERMINATE OVER 26-WEEK PREGNANCY** AGENCIES

'BOTCHED-UP' PROBE NOTHING SHORT OF A 'BETRAYAL OF PUBLIC TRUST' BY AGENCIES: ALLAHABAD HC

AGENCIES

Prayagraj, Oct 16: The Allahabad Monday acquitted do-

court noted that the prosecution has failed to prove the guilt of both the accused "beyond reasonable doubt, on the settled pa-

The two were charged with

rape and murder and sentenced

to death in the killings that hor-

sponsible agencies"

rameters of a case based on circumstantial evidence" and the probe was "nothing short of a betrayal of public trust by re-

said the agency's team was waiting for the judgment copy and would take a call on next steps fter studving it The high court observed that prosecution was based on the confessional statement given by Koli to the UP Police December 29, 2006 but the procedure required to be followed for recording his disclosure leading to recovery of biological remains has been given a "complete go by". It noted that the prosecution stand kept changing from time to time as it initially attributed recoveries jointly on Pandher and Koli but with passage of time the "guilt was fastened exclusively" upon Koli. The high court said that "failure" of investigation agencies to probe the angle of organ trade even after recommendations from the Union Ministry of Women and Child Development was "nothing short of a betrayal of public trust by responsible agencies".

New Delhi, Oct 16: The Supreme Court Monday declined to permit a married woman, a mother of two, to terminate her over 26-week pregnancy as the foetus was healthy and the AIIMS medical board found no abnorsuffering from any abnormality. mality with it. A bench headed by Chief ments on the Centre's application Justice DY Chandrachud said seeking recall of the apex court's the length of pregnancy has October 9 order permitting the crossed 24 weeks, the upper limit for allowing Medical Termination of Pregnancy (MTP), and therefore it cannot be permitted. The top court said the foetus is 26 weeks and five days old and there is no immediate threat to the mother. There was also no foetal abnormality it said. The length of the pregnancy has crossed 24 weeks and it is approximately 26 weeks and five days old. The medical termination of the pregnancy cannot be permitted, the bench, also comprising Justices JB Pardiwala and Manoj Misra said. The top court had said earlier in the day that the challenge to

pregnancy termination law will be dealt with in separate proceedings, and the present case would be limited to the issue between the petitioner and the State.

various angles, police SDPO

Sudarshan Dash said.

The SC had earlier sought a report from the AIIMS medical board on whether the foetus was

The bench was hearing argu-

IN	DEX	,	VARI	ATION
BOURSES	SENSEX	66166.93	₽	115.81
	NIFTY	19731.80	₽	19.20
CURRENCY	DOLLAR	83.29	₽	₹0.02
CURR	EURO	87.77		₹0.07
NO	GOLD	₹59,202	₽	₹206
BULLION	SILVER	₹71,158	₽	₹129

The govt should add more proteins to

our free ration so that 80 crore Indians will be ready for 2036 Olympics

MARKET WATCH

WEATI	HER		
	BHUB	СТК	
MAX	34.7℃	34.5°	C
[₽] MIN	23.1°C	24.2°	C Forecast
Humidity	75%	77%	Dry
Rainfall	Nil	Nil	weather very likely

mestic help Surinder Koli and his employer Moninder Singh Pandher in the sensational 2006 Nithari serial killings in which they were facing death sentence, holding that the prosecution failed to prove the guilt "beyond reasonable doubt" and that the investigation was "botched up"

rified the nation with the de-However, the judgment in the tails on sexual assault, brutal case bringing back memories murder and hints of possible cannibalism. While Koli is in a of the chilling crime targeting young girls that came to light Ghaziabad prison, Pandher is with skeletal remains being lodged in a Noida jail. found behind a Noida bungalow We are not satisfied with the in NCR may only see Pandher judgment. This is not right. When walking out of the jail. Koli, the

someone killing several children key accused, will continue to gets acquitted, imagine what punishment will those get who serve the life imprisonment awarded to him in the killing of kill just one or two people," said Jhabbu Lal (63) and Sunita Devi Reversing the death sentence (60), who lost their daughter.

given to Koli in 12 cases and Devi, busy ironing clothes but Pandher in two cases, the high intermittently speaking to re-

- Nithari murder case, one of the most intricate criminal investigations in recent times began following the discovery of multiple human remains in and around Pandher's residence at Noida's Nithari in 2006
- His domestic help Koli allegedly lured the children with sweets and chocolates, murder them, and had sex with the corpses. He was also accused of cannibalism. The gruesome details of the case sent shockwaves across the country

porters, said, "We appeal to PM (Narendra) Modi and CM Yogi Adityanath that those who killed our children should be hanged.' A CBI official in New Delhi

27-year-old woman, a mother of two, to undergo termination of pregnancy at AIIMS as she was suffering from post-partum psychosis after the birth of her second child. Under the MTP Act, the upper limit for the termination of pregnancy is 24 weeks for married

women, special categories including survivors of rape, and other vulnerable women such as the differently-abled and minors.

The court was faced with a conundrum over whether to allow the woman to terminate her 26-week pregnancy. The moral dilemma stemmed from what the court said the rights of the unborn child and the woman's right to her bodily autonomy.

CBI files charge sheet in Manipur parading case

AGENCIES

New Delhi, Oct 16: The CBI Monday filed a charge sheet against six people and a juvenile in connection with two tribal women being paraded naked in Manipur's Kangpokpi district in May this year.

A video of the incident, which surfaced in July this year, led to widespread condemnation across the country and globally, prompting the Supreme Court to step in and hand over the case to the CBI.

The agency filed the charge sheet against six people and a report against a child in conflict with the law before a special CBI court in Guwahati.

It was alleged that, May 4, a mob of approximately 900-1000 individuals, armed with sophisticated weapons, entered B Phainom village in Kangpokpi District of Manipur, vandalised and set houses ablaze, looted properties, assaulted villagers, committed murders, and sexu-

a 14-year-old girl.

ally assaulted women. It was further alleged that two family members of one of the women paraded naked were also killed in the incident. The CBI

investigation indicated that the accused arrested by Manipur Police were involved in the incident, following which the charge sheet was filed Monday.

Further investigation is continuing including the identification of other accused involved in the offences beside other aspects of the case. The accused have been charged under various sections of the Indian Penal Code, including those pertaining to gangrape, murder, outraging the modesty of a woman and crimi-

141st session of IOC in Mumbai okays inclusion

of 5 more sports --Cricket, Squash, Baseball and Softball,

Flag Football and Lacrosse -- in the 2028 Olympic Games

AGENCIES

New Delhi, Oct 16: With the International Olympic Committee (IOC) Monday giving its final nod, Cricket in the Twenty20 format will return to the Olympic Games for the first time since 1900 when Los Angeles hosts the mega event in 2028. Los Angeles will host cricket

as a six-team competition for each gender with the host nation confirmed as one of the teams. As of now, the other five teams will be picked based on the ICC T20I Rankings at a pre-decided cut-off date.

As Cricket makes a comeback amid much fanfare, it is only fair to take a deep-dive into the game's history in Olympics.

Cricket and the Olympics made for strange bedfellows when the sport featured in its roster for the first and only time in the 1900 edition of the games in Paris. The French team that played the gold medal match against Great Britain comprised players working as manual labour in construction of the magnificent Eiffel Tower.

In the games that spanned six months, the Olympic cricket programme was a one-match, two-day affair, with a cumulative score of 366 runs across four innings. The post-script was funny and scary in equal measure. The Brits from Devon



Wanderers, after playing the 'Olympics final' were off to their next destination on a motorcoach that had two drivers.

Cricket to make a comeback in LA Olympics

The first driver was punch drunk and had to be pulled out of his seat, and the second one was no good either. In an inebriated state, he rammed the vehicle causing minor injuries.

What was the standard of the match? An article written by Daniel Schofield in 'Daily Telegraph' a few years ago observed that renowned Olympics chronicler the late Ian Buchanan, who had founded the International Society of Olympic Historians (ISOH), had termed the cricket event of that games as shambolic. It was held inside the Vélodrome de Vincennes, a cycling track with ridiculously short square boundaries, less than 30 metres from the centre of the pitch.

If there were 24 people in the field of play, documents of that time suggests that not even 20 had watched that match over two days. R Horne, H Terry, W Anderson, D Robinson, W Browning were weekend cricketers, who formed the French Athletic Club Union, primarily for the British expats living in France. And what did they do for a living? Well, they were building the Eiffel Tower. No wonder that the French team was all out for 26 in pursuit of 184 with no one reaching double figures.

While the Great Britain won the gold medal and a miniature of the Eiffel Tower, the French team was given the silver. Baron Pierre de Coubertin, the father of Modern Olympics, wanted cricket as a part of 1896 Games but there weren't any entry.

That's why saving cricket and the Olympics in the same breath would mostly sound a bit more than odd until the International Olympic Committee (IOC) and the other concerned stakeholders decided to re-introduce thesport at the world's biggest sporting spectacle.



nal conspiracy, the CBI said.





GaneshaSpeaks.com

FOR ASTROLOGY DIAL 55181 ARIES

Today, you may simply take

a day off to be with your spouse or kids. You may

accuracy

reliability
 trust

even want to catch up with relatives liv-

ing in your vicinity. Your loved ones wil

be mighty happy and pleasantly sur-

prised, and Ganesha approves

You will not just run the race but will reach the finish line

Ganesha. Neither pressure nor overload

Ganesha advises that you must learn to

entrepreneur, you will be no different. You

attach great importance to innovation, and

all your projects today validate this fact.

Your time with your sweetheart will give

you immense pleasure. Later in the day.

you will have a gala time with your friends.

will prevent your from accomplishing

your targets this afternoon. However

be patient to make the most of

Your have a knack of giving

a creative and artistic twist

to all your work. As an

with ease today, predicts

TAURUS

vour success.

GEMINI

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SMITH RESPONDS TO WIFE'S SEPARATION CONFESSION

Hollywood actor Will Smith says that his wife Jada Pinkett Smith's revelations about the couple's separate lives 'kind of woke him up' to the fact that she is more 'resilient' and 'clever' than he had previously thought.

GIGI, BRADLEY USE SWIFT'S HOME FOR SECRET DATE

Supermodel Gigi Hadid and Hollywood star Bradley Cooper reportedly have been using singer Taylor Swift's home for their secret rendezvous. Speaking to The Mirror UK, a source said that the 28-year-old blonde beauty and the 48year-old actor chose not to meet at their respective homes.



Urvashi loses her FORTUNE FORECAST gold phone, seeks help from netizens

Mumbai: Actress Urvashi Rautela has lost her mobile phone during the high-voltage India-Pakistan match which was held in Ahmedabad as a part of the ongoing ICC World Cup.

The actress took to her official X account, and shared that she lost her '24 carat real gold iPhone' at the stadium.

The match concluded on Saturday with Team India comfortably beating its neighbours, but the actress spent after hours of the match in distress and registered an official complaint with the police at 1 am Sunday. In the afternoon, she finally took to her X

and put up a tweet asking for help from the netizens. She also attached a picture of the official document about the complaint of her lost phone.

Explaining the unfortunate event, she wrote on X, "Lost my 24 carat real gold iPhone at Narendra Modi Stadium, Ahmedabad! If anyone comes across it, please help.'

A lot of netizens swarmed to the comments and put up a myriad of responses under the tweet. While some poked fun at the actress, others mainly were supportive of the actress in her loss of the asset.



Mumbai: Fatima Sana Shaikh, who will be playing the role of former Prime Minister Indira Gandhi in the film Sam Bahadur, has opened up about playing the former PM and being compared with Kangana Ranaut. The latter is also playing the same role in her film *Emergency*.

Talking about the same, Fatima said that while she is doing her role according to her script, Kangana is performing hers differently. She also added that if two actors are playing the same role, comparisons are bound to happen and there is nothing wrong with it. According to her, both approaches can be right. It's all about the spirit of the character.

Spilling some beans about how she prepped up for the character in Sam Bahadur, Fatima shared that she read a lot about her. She added that while Kangana is playing Indira from the time when she was much older, she is playing her from the time before. According to her, Indira Gandhi's journey is very interesting. She also

added that people should talk more about freedom fighters, rulers and emperors as everyone should know what has happened in the country.

Sam Bahadur, to hit the theatres December 1, also stars Vicky Kaushal and Sanya Malhotra in lead roles. AGENCIES



KANYA SUNA DEPICTS REALITY OF THE COLONIAL MIDDLE CLASS

Bhubaneswar: A 56-day production-oriented theatre workshop co-hosted by Sangeet Natak Akademi and city-based troupe Panchadhwani Natya Parisad closed Monday with the enactment of Odia drama Kanya Suna here at Bhanjakala

Mandap. Adapted from Byasakabi Fakir Mohan Senapati's Birei *Bisal*, the play showcased the reality of the middle class against the backdrop of feudal social order in British India. It speaks about a time when daughters were sold to old-

aged men and how a young man sold his properties to get a girl of his choice. The play climaxes with a girl discarding the age-old practice with support from her villagers.

Written by Panchanan Dash, the play was designed and directed by NSDian Dolgovind Rath.

Dramatists Anant Mahapatra, Ramesh Panigrahi, author and publisher Banoj Tripathy and Odisha Sangeet Natak Akademi secretary Prabodh Rath were among the luminaries who were present at the event.

Basanta Muduli awards announced for two years

Before his demise in a car mishap in 1986, revolutionary poet Muduli had approximately 500 poems in different languages, as well as several critical essays and short stories to his credit

Bhubaneswar: Though he died at the age of 31 in 1986, acclaimed poet Basanta Muduli's body of work, which largely addresses serious societal themes, continues to resonate in the state's literary sphere.

To celebrate his poems. Basanta Muduli Smruti Sansad, a committee formed in the memory of the bard, has been honouring a poet below the age of 50 for the last 30 years.

Young poets Narendra Bhoi (born 1979) from Boudh and Chittaranjan Nayak (born 1978) from Keonihar have re-

Chittaranjan Nayak

Narendra Bhoi

Puraskar for the years 2022 and 2023, informed Sansad's secretary, Krushna Kumar Mohanty

Narendra has written three poetry anthologies, while Chittaranjan has four to his credit. Both the winners will be given away cash awards and citations at Sanskruti Bhawan, Bhadrak, November 5. he added.

State's several eminent poets, including Amaresh Pattnaik, Ashutosh Parida. Basudev Sunani, and lecturer Dattatreya Dash are scheduled to attend the event. For the unversed, before his death in a road mishap, Muduli had written 437 poems (in Odia, Hindi and English), several critical essays, and short stories. PNN

Rani: No one can romance like SRK

Mumbai: Actress Rani Mukerji, who celebrated 25 years of her cult movie Kuch Kuch Hota Hai, shared that her co-star Shah Rukh Khan has taught her to romance.

Rani attended the special screening of the movie, long with director Karan Johar and SRK.

Talking about SRK, the *Chalte Chalte* fame actress said: "SRK taught me how to romance. So when SRK says let the young people do the romance, I don't think anyone can do the romance like him.

> She further said: "I started doing the films when I was 17 years old, and it just feels amazing that I have a daughter who is going to turn eight in December. So it's exactly like how my daughter was in this film.

The actress thanked fans for showering love on her character. She said: "Thank you so much for loving Tina. I was a newcomer, SRK and Kajol had already done Dilwale Dulhania Le Jayenge (DDLJ), they were the iconic pair." "I was very nervous that the audience would not accept Rahul

falling in love with Tina, when Anjali was

around. But that was all Karan's writing,

what he wrote, and made it happen." Rani

IT'S RAINING

ON MY CAKE!

concluded.

Your partner will be willing to do anything for you today. You ask for the moon

or anything under the Sun, and they will oblige. Even though they won't be able to pluck the moon and stars from the sky, a special gesture from your partner is bound to send you to cloud nine.

LEO

You may meet people whom you haven't met in a long me, or will attempt to. New relations and acquaintances may also be formed. You will try to keep your self busy in one task after the other. You will be able to finish all your work as per deadline, says Ganesha

VIRGO

Ganesha predicts that you will achieve the targets that you set out to achieve today. The heavy pressure of work will not affect you in any way. Ganesha says the secret of your success is being patient. You are bang on target.

LIBRA

Remember back when you were a kid? Maybe you don't, not everything at least. But don't worry, today, in all probability. you shall have a new revelation about your childhood. At work, you wil demonstrate exactly who you are through your intelligence. In this same honest vein, you will express your sincerest feelings and emotions to your loved ones, savs Ganesha.



SCORPIO

Keep as much distance as possible from partnerships and JVs, advises Ganesha. At work, your experience will be enough to manage huge projects Today you are set to emerge as a better manager of large pools of people, and guide them on the lines of your imagination and decisiveness.

SAGITTARIUS

Your role in bringing crucial and influential deals will be pivotal, says Ganesha However, the end results may not turn up as per your expectations. But a pleasant

evening with your beloved is likely to cheer you up and lighten your mood.

CAPRICORN

The pace and meticulous ness with which you deal with work will leave your

colleagues and subordinates in awe, says Ganesha. People will look up to you and respect you for your ability to handle efficiently the cumbersome work that seems deadening to most other people. Your boss will be just as impressed and may reward you for your efforts.

Today may give you an alltime high! The day will prove important with regard to your future. Sudden and unexpected profits are on the cards, and recognition and rewards at your workplace will make you happy. Ganesha says that you should enjoy it while it lasts.

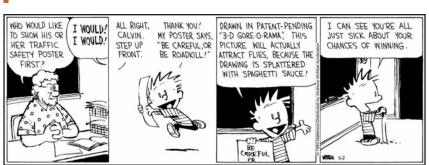
PISCES

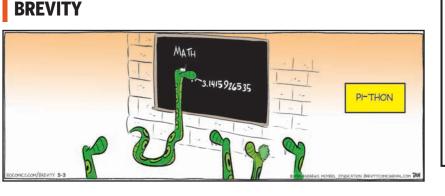
Everyone knows your nature but today you will feel uncomfortable by someone's progress. Ganesha knows this is unusual but you need to think about this. Anger never gives results so it is better to focus on your good qualities and hard work to achieve your goals.

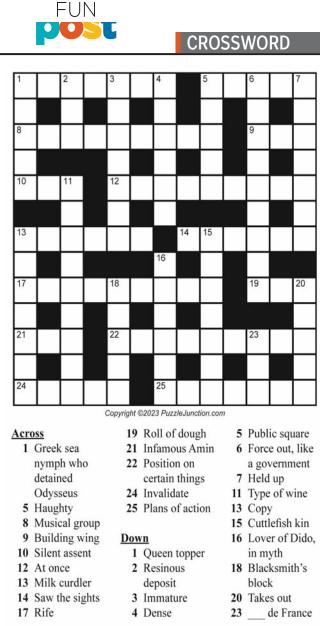
CALL THE GAME ?! I THINK WE SHOULD WHY SHOULD WE CALL THE GAME HEY CALL THE GAME ? MANAGER

PEANUTS

CALVIN AND HOBBES







CHECK FOR SOLUTIONS OF THE PUZZLES TOMORROW

spectively been selected by a jury comprising eminent writers to get the prestigious Basanta Muduli Kabita

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.

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

CROSSWORD	B G S A		T 0 U E 0 C 7 1 9	LURID DEPTH 354	E T I	KRAALCULVERT 976	G 0 M A 2 5		E I U	EXTRA GOATS 837	T 0 8 8 5 9	S H I P M E N T L O U D	E E E
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	6	5	1	5	1	7	2	8	3	3	9	ł	4
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SOL

MUSICAL NITE

Artistes perform at 'Suron Ki Mehfil', a live concert organised by 'Sangeet-The Sound of Music', at Soochana Bhawan in Bhubaneswar, Monday



Odia Emirates employee missing for over 50 days

INDO-ASIAN NEWS SERVICE

New Delhi, Oct 16: An Emirates International Facilities Management employee, hailing from Khurda district, has mysteriously disappeared after reaching Delhi and has been missing for over 50 days, leaving his family in anguish.

Orissapost

TUESDAY | OCTOBER 17 | 2023 | BHUBANESWAR

downtown

Allegations of a kidnapping have surfaced as Ranjan Swain, 30, disappeared shortly after his arrival at Delhi airport from Abu Dhabi via Mumbai.

According to an FIR, Swin has been employed at Emirates International Facilities Management in Abu Dhabi for the past three years. He was scheduled to return to India August 18, which was the last time he communicated with his

sister, sharing his ticket details. "However, he has since become untraceable. After waiting for 3-4 days, his family contacted the company management, who confirmed

Ranjan Swain, 30, hailing from Khurda district, vanishes after reaching New Delhi airport from Abu Dhabi in August; kidnapping suspected as family gets

ransom demand

his departure for India with his friend Faheem Ahmad on Vistara Airlines," as per the FIR. Assistance from the NGO Global Odia volunteers resulted in confirmation from the UAE government that Swain had left Abu Dhabi and travelled to India August 18. His family is facing financial

hardship, as he was the sole provider for them. "It has been over 50 days since he went missing, with no sign of his whereabouts. The NGO and the family

have reached out to various individuals and learned that some people are demanding a ransom while threatening his life. This has led to suspicions of a kidnapping case in and around Delhi," the FIR stated. The family members revealed

that Swain had initially gone to Abu Dhabi through a recruitment company three years ago, financing his journey with a loan. "After a couple of days, when

we were not able to trace Ranjan, we lodged a complaint in Odisha and pushed Odisha Police to visit Delhi for the case. Odisha Police had visited and found some clues with help of IGI Airport police but couldn't do much and on advice, an FIR was lodged there October 15," said the family members.

Meanwhile, a senior Delhi Police officer said they have registered an FIR under Section 365 (kidnapping) of IPC at IGI Airport police station and probe is on.

of Odisha @Naveen_Odisha ji!

May this year brings you im-

mense joy, good health, long life

& many more accomplishments."

Patnaik, Ödisha Governor

Ganeshi Lal prayed for a healthy

Though Patnaik did not cele-

brate his birthday as he is mourn-

ing his elder sister Gita Mehta's

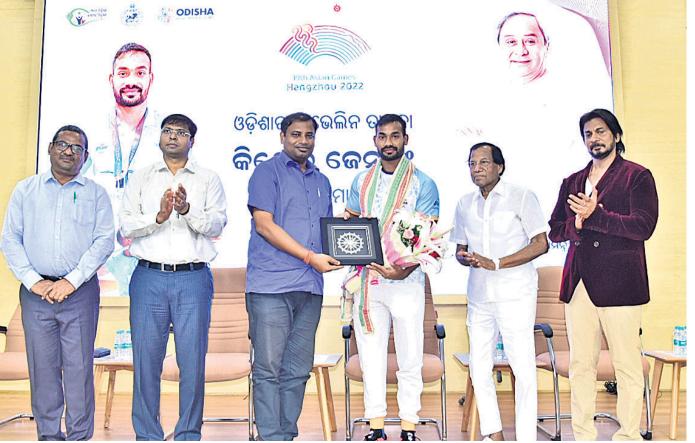
death last month, the ruling Biju

Janata Dal organised several

events like plantation drives and

and happy life for Naveen.

Extending birthday wishes to



TALENT FETED: Sports and Youth Services Minister Tusharkanti Behera felicitates Javelin star Kishore Jena for winning silver medal in the recently-concluded Hangzhou Asian Games, at Kalinga Stadium in Bhubaneswar, Monday

Wishes pour in as Naveen turns 78

AGENCIES

Bhubaneswar, Oct 16: Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Chief Ministers of various states were among those who wished Odisha Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik on his 77th birthday, Monday.

"My greetings to Odisha CM Shri Naveen Patnaik Ji on his birthday. May he be blessed with a long and healthy life. @Naveen_Odisha," Modi posted on X.

Patnaik responded to Modi's message by thanking him for the birthday wishes. "Thank you Hon'ble Prime Minister Shri @narendramodi ji for your warm birthday wishes," the Odisha Chief Minister posted on X.

Tamil Nadu Chief Minister MK Stalin took to 'X' to extend birthday wishes to his Odisha counterpart.

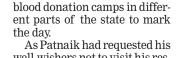
'Warmest birthday wishes to Hon'ble Chief Minister of Odisha



Thiru @Naveen_Odisha! May vour life be filled with enduring joy and good health.

Taking to X, Assam Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma wrote, "Heartiest birthday wishes to Hon'ble Chief Minister of Odisha Shri Naveen Patnaik ji. Prayers to Maa Kamakhya for his long life and good health in the service of the nation.'

Minister of Earth Sciences Kiren Rijiju wrote on X, "Sending heartfelt birthday wishes to CM



well-wishers not to visit his residence 'Naveen Niwas' to greet him on the occasion, none turned up to wish the Chief Minister. Social media was flooded with good wishes for the Chief Minister on the occasion.

"Due to the demise of his elder sister Gita Mehta last month, the Chief Minister has decided not to celebrate his birthday this year," a communication from the Chief Minister's Office (CMO) said Sunday.

Patnaik, the five-time Chief Minister of the state, did not celebrate his birthday last year as he went to Hyderabad to attend a business meeting. He had not celebrated the day in 2020 during the first wave of the pandemic and again in 2021 with the second wave returning to haunt the state again.

Cong takes out rally, demands reopening of Srimandir gates

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Puri, Oct 16: The Odisha Pradesh Congress Committee (OPCC) Monday took out a protest rally here for immediate reopening of all the four gates of Srimandir for devotees.

Holding banners and party flags and beating cymbals and 'mridang', Congress workers, led by OPCC president Sarat Pattanayak, took out the protest march from Saradha Bali to the office of the Shree Jagannath Temple Administration (SJTA) on Grand Road here.

OPCC campaign committee chairman Bijay Patnaik, former OPCC presidents Jaydev Jena and Prasad Harichandan, Jeypore MLA Tara Prasad Bahinipati, Mohana MLA Dasarathi Gamango and several other senior Congress leaders participated in the rally.

The party leaders submitted memorandum to SJTA chief ad-

The three gates of **Puri temple have been** closed for the ongoing **Srimandir Parikrama** project. The state government has no intention to put devotees in trouble

AMAR SATPATHY BJD LEADER

- Entry of devotees to Srimandir through the four gates was closed March 20, 2020 due to Covid-19 restrictions
- Later, when the situation improved, the Lion's Gate was reopened for devotees In July this year, the

government reopened the West Gate only for Puri residents for performing daily rituals

Bahinipati.

The party warned to intensify stirs across the state if the government fails to address the issues before the beginning of the holy month of Kartika.

SJTA chief administrator Ranjan Kumar Das said the memorandum will be forwarded to the Governor. Das also assured to take appropriate action after going through the demands.

Meanwhile, BJP leader Samir Mohanty in Bhubaneswar criticised the state government for not forming any committee till now for the opening of Ratna Bhandar and the conduct of inventory.

The temple managing committee had submitted a resolution to the Orissa High Court as well as the state government on the issue August 4 but nothing has been done vet

BJD leader Amar Satpathy

said the three gates of Puri

temple have been closed for



PUJA PREP: The Durga Puja pandal in Saheed Nagar area of Bhubaneswar is nearing completion, Monday

ministrator Ranjan Das addressed to the Odisha Governor. Pattanavak said all four gates of the Puri temple should be reopened for devotees before the beginning of the holy Odia month of Kartika (begins from October 29).

"Puri is one of the four dhams of India, and lakhs of devotees from across the globe come here for a darshan of Lord Jagannath. However, they face a lot of problems while visiting the temple. A devotee died recently while standing in a queue to visit the temple, which brought bad name to the state," he alleged.

Alleging that the state gov ernment failed to do anything for the development of the 12th century shrine, the Congress leaders said now the government has closed three out of four gates of the temple for the general public for which devotees are facing immense problems, Pattanayak said.

The party also demanded the

However, all three gates (excluding the Lion's Gate) have remained closed for the general devotees in view of the ongoing Srimandir Parikrama project around the temple

government to reopen the Ratna Bhandar of the temple for repairs and inventory of ornaments and valuables stored at the temple treasury.

The Congress leaders also urged the state government to hand over land acquired for the Vedanta University project back to farmers as the Supreme Court has quashed the land acquisition.

'The Ratna Bhandar has not been opened for a long time. No one knows whether all the valuables stored inside the treasury are safe or not. So, the temple treasury should be reopened and a detailed inventory of gold and other ornaments of the Lord should be made," demanded the Srimandir Parikrama project. The government has no intention to put devotees in trouble, he added.

On the reopening of Ratna Bhandar, he said the government will follow the court directions in this regard and added that the Law department was examining the court order.

Notably, entry of devotees to the temple through the four gates was closed March 20, 2020 due to Covid-19 restrictions. Later, when the Covid situation improved, the Singhadwar (Lion's Gate) was reopened for devotees.

In July this year, the government reopened the Paschim Dwar (West Gate) only for Puri residents for performing daily rituals.

However, all three gates (excluding the Lion's Gate) of the temple have remained closed for the general devotees in view of the Parikrama project going on around the temple.

No laser lights, flying lanterns around aerodrome **Ex-Cong MLA Judhistir** Samantaray dies at 73

AGENCIES

Bhubaneswar, Oct 16: Former Congress MLA Judhistir Samantaray passed away at a private hospital here Monday.



Congress candidate from the Pipli Assembly seat in the 1995 election, was unwell for a long time.

He was recently shifted to a private hospital in Bhubaneswar after his condition deteriorated. The Congress leader breathed his last while undergoing treatment at the private health facility.

He also served as the chairman of Pipli block from 1984 to 1990.

KULDEEP SINGH, OP

New Delhi, Oct 16: Display of laser lights, lantern lights and wish kites around an aerodrome upto five nautical miles - that disrupt safe operation of aircraft will attract punishment under the Indian Penal Code, the ministry of Civil Aviation said.

The government has amended the Aircraft Rules, 1937 and introduced changes to the Rule 66 addressing concerns related to the display of false lights in the vicinity of an aerodrome. It clarified that the term light encompasses lantern lights, wish kites, and laser lights and the government's jurisdiction over those displaying such lights has been extended from five kilometres to five nautical miles around an aerodrome.

"The government possesses the

GOVT AMENDS AIRCRAFT RULES, 1937

authority to take action against individuals displaying lights that disrupt the safe operation of aircraft or pose hazards to the operating crew. Should such

lights remain unattended for 24 hours, the government is empowered to enter the location and ex-tinguish them," the ministry of Civil Aviation said, adding that the matter shall be reported to the relevant police station for legal action under the IPC.

The government also revised the Rule 39C under which the validity

of licenses in relation to Airline Transport Pilot License (ATPL) and Commercial Pilot License (CPL) holders has been increased from five years to ten years. This change is expected to reduce administrative burden on pilots and aviation authorities like DGCA, promoting a more streamlined and efficient licensing process." the ministry said.

The Rule 118 for validation of foreign licenses has been removed as being redundant.

"These amendments to the Aircraft Rules, 1937 represent a significant step towards strengthening aviation safety, security, and the ease of doing business within the aviation sector in India," the ministry said, adding that these reforms will enhance the growth and sustainability of the aviation industry, ensuring it remains at the forefront of global aviation standards.







downtown

5T Secretary reviews EKAMRA Project work



ARINDAM GANGULY, OF

Bhubaneswar, Oct 16: 5T Secretary VK Pandian Monday reviewed progress in work at different sites under the EKAMRA Project, for which Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik laid the foundation June 28.

OrissaPOST

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After the review, the 5T directed the authorities to speed up the work asking for early start to different components under the project.

Notably, Ekamra Kshetra Amenities and Monuments Revival Action Plan (EKAMRA)

was launched to revive the heritage value of the inner core of the Old Town area of Bhubaneswar through urban

revamp and redesign. After reviewing the work plan and work schedule prepared by the agency for redevelopment, Pandian instructed the agency to finalise all the detailed designs and mobilise materials and machineries

He asked the officials in charge to start working on the road from Taleswar to Kotitirtheswar road, the box drains from Sanatorium Chhak to Taleswar

and onwards, the north park ing along with the link road and duct-laying works along the outer access road. Public amenities on both sides of Purbadwar Chhaak, behind Lingaraj haat and near south west parking should also be started at the same time, he suggested. Pandian advised the people in

charge to complete the project in time. Works department principal secretary VVK Yadav, police commissioner Soumendra Privadarsi, BMC commissioner VA Kulange, Khurda Collector KS Chakraborty, OBCC MD, and other senior officials were present during the 5T Secretary's visit.

The old town, also known as Ekamra Kshetra, is a living heritage site with many temples, sacred water bodies, processional routes and traditional communities of priests residing in the locality. The Chief Minister, to restore and revitalise the heritage sites of the area, had earlier initiated restoration of Bindu Sagar and setting up of Ekamra Bana project.

Narcotics worth ₹50L seized

ODM Public School Bhubaneswar: The Special Task Force (STF) of Odisha Police has arrested a drug peddler and seized narcotics worth over Rs 50 lakhs during a raid in Keonjhar district. The arrested person was identified as Debananda Samal (37) from Anandapur area. Following an intelligence input, the STF sleuths with the help of local police on Sunday intercepted Samal's vehicle at the Silun Chowk. "During search, contraband brown sugar weighing

development practices, ensuring availability of nutritious

ARINDAM GANGULY, OP

and safe foods for all. Meanwhile, Bhubaneswar Municipal Corporation (BMC) Monday hosted a programme to create awareness about maintaining hygiene in food processing, safe food handling and keeping the City safe and healthy. "A total of 150 food vendors from three zones of BMC joined the



CM vows nutritious and safe food for all

practice hygiene and serve good quality food to customers," informed a BMC official.

Mayor Sulochana Das, deputy mayor Manjulata Kanhara, BMC commissioner Vijay Amruta Kulange, additional commissioner Subhendu Sahu, standing committee chairperson Biranchi Narayana Mahasupakara participated in the programme along with team BMC, corporators, and representatives of food outlets. World Food Day is observed

raise awareness about food security and sustainable food systems. Despite the vibrant culinary scene of Bhubaneswar, food hygiene remains a concern. Unsafe practices at food outlets often lead to food-borne illnesses, affecting the health of city folks. Keeping these issues in view, BMC has launched the 'city activation for Bhubaneswar first, an awareness drive to ensure hygiene at food outlets, promoting the motto of 'eat safe, stay safe.'

"Key elements of food safety include maintaining hygiene while cooking, storing and serving food," said Mayor Sulochana Das, emphasizing the importance of cleanliness in all stages of food preparation, handling, and service.

Das emphasised that as Odisha is emerging as a sports and IT hub, the government is actively courting major corporations to the region. "Therefore, there is a need to ensure that our culinary standards and overall attitude align with the expectations of these prominent entities," she said.

Commissioner Kulange spoke about the behavior of food vendors when it comes to hygiene, saying, "By emphasizing key elements of food safety, our programme aims to significantly impact the lives Bhubaneswar's citizens.

'Hand hygiene key to good health'

ARINDAM GANGULY, OP

Bhubaneswar, Oct 16: A programme on hand hygiene with the theme 'clean hands are within reach' was organised for City slum dwellers in coordination with Bhubaneswar Municipal Corporation (BMC) and civil society organizations, Sunday and Monday.

The programme, held to mark he Global Handwashing Day. was facilitated by community leaders from Slum Development Association (SDAs), sanitation sub-committee of different wards with the support of CFAR and other key stakeholders. Highlighting the importance of handwashing, BMC Deputy Mayor Manjulata Kanhar said that washing hands throughout the day in key times using soap and water are the best ways to

keep sickness away and also spreading the disease to others.

She also asked the parents to be alert on their children's health and adopt the practice in every household.

Environmentalist Sudarshan_ Chhotoray urged denizens to keep the City clean, green and healthy. SDA and SHG members, ASHA workers, Anganwadi teachers, students, and BMC officials participated in the programme and learned the handwashing techniques. SDA Member Ranjulata Mohapatra said, "Today we are celebrating the Handwashing Day and our collective resolve to bring clean hands into the reach of every person in our slums." The speakers urged the participants to carry the message of handwashing to all sections of society.



POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar, Oct 16: ODM Public School achieved stellar rankings in EducationWorld Grand Jury India School

Rankings 2023-24. The school claimed position in India in the co-ed day boarding school category and secured the top spot in Odisha for career counseling category and the second spot in the overall category. Stepping into the limelight of educational distinction, ODM Public School emerged as a powerhouse in the EducationWorld Grand Jury India School Rankings 2023-24. The school claims the 10th position on a national scale.

Delving deeper into its achievements, ODM Public School shines as the paramount choice for career counseling in Odisha, symbolizing a profound commitment to guiding students towards prosperous and fulfilling futures. official said.

Additionally, the school stands strong at the 2nd position in Odisha, underscoring its comprehensive approach to nurturing not only academic brilliance but also well-rounded individuals primed for success in an evolving world.

ODM Educational Group chairman Satyabrata Minaketan said, "Securing a significant position in the EducationWorld Grand Jury India School Rankings is a reaffirmation of our relentless dedication to academic excellence and compre-

hensive education." "It brings us immense pride to

secures top honours

520 grams, was recovered from his possession. Police have also seized a Maruti Alto Car and other incriminating materials," an STF

Bhubaneswar. Oct 16: Odisha has made transformational progress in strengthening livelihoods and food security with a focus on marginalised communities, said Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik on World Food Day here Monday. On the occasion, the CM pledged to reinforce sustainable and inclusive





be recognised among the top schools across the nation, a validation of our unwavering commitment to shaping young minds for a brighter future," he said.

Furthermore, clinching top positions in Odisha underscores our determination to provide exceptional career counselling, guiding our students towards fulfilling and prosperous paths, he added.



RAZING DOWN: An excavator engaged by BDA pulling down unauthorised constructions in Unit VIII area of Bhubaneswar, Monday

CLASSIFIED

AFFIDAVIT

I, Narayan Acharya (62), S/o. Late Shyam Sundar Acharya, At-Ganapatinagar 3rd lane, Aska Road, P.O-Panigrahypentho, P.O-Badabazar, Berhampur, Ganjam. Actualy my father's name is Shyama Sundar Acharya as per Passport bearing No.-F2579480 but in Aadhaar Card No. XXXXXXX3684 mentioned as Shyam Sundar Acharjya both are same person. I swear this affidavit to be filed before the Concerned Passport Authority to provide the above information for my needful purposes.

Risk of fatty liver disease in low birthweight babies

BABIES WITH A LOW BIRTHWEIGHT WERE FOUND TO BE FOUR TIMES MORE LIKELY TO **DEVELOP MASLD IN CHILDHOOD. ADOLESCENCE OR YOUNG ADULTHOOD. REVEALED THE STUDY. PRESENTED AT THE ONGOING UNITED** EUROPEAN GASTROENTEROLOGYWEEK **2023 BEING HELD IN DENMARK**

velop MASLD in childhood, ado-

lescence or young adulthood,

revealed the study, presented at

the ongoing United European

Gastroenterology (UEG) Week

established the link between

birthweight and major diseases,

such as cardiovascular disease

and metabolic syndrome, the

"While previous research has

2023 being held in Denmark.

esearchers have discovered a significant connection between birthweight and the onset of nonalcoholic fatty liver disease, now known as metabolic dysfunction-associated steatotic liver disease

(MASLD), in young people. Most notably, babies with a low birthweight were found to be four times more likely to deconnection to MASLD remained unclear." said first author Dr Fahim Ebrahimi, a postdoctoral researcher at the Department of Medical Epidemiology and Biostatistics at Karolinska Institutet in Sweden. "Our study now provides com-

pelling evidence that foetal developmental factors play a significant role in the development of MASLD and progressive liver disease," he added.

To investigate the link, the researchers conducted a population-based case-control study of all people aged 25 years and younger, who had been diagnosed with biopsy-proven MASLD between January 1992 and April 2017, totalling 165 cases. They found that individuals

born with a low birthweight



were four times more likely to develop MASLD when compared with those born with a normal birthweight.

Those born as small for gestational age (SGA), falling below the 10th percentile, were also over three times more likely to develop MASLD early in life compared with those with an

adequate (10th-90th) birthweight. In addition, the researchers found that individuals with a low birthweight, or those born as SGA, had an up to about a 6fold higher relative risk of developing more severe stages of MASLD in the form of liver fibrosis or cirrhosis

"Further research is needed to

fully understand the underlying immunological and metabolic mechanisms. Several studies suggest that both overnutrition and undernutrition during pregnancy can lead to lasting epigenetic changes that can affect an individual's metabolism for a lifetime," Dr Ebrahimi said.

Nonalcoholic fatty liver disease is a long-lasting liver condition caused by having too much fat in the liver. In recent times. MASLD was introduced to replace NAFLD. This change reflects the understanding that most conditions classified as MASLD are closely associated with the metabolic syndrome. which is characterised by obesity, insulin resistance and high levels of cholesterol or lipids. IANS

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17 railway projects hang fire 2 DEAD, 2 INJURED IN BOLANGIR MISHAP

Incomplete survey work and disputes over land acquisition lead to inordinate delays in completion

POST NEWS NETWORK

Jajpur, Oct 16: A total of 17 railway projects approved for Odisha have failed to make any headway as the survey for those are still incomplete, sources said Monday These projects have been sanctioned quite a few years back. Not only have the surveys been completed, other important aspects like land acquisition and payment of compensation to the displaced have also not been done.

The Khurda Road-Bolangir railway project is prime example of how work is not progressing. It is not yet fully operational despite the project being sanctioned 28 years ago.

According to details obtained under Right to Information Act (RTI) from East Coast Railway (ECoR), October 12, the construction of the 96km rail route from Jajpur-Keonjhar Road railway station to Dhamra via Jajpur and Aradi in Bhadrak district has not taken off due to incomplete survey work. No plausible answer is available from ECoR regarding the work. The Railway Ministry sanctioned ₹2.40 crore September 11, 2023 for the final survey of the proposed project. One can just hope that now work will progress at a smooth pace.



The other railway projects that are still stuck due to incomplete surveys are the 118km-long Junagarh-Nabarangpur rail route, 125km-long Malkangiri-Bhadrachalam route, the laying of tracks for the 58km route from Sasubohumali-Sijumali-Kutrumali bauxite mines to Tikiri, the 79km route from Naupada-Gunupur to Therubali, the 282km-long Talcher-Gopalpur stretch, the Bolangir-Nuapada Road via Patnagarh 100km route, the 33km-long Puri-Konark route and the eight-kilometre long Daitari Station to Baliparbat iron ore mines route.

Survey is progressing, but at a very tardy pace on the 270km-long Raipur to Jabalpur route, the 142km-long Bargarh to Nuapada route, 160km-long route from Barkote to Jharsuguda, 240km stretch from Jagannathpur to Redhakhole and the 254km-long

MCRL inner corridor phase.

It should be stated here that many of the railway projects have already been sanctioned but work is not progressing at the pace expected. Among them are the 301km-long Khurda Road to Bolangir route, 149km-long Talcher to Bimlagarh route, the 126kmlong stretch from Jeypore to Malkangiri and the 50km-long Jeypore-Nabarangpur route.

There are various other reasons also for the slow pace of completion of the projects. There have been disputes over conversion of forest land to non-forest ones, enumeration of the trees, compensation towards tree felling, Forest Rights Act (FRA) certificates and protection of wildlife. Some of the disputes are pending for more than 10 years now. With the work not completed it is the locals who are suffering.

There is no shortage of funds for the various projects. The Centre has sanctioned ₹2,864.50 crore for the Junagarh-Nabarangpur project, ₹3,591.76 crore for the Malkangiri-Bhadrachalam project, ₹1315.16 crore for Sasubohumali-Sijumali-Kutrumali roject and ₹1397.36 crore for Naupada-Gunupur project, as per a reply by ECoR regarding the RTL

PNN & AGENCIES

Bhubaneswar, Oct 16: Two people were killed on the spot and two others sustained grievous injuries after an SUV they were travelling in collided head-on with a truck on National Highway-59 in Bolangir district Monday, police informed. The accident took place near Fuguda Chowk under Bangomunda police station area in the district.

The deceased were identified as Lingaraj Saraf and Kishore Das, residents of Panharenmunda village under Gaisilat police station in Bargarh district. The identities of the two injured are yet to be ascertained as they are senseless, a police officer said. The SUV was coming from Gaisilat and moving towards Sinapali

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in Nuapada district, while the truck was coming from Raipur in neighbouring Chhattisgarh, the officer added.

Two occupants of the SUV were killed on the spot, while two others are being treated at Kantabanji hospital," the officer informed. He stated that the chances of survival of the two injured appear very dim. The officer added that a probe has been launched to ascertain the cause of the accident.

EAST COAST RAILWAY

E-Tender Notice No.: Sr.DMM/SB Publication/10 Dtd.:11.10.2023 Tender No.: 40235759

SUPPLY, INSTALLATION ELECTRICALLY OPERATED SYNCHRONIZED SCREW JACK-25 TONS (CONSISTING OF 5 JACKS) AS PER DETAILS SPECIFICATION-(I) LIFTING CAPACITY OF EACH JACK-2 TONS, (II) TOTAL LIFT OF CLAW (MIN) 1400MM (III) MAXIMUM CLAW HEIGHT FROM GROUND LEVEL-2120 MM (V) MINIMUM CLAW HEIGHT FROM GROUND LEVEL-720 MM (V) DIMENSIONS OF LIFTING HEAD-280 X 200 MM (MIN) (VI) GROUND CLEARANCE WHEN RESTING ON WHEELS-20 MM (MIN) (VII) HOISTING SPEED-200MM PER MÍNUTÉ (APPROX SPEED-200MM PEH MINUTE (APPROX) (VIII) CLAW PROJECTION FROM FACE OF COLUMN-525 MM (IX) MOTOR POWER-MINIMUM-5 HP. MAKE: MAMCO OR SIMILAR. [WARRANTY PERIOD: 30 MONTHS AFTER THE DATE OF DELIVERY].

TenderValue: ₹34,04,300/-,<u>EMD</u>:₹68,090/ Tender Closing Date and time : At 1500hrs on 10.11.2023

he tender documents and complete ailable at http://www.ireps.gov.in Sr. Divl. Materials Manage

ਫ਼ਤਹਿ	Punjab	& Sind	Bank	Zonal Office : 14/15, Old Court House Street, Kolkata - 700 001 Telephone : 033-22485957/2248586 E-mail : zo.kolkata@psb.co.in
	(A Govt	. of India Underta	king)	SALE NOTICE
rms o	f the Securitisation and R	econstruction of Financi	ial Assets and Enfo	rcement of Security Interest Act -2002)

Whereas the Authorized Officer of Punjab & Sind Bank under the SARFAESI Act 2002 in exercise of powers conferred u/s 13(12) read with the relevant rules of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules 2002 issued demand notice u/s 13(2) on the dates stated against the account, calling upon the borrower/s to repay the amount mentioned in the notice within 60 days from the date of notice. As the borrower(s)/Guarantor(s) have failed to repay the amount mentioned in the respective notice. Notice is hereby given to the following borrower(s)/Guarantor(s) and the public in general that the Authorized Officer has taken possession of the property in exercise of powers conferred on Authorized Officer u/s 13(4) of the said Act read with relevant rules. Pursuant to the possession taken by the Authorized Officer under SARFAESI Act 2002 for recovery of the secured debts of Punjab & Sind Bank mentioned against borrower(s) detailed hereunder and interest thereon from date mentioned therein and with cos and charges. Offers are invited by the Authorized Officer in sealed cover for purchase of under noted property on "AS IS WHERE IS BASIS", "AS IS WHAT IS BASIS" AND "WHATEVER THERE IS BASIS" as per brief particulars given hereunder:

Date of Sale 22-11-2023, Time of Sale 2.00 PM - 4.00 PM, Last date of EMD : 21-11-2023 Time upto 5.00 pm Place of Sale : E-Auction through C-1 India Pvt Ltd

Branch - Balasore Authorised Officer : P S Banerjee , Contact No. 9830

Name of Account/Borrower(s)/Guarantor(s)/Owner of the property etc. : 1. Sh Panchanan Khilar (Borrower) , S/o Late Mohan Khilar , 2. Pramila Khilar (Gurantor), W/o Panchanan Khilar, both at Vill-Kadarabad, PO - Sunhat, PS-Balasore,

Date of Notice u/s 13(2): 01-02-2023 Date of Notice u/s 13(4): 28-04-2023

Description of the property : Eq. mortgage of part and parcel of the residential property situated at Mouza-Kadarabad, P.S.-Balasore Town, P.S No-18, Dist-Balasore,M.S.Khata-06,Plot-86 area measuring 0.026dec out of 0.052decs after mutation and conversion ROR Khata no-28/109,Plot-86/197,Gharabar belonging to Sh.Panchanan Khilar bearing deed no-2040 dated 25.03.2006.

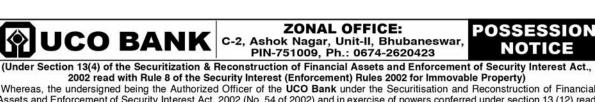
Amount recoverable as per notice : ₹13,10,170.92 (Rupees Thirteen Lacs Ten Thousand One Hundred Seventy paise Ninety Two Only) as on 31-012023 and interest thereon with costs and charges Reserve Price : ₹14,17,000/- (Rs Fourteen Lakh Seventeen Thousand only) E.M.D. : ₹1,41,700/- (Rs One Lakh Forty One Thousand Seven Hundred only/-)

Terms & Conditions:

- Details of terms & conditions are available on www.bankeauctions.com The successful bidder should deposit 25% of the bid amount (inclusive of EMD) immediately after the auction on the same day of the sale in cash or DD drawn as above and the balance bid amount within 15 days from the date of confirmation of sale or such extended period as may be agreed in writing by the
- Authorized Officer not exceeding three months. In case of default, all amounts deposited till then shall be forfeited and the property shall be resold. . The successful bidder should bear statutory dues/taxes/fees payable for conveyance such as stamp duty, registration fees etc as applicable as per Laws
- and Income Tax Laws. The Authorized Officer has the absolute right to accept or reject tender or bid any or all the offers and for adjournment /postponement/ cancel the auction without assigning any reason thereof and also to modify any terms and conditions of this sale without any prior notice.
- 5. The sale is subject to confirmation by the Bank.
- 6. The property can be inspected on 16-11-2023 between 10.00 AM to 3.00 PM.
- This publication is also 30 days notice to all above borrower(s)/Guarantor(s).
 - For further details on the subject, please contact the Branch Manager personally or call at Phone No. 033-22431416.

Date : 17.10.2023 Place : Balasore, Odisha Authorised Officer, Punjab & Sind Bank

For details visit our website : http://www.punjabandsindbank.co.in



Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 (No. 54 of 2002) and in exercise of powers conferred under section 13 (12) read with Rule 8 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 issued a Demand Notice under section 13(2) of the said Act, calling upon he borrowers to repay the amount as mentioned below within 60 days from the date of the said Notice. The borrowers having failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to the borrowers, guarantors and the public in general that the undersigned has taker POSSESSION of the property/ies described here-in below in exercise of powers conferred on him / her under section 13 (4) of the said Act read with Rule 8 of the said Rules on the date mentioned below. The borrowers & guarantors in particular and the public in general are hereby cautioned not to deal with the property/ies and any dealings with the property/ies will be subject to the charge of the UCO Bank for the amount plus interest plus expenses- thereon. The borrower's attention is invited to provisions of Sub-section (2) of the Section 13 of the Act is respected from the result of the section the courted accest

JMM demands CBI probe in Sushmita death case



POST NEWS NETWORK

Rourkela, Oct 16: Political rigmarole surrounding the mysterious death of former Rourkela assistant collector Sushmita Minz is growing by the day. The Jharkhand Mukti Morcha (JMM) is the latest to join the protests demanding a CBI investigation into the

death of Sushmita. Led by Letha Tirkey, a prominent leader of the tribal political outfit, around 400 members of the party demonstrated in front of the ADM's office here Monday. The members of the outfit came in a procession from the 'Fitness Park' here before reaching the ADM's of fice where they submitted a memorandum addressed to Chief

the Sushmita death case.

"We don't believe the postmortem report. It is fake. Only a CBI enquiry will reveal the real culprits and the reasons behind her death," Letha said.

On the investigation front, the manager of 'Hotel Anurag' Dinesh Roy was called for questioning by the police Monday. Roy later on told the media later that it was 'routine interrogation. "I was asked about the CCTV footage by the police, but I told

them we have a backup of only seven days," Roy said. SP Rourkela, Mitrabhanu Mahapatra interacting with mediapersons said that 15 persons have been questioned so far in the case. He added that police will question all those who had

PUBLIC NOTICE

and also all private and Nationalized banks. That Bhatiya Energy & documents for creation of Equitable Mortgage in Punjab National Bank nain Branch Anathalaya marg, Raigarh (C.G.) 496001.

Notice is hereby given that the documents bearing original link sale deer ated 20/04/2011 executed and registered between Vendor Dharampa Kurre S/o. Jagatram Kurre and Buyer Bhatiya Energy & Minerals Sundargarh) Pvt. Ltd. through its director Indrapal Singh Bhatia, registered at Sub Registrar, Hemgir, Distt. Sundargarh (Odisha) on 20/04/2011 earing registration details as book No. Adi-1, deed No.1741100133, has een misplaced and not traceable yet. The report of the same has been odged police station

Through this notification it is informed that if through the mortgage of the said property in Punjab National Bank if anyone has any right, interest nortgage or any kind of interest in this property then he/she can come to ranch located at P.N.B. main branch Anathalaya Marg Raigarh (C.G. 496001, within 7days from issue of this notification for claim of their righ nterest with all supporting documents related to this property After the lapse of 7 days of the issue of this notification, the bank wil

come to the conclusion that this property is free from any right or interes by any third person. After that the said bank will finance loan to Bhatiya Energy & Minerals

Sundargarh) Pvt. Ltd. through its director Vikas Gupta S/o. Vinod Kuma Gupta and the said property will be kept mortgaged in bank. After the nortgage of said property in bank, the bank will not entertain any clain y any person.

Sanjay Kumar Panda, Advocate Raigarh Raigarh Res. and office Garhumaria Distt. Raigarh Date Chhattisgarh-496001, Mob. 98266-04858 14/10/2023

PUBLIC NOTICE

Through this notification it is informed to all public and financial institution and also all private and Nationalized Banks. That Bhatiya Energy & Minerals (Sundargarh) Pvt. Ltd. Through its director Vikas Gupta, S/o. Vinod Kumar Gupta, R/o. H. No. 123, Prahalad Bhawan, Raigarh Tah. 8

Through this notification it is informed to all public and financial institution

Minerals (Sundargarh) Pvt. Ltd through its Vikash Gupta, S/o. Vinod Kumar Gupta, R/o. H.No.123, Prahalad Bhawan Raigarh, Tah. & Distt Raigarh (C.G.) has applied for business loan in Punjab National Bank Raigarh Branch (C.G.). He has offered the land bearing Plot No.1106 area.0.82 dec, Plot No.1105, area 0.68 dec, Plot No.1104, area 0.73 dec Plot No. 1103/1682, area 1.66 dec, Plot No.1102/1681, area 0.61 dec Plot No.1101, area 0.70 dec, Plot No.1100/1680, area 2.24 dec, Plot No.1097/1679 area 0.80 dec., total plot 8, Total area 8.24 dec. Khata No.85/306 situated at Mouza Barpali, PS. Hemgir, Dist. Sundargarh Odisha). He has submitted the present title deed and other propert

Minister Naveen Patnaik. Speaking to the media Letha reiterated JMM's demand for CBI enquiry in

in the days leading to her demise. He added that police will try and get CCTV footage from the hotel.

interacted with Sushmita

'Covishield booster shots increase antibody level'



PNN & AGENCIES

Sambalpur, Oct 16: Doctors of the Veer Surendra Sai Institute of Medical Sciences and Research (VIMSAR) at Burla have found that Covishield booster shots significantly increased antibody levels against Covid-19, indicating enhanced protection against the virus. The study has been published in the international journal 'Cureus Journal of Medical Science'. The group of doctors of

the premier healthcare institution who conducted the study included Dr Trupti Meher, Dr Subrat Kumar Pradhan, Dr Shankar P Hatei, Dr Subash Chandra Majhi, Dr Aishwarya Panda, Dr Smriti R Mund and Dr Sanjeeb Kumar Mishra.

'The study included 132 healthcare providers, mostly women with a mean age of 35 years. They received the booster shot at least nine months after the second dose. The results showed that antibody levels significantly increased after the booster shot, with a mean fold rise of more than 30 per cent," said Dr Mishra, corresponding author of the study.

Dr Mishra said the study also found that the antibody levels were higher in participants who had a longer interval be tween the second dose and

the booster shot. Interestingly, 38 of the participants had negligible antibody levels prior to the booster dose which signifies the need for the timely shot, he added.

The study suggests that the third booster shot can significantly enhance protection against the virus especially among healthcare providers who are at a higher risk of exposure. The study also highlights the importance of moni-

toring the antibody levels after the booster shot to ensure optimal protection against the virus.

"Overall, this study provides valuable insights into the effectiveness of the ChAdOx1 (Covishield) booster dose in enhancing protection against Covid. The findings have important implications for the ongoing vaccination campaigns and the efforts to control the spread of the virus," informed Mishra. He added

that in future yearly booster doses may be nec essary for the older people.

Distt.: Raigarh (C.G.) has applied for business loan in Punjab Nationa Bank, Raigarh Branch (C.G.). He has offered the land bearing Plot No 1097/p area 0.80 Dc., Plot No. 1100/p area 2.24 Dec., Plot No. 1101 area 0.70 Dec., Plot No. 1102/p area 0.61 Dec., Plot No. 1103/p area 1.66 Dec., Plot No. 1104 area 0.73 Dec., Plot No. 1105 area 0.68 dec., Plo No. 1106 area 0.82 Dec., Total Plot - 8, Total Area: 8.24 Dec., Khata No 76 situated at Mouza: Barpali, P.S.: Hemgir, Distt.: Sundargarh (Odisha) He has submitted the present title deed and other property documents for creations for creation of Equitable Mortgage in Punjab National Bank Main Branch, Anathalaya Marg, Raigarh (C.G.) - 496001.

Notice is hereby given that the documents bearing original link sale deed dated 15.09.2010 executed and registered between vendo Chandramani Buda, Loknath Buda, Suknath Buda & others and Buye Dharampal Kurre, S/o. Jagatram Kurre, registered at Sub-Registrat lemgir, Distt.: Sundargarh (Odisha) on 15.09.2010, bearing registration details as book No. Adi-1. Deed No. 1741000455, has been misplaced and not traceable yet. The report of the same has been lodged Police Station

Through this notification it is informed that if through the mortgage of the aid property in Punjab National Bank if anyone has any right, interest mortgage or any kind of interest in this property then he/she can come to pranch loacted at P.N.B. Main Branch, Anathalaya Marg, Raigarh (C.G.) 496001, within 7 days from issue of this notification for claim of their rigl nterest with all supporting documents related to this property.

After the lapse of 7 days of the issue of this notification, the bank w ome to the conclusion that this property is free from any right or interes by any third person.

After that the said bank will finance loan to Bhatiya Energy & Minerals Sundargarh) Pvt. Ltd. through its director Vikas Gupta, S/o. Vinoc Kumar Gupta and the said property will be kept mortgaged in Bank. After the mortgage of said property in Bank, the Bank will not entertain an claim by any person.

Sanjay Kumar Panda, Advocate Raigarh Raigarh Res. and Office, Garhumaria, Distt.: Raigarh Date: 14.10.2023 Chhatisgarh - 496001, Mob.: 98266-04858



(8) of the Section 13 of the Act, in res

BRANCH / Name & Address of the Borrower(s) / Guarantor(s)	Amount Outstanding as on Specified Date	Demand / Possession Notice Date	Description of the Immovable Property/ies
CRPF HQR BRANCH / Borrower: Mr. Madhab Bhola, S/o- Late Panchanana Bhola, Address- At: Sarapalli, PO: Kanabhaga, Thana: Bhanjanagar, Dist.: Ganjam.	+ further interest &	/ 11.10.2023	All that part and parcel of the property in the name of Mr Madhab Bhola situated at Khata No.: 186/631, Plot No.: 139, 1038, Area: Ac.0.028dec., Mouza: Baliapada, Bounded by East: Road, West: Plot No. 129, North: Part of Plot and Road South: Sub Plot No. 2 of Pandav Sahu. Total Area: 1250sqft.
BADAMBA BRANCH / Borrowers: 1) M/s. Aradhya Motors, Prop.: Mr. Bighneshraj Patasani, 2) Mr. Bighneshraj Patasani, S/o- Lingaraj Patasani, 3) Mr. Lingaraj Patasani, S/o- Lokanath Patasani, 4) Mrs. Snigdharani Patasani, W/o- Lingaraj Patasani, All are At: Nizigarh, PO: Badamba, Dist.: Cuttack, PIN-754031 BADAMBA BRANCH /	₹71,05,942.21 as on 25.04.2023 (inclusive of interest up to 31.03.2023) for Motors & ₹17,20,6 09.06.2023 (inclusi to 30.04.2023) for M Patasani & Mrs. Snigd (Home Loan) + furtl incidental expenses ti ₹5,55,604.93	11.10.2023 r M/s Aradhya 97.73 as on ve of interest up r. Bighneshraj harani Patasani her interest & hereon	All that part and parcel of property consisting of Residentia Land & Building at Plot No.: 559/2405 and 559/2405/2964 Khata No.: 942/223 & 942/196, Mouza: Nizigarh, Tehsil Badamba, Dist.: Cuttack with Ground Floor and First Floo RCC built up Area: 7500 sqft. each and Total extent of Land 10890 sqft., in the name of Mr. Lingaraj Patasani , Bounded by- North: Main Road, South: Sunamuhin Bandha (Pond) East: Paresh Kumar Mohanty, West: Road. All that part and parcel of the property consisting of Residentia
Borrowers: 1) M/s. Maa Mangala Jewellery, Prop.: Mr. Mayadhar Sahoo, 2) Mr. Mayadhar Sahoo, S/o- Gokul Chandra Sahoo, Both are At: Banamalipur, PO: Badamba, Dist.: Cuttack, PIN-754031	as on 25.04.2023 (inclusive of inte 31.03.2023) + furth incidental expens	er interest &	Land & Building at Plot No.: 284, Khata No.: 114, Mouza Banamalipur, Tehsil: Badamba, Dist.: Cuttack with Ground Floo RCC Built up Area of 640 sqft. & Total extent of Land 1306.80 sqft., in the name of Mr. Mayadhar Sahoo , Bounded by- North Road, South: Bula Sahoo, East: Bula Sahoo, West: Bhasa Bewa
NARSINGHPUR BRANCH / Borrowers: 1) Shri Santosh Kumar Barik, S/o- Alekh Barik & 2) Shri Manas Kumar Barik, S/o- Alekh Barik, Both are At: Nijigarh, Medical Road, PO: Narsinghpur, PS: Narasinghpur, Dist.: Cuttack, PIN-754032	₹8,96,333.71 + further interest & other charges thereon	/	All that part and parcel of the property consisting of Residentia Land with Building thereon at Plot No.: 275/328, Khata No. 114/25, Area: Ac.0.04dec., Kissam: Gharabari, situated a Mouza: Nizigarh, PO/PS: Narsinghpur, Tahasil: Narasinghpur Dist.: Cuttack, Bounded by- North: Plot No. 274, South: Plo No. 276 Property of Laxmi Devi, East: Property of Biswanath Barik, West: PWD Road.
SALEPUR BRANCH / Borrower: Mrs. Jasoda Mishra, W/o- Prasanna Kumar Mishra, At: Bali Sahi, PO: Salepur, Dist.: Cuttack, PIN- 754202	₹7,86,573.58 (inclusive of interest up to 29.06.2023) + further interest & other charges thereon	02.08.2023 / 12.10.2023	All the part and parcels of the property situated at Dist.: Cuttack SRO: Salepur, Tahasil/P.S.: Salepur, Mouza: Bali Sahi, Khata No.: 835/704, Plot No.: 1144, Area: Ac.0.117dec., Kissam Gharabari, standing in the name of Mrs. Jasoda Mishra Bounded by- North: Ranjeet Bhuyan, South: Gochar, East Gochar (Road),West: Mr. Bichitrananda Barik.
KUANPAL BRANCH / Borrower: Ws. Das and Das Cycle Store, Prop.: Mr. Santosh Kumar Das, S/o- Dhaneswar Das, At: Pasulunda, P.O.: Kuanpal, P.S.: Mahanga, Dist.: Cuttack, Odisha, PIN-754204 / Guarantor: Mrs. Tava Das, W/o- Dhaneswar Das, At: Pasulunda, P.O.: Kuanpal, Dist: Cuttack, PIN-754204	₹4,08,555.30 as on 14.11.2022 (inclusive of interest up to 31.08.2023) + further interest & other charges thereon	07.03.2023 / 12.10.2023	All that piece and parcel of the land known and described as residential land and building in the name of Mrs. Tava Das W/o- Dhaneswar Das situated at Mouza: Pasulunda, Tahasii Mahanga (No. 73), Thana: Mahanga (No. 68), Dist.: Cutlack Khata No.: 491/48, Plot No.: 610, Area: Ac.0.090dec., Plot No. 611/1559, Area: Ac.0.004dec., Total 2 Nos Plots, Total Area Ac.0.130dec. , Kisam: Gharabari, Bounded by- North: Raghunath Das, South: Road, East: Gayadhar Das, West: Nrusingha Das
PAIKTIGIRIA BRANCH / Borrower: Mr. Lokanath Mohanta, S/o- Jagannath Mohanta / Guarantors: 1) Satyabhama Mohanta, W/o- Jagannath Mohanta, 2) Jagannath Mohanta, S/o- Babaji Mohanta, All are At/PO: Gurujanga, In front of Gurujanga High School, Dist.: Khordha, PIN-752057.	₹11,59,452.59 as on 31.05.2023 (inclusive of interest up to 28.02.2023) + further interest & other charges thereon	1	All that piece and parcel of the immovable property which is mortgaged to UCO Bank, Paiktigiria Branch belong to owner Smt. Satyabhama Mohanta bearing Khata No.: 472/892, Plo No.: 893/2844, Area: Ac.0.036dec., Deed No5965, Class Gharabari, Mouza: Gurujanga, Bounded by- North: Jochhana Diwedy, South: Sk Sahajahan & Road, East: Road, West Manoj Kumar Behera.
KHURDA BRANCH / Borrowers: 1) Mr. Trilochan Mohapatra, S/o- Duryodhan Mohapatra, 2) Mrs. Goli Mohapatra, Both are at Address: At: Malipada, Narangarh, Dist.: Khurda, Odisha.	+ further interest	21.07.2023 / 13.10.2023	All that part and parcel of the immovable property in the name of Mr. Trilochan Mohapatra , S/o- Duryodhan Mohapatra Mouza: Champajhara, SRO: Khurda, Dist.: Khurda, Khata No. 436/155, Plot No.: 790/1431, Area: Ac.0.034dec., Bounded by North: Dasarathi Behera, South: Road, East: Manguli Swain West: Ghana Swain.
KHURDA BRANCH / Borrowers: 1) Mr. Sutanjeet Mohapatra, S/o- Abhaya Charan Mohapatra, 2) Mrs. Sasmita Mohapatra, Both are at Address:	₹11,25,204.32 as on 31.01.2023 + further interest & other charges	21.07.2023 / 13.10.2023	All that part and parcel of the immovable property in the name of Mr. Sutanjeet Mohapatra , S/o- Abhaya Charar MohapatraMouza: Gurujanga, SRO: Khurda, Dist.: Khurda Khata No.: 472/1258, Plot No.: 671, Area: Ac.0.141dec. Bounded by- North: Govt. Road, South: Plot No. 1781, East
At: Gurujanga, Dewan Sahi, Khurda, Odisha, PIN-752055.	thereon from 31.01.2023		Plot No. 670, West: Plot No. 672.







power post

FOCUS LABOUR FORCE

One who loves God finds the object of his love everywhere. **SRI AUROBINDO**



Polish Poll

n a historic poll in Poland, centrist and progressive forces are poised to form government wresting power from the ruling Law and Justice nationalist party, which has ironically won the most votes for a single party. This is the overwhelming verdict of exit polls which are regarded in Poland as reliable indications of the voting pattern. If the predicted scenario turns out to be true, which is most likely, Poland is going to witness momentous electoral changes comparable to the fall of the Communists in 1989. This time it is the triumph of liberal, democratic parties over rightist, intolerant, anti-immigrant and anti-LGBTQ+ forces. Coupled with this the incumbent party PiS has incurred the wrath of the people for alleged corruption, nepotism and tampering with government institutions to perpetuate a partisan regime that cornered jobs and other privileges for party followers.

The exit polls show a strong second place finish by the main opposition group, Civic Coalition, and better than expected results for two smaller centrist and progressive parties. This means a huge setback for the governing party that was hoping for an unprecedented third consecutive term

The exit polls in Poland have such credibility that immediately after the results were announced October 15 a jubilant Donald Tusk, Civic Coalition's leader, said the projected results mean a resounding "win for democracy" that would end the tenure of Law and Justice in power since 2015.

Tusk is a former Prime Minister who had no hesitation after the exit poll results were known to assert it clearly signals the end of "this bad time." The election for new Parliament was held after a vicious campaign in the highly polarised nation. The European Union nations, Russia and Ukraine have been keenly watching the poll outcome as their future courses of actions have got inextricably linked to it. The Poles seemed to have realised the importance of the elections this time and for this reason they turned out at the booths in record numbers. The voter turnout was nearly 73 per cent which is 10 per cent above the votes polled in 1989 that brought Communist rule to an end. Both the governing Law and Justice and the opposition Civic Coalition made the election this time into a do-or-die moment for the country to ensure Poland has a promising future as a stable democratic state.

If early forecasts turn out to be correct when final official results are announced, likely on 17 October, Civic Coalition and its potential partners have won 248 seats in the 460-member legislature, against 200 in the kitty of Law and Justice. Jaroslaw Kaczynski, the governing party's chairman and Poland's de facto leader for the last eight years, has started resigning to the defeat, though he is still clinging to the hope of managing to win. But, he has hardly any chance of retaining power as its ally - a radical right-wing grouping that shares many of the nationalist views of Law and Justice - won only 6.2 per cent of the vote, giving it 12 seats. Exit polls are generally reliable in Poland, though some experts have cautioned that the unusually high turnout could make them less accurate

Sensing the people's anti-establishment mood the ruling party had before the poll sought to tilt the balance in its favour by holding a referendum alongside the parliamentary election. Voters were asked to answer four loaded questions about immigration and other issues clearly intended to put the European Union and the opposition known for its pro-EU stand in a bad light. The questions were nothing but the ruling party's electoral planks. For example, the voters were asked whether they support the admission of thousands of illegal immigrants from the Middle East and Africa, in accordance with the forced relocation mechanism imposed by European bureaucracy. But, many of the voters could see through the game and they stayed away from it responding to a call given by the opposition.

The results as indicated by the exit polls will bring relief to the European Union which is ready to loosen its purse strings and give Poland £30bn for its economic recovery. It has frozen these funds for the anti-EU stand of the ruling party. The EU was also alarmed by the recent posturing of the current dispensation of Poland which stopped supporting Ukraine in its war with Russia. On the other hand, the opposition has made part of its election agenda to reorient the country to the EU and support Ukraine.

But, more than the immediate concerns, the election results in Poland, bringing the liberal and Left parties back to power, are going to be a watershed moment in Europe which is dangerously tilting towards Far-right politics.

SPOTLIGHT ON WOMEN he Economics Nobel prize this year went to a single individual,



Ajit Ranade

GOLDIN'S MOST INTENSIVE AND DEFINITIVE **STUDY IS OF** WOMEN'S LABOUR FORCE PARTICIPATION AND OUTCOMES **OVER 200 YEARS OF AMERICAN** HISTORY

Professor Claudia Goldin of Harvard University. She is the third woman in history to have won this award and the first to be honoured independently. Being the first woman to get the Economics Nobel as a single prize winner is something very special. The Nobel citation, describing her work over five decades says that the prize is "for having advanced our understanding of women's labour market outcomes." Some of her insightful and original contri butions have become common knowledge now. These are worth recalling and are discussed here. Goldin's most intensive and definitive study is of women's labour force participation and outcomes over 200 years of American history. Many of her findings and conclusions, drawn from American data, are applicable to most other countries, including India, despite the cultural and geographic differences. Let us examine some of the prominent ones.

First there is the U-shape of the participation of women in the labour force as the economy develops. With economic development, the economy goes from being agrarian to industrial and finally services dominated. In the agrarian phase, women work on farms along with their men folk. With industrialisation the work is less flexible, more rigid, in the factories and on assembly lines, and hence the participation of women drops. With more economic advancement, the service sector dominates, and women are able to participate in greater numbers. This is the U-shape -- high participation in the early stage. followed by low during industrial phase and high again when there is more prosperity. This has been seen over a long period of American economic history. This pattern is also observed across countries which are presently at different stages of development. Thus, this is a



There simply aren't adequate and appropriate jobs for women with high school or middle school education. So in the absence of jobs they just drop out of the labour force

pattern over time, as well as across the world. Not surprisingly most rich countries which tend to have a very large services sector, tend also to have a high female labour force participation rate (FLFPR). It can be as high as 85 or even 90% as in countries like Sweden. That means 90% of women in their working age are either employed in paid work, or are looking for a job. By contrast the FLFPR in India is low. By some accounts it is below 20% and is the lowest among all G20 countries. This has been disputed. The Economic Survey, 2023, published by the government of India puts the FLFPR at 27.7%. But more about that later below. Another aspect of the U-shape of female participation is through the lens of the family income and social custom, and not just the economic development trajectory of the whole economy. For very poor house holds women cannot afford not to work. Hence the workforce participation rate is high. As family income rises, the women pull back and tend to take care of household work and childcare. For rich and very rich households the workforce participation rate goes up again. This is also U-shaped, but with respect to household income. This pattern is further muddied by social custom. If a woman is working for pay out-

side home, there is a social stigma attached. It implies that the "man" of the household is either lazy or unable to earn enough for his family. This stigma has been observed across different cultures. Thus, social stigma might also prevent women's participation especially for middle income families. Another factor which also exhibits a U-shape is women's education. For the illiterate or those with low education, women participate more. With some education (say till mid dle school) their participation rate drops. With much higher education their participation picks up again. This too is a U-shape. It is seen in Indian data. Here the explanation for the U-shape is not from the supply side of labour, or that middle-educated women do not want to work. It is actually from the demand side of labour. There simply aren't adequate and appropriate jobs for women with high school or middle school education. So in the absence of jobs they just drop out of the labour force. It is quite common to hear

such a comment: "my daughter is in a temporary job, but as soon as she gets married, she will quit." It is as if job is simply a temporary arrangement before marriage and motherhood. Indeed, Goldin's and other people's work has documented, how in olden times, nearly 60% of

an adult woman's prime working age was spent in either being pregnant or nursing a child. Just look at our grandparents' generation which tended to have people with a dozen siblings. Imagine the plight of their mothers. All this changed thanks to family planning, postponing marriages and spacing out pregnancies. Also, the total fertility rate, i.e. average number of chil dren born to prime age woman dropped sharply. The special role of contraception in increasing FLFPR is also highlighted by Goldin's work. Her work also covers the struggle against discrimination at workplace that women had to fight, and also the fight for equal pay. This column cannot possibly do justice to the whole and rich body of work of the Nobel laureate.

The Nobel prize could not have been timelier and more relevant for India. The FLFPR in India has been falling steadily for over two decades, although there is some uptick recently. The Economic Survey of 2023 also documents the silent revolution of the 12 million self-help groups across the country, run almost wholly by women. The recent legislation for women's quota in Parliament and state Assemblies has come none too soon. Across most states, half of all elected persons in village, town and city councils and corporations are women, thanks to reservations in the third tier of government.

Many companies are actively trying to re-recruit women after their first or second pregnancy i.e. mid-career. There are two gaps that India must urgently fill. One is the gap between the male and female labour participation rate (56 and 28% as per Economic Survey). And the second is the pay gap between male and female employees for the same work. If both these gaps are eliminated India's GDP can jump up substantially. Thanks to Goldin's prize, these issues have come into sharp focus.

The writer is a noted economist. ©THE BILLION PRESS

SPECTRUM ECONOMY

Anatomy of global inflation spike

cludes food and energy), and the resulting overshoot of central-bank inflation targets, have been a distinctive and distressing feature of the post-pandemic global economic landscape. When confronted with such an economically significant phenomenon, those of us who pay attention to the relevant international evidence will look for common factors to account for the observed correlation between countries. I can think of at least three. First, there is ample evidence to suggest that the initial surge of inflation across countries in 2021 and 2022 was triggered in part by an adverse shock to aggregate supply. Second, there was substantial (and, in the case of the US, unprecedented) fiscal and monetary policy support, delivered first in 2020-21, to cushion the blow to economic activity and employment, and again in 2022 (especially in Europe), to offset the higher energy and food prices caused by Russia's invasion of Ukraine. Across the advanced economies, central banks responded to the COVID-19 shock

price inflation (which ex- tions of interest-rate cuts, of-

ersistent surges in core by deploying various combina- banks opted, at least initially, to I beg to differ. As I argue in a accommodate the price pres-

ecent paper, the post-pa record is better understood as resulting from ex-post errors of tactics and execution, not from the monetary-policy frameworks. And now, underlying inflation across advanced economies appears to have peaked. With the unwinding of the adverse supply disruptions that contributed to the initial inflation surge, it seems to be on a downward trajectory - heading back toward official inflation targets. Having hiked rates aggressively, central bankers appear to be close to the end of the global post-pandemic tightening cycle. Their judgement is that they have moved rates into sufficiently restrictive territory and that if current policies are sustained for some time, inflation will eventually return to target. I suspect that the mantra of "lower for longer," which prevailed among central banks for most of the previous decade, will soon be replaced by "higher for as long as it takes The writer is Professor of Economics and International Affairs at Columbia University. ©PROJECT SYNDICATE

WISDOM CORNER

- This is the real secret of life to be completely engaged with what you are doing in the here and now. And instead of calling it work, realize it is play. realize it is play.
- We've got to live, no matter how many skies have fallen. DH LAWRENCE
- Our patience will achieve more than our force.

EDMUND BURKE

THIS DAY IN HISTORY

- **1346:** At the Battle of Neville's Cross, the English defeated the Scots, who, as allies of the French, had invaded England in an attempt to distract Edward III from the siege of Calais, France.
- **1448:** The last major effort by Crusaders to free the Balkans from Ottoman rule began with the second Battle of Kosovo in Serbia, in which a Hungarian-Walachian army suffered a crushing defeat
- **1973:** The Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries or OPEC led by Arab countries declared an oil embargo on any country that supported Israel during the Yom Kippur War, which was fought between Israel and a coalition of Arab states. The embargo led to a massive oil shortage and had long-lasting economic effects in the United States and Europe. The embargo was lifted in March 1974.
- **1979:** Mother Teresa, founder of a Roman Catholic order of women dedicated to the poor and particularly to the destitute of India, was named the recipient of that year's Nobel Prize for Peace.

LOL

Calming the son

n the supermarket was a man pushing a cart which contained a screaming, bellowing baby. The gentleman kept repeating softly, "Don't get excited. Albert: don't scream, Albert; don't yell, Albert; keep calm, Albert."



A woman standing next to him said, "You certainly are to be commended for trying to soothe your son, Albert.' The man looked at her and said, "Lady, I'm Albert."



Richard Clarida

HAVING **HIKED RATES** AGGRESSIVELY. **CENTRAL BANKERS APPEAR TO BE CLOSE TO THE END OF THE GLOBAL POST-PANDEMIC**

TIGHTENING CYCLE

fering forward guidance, and expanding their balance sheets via large-scale quantitative-easing (QE) programmes.

A third common factor con tributing to the post-pandemic inflation surge was a large and persistent change in sectoral relative prices, especially the relative prices of goods versus services. Making this argument does not require one to take a stand on how much the initial increase in the relative price of goods versus services reflected demand versus supply. If the equilibrium price of goods goes up for whatever reason, the overall price level will go up unless the central bank wants to engineer a decline in the price of services.

If there is some nominal price rigidity in the service sector, the central bank has a choice. It can allow the relative price increase to pass through and accept a one-time increase in the price level. Or, it can hike rates and throw people out of work to reduce the price of services sufficiently to keep the increase in the price index equal to the inflation target. In the event, central

sures by not trying to offset the increase in the relative price of goods versus services

When considering the monetary-policy response to the 2021-22 global surge of inflation, it is noteworthy that no advancedeconomy central bank began to hike rates until headline inflation had already exceeded its target rate. Equally, nearly all advancedeconomy central banks (save Switzerland and Norway) delayed rate hikes until core inflation, too, had already exceeded

their respective targets. The question that many have asked is why monetary policies across most advanced economies "fell behind the curve" in this way. Critics of the US Federal Reserve suggest that a persistent inflation overshoot, and a delay in lifting rates until inflation was already above target, must stem from a failure of the underlying monetary-policy framework. According to this reasoning, the post-pandemic record indicates a breakdown of both inflation targeting and its "first cousin," flexible average inflation targeting, which the Fed adopted in August 2020.

etters

TO THE EDITOR

Readers of Orissa POST are most welcome to contribute letters (200 words), articles and columns (between 750-1250 words). Contributors are (0)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

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

Dangerous escalation

Sir, This refers to the editorial "Middle East Madness," Orissa POST, October 16, which is absolutely to the point. Both the Hamas and Israel are responsible for this madness, which if not controlled would bring disquiet in the Middle East and disturb the whole world. In today's toxic and intolerant world all efforts have to be made to restore justice to people and follow the path of moderation, sensibility and sanity. Every world leader has to shed arrogance of power. Unfortunately, very few world leaders speak the language of democracy in the truest sense of the term. Israel has every right to protect its land and its people. However, had the Palestinians not being denied their legitimate rights as mandated before and Israeli leadership not made the Palestinians subservient, there would have been no upsurge. The long-standing Israel-Palestine problem has given rise to the Hamas. Gruesome pictures and stories from the war zone are too horrible, while disinformation is being spread aplenty. One can only appeal that the warring parties come to the table and good sense prevails. India must continue to be balanced, upholding justice for the disadvantaged Palestinians and simultaneously giving support to the Israeli population and their security. Nobody can predict what will happen the next moment. Any further escalation will be disastrous for India. There will be an oil crisis if the Arab countries come together on the Palestine issue.

Parthasarathy Sen, NEW DELHI

Erudite & humble

Sir, This refers to "Naveen turns 78," Orissa POST, October 16. Among all the Chief Ministers in India, I like Naveen Patnaik the most for his erudition and humble nature. Sometimes, it appears to me that politics is not his cup of tea. His attitude towards his political opponents was never found to be militant. Patnaik maintains cordial relations with the Centre no matter which party is in power, which has immensely helped him to get the state's due share of central funds. Last but not the least, Naveen unlike other Chief Ministers didn't allow politics to devour development in the state. To him the development of Odisha matters the most

Arun Gupta, KOLKATA





TWO STATES

CPI-M survey to review religious rituals' impact on party cadres

The idea behind the survey is to know how far the grassroots level workers and leaders are sticking to the original party ideology by practicing atheism

INDO-ASIAN NEWS SERVICE

Kolkata, Oct 16: The West Bengal unit of the Communist Party of India-Marxist (CPI-M) has initiated a special internal review to assess and review the impact of religious rituals on the daily lives of the party members.

The idea behind the survey is to know "how far the grassroots level party workers and leaders are sticking to the original party ideology by practicing 'atheism' - be it in terms of participation in the community pujas or following rituals as per religious prescriptions in social functions like marriages," a source in the know of things said.

At the same time, the party leadership is also trying to understand "how far the grassroots-level comrades are able to



avoid extravaganza or display of luxury again on social occasions like marriages."

Based on the feedback received of from the workers and leaders of at the grassroots level, the matter will be discussed in detail at the extended state committee meeting of the party in November.

As per traditions, Indian Marxists have always maintained a distance from participating in religious functions or community

pujas, unlike their counterparts in the Congress, the Trinamool Congress and the BJP.

Instead, during the four days of Durga Puja, the party leadership utilises the occasion as a public relations exercise by setting up stalls of Marxist literature near the popular puja pandals. Although, as a general prac-

tice, the top CPI-M leaders used to avoid getting associated with or participate in inauguration of any community puja or openly practicing religion in public, former West Bengal minister, Subhas Chakhraborty, a leftist, was an exception. Besides participating in community pujas in his constituency, he had also hit the headlines after he was seen offering puja at the iconic Tarapith Kali temple in Birbhum district.



A tea garden worker plucks leaves at a plantation in Kondoli, near Nagaon, Assam, Monday

I PHOTO

Despite crackdown, child marriages thrive At least 3,483 PEOPLE WERE ARRESTED DURING THE INITIAL DRIVE AGAINST CHILD MARRIAGE, WHICH BEGAN IN FEBRUARY

INDO-ASIAN NEWS SERVICE

Guwahati, Oct 16: The Assam Police has worked hard to stop child marriages in the state. The wide-scale crackdown against child marriages began in February this year, with police arresting more than 3,000 individuals across the state.

This October, the police launched a second round of massive operations and, so far, arrested more than 1,500 people.

Assam DGP, GP Singh, said that there has been a noticeable decrease in child marriage instances. However, he acknowledged that the issue still exists.

"We have noticed that cases have decreased in the majority of the state's regions since our first operation against child marriage. However, the problem still exists in some areas," he said.

The top cop further mentioned _that the police will carry out two massive operations a year until the social scourge of child marriage is eliminated from the state. At least 3,483 people were arrested during the initial drive, which began in the month of February 2023, and 4,515 cases in all were registered. According to the police, 95.5 per cent of the cases from the first phase have already been charged.

In the months of June, July, and August, GP Singh stated: "Our operations led us to unearth 710 incidents of child marriage, which were registered with 1,100 accused named, out of whom 915 people have been arrested so far."

Recently, a case related to child marriage was heard at a court in Cachar district. It was alleged that the father of a girl child forged the birth certificate of his daughter to give her marriage before she reached 18 years old.

Jadav Pal and Bimal Das of Katigorah area in Cachar were arrested by the police on charges of child marriage. Kalain Gram Panchayat Secretary Dulal



Chandra Deb filed a statement and accused Jadav of marrying a 15-year-old girl. Meanwhile, in court, Jadav claimed that according to the birth certificate, his wife was born September 8, 2003, and they got married January 27, 2023. As evidence, the birth cer-

As evidence, the birth certificate issued February 9, 2022, was produced in court. However, while passing judgment on this case recently, Cachar Additional Sessions Judge (Special Judge, POCSO) said: "According to the case diary report of the police, another birth certificate was issued to the girl, where her date of birth is September 8, 2008." "The certificate issued

February 9, 2022, is incorrect,"

the court added. Jadav was allowed bail, but the court accused the girl's father, Bimal Das, of forging the birth certificate of his daughter and sent him to jail.

Senior advocate Dharmananda Deb said: "If a male adult above eighteen years contracts a child marriage, it shall be punishable up to two years imprisonment and/ or a fine that may extend up to Rs 1 lakh. The same punishment will be given to the person who performs, conducts, or directs a child marriage. Unless proved otherwise, the parents or guardians of the child are considered to have failed to prevent the child's marriage and hence are also held accountable.' AIUDF MLA and party general

AIUDF MLA and party general secretary, Karim Uddin Barbhuiya, said: "We need an extensive campaign to eliminate the curse of child marriages. Society should be more aware of the health issues and other difficulties a girl can face in her life if she is married early."

Delimitation to safeguard indigenous people: Himanta

INDO-ASIAN NEWS SERVICE

Guwahati, Oct 16: Interests of the indigenous people of Assam are being safeguarded through the delimitation exercise of Assembly and Parliamentary constituencies, Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma has asserted.

Sarma made the observation while attending the Amrit Kalash Yatra in the Nalbari district Sunday.

"Majority of the Assembly seats are now in safe positions for the indigenous people of Assam. Of the 26 Assembly seats, at least 105 can be won by Assamese indigenous people," he told the media.

Earlier also, the Chief Minister repeatedly said that the delimitation exercise would be proven beneficial for the Assamese indigenous people.

This has sparked a controversy as the Opposition alleged that Sarma has been dictating the Election Commission (EC) that conducted the delimitation process to gain votes for the BJP.

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Congress claimed that EC has become a puppet of the ruling party.

Meanwhile, Sarma while attending the Amrit Kalash Yatra in Nalbari, said that the reverberating chants of the people in the Amrit Kalash Yatra are indeed a testimony of the people's acceptance of the programme.

"I am immensely happy to see the spontaneous participation of all sections of the people of Nalbari who came out in large_ numbers in the Amrit Kalash Yatra," he added.

Clear stand on OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER, RURAL WORKS DIVISION-I, BHADRAK

SOCIAL ISSUES ON FOCUS AT KOLKATA PUJA PANDALS



PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Kolkata, Oct 16: From the daily struggles of autorickshaw drivers to trafficking and abuse of women to blatant use of child labour in hotels, Durga puja committees in Kolkata have highlighted different social issues to generate awareness among people this festive season.

At Hazra Park Sarbojonin Durgotsav, one of the oldest pujas in the city, the hand-to-mouth survival tales of autorickshaw drivers have been narrated using replicas of the green and yellow three-wheelers adorning the marquee. To give it a real feel, real-life auto drivers will interact with pandal hoppers during the puja days.

Sayandeb Chatterjee, spokesperson of the puja committee, said, "From the familiar role of auto drivers competing against each other to net passengers and haggling for exact fares, we present their humane side, working 24x7 to feed their families while juggling roles as a parent, a spouse or a son."

"Though their daily earnings are meagre, they try to keep their families happy and put in all that they can for the good education of their kids," he added.

Auto driver Sambhu Sana, who will be felicitated at the pandal on one of the festive days, said, "We negotiate through the city streets and its alleys defying severe weather conditions. We ferry passengers from dawn till midnight. Many of us will be present at the pandal in the evening hours this time to in-

teract with pandal hoppers."

At Kashi Bose Lane puja pan-

dal, the image of a caged woman

behind the Durga idol and the

sculpture of a young girl before

the deity tries to generate aware-

ness on abuse of women in so-

As one enters the pandal, there

are models of girls with chains

tied to their feet, juxtaposed with models of girls holding books. "We have tried to portray that

despite hundreds of Durgas in our households being ill-treated, violated and abused, yet they aspire to defy all odds to realise their dreams," puja committee general secretary Somen Dutta said.

The 'Pathuriaghata Pancher Palli Sarbojanin Durgotsab' has chosen the theme 'Ritumati' (the issue of menstrual hygiene) to debunk prejudices and create social awareness.

Ellora Saha, the working president of the puja committee, said, "We sought to drive home the message that menstruation is a biological process of every young woman and they should not be made to feel shy, embarrassed, awkward to discuss it."

The puja committee through various images drives home the lessons of personal health and hygiene for girls as well as edu-

cating boys to handle this issue with an open mind, she said. The puja committee took three months and Rs 18 lakh to make

the pandal, she said. The Banerjee Para Pujo Committee at Shyamnagar in the northern fringes of the city has chosen the theme 'Haturi Noy Hate Khari, Sishu Shram Bandho Kori,' (No use of hammers by children, let us give them chalks and dusters) through models and posters.

A puja committee spokesperson said, "Through models and images, we have highlighted that children should not be used in places like tea stalls and factories where they are misfits. We urge visitors to protest whenever they see a child worker in an eatery or at someone's house working as a help."

separation from Assam: ULFA to Bengalis of Barak

INDO-ASIAN NEWS SERVICE

Guwahati, Oct 16: Opposing the demand to carve out Barak Valley from Assam, the banned militant organisation ULFA (Independent) Sunday asked the Bengalispeaking population in the state to clarify their position on the issue within 60 days.

The group issued a warning that the entire Bengali-speaking population in the state would be held accountable for any (future) 'untoward incident' if the Bengalis failed to make their positions on the matter clear within 60 days.

The Chief Convenor of the Barak Democratic Front (BDF), an organisation centred in the Barak Valley, was criticised by Rumel Asom, a member of ULFA-I's publicity wing, for rallying support for the creation of a new state in the Barak Valley.

An e-mail statement from the outlawed group said: "Various communities in Assam have been living in harmony and in unity. But Pradip Dutta Roy has been trying to create a division among people by raising the demand for separating Barak Valley. He has no right and his forefathers have no contribution to the protection of the Barak Valley from Partition. We will, in no circumstances, allow division of Assam."

In southern Assam's Barak Valley, which includes the districts of Cachar, Karimganj, and Hailakandi, Bengali-speaking Hindus and Muslims are in the majority.

Of 126 Assembly seats, 13 lie in the Barak Valley region.

Many residents of the three districts claim that as most elected officials come from the Assamese-dominated Brahmaputra Valley, the region has been ignored.

The demand for a separate state is the result of this unhappiness.

Even as Bengalis comprise about 30 per cent of Assam's population (3.2 crore), they are under-represented in the Brahmaputra Valley.

The ULFA (Independent) vehemently opposes the demand for splitting apart the Bengali-dominated Barak Valley from Assam as a separate state.

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ciety.





PHOTO POST



Devotees at Kedarnath Temple amid snowfall, in Rudraprayag district. Badrinath and Kedarnath received their first snowfall of the season Monday, bringing joy and excitement to the devotees. There was a heavy rain on the first day of Navratri Sunday followed by snowfall in Kedarnath. The entire Kedar valley was seen wrapped in white sheet of snow after snowfall that lasted nearly two hours



Effigies of the demon King Ravana being sold at a roadside stall ahead of the upcoming festival of 'Dussehra', in Jaipur, Rajasthan



Congress leader Rahul Gandhi waves at supporters during a 'Padyatra' from Chanmari to Raj Bhawan, in Aizawl, Mizoram

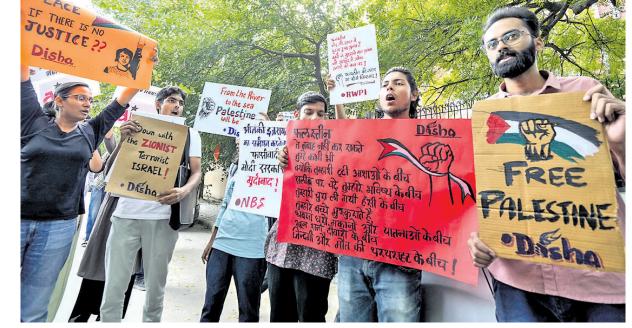
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Labourers work at the construction site of the Shri Ram Janmbhoomi Teerth Kshetra, in Ayodhya, Uttar Pradesh



CPI (ML) workers protest in support of Palestine, at Jantar Mantar, New Delhi



Students take part in the traditional Raisin Monday foam fight on St Salvator's Lower College Lawn at the University of St Andrews, Scotland, Monday, Oct. 16, 2023. The messy display is the culmination of a weekend of festivities where first years say thank you to their more senior student "parents" for mentoring them



Locals at the site after an under-construction flyover on the Mumbai-Goa highway collapsed, at Chiplun in Ratnagiri district, Maharashtra





national



It is written in that red diary that the **Congress will form its** government again in **Rajasthan after the** upcoming Assembly polls

MALLIKARJUN KHARGE CONGRESS PRESIDENT

FIVE COACHES OF PASSENGER TRAIN GUTTED

Five coaches of a diesel-electric multiple unit (DEMU) passenger train were gutted in a fire that broke out near Narayandoh station in Maharashtra's Ahmednagar district Monday afternoon, but no casualties were reported, officials said. The fire incident took place when the train (No. 01402) was heading to Ahmednagar in western Maharashtra from Ashti station in Beed district in the central region of the state, but its cause was not immediately known





The Congress will release its second list of candidates for the November 17 Madhya Pradesh Assembly elections in the next two-three days KAMAL NATH EX-MP CHIEF MINISTER

If BJP comes to power in Chhattisgarh. we will recover every penny from the corrupt and they will be hanged upside

AMIT SHAH UNION HOME MINISTER

down



they were all responsible (for partition). If you read a book by Maulana Abul Kalam Azad's book 'India wins Freedom', Maulana Azad requested all the Congress leaders then that the country should not be divided

ASADUDDIN OWAISI AIMIM CHIEF

SHORT TAKES

Gaganyaan to launch first test flight Oct 21

Bangalore: ISRO Monday said it would commence unmanned flight tests for the Gaganyaan human spaceflight mission with the launch of a test vehicle between 7 am and 9 am October 21 from Sriharikota spaceport to demonstrate the performance of the crew escape system. In a message on social media platform X, the national space agency headquartered here, said, "Mission Gaganyaan: The TV-D1 test flight is scheduled for October 21, 2023 between 7 am and 9 am from SDSC-SHAR, Sriharikota.

₹94 crore cash, jewellery seized

New Delhi: The Income Tax department has seized ₹94 crore in cash as well as gold and diamond jewellery worth

ISRAEL-HAMAS WAR Opposition leaders express solidarity with Palestinians

In a statement signed by 15 *Opposition leaders, some* of whom met the envoy at the Embassy, they strongly condemned the

"indiscriminate bombing" of Palestinians in Gaza by

Israel and said that it amounts to an attempt at "genocide"

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, Oct 16: A group of Opposition leaders, including Mani Shankar Aiyar, K C Tyagi, and Danish Ali, Monday expressed solidarity with Palestinians during a meeting with Palestinian envoy Adnan Abu Al-Haija who hoped that India being a friend of Israel and Palestine would exert "pressure" on Tel Aviv to lift the "siege" and allow humanitarian aid to reach civilians in Gaza. We urge an immediate

cessation of all hostilities to prevent further loss of innocent lives and the destruction of homes and infrastructure," the leaders said. "We urge the international community to recognise the establishment of an independent Palestinian state along the 1967 borders in accordance with the UN resolution. Such recognition is a crucial step towards ensuring a just and lasting solution to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, providing the Palestinian people with the opportunity to determine their own destiny and live in peace and security,' the opposition leaders said.



'India is a friend of both sides. Hopefully, they will exert pressure on the Israeli government to stop the killing of the civilian Palestinian people, to break that siege and let humanitarian aid of water, food, fuel, medicine and electricity for 2.2 million people," Al-Haija said. Tyagi said it was a decision of like-minded leaders to meet the



Activists during a demonstration to show solidarity with Palestine, in Bangalore Karnataka

srael has launched a massive counteroffensive in Gaza to avenge the attacks by people have died in the conflict so far

> Palestinian envoy to convey their By cutting ing them to death, he said.

BSP's Ali said the leaders should be there.

Opposition leaders said they strongly believe in the statement of Mahatma Gandhi that Palestine belongs to the Arabs in the same sense that England belongs to the English or France to the French"

The Opposition leaders said fering.

United Kingdom have emphasised the importance of preventing the situation from

> "We call for intensified diplomatic efforts and multilateral initiatives to ensure lasting peace in the region," the opposition leaders said. The leaders expressed deep concern regarding the "ongoing crisis in Gaza and the suffering of the

Palestinian people" They also called for urgent and unimpeded delivery of humanitarian aid to the people of Gaza

The dire humanitarian situation demands immediate attention and action, the opposition leaders said, adding that all necessary measures must be taken to ensure that essential supplies, including food, water, and medical aid, reach the affected population without hindrance. Recognising that the Palestinian people have endured "immeasurable suffering" for over 75 years, the opposition leaders asserted that now is the time to end their plight.

Besides BSP's Ali, Congress iyar and JD(U)'s Tyagi, CPI

Row over Dubey's allegations against **Moitra escalates**

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, Oct 16: The row over BJP MP Nishikant Dubey's allegation that TMC's Mahua Moitra took "bribes" to ask questions in the House intensified Monday with senior BJP leaders terming it as a "severe blow to the dignity of Parliament" and Moitra asserting that the charges were based on a "jilted ex's lies"

Also Monday, the embattled Adani Group latched on Dubey's complaint to attack Moitra, who has been at the forefront of criticising the conglomerate ever since Hindenburg alleged fraud, saying groups and individuals have been working overtime to harm its name and market standing.

Dubey Sunday wrote to Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla accusing the Trinamool Congress MP of taking bribes for raising questions in Parliament to "protect the interest of a business group and claimed that advocate Jai Anant Dehadrai had "shared irrefutable evidence of bribes exchanged" between Moitra and Darshan Hiranandani. Dubey also wrote to IT Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw, urging him to investigate the IP addresses of Moitra's log-in credentials for the House.

"In her reply to Dubey's complaint to Vaishnaw, Moitra said, all parliamentary work of MPs done by PAs, assistants, interns, large teams" and urged the minister to release details of location and login details of all MPs with Call Detail Records.

DELHI EXCISE POLICY CASE Contemplating making AAP accused: CBI, ED to top court

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, Oct 16: In more trouble for the city's ruling AAP, the CBI and the ED told the Supreme Court Monday they are contemplating making the party an accused in the corruption and money laundering cases linked to the scrapped Delhi excise policy.

Additional Solicitor General (ASG) S V Raju, representing the two probe agencies, told a bench of Justices Sanjiv Khanna and SVN Bhatti he has instructions to state that the agencies are considering making AAP an accused, invoking legal provisions on "vicarious liability" under the anti-corruption law and section 70 of the Prevention of Money Laundering Act (PMLA).

"I want to make a statement I have received instructions to make. We are contemplating making the Aam Aadmi Party an accused and invoking offences of vicarious liability under the Prevention of Corruption Act and section 70 of the PMLA," Raju told the court. However, the bench asked

Raju to clarify his stand on Tuesday on whether there will be separate charges against the AAP in the cases being probed by the CBI and the ED. Raju said charges in corruption and



money laundering cases will be different but for the same offence

The ASG made the statement while the bench was hearing the bail pleas of AAP leader and former Delhi deputy chief minister Manish Sisodia, who was arrested in the excise policy cases being probed by the CBI and ED. Senior AAP leader and Rajya Sabha MP Sanjay Singh has also been arrested in connection with the excise policy cases and is currently in jail.

The bench also asked senior advocate Abhishek Singhvi, appearing for Sisodia, to answer legal questions Tuesday on the CBI's allegation that change in excise policy led to a loss to the state exchequer.

"We want you to answer on the allegation of the CBI that the changes in policy was done for uniust enrichment of A, B and C at state exchequer's expense and consumers were made to pay higher price," the bench told Singhvi.



Hamas. More than 2,600 further escalation

support for the people of Palestine at a time when they are suffering a lot. off the water and power supply to the Gaza Strip, Israel is forc-

stand was consistent with that of the Indian government that an independent Palestinian state

"In their statement, the

they believe that violence is never a solution as it leads to a cycle of destruction and suf-

'Therefore, we emphasise the need for increased efforts by the international community in bringing about a peaceful resolution to the conflict. The in-

he sudden escalation in hostilities between Israel and Hamas has triggered global concerns. Leading powers like Germany, the United States, France and the

₹8 crore and 30 luxury watches following raids on government contractors and real estate developers in Karnataka and some other states, the CBDT said Monday. The searches were launched October 12 and 55 premises were covered by the department in Bangalore and some cities in neighbouring Telangana and Andhra Pradesh as well as in Delhi.

Rains continue to lash Kerala

Thiruvananthapuram: After a brief lull in the morning, rains continued to lash Kerala Monday, with the Indian Meteorological Department (IMD) issuing an orange alert in four districts of the state. The IMD issued an orange alert in the districts of Kollam, Pathanamthitta, Alappuzha and Idukki for the day. It also issued a yellow alert in eight districts of the state. An orange alert means that very heavy rainfall of 11 cm to 20 cm is likely, and a vellow alert means there could be heavy rainfall of between 6 and 11 cm.

India, UK hold '2+2' foreign dialogue

New Delhi: The inaugural India-UK '2+2' foreign and defence dialogue Monday saw the two sides focusing on ways to boost cooperation in a range of key areas such as trade and investment, defence, critical technologies, civil aviation, health and energy. At the senior official-level dialogue, the two sides also discussed international developments including in the Indo-Pacific region and considered the possibility of enhancing anti-terror collaboration, according to the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA).

ternational community must exert pressure on the state of Israel to abide by international laws and respect the rights and dignity of the Palestinian people," the statement said.

(ML) general secretary Dipankar Bhattacharya, CPI D Raja, Samajwadi Party MP Javed Ali Khan, RLD's Shahid Siddiqui were also among those leaders who visited the embassy.

Army personnel during the eleventh edition of bilateral Military Exercise SAMPRITI-XI between India and Bangladesh which commenced at the Joint Training Node, Umroi

of nine nights resplendent in

its garbas in Gujarat gets un-

derway, the Vishwa Hindu

Parishad (VHP) and Bajrang

Dal (BD) has once again

sounded their warning against

non-Muslims participating in

has already asked Garba or-

ganisers to apply tilaks on the

foreheads of the men entering

garba venues as a protection

clear that both the saffron en-

tities has already appealed to

the government as well as the

garba organisers to ensure

only Hindus get to enter the

garba grounds and make

checking of Aadhaar cards

mandatory to ensure no one

from other religions get to

enter the grounds. There is

little new in the professed im-

position of this code-sprin-

kling cow urine and applying

tilak-for such demands have

The spokesperson made it

against alleged "love jihad".

A BJP legislator of the state

Garba festivities.

Women's Reservation Bill: Congress leader moves SC

New Delhi: A Congress leader has filed a petition in the Supreme Court seeking directions to the Union government to implement 33 percent reservation for women's in Lok Sabha and state assemblies before 2024 general elections. Congress leader Dr Jaya Thakur has sought the immediate implementation of the Constitution (One Hundred and Sixth Amendment) Act, 2023, which was passed by the Lok Sabha and Rajya during the special session of the Parliament and notified in September after the assent of President Droupadi Murmu. The petitioner pleaded the court to declare as 'void-ab initio' a provision that states that the act to be implemented after the delimitation is undertaken for this purpose after the relevant figures for the first census.

ED raids 30 locations in fraud case against BSL

New Delhi: The Enforcement Directorate Monday said it has conducted fresh searches against the promoters and entities of erstwhile Bhushan Steel Limited as part of a money laundering probe against them linked to an alleged ₹56,000 crore bank fraud case. Thirty locations in the national capital region. Harvana, Kolkata, Mumbai and Bhubaneswar (Odisha) were raided and surveyed last week October 13, officials said. The money laundering case stems from a charge sheet filed by the Serious Fraud Investigation Office. an investigative agency under the Ministry of Corporate Affairs. A probe found that the erstwhile Bhushan Steel Limited (BSL) and its Managing Director Neeraj Singal and his associates formed several shell companies, the agency alleged in a statement.

No child sexual abuse content found: YT in reply to govt notice

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, Oct 16: YouTube Monday said it did not detect materials related to child sexual abuse on its platform despite multiple probes and also has not received evidence of such content on the video streaming platform from regulators.

The statement from YouTube spokesperson came after the government issued notices to social media platforms, including YouTube, X (formerly Twitter) and Telegram, earlier this month asking them to takedown child sexual abuse material from their platforms in India.

In a statement, YouTube spokesperson said: "We have a long history of successfully fighting child exploitation on YouTube. Based on multiple thorough investigations, we did not detect CSAM on our platform, nor did we receive examples or evidence of CSAM on YouTube from regulators.²

The video platform owned by Google further said that "no form of content that endangers minors is allowed on YouTube, and we will continue to heavily invest in the teams and technologies that detect, remove and deter the spread of this con-"We are committed to tent." work with all collaborators in the industry-wide fight to stop the spread of child sexual abuse material (CSAM)," the YouTubespokesperson added in an emailed statement.

THE POLITICS OF SPECTACLES!

eligion is the 'opiate of the masses'-disconnecting disadvantaged people from the here and now, and dulling their engagement in progressive politics, said Karl Marx.

But that was nearly 178 years ago. Nearer present times, in 2008, top scholar, the research and creative database of the Western Kentucky University (WKU) of the US showcased a paper on sports as the "opiate

of the masses". It represented a small part of a larger project titled, Game Day and God: Football, Faith and Politics in the American South. The India-Pakistan World Cup cricket engagement in Ahmedabad October 14, a day before Gujarat's festival of nine nights

kicked-in, provided a keen insight both into the game and into the power trail surrounding it. How else would one account for the lack-lustre opening for an event billed as the most anticipated cricket event of the year, held in the sport's biggest stadium globally named after a serving Prime Minister, in a country known to idolise the game. In fact, there was no opening ceremony at all for

the first match between England and New Zealand October 5 at Ahmedabad and the saffron coloured seats remained empty by-en-large. In sharp contrast, all stops

had been pulled out for the India-Pakistan engagement October 14. There were a bevy of performers from tinsel town parading their prowess and unfolding the 'works'. Pent-up enthusiasm in an India-Pakistan sports encounter is understandable, even excitement bordering on exuberance as well. but in this particular case the nudge and push from political

quarters which dominate every quarter of most sports was discernable. Speculation was rife that the stadium was 'expected' to be graced by womenkind as

a symbolic gesture marking the passing of the Women's reservation Bill 2023. It would have been a fitting thanks-giving gesture from Gujarat for the gift from its son, Narendra



Modi for women of the country, passed as the first legislation in India's new Parliament building. However and for whatever reason, this did not fructify. It is common knowledge that the ruling political establishment lays great store by symbolisms in connecting the dots for perception management.

Then there were the usual hiccups with potential to muddy the waters days before the match like a vehicle load lead

ing chants of ram-dhun while passing through a minority dominated area of Ahmedabad and following it up with a similar 'programme' at the copstation after it, for not registering their 'complaint'. Then off course an advocate has filed a complaint before the ICC chair against a Pakistani cricketer for offering prayers on the field while his team mates were waiting for drinks during the break. However no such plea was in the offing when a player of the Indian team was seen praving silently before bowling an allimportant ball.

Small games and petty guiles, at times, need to be seen on a wider canvass. Allen Guttmann, emeritus professor of English and American studies who has numerous sports publications to his credit is on record stating that sports is a principal spectacle that is both the product and producer of the social formation.

Thus as Navratri, the festival been voiced since 2015.







international

FINNISH NOBEL PEACE LAUREATE AHTISAARI DIES

Martti Ahtisaari, the former President of Finland and global peace broker who was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize in 2008 for his work to resolve international conflicts, died Monday. He was 86. The foundation he created for preventing and resolving violent conflicts said in a statement it was "deeply saddened by the loss of its founder and (former) chair of the board." In 2021, it was announced that Ahtisaari had advanced Alzheimer's disease





What is Hezbollah

ebanon's Hezbollah has been exchanging fire with Israel across the border for days in the deadliest escalation since they fought a major war in 2006, threatening to expand a conflict between Israel and Palestinian group Hamas. Backed by Iran, Hezbollah has said it is ready to help when the time comes in the war between Israel and Hamas, which is also backed by Tehran. Sources said last week Hezbollah's attacks so far had been designed to be contained and so avoid another major war. Israel's defence minister said on Oct. 15 that Israel had no interest in waging war on its northern front, and that if Hezbollah restrained itself then Israel would also keep the situation along the border as it is. Iran's Revolutionary Guards founded Hezbollah in 1982, the middle of Lebanon's 1975-90 civil war. It was part of Iran's effort to exports its 1979 Islamic Revolution around the region and fight Israeli forces after their 1982 invasion of Lebanon. Sharing Tehran's Shi'ite Islamist ideology, Hezbollah recruited Lebanese Shi'ite Muslims. The



group has risen from a shadowy faction to a heavily armed force with major sway over the Lebanese state. The United States, some Western governments and others deem it a terrorist organisation. While other groups disarmed after Lebanon's civil war, Hezbollah kept its weapons to fight Israeli forces that were occupying the predominantly Shi'ite south of the country. Years of guerrilla warfare led Israel to withdraw in 2000. Hezbollah demonstrated its military advances in 2006 during a five-week war with Israel, which erupted after it crossed into Israel, kidnapping two soldiers and killing others. Hezbollah fired thousands of rockets into Israel during the conflict, in which 1,200 people were killed in Lebanon, mostly civilians, and 158 Israelis were killed, most of them soldiers. Hezbollah's military power grew after it deployed into Syria, another of Iran's allies in the region, to help President Bashar al-Assad fight mostly Sunni Muslim rebels. Hezbollah boasts weapons including precision rockets and drones, and says it can hit all parts of Israel. In 2021, Hezbollah leader Sayyed Hassan Nasrallah said the group had 100,000 fighters. Iran gives Hezbollah weapons and money. The United States estimates Iran has allocated it hundreds of millions of dollars annually in recent years. Hezbollah has deep ties to Hamas, which controls Gaza, and Islamic Jihad, another Palestinian faction backed by Iran. Hezbollah has been a source of inspiration and support for other Iranian-Palestinbacked groups across the Middle East. It has trained armed groups in Iraq and taken part in fighting there. Saudi Arabia says Hezbollah has also fought in support of the Iran-allied Houthis in Yemen. a global financing net-Hezbollah denies this. Hezbollah's work to funnel supinfluence is underpinned by its

sophisticated arsenal and the support of many Lebanese Shi'ites who say the group defends Lebanon from Israel.

ian militant group Hamas uses port from charities and friendly nations, passing cash through Gaza tunnels or using cryptocurrencies to bypass international sanctions, according

to experts and officials. However, Hamas, which governs the Gaza Strip, will face even more ob-



An Israeli soldier flashes a V-sign from an armoured personnel carrier (APC) convoy as they head towards the Gaza Strip border in southern Israel, Monday

ASSOCIATED PRESS

Rafah (Gaza Strip), Oct 16: Palestinians in besieged Gaza crowded into hospitals and schools Monday, seeking shelter and running low on food and water.

More than a million people have fled their homes ahead of an expected Israeli ground invasion aimed at destroying Hamas after its fighters rampaged through southern Israel. As the enclave's food, water and medicine supplies dwindled, all eyes were on the Rafah crossing between Gaza and Egypt, where trucks carrying badly needed aid have been waiting for days as mediators press for a cease-fire that would allow them to enter Gaza and allow foreigners to leave. Rafah, Gaza's only connection to Egypt, was shut down nearly a week ago because of Israeli airstrikes.

Egypt's Foreign Minister Sameh Shoukry said Israel "has not taken a position to open the crossing from the Gaza side". The Israeli government did not respond to a request for comment. With a ground invasion of Gaza expected, Israel was preparing for the potential of a new front opening on its northern border with Lebanon, where it has exchanged fire repeatedly with the Iranian-backed Hezbollah group. The milion less than 1 litre (1 quart) of water per day. Hospitals warn they are on the verge of collapse, with emergency generators that power machines like ventilators and incubators down to about one day of fuel and supplies of medicine almost exhausted.

The Gaza Health Ministry said 2,750 Palestinians have been killed and 9,700 wounded since the fighting erupted, more than in the 2014 Gaza war, which lasted over six weeks. That makes this the dead-



estimates. The military did not specify whether that number includes foreigners.

Israeli airstrikes have pulverized entire neighbourhoods as Palestinian militants continue to fire rockets into Israel. Israel is widely expected to launch a ground offensive in order to kill Hamas leaders, recover captives and destroy the group's military infrastructure, much of which is in residential areas. Street-by-street fighting would likely cause mounting casualties on both sides.

Israel has ordered more than 1 million Palestinians — almost half the territory's population — to leave Gaza City and the surrounding area for the enclave's south.

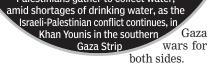
The military says it is trying to clear away civilians ahead of a major campaign against Hamas in the north, where it says the militants have extensive networks of tunnels and rocket launchers. Hamas has urged people to stay in their homes. For a third day, Israel's military announced a safe corridor for people to move from north to south between the hours of 8 am and noon. It said more than 600,000 people have already evacuated the Gaza City area. Hospitals in Gaza are expected to run out of generator fuel in the next 24 hours, endangering the lives of thousands of patients, according to the UN. REUTERS/PTI





tary ordered residents from 28 Israeli communities to evacuate.

Speaking to the Israeli Knesset on Monday, Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu warned Iran and Hezbollah, "Don't test us in the north. Don't make the mistake of the past. Today, the price you will pay will be far heavier." referring to Israel's 2006 war with Hezbollah. Hundreds of thousands of Palestinians sheltering in UN facilities are



More than 1,400 Israelis have died, the vast majority civilians killed in Hamas' Oct. 7 assault. The Israeli military said Monday that at least 199 hostages were taken back in Gaza, higher than previous

Earlier this week, Israeli police said they froze a Barclays bank account the authorities said was linked to Hamas fundraising and blocked cryptocurrency accounts used to gather

donations, without specifying how many accounts or the value of the assets. The move provided a glimpse of a complex financial web, some legitimate much hidden, that underpins Hamas, or the Islamic Resistance Movement, and its government in the Gaza Strip, which it has run since 2007.

Matthew Levitt, a former US official specialised in counterterrorism, estimated the bulk of Hamas' budget of more than \$300 million came from taxes on business, as well as from countries including Iran and Qatar or charities. Last February, the State Department said that Hamas raises funds in other Gulf countries and gets donations from Palestinians,

other expatriates and its own charities.

Jaishankar meets Vietnamese

PM, pushes for closer ties

India to skip China's Belt and Road Forum again



PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Beijing, Oct 16: For the third consecutive time. India is set to boycott a summit of China's Belt and Road Initiative here on Tuesday to highlight its stand on the sovereignty issues in the controversial CPEC, which is being laid through the Pakistanoccupied Kashmir, and the financial viability of Beijing's projects in smaller countries, official sources here said.

The two-day Belt and Road Forum for International Cooperation (BRFIC) is being held by China amid criticism that the loans amounting to billions of dollars for unsustainable projects turned out to be debt traps for smaller countries like Sri Lanka, driving them into a deep economic crisis

This year marks the completion of 10 years of the Belt and

Man charged with hate crime after **Muslim boy killed**

ASSOCIATED PRESS

Chicago, Oct 16: A 71-year-old Illinois man accused of fatally stabbing a 6-year-old boy and seriously wounding a 32-year-old woman was charged with a hate crime Sunday. Police allege he singled out the victims because of their Islamic faith and as a response to the war between Israel and Hamas In recent days, police in U.S.

Cities and federal authorities have been on high alert for violence driven by antisemitic or Islamophobic sentiments. FBI officials, along with Jewish and Muslim groups, have reported an increase of hateful and threatening rhetoric.

In the Chicago-area case, officers found the woman and boy late Saturday morning at a home in an unincorporated area of Plainfield Township, about 40 miles (65 kilometers) southwest of Chicago, the Will County Sheriff's Office said in a statement on social media.

The boy was pronounced dead at a hospital. The woman had multiple stab wounds and was expected to survive, according to the statement. An autopsy on the child showed he had been stabbed dozens of times.

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Hanoi, Oct 16: External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar Monday met Vietnam's top leadership and discussed ways to boost cooperation in areas like trade, energy, defence and maritime security while also sharing perspectives on the Indo-Pacific, amidst China's aggressive behaviour in the strategic region.

Jaishankar, who arrived here on a four-day official visit to Vietnam Sunday, called on Prime Minister Pham Minh Chinh and conveyed the greetings of Prime Minister Narendra Modi."Honoured to call on PM Pham Minh Chinh of Vietnam today evening. Conveyed the greetings of PM @narendramodi. Valued his guidance for the further development of our bilateral relationship. A stronger India-Vietnam partnership contributes to a stable, secure and prosperous Indo-Pacific," he said in a post on platform X.

Earlier, Jaishankar met his Vietnamese counterpart Bui Thanh Son and discussed ways to boost cooperation in areas like trade, energy, defence and maritime security while also sharing perspectives on the Indo-Pacific

Jaishankar and Son also un-



shared

affinity for

Jaishankar, who arrived on a four-day official visit to Vietnam Sunday, called on Prime Minister Pham Minh Chinh and conveyed the greetings of Prime Minister Narendra Modi

veiled commemorative stamps celebrating 50 years of establishment of diplomatic ties between India and Vietnam."Stamps depicting Kalaripayattu and Vovinam cap-

Daniel elected as Ecuador's President

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Quito (Ecuador), Oct 16: Daniel Noboa has managed to do what his father failed at five times: Getting elected as Ecuador's President.

And he did it Sunday on his first attempt, winning a runoff election against a leftist lawyer on the resume of a 35-year-old who belongs to the South American country's elite, which means some schooling in the U.S., some entrepreneurial work. some dabbling in politics.

Now, he must answer the universal demand to make Ecuador safe again, which voters urged on all the candidates who originally jumped into the race amid a surge in unprecedented violence tied to drug trafficking. Noboa's proposals to tackle the crucial issue have run the gamut. At one point in the campaign, he proposed turning ships into floating jails for the most violent criminals.





Hanoi

sports and celebrate the strong

cultural, social & people-to-peo-

ple links between India and

Jaishnakar said he had a use-

ful exchange of views with Le

Hoai Trung, Chairman of the

External Relation Commission

of the Communist Party of

Vietnam."The convergent ap-

proach of India and Vietnam on

key regional and global issues

He also attended a meeting of

the 18th India-Vietnam Joint

was manifest," he added.

Commission in Hanoi.

Vietnam," he posted on X.







project of President Xi Jinping.

China held two international

forums for its mega global in-

frastructure initiative in 2017

and 2019. India had stayed away

in the previous two BRI confer-

ences, India will not take part in

this year's meeting either. India

is steadfast in its criticism of

the BRI. especially its flagship the

USD 60 billion China-Pakistan

Economic Corridor (CPEC) being

laid through Pakistan-occupied

Kashmir (PoK) overriding New

India is also vocal about its

criticism that the BRI projects

should be based on universally

recognised international norms,

good governance, and the rule of

law, and follow principles of

openness, transparency and fi-

nancial sustainability.

Delhi's sovereignty concerns.

Official sources here said like

from both the meetings



business

to 3.35 per cent in September,

after remaining in double digits

in the previous two months. It

In vegetables, inflation was (-

)15 per cent, as against 48.39 per

cent in August. In potato, it was

(-)25.24 per cent in September,

as against (-)24.02 per cent in

the previous month.

during September.

ing the month.

was 10.60 per cent in August.



WONTH WPI inflation in -ve

FLIPKART'S FESTIVE SALE FEAT

E-commerce firm Flipkart claimed to have recorded 1.4 billion customer visits during the first eight days of its festive season sale -- The Big Billion Days. "Reflecting an overall uptick in consumer sentiment, the 10th edition of TBBD witnessed a record 1.4 billion customer visits over early access and seven days of the shopping festival," Flipkart said

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, Oct 16: Passenger

vehicle wholesales in India rose

to its highest level in any quar-

ter so far in the July-September

period riding on the back of ro-

bust demand for utility vehicles,

industry body SIAM said Monday.

(PV) dispatches from companies

to dealers rose to 10,74,189 units

in July-September 2023-24, up

4.7 per cent from 10,26,309 units

"The sales growth in the PV seg-

in the same period of 2022-23.

ment is being fuelled by strong de-

mand for the utility and sports

utility vehicles. The vertical is now

accounting for around 60 per cent

of the overall sales," Society of

Indian Automobile Manufacturers

(SIAM) President Vinod Aggarwal

Sales of entry level cars how-

The entry level car wholesales

ever continue to dip, he added.

dropped to 35,000 units in the

second quarter as compared to

the peak of 1.38 lakh cars in

July-September 2018-19,

Similar trend is there in the

entry level two-wheeler segment

with rural demand yet to pick up

In the first six months of the fis-

Aggarwal said passenger ve-

cal, total PV wholesales rose to

20,70,163 units from 19,36,804 units.

hicles, three-wheelers, and com-

mercial vehicle segments con-

tinued to witness growth in the

second quarter of 2023-24, al-

though two-wheeler wholesale

told reporters here.

Aggarwal said.

fully, he added.

Overall passenger vehicles





able to reduce our net debt significantly in the second quarter following funds raised through initial public offer

We have been

PRADEEP KUMAR AGGARWAL CHAIRMAN AND WHOLE-TIME DIRECTOR, SIGNATURE GLOBAI

The FTA is expected to have a limited impact on increasing these exports because over half of Indian products already enter the UK with low or no

tariffs. The average duty on goods imported from India into the UK is 4.2

AJAY SRIVASTAVA CO-FOUNDER, GTRI

The prominent launches by branded developers saw good sales traction across all seven cities. Also, the consecutive

fourth pause in policy rate by the RBI will have a positive impact on residential sales as financial institutions will maintain the home loan interest rates at the present levels

SIVA KRISHNAN | HEAD (RESIDENTIAL), JLL

02 RESULTS

BoM profit up 72%

New Delhi: State-owned Bank of Maharashtra (BoM) Monday posted a 72 per cent jump in net profit at Rs 920 crore for the September quarter, aided by a decline in bad loans and a rise in interest income. The lender had reported a standalone profit of Rs 535 crore in the year-ago period. Total income increased to Rs 5,796 crore during the quarter under review, against Rs 4,317 crore in the same period last year, BoM said in a regulatory filing. The bank earned interest income of Rs 5.068 crore during the guarter. compared to Rs 3,815 crore in the same period a year ago.

HDFC Bank net rises

Mumbai: Largest private

0.	tion in WPI can hav ack of demand and j	0	1		• ·
PRESS TRUST OF INDIA	INFLATION Reserved	Inflation Rate 20	21-22 2022-2	3 WPI	We expect RBI to a on a prolonged pa
New Delhi, Oct 16: Wholesale inflation remained in the nega-	and (2011-12) =100)	All -0.26 Commodities	10.55	151.5	as it monitors uncertainty on the
tive territory for the sixth straight month in September at (-) 0.26 per	Wholesale Price Index	Primary 3 Articles	.70 11.54	182.4	commodity front, both domestic non-perishab
cent on easing prices of food items, especially vegetables.	for SEPTEMBER 2023	Food	.35 11.03	188.3	food prices and interna energy prices
The wholesale price index (WPI)-based inflation rate has		10111000 2.50	1.34	164.2	RAHUL BAJORIA MD & HEAD OF E ASIA ECONOMICS, BARCLAYS
been in the negative since April and was (-)0.52 per cent in August. In September last year, it was	Inflation Rate WPI(Prov) (Prov) -0.26% 151.5	-3.35 Fuel & Power	33.	153.1 <mark>11</mark>	ing, if producers pass on
10.55 per cent. Inflation in food articles eased	AUG -0.52% AUG 152.4	Manufactured I-1.3 Products	4 6.12	140.3	costs into retail prices. WPI in India is likely

GRAPHICS

Elevated Fuel and power global crude oil basket inflation was at (-)3.35 per cent prices and potential in September, risks to kharif harvest against (-)6.03 per cent in August. due to uneven rainfall In manufacpose upside risks to WPI inflation

ucts, mineral oils, textiles, basic

pared to the corresponding month of the previous year,' the commerce and industry ministry said Monday. Barclays MD & Head of EM Asia **Economics Rahul** Bajoria said the easing

momentum in core inflation and decline in vegetable prices are driving the moderation in retail inflation. But the sequential rise in the WPI for man-

We expect RBI to remain on a prolonged pause, as it monitors uncertainty on the commodity front, both in domestic non-perishable food prices and international energy prices

RAHUL BAJORIA | MD & HEAD OF EM ASIA ECONOMICS, BARCLAYS

Data released last week showed that the annual retail or consumer price inflation was at 5.02 per cent in September, a 3-month low level.

Earlier this month, RBI proiected the CPI inflation to be at 5.4 per cent for 2023-24. The central bank kept key policy interest rate on hold in the fourth consecutive meeting for deciding monetary policy as it targets to keep inflation within the target band of 2-6 per cent.

FUEL SALES FALL

New Delhi: Petrol and diesel sales fell in the first half of October ahead of the start of festival season that is expected to boost consumption. preliminary data of state-owned firms showed. Petrol sales by three state-owned fuel retailers fell 9 per cent year-on-year, the first drop in two months. Diesel consumption dropped 3.2 per cent. Petrol sales dropped to 1.17 million tonne during the first half of October from 1.29 million tonne a vear back. Consumption of diesel, the most consumed fuel in the country accounting for about two-fifths of the demand, dropped to 2.99 million tonne during October 1 to 15 from 3.09 million tonne a year back. With the continuing rise in passenger traffic at airports, jet fuel (ATF) demand rose 5.7 per cent to 2,95,200 tonne during first fortnight of October against the same period last year. It was 36.5 per cent more than in October 1-15, 2021, but 6.6 per cent lower than pre-Covid October 2019.

PV sales see highest ever quarterly mark

IT IS ALSO THE FIRST TIME EVER THAT DOMESTIC PV WHOLESALES HAVE CROSSED **THE 20LAKH MILESTONE IN H1 OF FY24**

> numbers posted a marginal degrowth, compared to the same period of last year. Total two-wheeler dispatches

declined to 45,98,442 units in July-September 2023 as against 46,73,931 units in the year-ago period.

Commercial vehicle dispatches rose to 2,47,929 units from 2,31,991 units in the year-ago period. Total three-wheeler wholesales surged to record 1,95,215 units in the second quarter as compared with 1,20,319 units in the same period last fiscal.

In the September quarter, overall sales rose to 61,16,091 units from 60,52,739 units in the second quarter of 2022-23

In September, PV dispatches increased by 2 per cent year-onvear to 3.61.717 units as compared with 3,55,043 units in September 2022.

Similarly, two-wheeler sales increased to 17,49,794 units last month from 17.35.199 units in the year-ago period, SIAM said.

Total three-wheeler wholesales rose to 74,418 units last month from 50,626 units in September 2022. Total dispatches last month were up at 21.41.208 units from 20.93.286 units in September 2022.

Automobile exports from India declined 17 per cent year-on-year in the April-September period this fiscal hit by geopolitical and monetary crises in various countries, industry body SIAM said Monday. Overall overseas shipments stood at 22,11,457 units in the first six months of the current fiscal, as compared with 26,80,527 units in the same period of last year. Passenger vehicle (PV) exports surged while two and three-wheeler and commercial vehicle shipments declined during the period under review as compared with April-September 2022-23.

laggards. Technologies, Axis Bank, Power Grid and Mahindra & Mahindra

In the broader market, the BSE smallcap gauge climbed 0.34 per cent and midcap index gained 0.25 per cent. Among the indices, telecommunication fell by 0.74 per cent, realty (0.39 per cent), teck (0.32 per cent), FMCG (0.28 per cent), services (0.17 per cent), bankex (0.11 per cent) and IT (0.10 per cent). Commodities, consumer discretionary, energy, industrials, auto and metal were among the gainers.

were net sellers in the capital markets as they offloaded shares worth Rs 593.66 crore. The BSE

benchmark had dropped 125.65

points or 0.19 per cent to settle at

66,282.74 Friday. The broader

Nifty of NSE fell by 42.95 points

tured products, in-However, some hardening in flation rate was (-)1.34 inflation was seen in food items per cent, as against (like pulses, onion, milk and fruits)2.37 per cent in August. "Deflation in September 2023 Inflation in pulses was 17.69 is primarily due to fall in prices per cent, while in onion it was of chemical & chemical prodat a high of 55.05 per cent dur-

metals and food products as com-

ufactured products bears watch-

Middle East tensions rattle D-St

Persistent geopolitical tensions continue to weigh down the sentiment on equities

TOP GAINERS BSE Sensex Previous day close: 1.71 JSW Steel Change 🚫 -115.81 66,282.74 1.60 Tata Steel 1.20 HCL Tech 66.350 1.13 Axis Bank 0.79 M&M TOP LOSERS -1.94 Nestle India -1.29 TCS 66,166.93 -1.15 Asian Paints Indusind Bank 66,050 09:15 16:00 -0.93 Sun Pharma GRAPHICS

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Mumbai. Oct 16: Benchmark equity indices ended lower Monday, falling for the third day run-

Nifty slipped 19.30 points or 0.10 per cent to 19,731.75.

The rupee consolidated in a

against the US dollar.

narrow range and settled for the day higher by 3 paise at 83.27

UltraTech Cement, Kotak

Mahindra Bank and Hindustan Unilever were among the major

Tata Steel, JSW Steel, HCL were among the gainers.

Foreign Institutional Investors



Monday reported a net profit of Rs 16,811 crore on a consolidated level. In the first results of the merged entity after the amalgamation of its parent HDFC Ltd into the lender, HDFC Bank reported a net profit of Rs 15,976 crore on a standalone basis. In the year-ago period, the net profit of the merged entity would have been Rs 11,162 crore on a consolidated level, while the same on a standalone basis would have been Rs 10,606 crore. The total income grew to Rs 78,406 crore on a standalone basis, from Rs 46,181 crore in the year-ago period.

ning, amid weak trends in global markets and spike in Brent crude oil prices due to geopolitical tension in the Middle East

Investors are trading cautiously in an uncertain global environment as ongoing **Israel-Palestine conflict** coupled with weak overseas fundamentals and persistent FII selling have dampened sentiment

SHRIKANT CHOUHAN | HEAD OF RESEARCH (RETAIL), KOTAK SECURITIES

The 30-share BSE Sensex declined 115.81 points or 0.17 per cent to settle at 66,166.93. During the day, it fell 243.36 points or 0.36 per cent to 66,039.38. The

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE

85 films.

Illinois

Washington, Oct 16: The Walt

Disney Company celebrates its

100th anniversary Monday, mark-

ing the occasion with the re-

lease of a short film featuring

more than 500 characters from

tled "Once Upon a Studio" com-

bines digital images, hand draw-

ings and live-action to honour the

studio's mammoth body of work.

stones in the history of the global

December 1901 to an Irish-

Canadian father and a German-

American mother in Chicago,

In 1923, he joins his brother

Roy in Hollywood, where they set

MICKEY AND SNOW WHITE

entertainment giant.

BIRTH OF DISNEY

up a studio in a garage

Here are some major mile-

Walter Elias Disney is born in

The nine-minute short enti-

From the Sensex pack, Nestle, Tata Consultancy Services, IndusInd Bank, Asian Paints, Bharti Airtel, Tech Mahindra,

or 0.22 per cent to 19,751.05. **OIL ON BOIL, BREACHES \$91**

Oil prices rose above \$91 a barrel Monday as diplomatic efforts to address the crisis in the Middle East intensified. Investors are concerned that the Israel-Hamas war could spark a wider conflict in the oil-rich region and further tighten global supply, CNN reported. Brent crude futures, the global oil benchmark, rose as high as \$91.2 a barrel Monday, up slightly from the October 13 settlement price of \$90.89. It was last trading at \$90.99 a barrel, CNN reported. West Texas Intermediate, the US benchmark, briefly rose to \$87.98, compared to Friday's closing price of \$87.68. It was last trading at \$87.77 a barrel. Analysts from ANZ Research expect oil prices to hit \$100 a barrel in the short term because of the growing risk of regional escalation. CNN reported. Neither Israel nor Hamas is a significant oil supplier, but the risk to oil markets will rise if "the conflict broadens," they wrote in a note. "If (Iran) becomes involved, up to 20 million barrels per day of oil could be at risk of disruption directly and through obstructed logistics."

Bhubaneswar: RJS Enterprises has partnered with Reliance Retail, India's largest organised retailer, as a franchisee of its new electronics retail store format under brand name JioMart Digital at Bapuji Nagar. The first store from the brand in the City

JioMart Digital opens 1st store in City

will be a unique amalgamation of offline display and online catalogue based sales. It will be one-stop destination that provides the complete portfolio of mobiles, electronic



appliances, laptops and IT products etc from all the major brands in India. SK Priyadarshi, IPS , Commissioner of Police, Bhubaneswar and Cuttack has inaugurated the store in presence of Gaurav Tatiya, Head India-1, JioMart Digital; Devasish Mohanty, State Head, JioMart Digital and Jay Kumar Sadany, Director, RJS Enterprises Pvt Ltd.

UCO holds camp on financial planning, bankable products



Bhubaneswar: UCO Bank has organised a camp at Birla Global University to create awareness on financial planning and different bankable products. Staffs, admin officials and students attended the event and made it a great success. The camp was inaugurated by UCO Bank General Manager Goutam Patra in the presence of PP Mathur, Vice Chancellor, BGU and BK Dash, Registrar, BGU. Financial products

promoted by Government of India i.e. Pradhan Mantri Jeevan Jyoti Bima Yojana, Pradhan Mantri Swastya Bima Yojana, Atal Pension Yojana and National Pension scheme were discussed elaborately. People showed interests on home loan and car loan schemes with attractive return on investment

JFS profit doubles

Bangalore: India's Jio Financial Services (JFS) Monday said its second-quarter profit doubled from the previous quarter, in its first results report after being carved out from billionaire Mukesh Ambani's Reliance Industries and listed on stock exchanges. Consolidated profit after tax for the three months ended September 30 rose to Rs 6.68 billion from Rs 3.32 billion in the April-June quarter, JFS said in a regulatory filing. It did not give consolidated profit figures for the year-ago quarter.

ICICI Securities rises

New Delhi: ICICI Securities, a part of the ICICI Group, Monday reported a 41 per cent year-onyear growth in profit after tax to Rs 424 crore in three months ended September. Total income surged 44 per cent year-onyear to Rs 1,249 crore in the quarter under review, from Rs 865.63 crore in the second quarter ended September 2022, led by growth in broking income with cash and derivative segment gaining momentum.

appearance in the 1928 short film "Steamboat Willie".

Initially christened Mortimer. the mouse is later renamed with inspiration from Walt Disney's wife Lilly.

Mickey Mouse becomes so famous during the 1930s and 40s that he is used as a code name for the Normandy landings by Allied troops June 6, 1944.

Disney's first colour feature film "Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs" is released in 1937 and awarded an honorary Oscar the following year.

The company issues its first shares in 1940 and employs over 1,000 people at its studios in Burbank, California.

DISNEYLAND On July 17, 1955, Disney opens its first theme park in Anaheim, California, with a second one,

Magic Kingdom, unveiled in Orlando in 1971. The parks revolutionise the

Mickey Mouse makes his first tourism industry and later ex-



From pencil, paper to media giant: A century of Disney

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pand outside the United States - first in Tokyo in 1983 and later in Paris, Hong Kong and Singapore.

Walt Disney dies in 1966 at the age of 65. He still holds the record for the most Oscars won during a lifetime, having been honoured 22 times

"I only hope that we never lose sight of one thing: that it was all started by a mouse," he said. Walt's brother Roy heads the group for five years.

EISNER TO THE RESCUE Michael Eisner takes over the

helm of the group in 1984. During his 21 years at the helm, he transforms Disney into a powerful multinational entertainment company and sales soar.

The group buys the ABC television network, the ESPN sports channel and Miramax Films, as well as developing merchandise including clothes, video games, toys, records and cruises.

Disney even creates its own currency -- the "Disney Dollar" -- which was used in theme parks for 30 years until being discontinued in 2016.

Eisner steps down after a shareholder revolt in 2003-4, led by Walt's nephew Roy Disney.

PIXAR AND SUPERHEROES Bob Iger becomes Disney CEO

mation business with the \$7.4-bil-

lion purchase of Pixar in 2006.

\$4 billion and Lucasfilm and "Star

It then buys Marvel in 2009 for

close parks and cinemas. But the streaming platform ২ begins to lose subscribers in in 2005 and over 15 years boosts share prices through acquisi-2022, leading Disney to call back tions and brand diversification. its former CEO Bob Iger. Disney relaunches its ani-

Wars" in 2012 for \$4.05 billion.

International box office sales

for "Star Wars: The Last Jedi",

which was released for the fran-

chise's 40th anniversary in 2017,

exceeded \$1.3 billion according

To compete with streaming

giant Netflix, the group launches

Disney+ in 2019, an on-demand

service offering films and series

from Disney, Marvel, Lucasfilm and 21st Century Fox.

to partially revive the group,

which suffers losses after the

Covid-19 pandemic forces it to

The success of Disney+ helps

THE STREAMING ERA

to IMDBPro.

In a quest for profitability, the company announces 7,000 layoffs. By mid-2023, Disney+has more than 145 million subscribers.









OrissaPOST TUESDAY | OCTOBER 17 | 2023 | BHUBANESWAR

South Africa look too strong for Netherlands **Oz keep title hopes alive**

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Lucknow, Oct 16: Adam Zampa (4/47), Josh Inglis (58, 59b, 5x4) 1x6) and Mitchell Marsh (52, 51b, 9x4) delivered when their team needed them the most as Australia breathed life into their floundering World Cup campaign with a five-wicket win over Sri Lanka here, Monday.

Australia bowled out Sri Lanka for 209 despite half centuries by Kusal Perera (78, 82b, 12x4) and Pathum Nissanka (61, 67b, 8x4) Looking on course for a 300-plus score, Sri Lanka faced a bizarre batting collapse to lose 10 wickets for 84 runs.

Inglis, who scored his maiden World Cup fifty, Marsh and Marnus Labuschagne (40, 60b, 2x4) then did the heavy lifting with the bat as Australia overhauled the target in 35.2 overs, giving a solid boost to their net run rate.

While Australia rose to eighth position on the table with their first win of the tournament, the loss severely dented Sri Lanka's chances of progressing to the semifinals as they sit at the ninth spot with three defeats from as many games

Defending a below-par total, Dilshan Madushanka (3/38) bowled a fiery first spell which included a double wicket maiden in which he claimed the prized scalps of David Warner and Steve Smith.

While Madushanka was frugal, Marsh took off against the other bowlers. Marsh raced to his

mark for the first time in this edi-Senapati century scripts Odisha win over Assam

POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar, Oct 16: Subhranshu Senapati (119 n o, 54b, 10x4, 8x6) had a memorable outing in the Syed Mushtaq Ali Trophy T20 cricket tournament Monday helping Odisha to an 11-run win over Assam in their Group B encounter at the DY Patil Stadium in Navi Mumbai. Odisha were pegged back in

the very first over when Mukhtar Hussain (2/30) dismissed Swastik Samal to reduce Odisha to 10/1. However, it turned out to be a blessing in disguise for Odisha as Senapati joined the other opener - Sandeep Pattnaik (87, 57, 8x4, 3x6) – in the middle.

Senapati was excellent throughout the innings with his strokemaking, punishing the Assam bowlers at will. Senapati and Pattnaik stitched together 199 runs taking the team total past 200. Pattanik was dismissed in the penultimate over - also off Hussain, but it was too late for Assam as Odisha finished their essay on 226/2. In response, Assam also approached aggressively keeping the run-rate over 10, but they lost wickets regular intervals only to end their innings on 215/9. Rishabh Das (32, 21b, 6x4), skipper Riyan Parag (45, 19b, 4x4, 3x6), Sumit Ghadigaonkar (44, 23b, 5x4, 2x6) and Akash Sengupta (40, 18b, 3x4, 3x6) got good scores but couldn't turned those into match-winning ones. Sunil Roul (3/34) was the pick of



disturbing the stumps.



Odisha taekwondo martial



Adam Zampa reacts after getting a wicket; (insets) Mitchell Marsh (L) and Josh Inglis in action during their matchagainst Sri Lanka, Monday

fifty but Chamika Karunaratne tion. Glenn Maxwell (31 n o, 21b, sent a sharp throw from the deep 4x4, 2x6) and Marcus Stoinis (20 to end his innings, as wicketn o, 10b, 2x4, 1x6) also played imkeeper Kushal Mendis made no portant roles in the victory. error in collecting the ball and

Earlier, an out-of-form Perera got some much-needed runs Inglis looked confident in the while Nissanka struck his secmiddle and stitched a 77-run ond consecutive fifty. Australia partnership with Labuschagne benefitted from the timely reas Australia crossed the 200-run turn to form of Zampa.

> There were lots going on in the field as Mitchell Starc (2/43) aborted his delivery stride thrice to warn Perera to not leave his crease early on at the non-striker's end. Perera was also struck in the head by a Stoinis bouncer which caught the Sri Lankan off guard. But the experienced south-

paw didn't let the blow deter him and eventually brought up his fifty. Skipper Pat Cummins kept shuffling his bowlers in search of that first breakthrough.

Cummins (2/32), who has been far from his best with the ball,



stood up at the opportune moment to give Australia the breakthrough - Nissanka - they needed. The Australian skipper bowled a peach of a delivery five overs later to clean up the other set batter in Perera. The dismissal marked the beginning of Australia's dominance.

BRIEF SCORES

Sri Lanka 209 (Kusal Perera 78, Pathum Nissanka 61; Adam Zampa 4/47) lost to Australia 215/5 (Josh Inglis 58, Mitchell

2016. In Germany they will be

aiming to advance from the group

stages for the first time in their

Turkey also qualified with a

4-0 win against Latvia at the

Konya Metropolitan Municipality

Stadium, while Croatia made it

back-to-back losses in Group D

after a surprise 2-1 defeat to

Less than a year after a third-

CROATIA STRUGGLE

history.

Wales.



HOARDINGS FALL

LUCKNOW: Strong winds caused several hoardings to fall from the roof of the Ekana Stadium on to the seats below during the match between Australia and Sri Lanka. After rain stopped play for a bit, there was a dust storm and heavy winds led to several iron angles with branding material from the roof falling on people sitting at the lower levels. The situation could have been disastrous but luckily the stands were relatively empty. It did, however, cause panic among those who were watching the game as the public announcement asked spectators to move to safety of the higher seats. By the time the second innings began the security had moved all spectators to the higher level.

Marsh 52, Marnus Labuschagne 40; Dilshan Madushanka 3/38) by 5 wickets.



PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Dharamsala, Oct 16: South Africa are making quite a statement at the World Cup, playing entertaining cricket and plundering tons of runs as they steamroll rival teams.

As the Proteas take on the Netherlands in this hilly paradise Tuesday, the perennial underperformers and 'chokers' have shown in the last two games their determination to go the distance in the tournament.

Their 102-run win against Sri Lanka in the opener in New Delhi after putting a record 428/5 on the board, followed by 134run victory against five-time champions Australia in Lucknow, have made South Africa the team to beat in the competition.

From staying under the radar in the lead-up to the ODI showpiece to becoming high-flyers, the Proteas have started playing to potential and will be firm favourites against the Dutch.

Unlike the Australian and England cricket teams, whose patchy performance so far has left a lot to be desired, the South Africans have come out with full combat capabilities -with the likes of wicket-keeping stalwart Quinton de Kock, top-order batter Rassie van der Dussen and Aiden Markram making a massive impact here.

The trio smashed a century each against Sri Lanka to pile up a mountain of runs with Heinrich Klaasen and David Miller playing useful cameos in the 428-run total.



Though their bowlers did take a beating from the Sri Lankans. they hit back with full force against the Australians in the next match.

A second consecutive century by De Kock and a massively improved performance from tall pace bowler Marco Jansen and Kagiso Rabada floored Pat Cummins' side. The 177-run loss for the five-time champions following the humiliating loss to India in the opener has put the Kangaroos on the mat.

The Proteas would look to attack with even more firepower against the Netherlands. But they have posed a challenge occasionally, like the huge upset they made during the 2009 T20 World Cup, defeating England at Lord's.

Last year, the Dutch eliminated the Proteas, handing them a shocking 13-run defeat in the Super 12 stage of the T20 World Cup in Australia. The Scott Edwards-led side will certainly take inspiration from that victory, though T20 and 50-over formats are like chalk and cheese.

But, on a cricket field, where miracles happen, the Dutch too would want to aim for a victory for the ages after seeing Afghanistan overrun defending champions England Sunday night in New Delhi.

The Proteas, once bitten twice shy, would be looking to opener De Kock, Rassie van der Dussen and Aiden Markram to once again set the stage on fire and then give their bowlers a big total to defend.

Gavi strike helps Spain, Scotland seal Euro spots

ASSOCIATED PRESS

London, Oct 16: Gavi's winning goal for Spain against Norway in a European Championship qualifier Sunday will likely have been cheered as wildly in Glasgow as it was in Madrid.

The Barcelona midfielder's strike at Ullevaal Stadium in Oslo secured a 1-0 win that means both Spain and Scotland have qualified for Euro 2024



Croatia was trailing 2-0 to goals from Harry Wilson in each half. Mario Pasalic halved the deficit, but it wasn't enough to spark a comeback

Wales moved up to second in the group ahead of Croatia in third, with both teams on 10 points. Yunus Akgun set Turkey on course for victory against Latvia, with substitute Cenk Tosun scoring two and Kerem Akturkoglu also grabbing a goal

Rizwan heckled by fans during India-Pak clash PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, Oct 16: The cricketers from Pakistan have enjoyed_ the warmth and hospitality ever since they landed in India to compete in the World Cup but a video has surfaced on social media where Mohammed Rizwan was seen getting heckled by a



artists were impressive in the Senior National Championships, October 13-15, held in Nashik. In a historic achievement, Odisha bagged seven gold medals with Satya Prakash Mohanty and Haripriya Mohakud securing individual golds.

The yellow metal winners are the pair of S Samarjeet Chakra and Shruti Mohanty, Jagannath Behera, Bhubaneswari Sahoo and Priyaranjan Pradhan in free style. Saswati Navak, Neelima Katti, Devapratim Mohanty and Santosh Kumar Jena secured silver medals, while Himasmi Swain bagged bronze.

Gavi's goal came in the 49th minute and ensured the threetime European champions will be at next year's tournament in Germany when they will be among the favorites to lift the trophy for the first time since 2012. Scotland might not harbor re-

alistic ambitions of winning Euro 2024, but they have arguably exceeded expectations by qualifying from Group A. Indeed, until losing to Spain Thursday, the Scots had made a 100% start to qualifying.

Scotland have now qualified for back-to-back Euros, having failed to reach the finals from 2000-

place finish at the World Cup in Qatar, Croatia is making hard work of qualification for the European Championship.

The Croatians went into this latest batch of qualifiers atop Group D, with the chance to put daylight between them and Turkey. But a 0-1 loss to Turkey Thursday has now been followed by defeat to Wales.

Even with stars like Luka Modric, Josko Gvardiol and Marcelo Brozovic in the team,

ALBANIA WAIT

Four teams are separated by four points in Group E as results Sunday meant Albania was left waiting to seal qualification. Czech Republic's 1-0 win against Faroe Islands leaves them two points behind leader Albania in second place.

Poland drew 1-1 with Moldova to leave those teams three points and four points off the top respectively. Romania are top of Group I after a 4-0 win against Andorra — ahead of secondplace Switzerland, who needed goals in the 89th and 90th minutes to draw 3-3 with Belarus.

few fans in Ahmedabad with the chants of 'Jai Shri Ram' while he walked back to pavilion during the marquee clash Saturday.

A group of fans shouted 'Jai Shri Ram' (Hail Lord Ram) multiple times when Rizwan was walking back to the pavilion after being dismissed by pacer Jasprit Bumrah. Several politicians denounced the act



Cricket in Olympics: A sporting, business bonanza in the men's section and 66 in the most importantly, the BCCI and

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

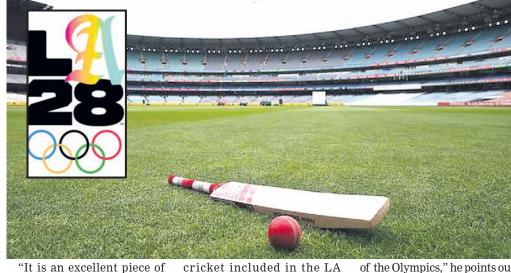
Bangalore, Oct 16: For long cricket remained a statistical global sport sans a true global footing. A solid fan base of 2.5 billion and an ever-swelling TV revenue formed its axis to be labelled as a sport with a worldwide appeal, second only to football.

However, in reality, all of it is parked in the Commonwealth countries and even among them India alone helm around 70 percent, if not more, of those numbers.

But now, all this could change as cricket, in its T20 avatar, has made its re-entry into the Olympic fold through the 2028 edition at Los Angeles, and it is a mutu ally beneficial association from sporting and commercial angles.

From a sporting perspective, the Olympics provides an unmatchable platform for cricket, perhaps even bigger than a World Cup.

Standing on the podium wearing an Olympic medal around the neck is an unmatched feeling for any sportsperson, as it is a reverentially warm handshake with history that dates back to 1896



"It is an excellent piece of news for cricket to be part of the Olympics. It will certainly add to the global image of cricket,' says Keith Joseph, president of the Caribbean Association of National Olympic Committees (CANOC), who gave a strong backing to ICC's efforts to get

Olympics. T20 provides an excellent platform too in terms of duration and connection with younger audiences. That USA will be co-

hosting the T20 World Cup in 2024 will also work as a very good precursor to cricket ahead

of the Olympics," he points out. However, expecting cricket to match the universal appeal of football, something the sport always cherished, just because of an Olympic appearance is quite naive.

Sample this: The ICC men's T20 ranking list features 87 nations

women's segment. But the FIFA ranking list touches 207 men's teams and 186 women's outfits, the numbers reveal the vast gulf between the two sports.

Of course, this is not to deny that the T20 format has helped cricket to reach some hitherto unexplored corners of Africa, Europe and Latin America. However, cricket had to leap over several self-imposed hurdles to make its return to the Olympics.

Both the officials and players did not want to follow several clauses, especially the one pertaining to their whereabouts that is mandatory for random dope testing, laid out by the IOC, IOA, WADA etc.

England, the champion side when cricket was last staged in the Olympics in 1900, was another country which was initially reluctant to take this plunge.

"Yes, there were some difficulties in reaching an understanding for some time over certain issues such as the whereabouts clause. However,

ICC and few other boards have found a common ground to take cricket to a global stage," said a BCCI administrator.

Beyond the sporting field, the IOA also might have thought about the crowd-pulling power of cricket, especially in the USA, a country with a large Asian diaspora.

An industry insider, whom PTI contacted, said the million eyeballs that cricket ensures will have a massive influence on the purchase of broadcasting rights of the LA Olympics. "It is great news (cricket in

Olympics) if you are a businessperson. America has a large section of Asian expats, who are crazy about cricket and they will fill the stadium and of course will follow the game on TV or streaming apps.

"Since cricket is in LA, our estimate is that the selling price of broadcasting rights might see at least a 20-30 percent jump from the existing one, which is huge for a single edition," the expert said.

DMK leader Udhavanidhi Stalin posted the video with a comment that such crowd behaviour is "unacceptable". "India is renowned for its sportsmanship and hospitality. However, the treatment meted out to Pakistan players at Narendra Modi Stadium in Ahmedabad is unacceptable and a new low. Sports should be a unifying force between countries, fostering true brotherhood. Using it as a tool to spread hatred is condemnable," he wrote on X.

Trinamool Congress (TMC) MP Saket Gokhale also criticised the fans for heckling Rizwan. "PM Modi desperately wants India to host the 2036 Olympics. But if this is what BJP has reduced our audiences to - where they heckle a Pakistani player with chants of Jai Shri Ram massive doubts remain over whether we're qualified & sporting enough to host ANY international sporting event," he wrote.

Pakistan players, led by Babar Azam, have received tremendous respect and a warm welcome upon their arrival first in Hyderabad and then in Ahmedabad.

Printed and published by Tathagata Satpathy on behalf of Navajat Printers and Media Pvt. Ltd. and printed at Navajat Printers, B-15 Industrial Estate, Rasulgarh, Bhubaneswar -751010, Odisha; Phone: 7894447142 (Marketing). Editor: Tathagata Satpathy, RNI No. ORIENG/2011/37159



