



## DEEPIKA'S REVELATION

Actor Deepika Padukone says, she was in an open relationship with Ranveer Singh until he proposed to her

LEISURE P2



## BSF LODGES PROTEST

The Border Security Force lodges strong protest with the Pakistan Rangers over the recent unprovoked firing

NATIONAL P9



## INDIA FACE ENGLAND

India look to continue their winning run in the ongoing WC when they face the defending champions England today

SPORTS P12



**RAGING WAR:** An Israeli mobile artillery unit is seen in a position near the Israel-Gaza border, Saturday. Israel expanded its ground operation in Gaza with infantry and armoured vehicles backed by 'massive' strikes from the air and sea, including the bombing of Hamas tunnels

# UNGA RESOLUTION FOR TRUCE & PROTECTION OF CIVILIANS India abstains from voting

AGENCIES

**United Nations, Oct 28:** India Friday abstained from voting in the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) on a Jordan-drafted resolution titled 'Protection of civilians and upholding legal and humanitarian obligations' that called for an immediate humanitarian truce in the Israel-Hamas conflict and unhindered humanitarian access in the Gaza strip. The move has invited sharp criticism from Opposition parties back home, with the Communist Party of India (Marxist) deciding to hold a protest march in New Delhi Sunday to express solidarity with Palestinians.

## CONG, LEFT PARTIES SLAM GOVT MOVE

Congress leader Priyanka Gandhi Vadra Saturday said the abstention from voting goes against everything the country has stood for while the CPI(M) and CPI dubbed it "shocking". In a post on X, Priyanka quoted Mahatma Gandhi's "an eye for an eye makes the whole world blind" to drive home her point. The CPI(M) said it will hold a protest Sunday at its AKG Bhawan office in Delhi to express solidarity with Palestine.

Israel has launched a massive counter-offensive against Hamas after unprecedented attacks by the militant group October 7, killing more than 1,400 people. The 193 members of the UNGA, which met in a resumed 10th Emergency Special Session, voted on the draft resolution submitted by Jordan and co-sponsored by more than 40 nations including Bangladesh, Maldives, Pakistan, Russia and South Africa. The resolution was overwhelmingly adopted with 120 nations voting in its favour, 14 against it and 45 abstaining.

Besides India, countries that abstained from voting included Australia, Canada, Germany, Japan, Ukraine and the UK. "Terrorism is a 'malignancy' and knows no borders, nationality or race and the world should not buy into any justification of terror acts, India has told the UNGA as it abstained on the resolution. India's Deputy Permanent Representative to the UN Ambassador Yojna Patel, in Explanation of Vote here said in a world where differences and disputes should be resolved by dialogue, this august body should be deeply concerned at recourse to violence. "That too, when it happens on a scale and intensity that is an affront to basic human val-

ues," Patel said. Before the UNGA voted on the resolution, the 193-member body considered an amendment proposed by Canada and co-sponsored by the US to the text. The amendment proposed by Canada asked for inserting a paragraph in the resolution that would state that the general assembly "unequivocally rejects and condemns the terrorist attacks by Hamas that took place in Israel starting October 7, 2023 and the taking of hostages, demands the safety, well-being and humane treatment of the hostages in compliance with international law, and calls for their immediate and unconditional release". India voted in favour of the amendment along with 87 other nations, while 55 member states voted against it and 23 abstained. The draft amendment could not be adopted, having failed to obtain a two-third majority of members present and voting. The Jordanian-drafted resolution called for an immediate, durable and sustained humanitarian truce leading to a cessation of hostilities. It also demanded immediate, continuous, sufficient and unhindered provision of essential goods and services to civilians throughout the Gaza Strip.

## Wrap up heritage corridor work by Dec 15: Pandian

**Puri, Oct 28:** Four days after being appointed the chairman of 5T (technology-led transformative initiatives) and 'Nabin Odisha', VK Pandian Saturday directed the authorities concerned to complete the Srimandir Heritage Corridor Project work in Puri by December 15 so that the devotees visiting the 12th-century shrine in the New Year return with good experience. Pandian visited and reviewed the corridor project Saturday. Puri District Collector Samarth Verma and some other officers attended the review meeting. Pandian also asked the officials concerned to speed up the restoration work of various mutts in the Pilgrim City.

## Double delight for Nuapada's Soundarya

PNN & AGENCIES

**Hangzhou, Oct 28:** Odisha's visually impaired chess star Soundarya Kumar Pradhan had a memorable outing at the Asian Para Games, where India ended their campaign with a record 111 medals, Saturday. India swept all the three medals in men's individual rapid VI-B1 event. The

Nuapada lad bagged a team gold with Satish Inani Darpan and Ashwinbhai Kanchanbhai Makwana. He then settled for a silver medal in the B1 individual event. Among others, Kishan Gangoli won a bronze in men's individual rapid VI-B2/B3 event. Gangoli, Somendra and Aryan Balchandra Joshi won a team

bronze in the same event. The trio of Vruthi Saganlal Jain, Himanshi Bhaveshkumar Rathi and Sanskruti Vikas More won a bronze in women's rapid VI-B1 team event. Prime Minister Narendra Modi, Saturday, congratulated Soundarya for winning a silver medal in the men's chess at the Hangzhou Asian Para Games.

## IRREGULAR by MANJUL



Can't you control the prices? Just treat them the way you treat the minorities

# Gave Hiranandani Parl login ID: Mahua Moitra

AGENCIES

**New Delhi, Oct 28:** Trinamool Congress (TMC) MP Mahua Moitra has said that she gave her Parliament login ID and password to businessman and her friend Darshan Hiranandani to have someone in the latter's office to type in the questions to be asked in the Lok Sabha. She dismissed the bribery charges against her while admitting, in remarks to media, that she shared her Parliamentary portal login details with Hiranandani in connection with typing questions on her behalf as he has long been a friend. Meanwhile, the Lok Sabha Ethics Committee Saturday turned down Moitra's request to call her after November 5 while allowing a two-day extension, as the panel asked her to appear before it for "oral evidence" November 2 in relation to the cash-for-query allegation

against her. Striking a strong tone, the committee headed by BJP MP Vinod Kumar Sonkar told Moitra that it would not entertain any further request for extension for any reason whatsoever "keeping in view the seriousness of the matter, having implications on the dignity of Parliament as well as its Members". She had Friday written to the committee, which is probing the allegations against her, expressing her inability to appear before it October 31 as scheduled and saying she will be available only after November 5. The Lok Sabha Secretariat told her Saturday, "Chairperson, Committee on Ethics has acceded to your request for extension of date for appearing before the Committee on Ethics, i.e., re-scheduling the sitting of the Committee. It has, accordingly, been decided to hear you in the above matter, in person, 2 November..."

**WEATHER**

	BHUB	CTK
TEMP. MAX	32.2°C	30.2°C
TEMP. MIN	20.2°C	21.0°C
Humidity	73%	72%
Rainfall	Nil	Nil

Forecast: Mainly clear sky

## Lady cop attacked in Biso

**Bisoi:** OIC of Bisoi police station in Mayurbhanj district, Mini Bhoi, was attacked with a sharp weapon Friday night. The accused, Sushant Deo, has been arrested and sent to court Saturday while the injured OIC hospitalised. Sources said donation money from a temple hundi was stolen October 16 night following which servitor Sushant was Friday called for questioning. Sushant confessed to the crime but attacked Bhoi at the PS with a blade.

## Death threat to Ambani

**Mumbai:** Reliance Industries chairman Mukesh Ambani has received an email threatening to shoot him dead if he failed to pay Rs 20 crore, a Mumbai police official said Saturday. The industrialist received the death threat email Friday, and based on a complaint lodged by his security in-charge, an FIR was registered against an unidentified person at Gamdevi police station, he said.

# Adieu Mumbai's black-yellow taxis

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

**Mumbai, Oct 28:** For decades, if one had to conjure up a picture of Mumbai, the imagery would be incomplete without the city's 'Premier Padmini' taxis. For, the public carriers, fondly called 'kaali-peeli', were more than just a mode of transport. Giving way to newer models and app-based cab services, these black-and-yellow taxis will now bow out from Mumbai's streets, following the path of retirement recently taken by the Brihanmumbai Electric Supply and Transport's (BEST) legendary red double-decker diesel buses. A Transport department



official said the last Premier Padmini was registered as a black-and-yellow taxi at Tardeo RTO, which has jurisdiction over the island city of Mumbai, October 29, 2003. As the age limit for cabs in the city is 20 years, Mumbai officially won't have a Premier Padmini taxi from Monday onwards. This transition comes shortly after the phasing

at least one 'Premier Padmini' be preserved on the road or in a museum. Classic car enthusiast Daniel Sequeira said these sturdy cabs have been a part of the city's landscape for more than five decades and hold sentimental value for several generations. A few years ago, the Mumbai Taximen's Union had petitioned the government to preserve at least one kaali-peeli, but without any success. Mumbai now has over 40,000 black-and-yellow cabs, though, in the late '90s, it had about 63,000 of them, including the air-conditioned "cool cabs" with their distinctive 'blue and silver' colour scheme.

**PATANJALI**

शस्त्रं धीरस्मृतिमेधक्लिबलायुः शुक्रचक्षुषाम् ।  
बालवृद्धप्रजाकान्तिसौकुमार्यस्थिरार्थिताम् ॥  
(धन्वन्तरि नियण्टु-॥१३५॥)

आयुर्वेद्युतम् ॥  
— (मैत्राचिणी संहिता) —

## In Ayurveda Cow's Ghee is equivalent to Amrit

But greedy people are playing with the people's lives by adulterating Ghee with animal fats, vegetable oils, artificial taste and colour etc.

That is why we have made available Patanjali Cow's desi Ghee that conforms to more than 60 parameters of purity.

Beneficial for memory and intelligence • Enhances strength, longevity and youth  
Improves eye sight • Gives glowing skin and saves from geriatric impacts

Test parameters	Units of Measurement	Result	Limit of Detection	Method of testing
Chemical Parameters				
Molasture	%	0.14	-	IS-548 P-1 (1964)
Free fatty acid	%	28.4	-	IS-548 P-1 (1964)
Rst value	-	Absent	-	FSSAI Manual 2.0, Cl-21
Animal fat	-	Absent	-	FSSAI Manual
Vegetable fat	-	Absent	-	IS-548 P-1(1964)
Coloring Matter	%	99.96	-	FSSAI Manual 2.0
Fat	mg/100gm	66.97	0.2	IS/C/SOP/PC/132
Cholesterol	g/100gm	73.86	0.3	IS/C/SOP/PC/132
Saturated fatty acids	g/100gm	Not Detected	-	IS/C/SOP/PC/132
Trans fatty acids	g/100gm	24.23	0.3	IS/C/SOP/PC/132
Monounsaturated fatty acids	g/100gm	1.80	0.2	IS/C/SOP/PC/132
Polysaturated fatty acids	g/100gm	Not Detected	-	IS/C/SOP/PC/132
Heavy metals	mg/kg	Not Detected	-	IS/C/SOP/META/140
Lead	mg/kg	Not Detected	-	IS/C/SOP/META/140
Copper	mg/kg	Not Detected	-	IS/C/SOP/META/140
Arsenic	mg/kg	Not Detected	-	IS/C/SOP/META/140
Zinc	mg/kg	Not Detected	-	IS/C/SOP/META/140
17 Tin	mg/kg	Not Detected	-	IS/C/SOP/META/140
18. Zinc	mg/kg	Not Detected	-	IS/C/SOP/META/140
19. Cadmium	mg/kg	Not Detected	-	IS/C/SOP/META/140
20. Mercury	mg/kg	Not Detected	-	IS/C/SOP/META/140
21. Nickel	mg/kg	Not Detected	-	IS/M/P202/034
22. Astatium M1	µg/L	Not Detected	-	

# leisure



## GOLDIE HAWN CLAIMS SHE WAS 'TOUCHED' BY ALIENS

Veteran Hollywood star Goldie Hawn suddenly remembered hearing a "high pitched sound" outside of her window and claimed that a few extraterrestrial beings came forward to feel her face in a move she likened to being touched by God.

## JULIA FOX WISHES SHE COULD FADE INTO A CROWD FOR A DAY

*Uncut Gems* star Julia Fox says it's exhausting being her because she is noticed everywhere she goes. "Sometimes I don't want that. Sometimes I just want to be anonymous and fade into a crowd for a day," adds Fox.



### FORTUNE FORECAST

GaneshSpeaks.com  
accuracy • reliability • trust  
FOR ASTROLOGY DIAL 55181

**ARIES**  
If you are aiming to marry soon, you can start making preparations today. However, before you take the final decision, it would be better to look at both sides of the coin, advises Ganesh.

Activities related to such an alliance will dominate today, and by the end of the day you may feel very elated.

**TAURUS**  
This is one of those dreadful days when you could be unduly touchy and short tempered, fears Ganesh. Don't go around getting into fights and quarrels with anyone who seems unfriendly or ill mannered. You will only end up in spoiling some healthy relationships.

**GEMINI**  
It will not be hard for you to complete your tasks successfully and without any delays or obstacles in your path, only if you first seek to fully understand and acquire the learning required to perform it. The fruits of your labour will keep you happy and satisfied, says Ganesh.

**CANCER**  
Dame Luck will patronise you today. You will gain from land, house or building trade. You will get total support and co-operation from bosses and colleagues in the office. Ganesh indicates it as a very profitable day for you.

**LEO**  
You will be very emotional and sentimental today. Your ego prevents you from expressing your true feelings at times. You need to keep this in mind when attempting to communicate with your beloved. It is a good day for romance, and for those seeking love, says Ganesh.

**VIRGO**  
Ganesh foretells that you will start off on a long, arduous path to success. Some tough work will play a vital role in your progress. Don't cut corners, and your labours will pay rich dividends and you will reap due rewards. Some opportunities are best left alone as they involve too much risk.

**LIBRA**  
Lady Luck smiles on you today. With all the good fortune on your side, it's assured to be a day when financial gains come your way, especially if you are in the banking business. Agreed everything is going your way today, but be careful not to let your emotions cloud your reasoning and slow you down. Don your rational hat and lower your expectations a little.

**SCORPIO**  
There are strong indications that today you will be receptive and sensitive towards the needs of other people. Negative vibes will disrupt your thinking, and you will rely on the company of close friends to keep you in good cheer. Do not succumb to the pessimism that might cloud your thought today as it is only a passing phase, advises Ganesh.

**SAGITTARIUS**  
The rewards of hard labour will be sweet, so start off by unwinding with some fun today. Ganesh sees quality time being spent with friends and family. All in all, a fun day.

**CAPRICORN**  
Despite repeated failures, very few realise that the key to success is in having the patience of a saint. Vexation invariably leads to an outburst which, in turn, can ruin your reputation and future prospects in innumerable ways. Today, Ganesh advises you to keep your calm and smile back even if faced with an adverse situation. Doing as directed may help you overcome troubles and take the right decisions.

**AQUARIUS**  
Be sure of your strengths and decisions, and Ganesh guarantees you success. You don't care what others think about you, but don't be so indifferent that you ignore their choices, preferences and comforts completely. The smile of your sweetheart will work like a charm and you will forget all your worries, feels Ganesh.

**PISCES**  
Ganesh warns that your expenses could be twice as much as your income or profit. You need to be more careful in money matters. It is not an auspicious day for any new work, new deal or any new beginnings.

## Twitterati call Ranveer the Indian Will Smith

**Mumbai:** Power couple Ranveer Singh and Deepika Padukone scorched up television screens when they appeared on Karan Johar's chat show *Koffee With Karan* Season 8. The couple released their dreamy wedding video, five years after tying the knot in Italy. However, after a

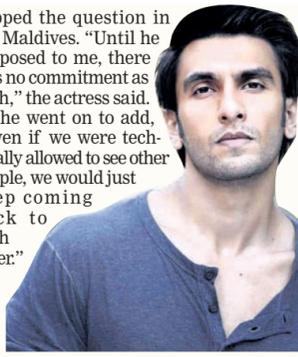


while, the fairytale wedding video seemed to be overshadowed by Deepika's jaw-dropping revelation about the early stage of their relationship.

During their candid chat, the actress revealed that she and Ranveer weren't in an exclusive relationship till he

popped the question in the Maldives. "Until he proposed to me, there was no commitment as such," the actress said.

She went on to add, "Even if we were technically allowed to see other people, we would just keep coming back to each other."



Fans noted Ranveer's expression as his wife spilled the tea on their relationship and likened it to Hollywood star Will Smith's reaction when during a discussion about his wife Jada Pinkett Smith's relationship with singer August Alsina on her talk show *Red Table Talk*.

At the time, Pinkett Smith, who was rumoured to be having an affair with Alsina, referred to her relationship as an 'entanglement.' This later became the subject of numerous jokes on social media.

Twitterati soon shared side-by-side photos of the two men and dubbed the Bollywood actor as 'Ranveer Smith'.

## Niharika joins Big Mouth S7

**Mumbai:** Popular content creator Niharika NM, has made her TV debut in Season 7 of the American adult animated series *Big Mouth*.

Joining a star packed ensemble of celebrities, Niharika lends her voice to one of the characters in the show along with Megan Thee Stallion, Maya Rudolph, Lupita Nyong'o, Jordan Peele, Maitreyi Ramakrishnan, and Billy Porter.

Representing India teenage girls and how they deal with the various aspects of puberty, and growing up in general, Niharika NM lends her distinctive voice in Hindi for the animated series, thus adding an extra layer of authenticity to the show regarding its nuances and attention to detail.

The character which she is voicing in the show, is in fact a caricature loosely based on her own personal characteristics.

*Big Mouth* explores the complexities of adolescence, the challenges that come with it, and encourages open conversations about the human body in a manner that ranges from satirical, to comical, and even fully serious.

Niharika NM started 2023 by opening the show and walking the ramp at a fashion show before she proudly showcased the uniqueness of Indian artistry and vision at the prestigious Cannes Film Festival exclusively wearing designs from Oscar-worn designers Shantnu & Nikhil.

*Big Mouth* Season 7 streams on Netflix. IANS



## Vikrant feels he was underutilised

**Mumbai:** Results are in for Vikrant Massey's *12th Fail* and the actor has passed with flying colours.

In a recent conversation with a news portal the actor talked about restarting and reshaping his professional life at various times.

He said, "All of us restart from time to time. Life is very placid and if not, then something must be wrong. It's how life goes on. You might restart your life at different times. I had my fair share when I quit my dancing job and came to television. Then I quit television; it was a very con-

scious, informed decision. I wanted to give myself a chance in cinema."

He went on to add, "When I was in the cinema I was doing these menial bits. I felt I was underutilised. Then I had to start all over again to convince people to give me a chance and I did better and finally, I am here today."

Vikrant is soon going to hit a new milestone in his personal life as he awaits his first child with wife Sheetal Thakur.

# 'Was in open relationship with Ranveer'

**Mumbai:** Deepika Padukone and Ranveer Singh are one of the most loved couples in B-town. Recently, the couple appeared in one of the episodes of *Koffee With Karan* where they spoke about their dating phase.

During a conversation, the Pathaan actress reveals, "I wanted to be single for a while because I had come from difficult relationships. I was going through a phase where I said 'I just don't want to be attached, don't want to be committed'.

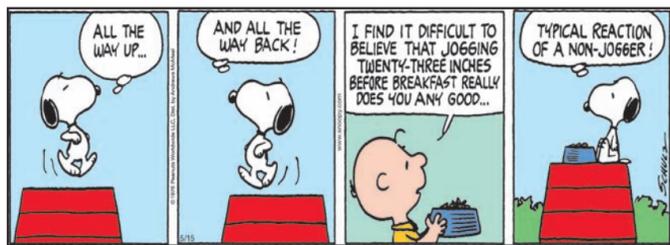
And I had fun! And then he came along. However, I was in open relationship with him, until he proposed to me. There was no 'commitment' as such."

She further says, "Even if we were technically allowed to see other people, we would just keep coming back to each other."

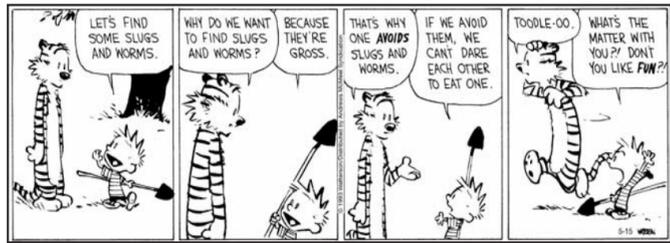
Soon after coming across Deepika's confession, netizens rushed to the comment section to pen their reactions. While fans showered positive comments like "she just wanted to be sure of it before saying yes", a section of unimpressed netizens trolled the actress by penning harsh comments. One said, "So queen mother Deepika confessed that she was seeing other people while dating Ranveer."

A few users shared that it could be labeled a 'situationship' which is described as a stage between a committed relationship and more than mere friendship.

### PEANUTS



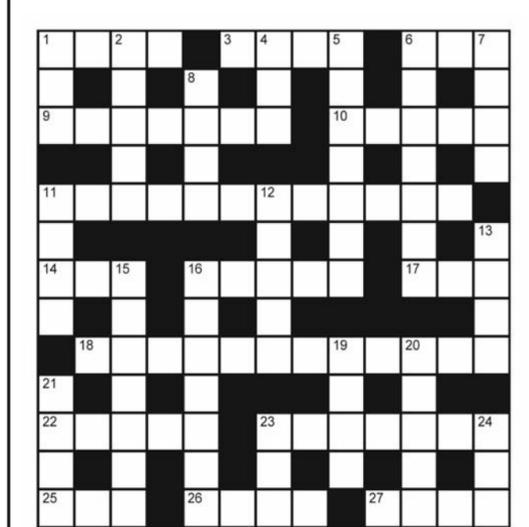
### CALVIN AND HOBBS



### BREVITY



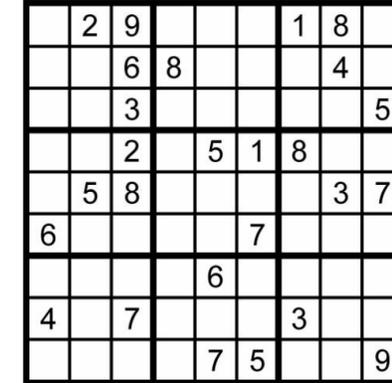
## FUN post CROSSWORD



- Across**
- 1 Tower site
  - 3 Jupiter's Greek counterpart
  - 6 Atlantic food fish
  - 9 Adage
  - 10 Fend off
  - 11 Contest, of sorts (6,2,4)
  - 14 Joule fraction
  - 16 Football game
  - 17 Chem. workplace
  - 18 Planet, for one (8,4)
  - 22 Sovereign
  - 23 Sweater
  - 25 Goat god
  - 26 Dresden's river
  - 27 Rope fibre
  - 8 Acoustic device
  - 11 Hive dwellers
  - 12 Musical instrument
  - 13 Follow orders
  - 15 Sprite
  - 16 Gear position
  - 19 Kitten's plaything
  - 20 Corpulent
  - 21 Misstep
  - 23 Jack-tar
  - 24 Listening device

### SUDOKU

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



### SOLUTIONS



CHECK FOR SOLUTIONS OF THE PUZZLES TOMORROW

# downtown

## Police arrest 77 in Mancheswar clashes



POST NEWS NETWORK

**Bhubaneswar Oct 28:** Seventy-seven persons were arrested Saturday in connection with the violent clashes that broke out between two groups at Padamkesharipur village in Mancheswar police limits Friday in which 20 persons were injured, including two critically. DCP Prateek Singh said the arrested persons are members of two different parties in the village involved in the incident. They were produced in a court

during the day, he said. In a video release by the Commissionerate Police Saturday, DCP Singh said, "Around 2am Friday, two (municipality) wards of Padamkesharipur village were engaged in a hostile clash. The swift action of Mancheswar police has now restored normalcy in the village. Several people involved in the incident are still on the run and they will be brought to justice soon." Reportedly, several people were injured in the group clash in the village on the wee hours of

Friday. The miscreants pelted stones and bottles at each other over past enmity, police said. On being informed, the Mancheswar Police rushed to the spot to prevent any further escalation. The incident caused injury to around 20 people and left a couple of villagers in a critical condition. As per the sources, hostility was brewing between both municipality wards in the village since the last panchayat elections. However, the situation flared up Friday that led to the deployment of two platoons of police forces to prevent any further escalation. The police have registered three separate cases under various IPC provisions including Sections 143, 147, 148 and a host of others.

### GODDESS IN TOWN

A decorated pandal at Unit VIII in Bhubaneswar. The week-long Laxmi Puja celebrations began Saturday



**IN THE LORD'S ABODE:** Habisyalis in large numbers arrive at Brundabati Niwas, a specially arranged government facility in Puri, for their month-long stay. OP PHOTO

### WORLD STROKE DAY

## Time to take signs seriously

DEBADURLLAV HARICHANDAN, OP

**Bhubaneswar Oct 28:** Brain Stroke is regarded the fifth leading cause of death in the country. Its sudden prevalence in claiming lives of youth has been alarming

Highly rapid in its occurrence, brain stroke is the fifth largest cause for death in the country. In India, which has one doctor per 1,000 patients, it has put forth serious questions for the prevention and cure of this neurological disorder.

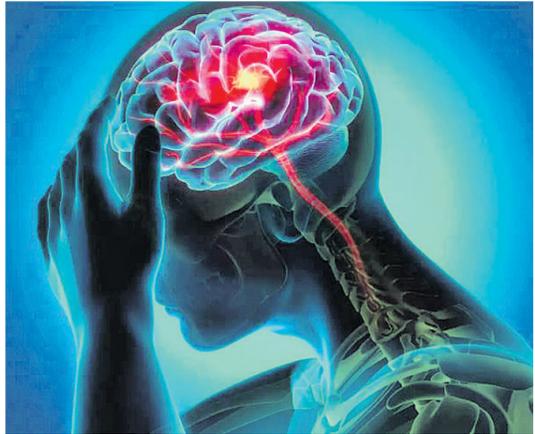
Primarily, brain stroke is of two types- Ischemic - which accounts for 80 per cent of the cases that involves blockage of vessels supplying blood to the brain- and hemorrhagic strokes.

Every year, World Stroke Day is observed October 29 to make people aware of the wide ramifications of the disease. This year's theme for World Stroke Day is- Together We Are Greater than Stroke. The campaign aims to usher changes by bringing together the stakeholders to tackle brain stroke.

Studies indicate that every one in four persons will have a stroke in their lifetime, accounting the total figure to 12 million.

Terming brain stroke as a common neurological disorder in India, neurologist and head of department of Neurology at Kalinga Institute of Medical Sciences (KIMS) Santosh Kumar Dash said brain stroke is now a rising trend and every 100 persons among 1 lakh is diagnosed with it.

"However, the most important thing regarding a stroke patient is to get him/her quick medical consultation as early as possible



so life could be saved," he added. Earlier, brain stroke had prevalence amongst elderly persons; however the disease has taken millennial to its prey now. The steady adoption of unhealthy habits and practices has mostly triggered the change. In spite of it, the bitter mental health induced by the means of today's bustling life is the major attribute of brain stroke.

Even though the disease has an intrinsic impact in today's society, its severity could also be curbed by adopting healthy practices.

Head Neurologist Consultant at SUM Hospital, Surjya Prakash Choudhury highlighted that healthy dietary practices is the foremost approach to curb the probabilities of brain stroke. Referring to habits such as alcohol consumption, smoking and consumption of intoxicating

substances, he stated that these practices will inevitably spell doom in today's youth.

Infrequent rise in the levels of blood pressure, sugar, diabetes and cholesterol play a key role in developing risk for brain stroke. For which, he mentioned that intake of high fibres and low carbohydrates as well as fats will bring down chances of the disease. In case of adults aged over 40 years, he stated that daily exercise of 30 mins for 5 days in a week should be the standard. However, children must adhere to physical exercise of two and half hours per week.

At the instance of a person encountering a stroke, he advised that his associates must rush him to a physician immediately. During the course, other habits such as providing water must be strongly avoided as it might cause complications in the passage to lungs, he added. Timely response is the need of

### Symptoms to observe during a brain stroke

- Face drooping
- Loss of body stability
- Slurring voice
- Blurring vision
- Dizziness
- Lack of coordination in body movement

### Here's what you can do

- Regular exercise
- Keep constant check on BP, sugar, diabetes and cholesterol
- Curb smoking and drinking addiction
- Stop stressing
- Reduce intake of carbs, salts and fatty foods

the hour. It's highly imperative that a person who experienced stroke to be immediately admitted to a "stroke ready" hospital within 3-4 hours, said Somnath Prasad Jena, senior neurosurgeon at SUM Ultimate medicare. Following which, the admitted patients will undergo thrombolytic medication that will assuage the clotting. For context, thrombolytic procedure helps resolve blood clotting and help oxygen reach the vital organs of the body. He shared the acronym BeFast which expresses the severe symptoms of stroke, namely- straddling balance of the body, bleary and loss of eye vision, face drooping, arm weakness, stability loss and slurred talk.

## Santali delegation calls on President



POST NEWS NETWORK

**New Delhi, Oct 28:** A 21-member delegation of Bhubaneswar-based Santali magazine, 'Fagun' called on President Droupadi Murmu at the Rashtrapati Bhawan to discuss the development of Santali language, literature, and Olchiki script and prepare grounds for their promotion at the government level.

The 21-member delegation, led by the magazine's editor Malati Murmu, also urged the President for display of photographs belonging to tribal leaders and freedom fighters at the Rashtrapati Bhawan during the meeting Thursday.

The President gave a patient hearing to the concern and request of all the members.

During the meeting, Malati presented 15 sal saplings as a gift to the 15th President of India. It's noteworthy that the President has a special interest in sal trees. A beautiful sal tree graces her residence at Rairangpur's Mahuldiha in

**The members urged the President for display of photographs belonging to tribal leaders and freedom fighters at the Rashtrapati Bhawan**

Mayurbhanj. Moreover, during her governorship in Jharkhand, 500 sal saplings were planted at Ranchi Rajbhawan in 2015 with the support of the Fagun family.

In addition, the delegate also met the local Santali community in Najafgarh Metro Bihar Jaher in New Delhi. A detailed discussion was held about the success of Mission Olchiki 2025 for propagation of Santali language among Santali people living in New Delhi. Olchiki activist Somnath Hansda presided over the program on behalf of the Delhi residents in presence of eminent Social activist Purna Chandra Hembram and writer Joshoda Murmu.

## Women workforce increases to 37pc

**Bhubaneswar:** Participation of women in the country's workforce increased to 37 per cent in 2022-23, Union Education Minister Dharmendra Pradhan said, Saturday. Speaking at the 'Rozgar Mela' here, Pradhan said the figure was 23 per cent in 2017-18. "There has been balanced growth in society as there has been a rise in women's participation in the workforce," he said, adding that women are hard-working than men. The Narendra Modi government's women-focused schemes have helped to raise the participation of women in the workforce, he said. The Centre is giving priority to women in policy-making and leadership roles, he said, maintaining that the prime minister has been stressing on the need to uplift women in the country.

## Girl dies of electrocution

**Ghasipura:** A girl died after being electrocuted at Sailanga village of Ward No-16 under Anandapur Municipality in Keonjhar district, Saturday. The deceased was identified as Rasmita, daughter of Sailendra Jena of the village. The mishap occurred while preparations were on to celebrate 'Kumar Purnima' festival. Rasmita was plugging a wire to connect a sound box when she accidentally got electrocuted and critically injured herself. Locals rushed her to Sub-divisional Hospital, Anandapur, where the doctor pronounced her dead. A pal of gloom descended at the hospital and in the village after the news spread.



### AMRIT KALASH YATRA

## Pradhan flags off special train to Delhi

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

**Bhubaneswar, Oct 28:** Union Education Minister Dharmendra Pradhan flagged off the 'Amrit Kalash Yatra' to New Delhi Saturday.

Pradhan flagged off a special train at the Bhubaneswar station, in which about 1,600 volunteers with soil collected from 13,250 villages of Odisha will reach the national capital, as part of the 'Meri Mati, Mera Desh' programme.

Soil collected from more than 7,000 blocks in 766 districts of the country will be placed at the 'Amrit Vatika', a new monument to be built near the National War Memorial in New Delhi, as part of the campaign. Pradhan along with party MPs Pratap Sarangi and Aparajita Sarangi, and BJP state president Manmohan Samal came to the railway station in a

procession from the state BJP headquarters.

"Today is a lucky day for all of us. At the call of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, the campaign of collecting soil from the villages, cities and panchayats is reaching towards its conclusion," the minister said. The train will reach New Delhi Sunday, after which these 1,600 volunteers will join more than 20,000 'Amrit Kalash Yatri' from other states and Union Territories to participate in a two-day programme at Kartavya Path and Vijay Chowk October 30-31.

Prime Minister Modi is slated to address the programme October 31, remembering the bravehearts who laid down their lives for India. It will mark the culmination of the two-year-long 'Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav', which began March 12, 2021 to celebrate 75 years of India's Independence.

## Srimandir: Deities play dice on Kumar Purnima

*Interestingly, taking clues from the temple tradition, residents of the Holy City gamble in large scale throughout the night*

AGENCIES

**Puri, Oct 28:** Kumar Purnima was observed at Srimandir Saturday with a special event, popularly known as Kauri Khela, wherein Lord Jagannath and his consort Devi Mahalaxmi participated in a dice game.

The ritual schedules of the temple were advanced during the day because of the lunar eclipse, temple officials said. For the ceremonial dice game, servants escorted the moving idol of Devi Mahalaxmi to the sanctum sanctorum of the temple.

It was played atop the Ratna Simhasan between servants playing on behalf of the Lord and Mahalaxmi.

Kauri (small conch cells), the conventional coins used as a medium of exchange in the past, was used in the game.

Lord Jagannath conceded defeat in the final game. Subsequently, the servants of Mahalaxmi escorted the representing idol of Lord Jagannath-Neela Madhav as hostage and carried him to the Mahalaxmi temple where the Lord will remain for a week, tied to the throne of the goddess as punishment.

Though usually the event is observed late in the night, this year it was observed before noon due to the eclipse.

Interestingly, taking clues from the temple tradition, devotees and residents of the Holy City gamble in large scale throughout the night. As per popular belief, gambling on this night brings wealth and prosperity.

Huge crowds of visitors, especially young girls, were seen thronging the beaches in Puri and Chandrabhaga near Konark. Roadside fast food eateries witnessed roaring business during the day. The Mahalaxmi Puja also began on the day. Many Puja pandals, with big idols of the goddess, have been put up across the pilgrim town for the week-long celebrations.

## Famous Laxmi Puja begins in Dhenkanal



**Dhenkanal:** On the occasion of Kumar Purnima, the famous 11-day-long Laxmi Puja celebrations commenced Saturday in Dhenkanal town.

This year as many as 38 puja pandals have been set up in the town. In view of the lunar eclipse, all the pandals initiated their puja rituals early from 7am Saturday.

Following 'Surya Puja', earthen clay pots filled with water taken from a nearby river

were installed in the pandals, after which the goddess was invoked.

The festival has come alive with resonance of chants, beating of drums, conch shells and musical instruments, making the entire town bustling with energy. Large decorative arches have been installed at various locations, resembling the Kedarnath temple and the Adiyogi shrine.

This year's Laxmi Puja is

going on with great fanfare in different parts of Dhenkanal town such as Sri Maudamani Rajalakshmi Puja Pratishthan, Jawahar Chowk and Laxmi Bazar among others.

At Minabazar, Laxmi Bazar and Ganesh Bazar pandals, goddess Laxmi has been adorned with gold crown along with silver tableau. Silver tableaux have also been used at Kaivalya Bazaar and Gudiya Naali puja mandaps. Pandals based on themes such as the Bahanaga train accident, elephant and forest protection have also been showcased.

Next to putting up magnificent pandals, light, sound and decorations have been the major focus area for all committees. To ensure law and order and the safety and security of people during the festival, 25 platoons of police force have been deployed in Dhenkanal.

# Walkathon for voters' awareness held in City



ARINDAM GANGULY, OP

**Bhubaneswar, Oct 28:** The district administration organised a state level walkathon and Patha Utsav in the capital City Saturday to signal the beginning of special summary revision of electoral roll 2024.

The event was flagged off by Additional Chief Secretary and Chief Electoral Officer Nikunja Bihari Dhal in presence of Khurda Collector and District Election Officer Sudarshan Chakravarty, senior officers, and other guests.

A large number of students, BLOs and citizens participated in the event. On this occasion, a number of awareness and cultural programmes were organised on the SSR and electoral process-related themes. Kiosks

for on-the-spot voter registration, a replica of a polling station, EVM awareness camp, quiz, rangoli and painting were the major attractions of the event.

Similar programmes were

also organised at all district headquarters, sub-division headquarters and municipal corporations by the respective district election officers.

The focus is to encourage and facilitate enrolment of all 17-youths and make democracy stronger through high electoral participation.

Among others, police commissioner Soumendra Priyadarsi, BMC commissioner Vijaya Amruta Kulange, ADM Khurda Pratap Beura, ADM Bhubaneswar Rudra Mohanty, Additional CEO Satrugna Kar, Sub-collector Bhubaneswar Chinmaya Acharya, Financial Advisor Sanjay Lugun and Deputy CEO Padmaja Dash were present.



## FLO launches women upskilling programme

ARINDAM GANGULY, OP

**Bhubaneswar, Oct 28:** With an aim to empower women entrepreneurs, FICCI Ladies' Organisation (FLO), Bhubaneswar, launched its transformative 'Mission Shakti Producer Groups Upskilling Programme'.

The programme will focus on improving key areas such as soft skills, business planning, and technical knowledge. It will cater to modern-day business needs, with specific emphasis on sectors such as agriculture and allied services, food processing, handlooms, garment manufacturing, and the intricacies of marketing and branding.

FLO chairman Poonam Mohapatra said, "The state government has been actively focusing on and driving the 'Mission Shakti' initiative as a key component of its efforts to promote women's self-reliance and entrepreneurship."

"Through 'Mission Shakti Producer Groups Upskilling Program,' we aim to make a lasting impact by collaborating with the government and providing women with the tools and knowledge needed to succeed in today's business landscape," she said.

The training programme is designed to span over six months, equipping participants with a broad set of skills and knowledge necessary to thrive in their respective sectors. With the collective effort of FLO and Mission Shakti, the initiative is expected to benefit more than 800 PG group members within the mentioned sectors.

## Vathanan reviews SUJOG

**Bhubaneswar:** Housing and Urban Development Principal Secretary G Mathi Vathanan Saturday reviewed the performance of the online urban service delivery platform- SUJOG, developed under ST initiative. The platform offers multiple options for online payment including payment through M-POS machines and integration with other digital-payment platforms. Currently, seven urban services viz. Building Plan Approval, Trade License, Property Tax Collection and Assessment, Water and Sewerage Tax Collection and Assessment, Marriage Registration Certificate, Finance & Accounting and Public Grievance Redressal System are being provided under SUJOG throughout the State. In order to ensure hassle-free delivery of services and ease of living for the citizens, Vathanan issued strict directions to all the Development Authorities, Urban Local Bodies, WATCO and PHEO to stop receipt of offline applications and payments forthwith.

## ICAR-CIFA organises int'l workshop on aquaculture

ARINDAM GANGULY, OP

**Bhubaneswar, Oct 28:** ICAR-Central Institute of Freshwater Aquaculture (ICAR-CIFA), in collaboration with Association of Aquaculturists, organised an International workshop on "Genetic Improvement of Performance Traits: A Genome-Wide Selection Perspective" here, Friday.

The inaugural session of the workshop was graced by JK Jena, Deputy Director General, (Fisheries Science & Animal Science) as chief guest and BP Mohanty Assistant Director General, (Inland Fishery) as guest of honour.

During his speech Jena emphasised on development of genomic resources and integration of genomic selection in



aquaculture species.

He also mentioned the importance of cutting edge technologies such as genomics towards enhancing aquaculture production and productivity.

Mohanty spoke about the role of Aeromonas hydrophila re-

## 4 TP discoms generate over 53K jobs

ARINDAM GANGULY, OP

**Bhubaneswar, Oct 28:** In a bid to boost local economy, TP Odisha Discoms, a joint venture between Tata Power and government of Odisha, have created over 53,000 direct and indirect job opportunities across 4 discoms in the state.

In addition to its direct employment initiatives, Tata Power's presence in the state has catalysed the creation of numerous indirect job opportunities, spanning from suppliers and service providers to contractors and support services.

Through various strategic investments, partnerships and tie-ups with reputed institutes like Kalinga Institute of Industrial



Technology (KIIT), Indira Gandhi Institute Of Technology (IGIT), Silicon Institute of Technology (SIT), Bhubanananda Odisha School of Engineering (BOSE), Institute of Technical Education

& Research (ITER) and World Skill Centre (WSC), the company has made significant contributions to Odisha's socio-economic development which is playing a crucial role in pro-

viding livelihood opportunities within the state.

Sanjay Banga, President-T&D, Tata Power said, "Tata Power's Odisha discoms are proud to provide sustainable employment opportunities to the local youths. We remain steadfast in our commitment to nurturing a talent pool in the state and believe that these young minds can significantly contribute towards the socio-economic development of the state."

"The discoms have worked towards creating employment opportunities and enabling Odisha to become a service economy by nurturing the youth, providing them with the desired skill sets, making them employable," he added.

## Luxury exhibition at Cuttack Lalchnd

POST NEWS NETWORK

**Bhubaneswar, Oct 28:** Keeping in view the upcoming festival of lights Diwali and Dhanteras, Lalchnd Jewellers has launched a luxury lifestyle exhibition at its outlet at Cantonment road, Cuttack. A variety of luxury lifestyle collections along with various home decor items and attractive jewellery are also up for grabs in the exhibition.

Special Diwali gifts by Ekaani brand corporate gifts are available at the store. Wedding collections, divine collections, jewellery boxes, photo frames, candle stands, Centrepieces, baby gifts and tableware of various brands



and luxury items are also being showcased in exhibition. Special dry fruits boxes for Diwali are also available. The store is also providing special discounts on MRP of branded items. The exhibition will continue till Sunday.

## Intermittent fasting safe, effective for diabetes control

**RESEARCHERS AT THE UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS-CHICAGO, US, FOUND THAT PEOPLE WHO ATE ONLY DURING AN EIGHT-HOUR WINDOW BETWEEN NOON AND 8PM EACH DAY ACTUALLY LOST MORE WEIGHT OVER 6 MONTHS THAN PARTICIPANTS WHO WERE INSTRUCTED TO REDUCE THEIR CALORIE INTAKE BY 25%**

**T**ime-restricted eating, also known as intermittent fasting can help people with Type-2 diabetes lose weight and control their blood sugar levels, according to a new study.

Researchers at the University of Illinois-Chicago, US, found that people who ate only during an eight-hour window between noon and 8pm each day actually lost more weight over six months than participants who were in-

structed to reduce their calorie intake by 25 per cent.

Both groups had similar reductions in long-term blood sugar levels, as measured by a test of haemoglobin A1C, which shows blood sugar levels over the past three months.

The study, published in JAMA Network Open, enrolled 75 participants into three groups: those who followed the time-restricted eating rules, those who reduced



calories and a control group. Participants' weight, waist circumference, blood sugar levels and other health indicators were measured over the course of six months.

Krista Varady, professor of ki-

nesiology and nutrition at the varsity, said that participants in the time-restricted eating group had an easier time following the regime than those in the calorie-reducing group.

The researchers believe this is

**Our study shows that time-restricted eating might be an effective alternative to traditional dieting for people who can't do the traditional diet or are burned out on it**

KRISTA VARADY | PROFESSOR OF KINESIOLOGY AND NUTRITION

partly because patients with diabetes are generally told to cut back on calories by their doctors as a first line of defence, so many of these participants likely had already tried - and struggled with - that form of dieting.

And while the participants in the time-restricted eating group were not instructed to reduce their calorie intake, they ended up doing so by eating within a fixed window.

"Our study shows that time-

restricted eating might be an effective alternative to traditional dieting for people who can't do the traditional diet or are burned out on it," said Varady. "For many people trying to lose weight, counting time is easier than counting calories."

There were no serious adverse events reported during the six-month study. Occurrences of hypoglycemia (low blood sugar) and hyperglycemia (high blood sugar) did not differ between the diet groups and control groups.

The study was small and should be followed up by larger ones, said Varady. While it acts as a proof of concept to show that time-restricted eating is safe for those with type 2 diabetes, Varady said people with diabetes should consult their doctors before starting this sort of diet.

**FOR CLASSIFIED ADVERTISEMENTS CONTACT OUR BOOKING STATIONS**

Acharya Vihar-Dayal Agency-9437135727, A.P. Tours and Travel, Maitri Vihar, C.S. Pur- 9861301598, Aurobindo Market-Sai Audio & Electronics-9438304668, Airport Road-Sai Baba Variety Store-9090071530, Anish Infotech-Tankapani Road-9861341488, Bapuji Nagar- Dreamland Studio- 9777517314, Baramunda Rental Colony-Maa Ramchandi Communication-9658821469, Baramunda Housing Board Colony-Pappu Variety Store-9040500106, Cuttack Road-Alishan Snacks-8984236754, District Center (Chandrasekharpur)-Sai Google Mart-9776056507, Forest Park-DTDC Couriers & Services (HB Services)-7381024156, IRC Village-Bapi Xerox-9090090404, Gift Hut(Antriksh Gifts & Decors Pvt. Ltd.)-9954781084, Pruthvi Medicine-9853314816, Janpath-Krupajal Book Store-7978646669, Jaydev Vihar-AK Enterprises-7978116618, Subam Sai Books Store-8895550649, Swain Graphics- 9337121249, Jagannath Mobile Point- Janpath Road, Ram Mandir- 9938475415, Kanan Vihar-Auro Electronics-8260697560, Khandagiri- Swosti Mobile Centre- 7992914045, World Solution- 9938317559, KIIT Road-Jugad Jn-9338545031, Laxmi Sagar-Aditya Mobile-9438191836, Lewis Road-Spider Web-7809186415, Metro Satellite City-Arogya Mitra Medicine Store-9853621640, Madhusudan Nagar-Mohapatra Communication-9124446664, Maa Santoshi travels- Gajapati Nagar- 9777675867, Nayapalli- The Cake Room- 7873660137, Near Mayfair Lagoon-Cookiemana-9439491273, Nigamananda-Omm Sai Travels-9668284823, Nr Cosmopolis Main Gate- Shreeram Medical Store- 8763711714, Net Square- Niladri Vihar (C.S. Pur)- 7205634821, Priyadarshini Market-Astro Point-9938134346, R.N. General Store-Nilakantha Nagar-9438642501, Sahid Nagar- Maa Communication- 9437353424, Sahini General Store- Near Patia Railway Station, Mahavir Vihar- 9937586626, Satya Nagar-Baishnavi Mixture & Sweets-7894821764, Samantapur- Download Point-7504557743, Sailashree Vihar-Harsha Book Store-8093449515, Saheed Nagar-Jagannath Graphics-7978652670, Photo World-7978468191, Sainath Photo Studio-8984436129, Shanti & Co-9937071063, Siripur-Omm Maa Sarala Communication-9777682449, Sushree fashion- Jagmara-9938714347, Shree Vision- Sailashree Vihar-9861476678, Unit-3-LIC of India Premium Point-9337787080, Unit-7- LIC Premium Point- 9338227422, VSS Nagar-Friends Cake & Bake-8658200930, Jeet Infoworld-7205195782, XIMB Square-LD Books-9658061373.

# Killer pellets: 8 die in a month

POST NEWS NETWORK

**Paradip, Oct 28:** As many as eight lives have been lost in a month due to frequent road mishaps on the Atharbanki-Dochhaki road in this port town of Jagatsinghpur district as iron pellets are strewn all over the road turning it into a death trap.

Frequent road mishaps have proved life threatening for the commuters travelling on the route. Scores of commuters have also been injured critically in these accidents. Almost all the accidents have occurred in case of bike riders and cyclists travelling on the road. Many bikers have laid blame on the iron pellets strewn on the road for the spurt in mishaps on the route.

The pellets fall off the trucks which transport them without any cover on their carriage. Whenever two-wheelers and other vehicles run over them their wheels slip leading to mishaps, Ramakant Nayak, a local, alleged. "I was going to attend some work at Kujang from Paradip when my bike ran over some pellets and slipped leading to an accident," he said. Fortunately, he had a close shave as the driver of a 14-wheeler truck plying behind applied sudden brakes after spotting him falling down on the road.

Iron pellets can be found strewn all over the 4.5-km stretch of road from Atharbanki to Dochhaki. The pellets turn even more dangerous for the two-wheeler riders when it rains in the area, he said.

The pellets are manufactured from iron ores in the plants which are then transported inside the Paradip port in trucks. Some of the pellets spill from the trucks' carriages during transportation. People living in vil-



lages along the road have been at the receiving end of the danger the pellets pose to commuters' lives.

Locals Sushant Giri, Suryamani Nayak, Pradyumna Mohanta and Narahari Patra said the pellets have proved to be more dangerous than wild animals. "While travelling on vehicles, nobody can guarantee that accidents will not happen," they said.

Samir Das, a local resident, said that the black topping on the highway has peeled off in most of the places and the National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) is repairing the road.

However, the NHAI is not clearing the pellets strewn on the road which is causing accidents, alleged Siba Biswal, secretary of Paribesha Suraksha Trust. He has lodged written complaints with the district administration and the NHAI authorities, but his pleas are yet to be addressed. "Those driving on the road are risking their lives," he added.

Various outfits including the Bijayachandrapur Residential

Committee and Balihara Slum Committee have also filed written complaints before the concerned authorities. The district administration has also held several review meetings but no remedial step has been taken so far.

People here said that six to seven tonnes of pellets were lying on the road due to the carelessness of transporters and inaction of the administration.

"Whenever pellets fall off trucks on the road, they spell instant disaster for bikers and four-wheelers. Transporters do nothing to safely transport iron pellets," locals rued. They also pointed out that there are places on the road where huge amounts of pellets have been dumped, and nothing has been done to remove them.

When trucks or two-wheelers run over the pellets, the latter also spring out from under the wheels and hit people akin to bullets, locals added.

They said the administration and the company management have no control over the transporters who endanger people's lives. They suggested that transport contractors and the company authorities should be asked to take precautionary measures to prevent pellets from falling off trucks.

When contacted, MLA Sambit Rout said that a meeting under the chairmanship of the district Collector has decided for construction of a roundabout, proper traffic control and regular cleaning of the road. The IFFCO has also assured to lend its support for construction of a world class roundabout but its implementation is getting delayed due to lack of co-operation by the NHAI authorities, he added.

# 21 weavers receive financial aid at IIM

POST NEWS NETWORK

**Sambalpur, Oct 28:** As many as 21 weavers received financial assistance from the Ministry of Textile, GoI during the 'Scheme Benefit Distribution' ceremony organised on the third day of 'Tana-Bana District Handloom Expo-2023' at IIM Sambalpur, one of India's premier management institutions.

On the occasion, social worker and philanthropist Mridula Pradhan, IIM Sambalpur Director Prof Mahadeo Jaiswal, and Rengali MLA Nauri Nayak gave away the cheques of financial assistance to the weavers.

Nauri Nayak, who graced the event as the chief guest, said, "This expo is a matter of pride for Sambalpur, as Sambalpur cloth is famous all over the world. It will help in increasing the sales of local handicraft products."

The special guest Mridula Pradhan said, "After completion of MBA, students should initiate start-ups for local Sambalpur handicraft products as weavers are not getting the real value for their products. Through the start-ups, Sambalpur handloom products will also be promoted globally."

In his welcome address IIM Sambalpur Director Jaiswal said, "IIM Sambalpur is working to promote Odisha's art, culture, and local products at the national level. IIM Sambalpur is also working on how local people can ben-

efit from natural resources and create an entrepreneurship culture. We are also working on a project called [www.bunkarvalleys.com](http://www.bunkarvalleys.com) to promote local handloom at the national level. IIM Sambalpur as per its MoU with Flipkart and SIDBI is also promoting weavers' products into digital market platforms."

During the expo, out of 21 weavers 11 weavers received workshop assistance of ₹1.20 lakh each, while 10 weavers received lighting unit assistance of ₹15,000 each. This financial support was extended under the outside cluster development program scheme from Ministry of Textile, GoI. The funds sanctioned for the workshop assistance will be utilised for constructing handloom workshops, while the funds sanctioned for the lighting units will be utilised for the purchase of solar light units.

It is to be recalled that hosted by the IIM Sambalpur, the 5-day expo is being organised in collaboration with the Ministry of Textiles, and the Weavers' Service Centre, Bhubaneswar. The expo is featuring over 25 stalls showcasing a diverse range of handloom products. This included exquisite sarees, bedsheets, dress materials, table runners, umbrellas, and various other fabric-based products crafted using the traditional handloom techniques of Odisha. A large number of people were seen at the expo.

# Youth hacked to death in Ganjam, 5 arrested

PNN & AGENCIES

**Bhubaneswar, Oct 28:** A 25-year-old youth was hacked to death over past enmity in Seragada area of Ganjam district Friday, police said.

The deceased was identified as Mangala Bhuyan, resident of Lanjiapalli village under Seragada police limits.

On Friday morning, Bhuyan was going towards his village on his motorcycle when the accused persons waylaid him and later attacked him with sharp weapons. A severely injured Bhuyan fell off the motorcycle and ran away, asking for help but none dared to rush for his help. Later, one of the accused crushed Mangala to death with a boulder, Aska SDPO Uma Shankar Singh said.

Informed, a team of Seragada PS along with IIC Barendra Sial and SDPO Uma Shankar and a forensic team reached the spot for the probe.

"We have so far arrested all the five persons involved in the brutal killing of Mangala. It is found during investigations that the accused and deceased had past enmity. The victim and the accused persons who used to work in Surat had recently returned home. They had engaged in a heated brawl during Dussehra recently," a police source said.

Police have seized two heavy blood-stained stones, a knife, blood stained gamchha and other items from the crime scene.

A case (54523) under Sections 302 and 34 of the IPC was filed against the accused, identified as Bayadhar Bhuyan, Papun Bhuyan, Surendra Bhuyan, Jaysen Gouda, and Chandan Gouda, who all hail from the same village.

The accused persons have been produced before a local court that sent them to 14 days judicial custody Friday.

In another incident, a 48-year-old person was found in critical condition under mysterious circumstances at Kriamba village in Buguda tehsil of the district late Thursday night. He was rushed to the nearby hospital where the doctors declared him dead.

# Bus driver saves 48 while dying

POST NEWS NETWORK

**Phulbani, Oct 28:** 48 passengers of an overnight bus to Bhubaneswar had a close shave as their driver, who suffered a cardiac arrest, applied his presence of mind and crashed the vehicle into a wall, bringing it to a halt before breathing his last, police said Saturday.

The incident happened near Paburia village in Kandhamal district Friday night, they said. The driver of the bus, identified as Sana Pradhan, started having chest pain while driving, and lost control of the steering, they said.

He realised that he would not be able to drive further. So, he crashed the vehicle against a roadside wall, following which it came to a stop, and the lives of the passengers could be saved, said Kalyanamayee Sendha, the inspector-in-charge of Tikabali police station.

The private bus, 'Maa Laxmi', usually plies from Saranghar in Kandhamal to state capital Bhubaneswar via G Udayagiri every night, she said. After the incident, he was rushed to a nearby hospital but doctors there declared him dead due to cardiac arrest, police said.

The bus left with the passengers for its destination a while later with another driver at the wheel, they said. The body of Pradhan was handed over to his family after a post-mortem examination, they added. An investigation has also been started, Sendha said.

# Man killed in firecracker explosion

**Berhampur:** A 32-year-old man was killed and another person sustained critical injuries in an accidental explosion that happened when they were allegedly making firecrackers illegally at a house in Ganjam district, police said Saturday. The incident happened in Beguniapada village, they said. Jitu Pradhan was making firecrackers along with some persons on the first floor of his house Friday night when the explosion happened, they added. The deceased received multiple injuries on his body, police said. While one Raja Swain was critically injured after a wall collapsed on him due to the blast, others sustained minor injuries. The intensity of the blast was so severe that one of the adjacent houses was also damaged, police said. Pradhan was found lying in a pool of blood following the blast, and was taken to the community health centre where doctors declared him dead, they said. He has been making firecrackers illegally at the house ahead of Diwali for years, police said.

		<b>REGIONAL OFFICE: BALASORE</b> MANIKHAMB, OT ROAD, POLICE LINE, BHASKARGANJ, DIST.: BALASORE, PIN-756001, Email: <a href="mailto:crlid.robalsore@unionbankofindia.bank">crlid.robalsore@unionbankofindia.bank</a> , Mob.: 8928917411	
<b>SALE NOTICE FOR SALE OF IMMOVABLE/MOVABLE PROPERTIES</b> (E-Auction Sale Notice for Sale of Immovable Assets under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 read with proviso to Rule 8(6) & 9(1) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002)			
Notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the Borrower(s) and Guarantor(s) that the below described Movable/ Immovable properties mortgaged/charged to the Secured Creditor, the constructive/symbolic/physical possession of which has been taken by the Authorised Officer of Union Bank of India (Secured Creditor), will be sold on "As is where is" and "As is What is" and "Whatever there is" basis on 16.11.2023, for recovery of dues as mentioned hereunder to Union Bank of India from the below mentioned Borrower(s) & Guarantor(s). The Reserve Price and the Earnest Money Deposit are also mentioned hereunder.			
<b>DUBURI BRANCH - 2, Dist.: Jajpur,</b> <b>Ph. No.: 9777267390, Email: <a href="mailto:ubin0814113@unionbankofindia.bank">ubin0814113@unionbankofindia.bank</a></b>			
<b>Name &amp; Address of Borrower / Co-Applicant / Guarantor:</b> Borrower: M/s. SM Electronics, Prop.: Mr. Sankar Kumar Das, At: Duburi, Kalinga Nagar, PS.:Ghasipura, Dist.: Jajpur, PIN - 755026 / Co-Applicant / Guarantor: : Mrs. Pravat Das, W/o.: Mr. Sankar Kumar Das, At: Sukinda, Near Jagannath Temple, P.O.: Sukinda, Dist.: Jajpur - 755018		<b>Amount Due</b> ₹ 5,70,828/- as on 04.10.2018 with further interest, Cost and expenses	
<b>Property No.1 :</b> Residential Land and Building in the name of Mr. Sankar Kumar Das over Khata No.: 564/114, 1) Plot No.: 2127/3130, Area: Ac.0.12 Dec., 2) Plot No.: 2128/3131, Area: Ac.0.12 Dec., Total Area: Ac.0.24 Dec., Mouza: Madhapur, PS.: Sukinda - 103, Tahasil: Sukinda - 103, Dist.: Jajpur, Bounded by North: Road, South: Laxman Das, East: Satya Narayan Mahapatra, West: Road <b>Type of Possession: Symbolic / Reserve Price: ₹70,73,000/- / Earnest Money to be deposited: ₹7,07,300/-</b>			
<b>Name &amp; Address of Borrower / Co-obligants / Guarantors:</b> Borrower: Mr. Fanendra Sundhi, S/o.: Mr. Surasingh Sundhi, Vill.: Tata Colony, Gobarghati, PO.: Gobarghati, PS.: Kalinga Nagar, Dist.: Jajpur/ Guarantors/ Co-obligants: 1) Mr. Tapas Lenka, At: Koperda, Jajpur Road, Jajpur - 755026, 2) Mrs. Parbati Sundhi, W/o.: Mr. Fanendra Sundhi, At: Kacherigaon, PO.: Chandia, Duburi, PIN - 755026		<b>Amount Due</b> ₹ 19,85,169.69 as on 01.11.2021 with further interest, Cost and expenses	
<b>Property No.2 :</b> Residential Land and Building belonging to Mr. Fanendra Sundhi, Mouza: Ankurapal, Khata No.: 368/65, Plot No.: 626, Area: Ac.0.40 Dec., KISSAM: Gharabari, P.S.: Sukinda, At: Ankurapal, PO.: Gobarghati, PS.: Kalinganagar (No.: 185), Tahasil: Danagadi, Dist.: Jajpur, Bounded by North: Gopal Sahu, South: Naran Pradhan, East: Dasa Barik, West: Chahal Jena & Sangi Samal <b>Type of Possession: Symbolic / Reserve Price: ₹27,75,000/- / Earnest Money to be deposited: ₹2,77,500/-</b>			
<b>Name &amp; Address of Borrowers / Co-applicant / Guarantor:</b> Borrowers: 1) Mr. Subrat Mohanta, S/o: Late Harihar Mohanta, 2) Mr. Shibaji Mohanta, S/o: Late Harihar Mohanta, 3) Dula Mohanta, W/o: Late Harihar Mohanta, 4) Ms. Sumitra Mohanta, D/o: Late Harihar Mohanta, 5) Ms. Sabitree Mohanta, D/o: Late Harihar Mohanta, 6) Ms. Indumati Mohanta, D/o: Late Harihar Mohanta, 7) Ms. Sushmita Mohanta, D/o: Late Harihar Mohanta, All are at Kainjira, Olla, Tahasil: Sukinda, Dist.: Jajpur-755026, Odisha / Co-applicant/Guarantor: Mr. Shishir Kumar Barik, S/o: Mr. Arjun Charan Barik, P.O.: Duburi, Danagadi, Dist.: Jajpur-755026, Odisha		<b>Amount Due</b> ₹ 8,54,394/- as on 31.01.2019 with further interest, Cost and expenses	
<b>Property No.3:</b> All that part and parcel of the Land Measuring Area: Ac.0.55dec. and Building thereon at Khata No.: 187, Plot No.: 591/968, KISSAM: Gharabari situated at Mouza: Olla, Tahasil/P.S.: Sukinda, SRO: Sukinda, Dist.: Jajpur, Odisha, in the name of Mr. Subrat Mohanta, Mr. Shibaji Mohanta, Dula Mohanta, Ms. Sumitra Mohanta, Ms. Sabitree Mohanta, Ms. Indumati Mohanta & Ms. Sushmita Mohanta, Bounded by East: Road, West: Owner Self, South: Hare Krishna Mohanta, North: Road <b>Type of Possession: Symbolic / Reserve Price: ₹54,98,000/- / Earnest Money to be deposited: ₹5,49,800/-</b>			
<b>DHAMARA BRANCH, Dhamara, Dist.: Bhadrak,</b> <b>Ph.: 7507675220, Email : <a href="mailto:ubin0814121@unionbankofindia.bank">ubin0814121@unionbankofindia.bank</a></b>			
<b>Name &amp; Address of Borrower/ Co-applicant / Guarantor:</b> Borrower : Sahadev Mandal, At/P.O.: Dosinga, Via: Dhamara, Dist.: Bhadrak, PIN-756171 / Co-Applicant/Guarantor: Gautam Kumar Das, S/o: Prafulla Das, At: Saompatia, P.O.: Dosinga, Via: Dhamara, Dist.: Bhadrak, PIN-756171		<b>Amount Due</b> ₹ 6,49,215/- as on 31.12.2014 with further interest, Cost and expenses	
<b>Property No.4:</b> All that part and parcel of the Land and Building in Khata No.: 125/257, Plot No.: 277/741, in an Area:Ac.0.05 Dec. & Plot No.: 277/761 in an Area:Ac.0.05 Dec., Total Area: Ac.0.10 Dec., At: Pradyut Nagar, P.O.: Dosinga, Via:Dhamara, Dist.: Bhadrak in the name of Sahadev Mandal, Bounded by East: Pond, West: Subala Chandra Das, North:Road, South: Sachin Mandal <b>Type of Possession: Symbolic / Reserve Price: ₹20,14,000/- / Earnest Money to be deposited: ₹2,01,400/-</b>			
<b>BALASORE BRANCH-2, OT Road, Bhaskarganj, Dist.: Balasore,</b> <b>Ph No.: 8002235853, Email : <a href="mailto:ubin0810223@unionbankofindia.bank">ubin0810223@unionbankofindia.bank</a></b>			
<b>Name &amp; Address of Borrower / Co-applicant / Guarantor:</b> Borrower: Mr. Manas Ranjan Sethi, S/o: Mr. Narayan Sethi, At/P.O.: Srikona, P.S.: Chandipur, Dist.: Balasore, PIN-756025 / Co-applicant/Guarantor: Mrs. Gitanjali Sethi, W/o: Mr. Manas Ranjan Sethi, At/P.O.: Srikona, P.S.: Chandipur, Dist.: Balasore, PIN-756025		<b>Amount Due</b> ₹ 3,18,857/- as on 18.03.2020 with further interest, Cost and expenses	
<b>Property No.5:</b> All that part and parcel of the Residential Land and Building belonging to Mrs. Gitanjali Sethi (owner of the Property), W/o: Mr. Manas Ranjan Sethi, bearing Khata No.: 1478/1436, Plot No.: 1579/8341, extent of Area: Ac.0.04 Dec. situated at Mouza: Srikona, P.O.: Srikona P.O.: Chandipur, P.S.: Chandipur, Dist.: Balasore-756025, Bounded by North: Pravas Ranjan Sethi, South: Raghupati Devnath, East: Self Plot, West: Road <b>Type of Possession: Symbolic / Reserve Price: ₹43,35,000/- / Earnest Money to be deposited: ₹4,33,500/-</b>			
<b>KEONJHAR BRANCH-1,</b> <b>Dist.: Keonjhar, Ph. No.: 8210869360, Email: <a href="mailto:ubin0553808@unionbankofindia.bank">ubin0553808@unionbankofindia.bank</a></b>			
<b>Name &amp; Address of Borrower / Co-applicant / Guarantor:</b> Borrower: Mr. Sunil Kumar Padhi, S/o: Mr. Chaitanya Padhi, At: Magurgadia, P.O.: Keonjhar, Dist.: Keonjhar-758001 / Co-applicant/Guarantor: Mr. Rabin Chandra Rana, S/o: Mr. Rama Chandra Rana, At/P.O.: Nelung, P.S.: Keonjhar Town, Dist.: Keonjhar-758002		<b>Amount Due</b> ₹ 23,07,270/- as on 30.06.2018 with further interest, Cost and expenses	
<b>Property No.6:</b> All that part and parcel of the Land and Building situated at Plot No.: 168/2041, 180/2233, 180/2234 & 168, Khata No.: 276/245 at Mouza: Nelung, Dist.: Keonjhar, in the name of Mr. Sunil Kumar Padhi, Area: Ac.1.22 dec., Plot No.: 168/2041 is Bounded by North: S. Patra, South: P. Naik, Plot No.: 180/2233 is Bounded by North: Jungle, South: P. Bani <b>Type of Possession: Symbolic / Reserve Price: ₹32,69,000/- / Earnest Money to be deposited: ₹3,26,900/-</b>			
<b>Name &amp; Address of Borrower / Co-applicant / Guarantor:</b> Borrower : Anil Kumar Padhi, S/o: Chaitanya Padhi, At: Kashipur, P.O.: Keonjhar, P.S.: Town, Dist.: Keonjhar, Odisha-758001 / Co-applicant/Guarantor: Sunil Kumar Padhi, At: Kashipur, P.O.: Keonjhar, P.S.: Town, Dist.: Keonjhar, Odisha-758001		<b>Amount Due</b> ₹ 49,62,185/- as on 28.02.2019 with further interest, Cost and expenses	
<b>Property No.7:</b> All that part and parcel of Open Land in the name of Anil Kumar Padhi, Plot No.: 180, 181, 181/2240, Khata No.: 276/244, Area: Ac.1.22 Dec. at Mouza: Nelung, SRO: Keonjhar, Dist.: Keonjhar, Bounded by North: Govt Land, South: Govt Land, East: Govt Land, West: Govt Land & Mr Kala Patra <b>Type of Possession: Symbolic / Reserve Price: ₹20,19,000/- / Earnest Money to be deposited: ₹2,01,900/-</b>			
<b>JAJPUR ROAD BRANCH-3,</b> <b>Dist: Jajpur, Ph.: 8860700230, Email: <a href="mailto:ubin091437@unionbankofindia.bank">ubin091437@unionbankofindia.bank</a></b>			
<b>Name &amp; Address of Borrower / Co-Borrower / Co-obligant / Guarantor / Mortgage:</b> Borrower : Mr. Bhagyadhar Dalei, S/o: Rangadhar Dalei, At: Nimapatna, P.O.: Odizzo, Dist.: Jajpur, Odisha-755008 / Co-Borrower: Mr. Rangadhar Dalei, S/o: Mr. Chaitan Dalei, At: Nimapatna, P.O.: Odizzo, Dist.: Jajpur, Odisha-755008 / Co-obligant/Guarantor/Mortgage: Mr. Prasanta Kumar Nayak, S/o: Mr. Adikanda Nayak, At: Khandahata, P.O.: Rachhipur, Via: Jajpur Road, Odisha-755019		<b>Amount Due</b> ₹ 27,10,902/- as on 07.01.2020 with further interest, Cost and expenses	
<b>Property No.8:</b> All that part and parcel of the Immovable property being Residential Land & Building in Mouza: Karanjari, P.S.: Dharmasala, Tahasil: Rasulpur, Dist.: Jajpur, Odisha, bearing Khata No.: 338/140, Plot No.: 464, Total Area: Ac.0.320 Dec. i.e 13939.2 Sq.ft, KISSAM: Gharabari in the name of Mr. Bhagyadhar Dalei, Bounded by North: Village Road, South: Rangadhar Dalei, East: Sridhar Dalei, West: Maheswar Parida <b>Type of Possession: Symbolic / Reserve Price: ₹13,91,000/- / Earnest Money to be deposited: ₹1,39,100/-</b>			
<b>JAJPUR ROAD BRANCH - 1, DIST.: JAJPUR,</b> <b>Ph.: 9910110896, Email : <a href="mailto:ubin0570486@unionbankofindia.bank">ubin0570486@unionbankofindia.bank</a></b>			
<b>Name &amp; Address of Borrower/ Guarantor:</b> Borrower: M/s. Rekha Home Appliances, Prop.: Chandan Kumar Pati, Vill.: Tandara, PO.: Badabiruan, PS.: Panikoiil, Dist.: Jajpur - 755015 / Guarantor: Mrs. Sasmitha Adhikari, W/o.: Chandan Kumar Pati, Vill.: Tandara, PO.: Badabiruan, PS.: Panikoiil, Dist.: Jajpur - 755015		<b>Amount Due</b> ₹ 90,37,844.35 as on 31.03.2022 with further interest, Cost and expenses	
<b>Property No. 9:</b> Existing EM of Freehold Homestead Land in the name of Chandan Kumar Pati, Khata No.: 707/95, Plot No.: 1185, Area: Ac.0.42 Dec., Plot No.: 1181, Area: Ac.0.08 Dec., Plot No.: 1179, Area: Ac.0.10 Dec., Total Area: Ac.0.60 Dec., KISSAM: Homestead (Gharabari), Stillban, The property situated at Dist.: Jajpur, PS.: Panikoiil, PS. No.: 180, Mouza: Nuapatana, P.S.: Vyasnaragar, Tahasil: Korei, Dist: Jajpur, Bounded by North: Mukta Swain, South: Dhruvananda Kar, East: Road, West: Arjuna Sahoo & Other. <b>Type of Possession: Symbolic / Reserve Price: ₹7,50,000/- / Earnest Money to be deposited: ₹75,000/-</b>			
<b>SATHIPUR BRANCH, P.O.: Dulakhpatna, Via: Barundai, Dist.: Jajpur-755025,</b> <b>Ph. No.: 9368855121, Email: <a href="mailto:ubin0810045@unionbankofindia.bank">ubin0810045@unionbankofindia.bank</a></b>			
<b>Name &amp; Address of Borrowers/ Guarantor:</b> Borrowers: Mr. Rabindra Jena & Mrs. Manorama Jena / Guarantor: Mr. Daitari Jena, S/o.: Kasinath Jena, All are At: Alatri, PO: Panikoiil, Dist.: Jajpur		<b>Amount Due</b> ₹ 14,99,316/- as on12.04.2010 with further interest, Cost and expenses	
<b>Property No. 10:</b> 1) Land at Khata No.: 686/197 (Previously Khata No.: 247, Area: Ac.0.06 Dec), Plot No.: 1184, Area Ac.0.025 Dec (Out of Area: Ac.0.040 Dec) at Mouza: Alatri, PO.: Panikoiil, Dist.: Jajpur, in the name of Mr. Rabindra Jena, S/o.: Daitari Jena, Bounded by North: Plot No.: 550 (Road), South: Plot No.: 1183/2309 ( Purchaser), East: Rest Part of the Plot, West: Plot No.: 1185 ( Purchaser) 2) Land at Khata No.: 686/197 (Previously Khata No.: 247, Area: Ac.0.06 Dec), Plot No.: 1183/2545, Area: Ac.0.015 Dec (Out Of Area: Ac.0.040 Dec) at Mouza: Alatri, PO.: Panikoiil, Dist.: Jajpur, in the name of Mr. Rabindra Jena, S/o.: Daitari Jena, Bounded by North: Plot No.: 1184 (Purchaser), South: Mr. Nayak, East: Manoj Kumar Jena & Chandeji Jena, West: Purchaser & NH <b>Type of Possession: Symbolic / Reserve Price: ₹24,65,000/- / Earnest Money to be deposited: ₹2,46,500/-</b>			
<b>BID INCREMENT AMOUNT FOR EACH PROPERTY : 1% of Concerned Reserve Price</b> <b>DATE &amp; TIME OF E-AUCTION : 16.11.2023 between 12:00 Noon to 5:00 P.M.</b> <b>(with 10 minutes unlimited auto extension), e-Auction Website : <a href="http://www.mstcecommerce.com">www.mstcecommerce.com</a></b> <b>LAST DATE FOR SUBMISSION OF EMD : On or before the commencement of E-Auction</b> For Registration and Login and Bidding Rules visit: <a href="https://www.mstcecommerce.com/auctionhome/ibapi/index.jsp">https://www.mstcecommerce.com/auctionhome/ibapi/index.jsp</a> For detailed terms and condition of the sale, please refer to the link provided in <a href="https://www.unionbankofindia.co.in/english/tendelview/auauction.aspx">https://www.unionbankofindia.co.in/english/tendelview/auauction.aspx</a>			
<b>Place : Balasore</b> <b>Date: 27.10.2023</b>		<b>Sd/- Authorized Officer</b> <b>Union Bank of India</b>	

100% PERFORMANCE. EVERYTIME.																						
<b>NOTICE FOR APPOINTMENT OF SERVO STOCKIST</b>																						
<b>NIT No. Name of the Appointment</b>	<b>Application Period</b>																					
NIT No. -OSO/LRS/A/23-24/04	Application document published and download starts on 29 October 2023, 16:00 hrs onwards																					
Appointment of Servo Stockist- Reseller (SSR) in the following location:	Last Date of physical application form submission: 21st Nov 2023, 16:00 hrs																					
<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Sr.No</th> <th>Location of Godown</th> <th>Revenue District</th> <th>State</th> <th>Area of Operation (Territory)</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>1</td> <td>Berhampur (Within the 5kms Radius of Berhampur Municipal Limit)</td> <td>Ganjam</td> <td>Odisha</td> <td>Ganjam, Gajapati, Kandhamal</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2</td> <td>Jajpur Road (Within the 5km Radius of Jajpur Road (Vyasa Nagar) Municipal Limit)</td> <td>Jajpur</td> <td>Odisha</td> <td>Jajpur</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Sr.No	Location of Godown	Revenue District	State	Area of Operation (Territory)	1	Berhampur (Within the 5kms Radius of Berhampur Municipal Limit)	Ganjam	Odisha	Ganjam, Gajapati, Kandhamal	2	Jajpur Road (Within the 5km Radius of Jajpur Road (Vyasa Nagar) Municipal Limit)	Jajpur	Odisha	Jajpur							
Sr.No	Location of Godown	Revenue District	State	Area of Operation (Territory)																		
1	Berhampur (Within the 5kms Radius of Berhampur Municipal Limit)	Ganjam	Odisha	Ganjam, Gajapati, Kandhamal																		
2	Jajpur Road (Within the 5km Radius of Jajpur Road (Vyasa Nagar) Municipal Limit)	Jajpur	Odisha	Jajpur																		
<b>Contact Person:Lube Sales Executive (LSE)</b>																						
<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Sr.No</th> <th>SSR</th> <th>Revenue District</th> <th>State</th> <th>Name of LSE</th> <th>Mob. No.</th> <th>email</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>1</td> <td>Berhampur</td> <td>Ganjam</td> <td>Odisha</td> <td>Mr. Subrankash Panda</td> <td>9800235610</td> <td>Pandas1@indianoil.in</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2</td> <td>Jajpur Road</td> <td>Jajpur</td> <td>Odisha</td> <td>Mr. Rishav Kumar Gupta</td> <td>977795923</td> <td>Guptark5@indianoil.in</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Sr.No	SSR	Revenue District	State	Name of LSE	Mob. No.	email	1	Berhampur	Ganjam	Odisha	Mr. Subrankash Panda	9800235610	Pandas1@indianoil.in	2	Jajpur Road	Jajpur	Odisha	Mr. Rishav Kumar Gupta	977795923	Guptark5@indianoil.in	
Sr.No	SSR	Revenue District	State	Name of LSE	Mob. No.	email																
1	Berhampur	Ganjam	Odisha	Mr. Subrankash Panda	9800235610	Pandas1@indianoil.in																
2	Jajpur Road	Jajpur	Odisha	Mr. Rishav Kumar Gupta	977795923	Guptark5@indianoil.in																
Interested applicants can download the application form and guidelines from <a href="https://spandan.indianoil.co.in/BSP/HomePage.jsp">https://spandan.indianoil.co.in/BSP/HomePage.jsp</a> . Filled application form with all necessary documents as mentioned in the NIT/application form must be submitted at the address as mentioned in the NIT on or before the closing date and time. Corrigendum, if any shall also be published in the same website.																						

FOCUS SOCIETY

# ENGINEERING HEALTH



The poor state of our health systems makes designing our emerging cities, where most of our people are likely to reside, to be public transport and walking-friendly, even more critical

to build these walking-friendly features into their designs.

As these urban areas evolve, even independently of any health benefits that might accrue, they need to invest in public transportation so that the larger populations of the city can move around safely and economically without the need to use private vehicles, which require expensive roads and result in a much higher degree of pollution and road traffic injuries. Building good sidewalks is also essential because otherwise, as tends to happen in most cities currently, pedestrians spill onto roads, resulting in congestion and an increased risk of accidents. Ensuring that these sidewalks link smoothly to the city's public transportation infrastructure becomes the next logical step, which, happily, also has the strong side-effect of reducing belly fat and, as a direct result, the prevalence of cardiovascular disease.

Diseases like diabetes and high blood pressure pose perhaps one of the greatest challenges we're likely to confront as a country. That, unlike in the developed world, our average calorie consumption and the associated obesity level, at least for now, continue to be relatively low is good news. Additionally, the fact that over 75% of our adults have big bellies and rarely, if ever, do even moderate exercise, while alarming, is also good news because it offers us a way to prevent these debilitating diseases from overwhelming our populations. The poor state of our health systems makes designing our emerging cities, where most of our people are likely to reside, to be public transport and walking-friendly, even more critical.

Mayanka Ambade is an Assistant Professor at IIT, Mandi. Nachiket Mor is a Visiting Scientist at The Banyan Academy of Leadership in Mental Health, Chennai.

©THE BILLION PRESS

A study of older (45+) Indian adults recently published in the journal Preventive Medicine finds that while several drivers of cardiovascular disease are present amongst them, a high level of belly fat ("central adiposity") and physical inactivity are by far the most prevalent. When measured using a WHO benchmark of the waist-hip ratio of greater than 0.90 for men (0.81 for women), 77.2% were found to have excess belly fat (ranging between 95.3% for Chandigarh and 63% for Mizoram), with 73.9% having low levels of physical activity. In sharp contrast, the proportion of overweight and obese individuals, at 17.7% and 6.8% respectively, was much lower. This is an exciting finding because body weight is most strongly linked to total calorie intake and is difficult to change because it needs fundamental changes in food habits. On the other hand, belly fat is much easier to address because it can be reduced through modest levels of daily exercise.

Belly fat is strongly associated with insulin resistance and is linked to several diseases, such as high blood pressure and diabetes. Insulin resistance refers to a weakened response to increases in insulin levels in the body, and our evolutionary history provides a clue as to its origins. We evolved in an environment with poor food and salt availability and a high risk of attack, injury, and infections. In such an environment during periods of pregnancy, infection/inflammation, and other forms of stress, since the body needed to maintain higher levels of glucose in the blood, insulin resistance proved to be a helpful adaptation. However, when the environment changed to one in which food and salt availability became plentiful, insulin resistance moved from a helpful response essential for our survival to one now linked to severe disease.

Belly fat is now so familiar that it is considered a normal part

of ageing. Some cultures even regard it as an attractive physical feature because it is a sign of prosperity or, perhaps, in an evolutionary carryover, of the presence of insulin resistance, historically so crucial for survival. Unfortunately, it is now well understood that belly fat is strongly linked to high blood pressure, high blood sugar, and higher cholesterol levels, the three most important risk factors for cardiovascular disease, even amongst people with normal weights. People with excessive belly fat who have high blood pressure are more likely to acquire diabetes. It may interfere with digestion in their daily lives, resulting in problems like heartburn produced by oesophageal reflux. It hurts sleep quality and can cause lower back pain. Belly fat is associated with an increased risk of developing cancer and clinical depression.

To deal with the challenge of belly fat, one must look at its underlying causes. High-calorie intake and inadequate physical exercise are linked to it. However, unlike overall body weight, belly fat has been shown to respond well to even moderate levels of exercise. Exhorting people to eat less and exercise more has rarely been effective. Increasing the prices of sugar and fat, as has been done in many countries, effectively re-

duces the calories consumed. The political and policy challenges associated with bringing about similar changes in the Indian context are, however, likely to be extremely high and perhaps even insurmountable. To increase the levels of exercise, more parks, while adding an attractive feature to cities, have not been found to be effective. Instead, public transportation systems that require people to walk to and from their residences to get to bus and train stops on smoothly connected, safe, brightly lit, and well-built sidewalks have had a demonstrated effect on the level of exercise that people get daily. Many cities, including London and New York in developed countries and Addis Ababa in the developing world, have embraced this idea and have sought to explicitly design their cities to enhance the level of exercise that people can get as a part of their daily routines.

Within India, while the rates of formal urbanisation, at close to 30%, are still considered low, an analysis of the Night-Lights data obtained by satellites indicates that much of the population already lives in habitations so dense that they would be classified as urban in many countries. As these dense habitations transform into formal cities, they offer an opportunity



Mayanka Ambade & Nachiket Mor

DISEASES LIKE DIABETES AND HIGH BLOOD PRESSURE POSE PERHAPS ONE OF THE GREATEST CHALLENGES WE'RE LIKELY TO CONFRONT AS A COUNTRY



Aakar Patel

Whether we are running a successful foreign policy, as fans of the foreign minister believe, or we are ruining India's global reputation, as some of us think we are doing, is not important to debate

## Nameless Policy

India has abstained from calling for an end to violence in Gaza to avoid upsetting America. India was told by the new Maldives leader to remove our soldiers from that country. Qatar sentenced eight Indian Navy veterans to death. Sri Lanka allowed a Chinese spy ship to dock in Colombo despite India's objections. Bhutan said it was about to conclude boundary negotiations with China, including on Doklam. Nepal cannot use its new Gautam Buddha airport because India doesn't allow overflight of large planes. Canada said it would not be able to normalise visas for Indians till 2024. These things happened in the space of a few days.

All South Asian nations except India voted to end the violence in Gaza, including Nepal, Sri Lanka and Bhutan, which traditionally votes with India. The 70 Indian military personnel in Maldives who will now return maintain radar stations and surveillance aircraft, and Indian warships help patrol Maldives' exclusive economic zone. The reason we have been told to go is that Maldives wants to favour China.

Whether we are running a successful foreign policy, as fans of the foreign minister believe, or we are ruining India's global reputation, as some of us think we are doing, is not important to debate. This is because views are set in stone since we are in the tenth year of the Modi years and there is sufficient evidence to convince someone one way or another.

What is more interesting is to examine what the Modi government's foreign policy actually is and what it is intended to achieve. In 2014, the BJP manifesto said it would "strengthen SAARC" and India's states "will be encouraged to play a greater role in diplomacy." For instance, Punjab, which overwhelmingly suffers when Canada visas are affected, would caution Delhi on foreign policy. In 2019, both these references were eliminated. No fresh text replaced it but those who study foreign policy praised a new approach that they saw coming together.

This approach comes from a series of speeches made by Jaishankar on things as diverse as China's rise to power, India's lost decades, the Mahabharata, maritime power and the COVID pandemic. These assorted speeches were compiled into a book, called "The India Way: Strategies for an Uncertain World." What are these strategies?

First, Jaishankar assumes that the US and Europe will continue to look inward (his book was published just before Trump lost), while China would continue to rise. This would open the space for countries like India to be opportunistic in their engagements with the world and they did not need consistency. What India wanted was a "multi-polar Asia" — meaning one in which India could claim parity with China. Many balls would need to be kept in the air (Jaishankar has a fondness for stock phrases) and India would handle them with dexterity. This was opportunism but that was all right because opportunism was India's culture. The Mahabharata's lessons, Jaishankar says, are that deceit and immorality are merely to "not play by the rules." Drona's demanding of Eklavya's thumb, Indra's appropriation

of Karna's armour, Arjuna using Shikhandi as a human shield, these were but "practices and traditions." Inconsistency in policy was not only fine but required because "obsessing about consistency" made little sense in changing circumstances. But what was such a doctrine to be called? In a speech he made where he first laid out this doctrine of opportunism and inconsistency, Jaishankar said it is hard to give it a name. He takes up and discards the phrases—"multi-alignment" ("sounds too opportunistic") and "India first" ("sounds self-centred"). He settles at "advancing prosperity and influence," which he says is accurate but admits is not catchy. He believes some name for it will eventually come if it is pursued long enough, because part of the challenge is that we are still in the early phase of a major transition. Perhaps that is so.

Another reason that he was unable to come up with a name for it as clean and understandable as, say, "non-alignment," could be that this was no real foreign policy at all. The problems that have been listed at the top of this article reflect this lack of coherence and effectiveness. Buying cheap Russian oil when nobody is stopping you from doing so is not a foreign policy but it was praised as being that. A rotating presidency of the G20 was not an achievement but that is how it was sold to Indians. What interested the Prime Minister, and what made for pageant and ceremony, was being passed off as something meaningful. It is not easy to escape the conclusion that Jaishankar provided the sophistry to cover what was essentially random and directionless Modi behaviour passing off as foreign policy strategy. Jaishankar says that this nameless policy of his is intended to achieve four outcomes. Greater prosperity at home; Peace on the borders; Protection of Indians; Enhanced influence abroad.

Once again, there is no point in going through what is happening on the borders or on prosperity. The issue is whether, having examined what we have tried to achieve and looking at what results around us, we should reassess what India's role in the world is and whether we are doing the right thing for ourselves.

### WISDOM CORNER

- Care about what other people think and you will always be their prisoner. LAO TZU
- All good things are wild and free. HENRY DAVID THOREAU
- If you are always trying to be normal, you will never know how amazing you can be. MAYA ANGELOU

### THIS DAY IN HISTORY

- 1923: The Republic of Turkey was established, largely through the efforts of Kemal Atatürk, who is considered the country's founder and served as its first president.
- 1929: Just five days after nearly 13 million shares of US stock were sold in one day in 1929, an additional 16 million shares were sold this day, called "Black Tuesday," further fueling the crisis known as the Great Depression.
- 1998: Hurricane Mitch made landfall, hitting northern Honduras; one of the deadliest Atlantic hurricanes on record, it caused some 11,000 deaths in Central America.

### SPECTRUM SUSTAINABILITY

## More floods mean worse soil

Across the world, the intensity and frequency of flooding events has escalated. In last few months alone, record-breaking floods have pummeled New Jersey and New York, Libya, and Greece, killing thousands and causing widespread damage to infrastructure, farmland, and livestock. This, in turn, puts pressure on agriculture, which can drive food insecurity. Compared to the visible devastation caused by flooding, the impact on soil is subtler but no less important. Floods can harm soil biology and health, as well as the beneficial microorganisms and larger organisms like insect larvae, nematodes, springtails, and earthworms that live in the soil and perform fundamental functions such as breaking down crop residues, recycling nutrients, stimulating plant growth, and fending off stressors, including insects. Damage to this symbiotic ecosystem has far-reaching implications for crop production.

New research from my lab at the University of Illinois, which is investigating the impact of flooding on soil-microbial communities and agricultural staples such as maize and tomatoes, and from other scholars, shows that ex-

treme wet conditions can cause severe crop losses, including from reduced plant growth and unplanted farmland. Despite being relatively limited so far, research has also demonstrated that flooding can negatively affect soil functioning and soil-microbial communities. One experiment using spring wheat found that floods depleted beneficial microbes and increased those that were detrimental to plants. Another experiment showed that these extreme events reduced microbial biomass and soil-fungi content.

Moreover, once the water recedes, surviving microbes are left with a fundamentally different habitat; depending on the conditions, they can bounce back quickly or die off slowly. Without a healthy and functional soil microbiome, nutrients are not recycled, and plants are weakened, paving the way for invaders — such as insects and pathogens — to attack. This is bad for plants, but also for humans. Healthy soils are the basis for healthy food production: we depend on them to grow crops that have high nutritional value. Research on different farming methods has highlighted the important — and often underappreciated —

role that soil health plays in determining the nutrient density of foods grown. This implies that we need more research aimed at understanding the impact of flooding on crops that are relevant for food security, including research on how floods affect soil biology, quality, and health, including the consequences for beneficial soil microbes.

More importantly, researchers must work to identify the interventions that, in the wake of a flood, can help support plant health, restore soil fertility, and facilitate the recovery of soil-dwelling microorganisms and larger organisms. For example, applying nitrogen fertilizer immediately after flooding has been proposed as one of the mitigation strategies that could nurse water-logged plants back to life.

Unfortunately, soil-dwelling microbes and larger organisms may take longer than actively growing plants to recover. Their rehabilitation could last anywhere from a year to multiple years, depending on several factors, including the duration and severity of the flooding, and the soil's condition prior to the extreme wet conditions. Making use of cover crops is among the

recommended measures to restore these organisms.

Modeling studies, which could help determine where future flooding events may occur and how long they may last, should complement these research efforts. Data from research initiatives and modeling studies should be widely disseminated and communicated with governments and humanitarian agencies. That way, policymakers and civil-society can formulate strategies and interventions to prevent flood-induced soil degradation. Countries around the world must connect the dots between flooding, soil quality, plant health, and food insecurity. Only when we care for the invisible world of microscopic life that underpins our agriculture can we create a comprehensive preparedness strategy and design interventions to minimise flooding's harmful impact on crop. As extreme weather events become more common and more intense, it is time to stop treating our soil like dirt.

The writer is Assistant Professor of Entomology at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign.

©PROJECT SYNDICATE



Esther Ngumbi

AS EXTREME WEATHER EVENTS BECOME MORE COMMON AND MORE INTENSE, IT IS TIME TO STOP TREATING OUR SOIL LIKE DIRT

### Productivity matters

Sir, Infosys founder NR Narayana Murthy in a recent interview said that India's productivity is one of the lowest in the world and needs improvement. No argument there. But it's Murthy's solution — young people should be willing to work even 70 hours a week — that's problematic. Economists of all stripes agree that enhancing productivity is the key to long-term economic growth. Productivity improvement is influenced by three interrelated factors: The pace and extent of technological diffusion in an economy, the quality of human capital and the efficacy of public investment. That India's productivity, per ILO data, is among the lowest in the world is not because Indians don't work long enough. ILO data shows that the average hours clocked per person in a week in India is almost 48, one of the highest in the world. The inverse relationship between hours worked and productivity has everything to do with the level of technology and human capital. India's productivity per hour in 2021 was \$8.47, while that of France was \$58.5 even though the average French worker clocked only about 30 hours a week. Productivity will increase when the bosses — political and corporate — invest in the right things.

N Sadhasiva Reddy, BANGALORE

### Damaged ship

Sir, Defending champion England face the danger of getting eliminated from the ODI World Cup. Another defeat today at the hands of India will virtually knock England out of the tournament. It is sad that a power-packed team, which boasts of having plenty of all-rounders in its rank, has been relegated to a state of a damaged ship, struggling to sail through. As the holders of both ODI and T20 World Cup titles, England entered the 2023 World Cup with great expectations. The aggressive Bazball approach also allowed them to steamroll opponents with ruthless precision. All these gave them an aura of invincibility, something that the West Indies enjoyed in the 1970s and 80s. But this aggressive approach is woefully missing from the team in this world cup, and the body language of the English players doesn't suggest that they are the defending champions.

Ranganathan Sivakumar, CHENNAI

## Letters

### TO THE EDITOR

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

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

## For business in UP, reveal relations with other nations

INDO-ASIAN NEWS SERVICE

**Lucknow, Oct 28:** The Uttar Pradesh government has made it mandatory for all firms that apply for government contracts, projects and assignments in the state to give an undertaking of their ties with neighbouring countries.

The state government has made it binding on all departments to follow the general financial rules framed by the Centre while awarding the work orders on grounds of national security.

Uttar Pradesh is among the biggest buyers on the government e-market place and various departments have been making purchase of over Rs 11,000 crore annually for the past three years. The state finance department has circulated the revised guidelines framed by department of expenditure procurement policy division among principal secretaries of various departments and district magistrates earlier this week.

According to it, now an agency from a neighbouring country will be eligible to participate in



the bids only if it has registered with the competent authority.

Similarly, the participating agencies having an agreement with an entity based out of neighbouring country, will also have to declare the nature of their linkages before the concerned authority.

Autonomous bodies, public sector institutions and enterprises as well as procurement being done for public private partnership projects from the state will also have to abide by the rules. A senior officer from the finance department said closer attention on the details was required as a lot of companies that were backed by other countries

enter into transfer of technology agreements.

In times to come, the registration committee constituted by the department of promotion and internal trade will have the authority to look for violations in such cases.

Joint ventures and consortium of companies that participate in the bids will be also under the scope of the revised rules.

In a relief for manufacturing sector players, who source their raw material from neighbouring countries, particularly China, the government has clarified that as long as original material is processed and converted into other goods, they can participate in the bidding process.

However, agents and middlemen who supply finished goods sourced from neighbouring countries as their own will be in for a closer scrutiny.

The officer added that progressing towards the \$1 trillion goal, civil aviation, infrastructure, urban development, urban transportation, agriculture, telecommunication are some core sectors which are procuring goods and services from private players.

## Kashi Vishwanath temple trust to discuss dress code proposal

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

**Varanasi, Oct 28:** The Kashi Vishwanath temple trust will deliberate on a proposal for a dress code for pilgrims at its next meeting, its chairman Nagendra Pandey said Saturday.

He noted that it was a 'complicated issue' and they need to bear in mind the sentiments of various sections and the 'practicality' of implementing the proposal.

Pandey said the Kashi Vishwanath Temple Nyas will study how dress codes have been enforced in other temples in the country.

"There has been a demand from local people, devotees and also from members of the media that there should be a dress code in the Kashi Vishwanath temple and this issue will come up for discussion during the meeting of the Nyas likely to be held in November," Nyas chairman Nagendra Pandey told PTI.

A proposal requiring men to wear dhoti-kurta and women to be dressed in saree during 'darshan' in the sanctum sanctorum will be deliberated upon during the meeting, Pandey said.

"In the recent past, there has

been a heavy flow of pilgrims... And a demand has started emerging that a dress code like those in other prominent temples of the country be imposed here, but we have to think about the practicality of the matter as well," he said.

The Public Relations Officer (PRO) of Kashi Vishwanath Temple, Piyush Tiwari, said there is no dress code applicable at present for the visitors in Shri Kashi Vishwanath Temple.

According to officials, the construction of the Kashi Vishwanath Corridor in Varanasi has contributed to the growth in tourism in the temple town.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi December 13, 2021 inaugurated the first phase of the corridor christened Kashi Vishwanath Dham, a project spread over 500,000 square feet that connects the temple premises to the Ganga river.

Modi, in his Mann Ki Baat address in July, had said the recent jump in the number of tourists in Varanasi, his parliamentary constituency, reflects a "cultural reawakening."

As many as 7.16 crore people visited the temple in 2022 and 2.29 crore in 2023 (January-May), he said, adding the number of



visitors to the holy shrine has grown manifold since the construction of the corridor.

Pandey said, "Those who have been to Tirupati temple as well as Meenakshi and Ujjain temples, they come here and discuss it (need for dress code). This matter is coming to us from different areas and we will see what decision we (temple trust) can take unanimously."

"We will also study how it is being enforced in other temples of the country. We have to see that those visiting are decently dressed," he said.

"People come from far-off places with complete devotion and queue up for darshan. They cannot be stopped, harming their religious sentiments, or forced to buy new clothes and arrange changing rooms. This is a very complicated issue and is not an easy one," he stressed.

## Hope for victim of human cruelty

*The 'Makhna' elephant has been a victim of harsh treatment and exploitative conditions, forced to join street begging and participate in wedding processions*

INDO-ASIAN NEWS SERVICE

**Agra, Oct 28:** A 25-year-old very ill male Asian elephant has been admitted to the Wildlife SOS Elephant Hospital Campus in Mathura by its owner.

The 'Makhna' elephant has been a victim of harsh treatment and exploitative conditions, forced to join street begging and participate in wedding processions. A thorough health examination conducted at the Wildlife SOS Elephant Hospital Campus has unveiled a disheartening state of affairs for the pachyderm. The elephant's physical condition is characterised by extreme emaciation and dehydration, corneal opacity in both eyes, ear notches stemming from the use of bullhooks, and multiple persistent, septic wounds attributed to the application of spiked hobbles.

Thermal imaging of the pachyderm's hind and forelimbs has unveiled generalised swelling, chronic abscesses, and overgrown toenails on all four limbs.

Made to carry heavy loads, the young elephant has suffered multiple fractures on the dorsal spine, as confirmed by an X-ray report. This highlights the misconception that elephants can bear heavy burdens with-



out suffering harm.

Elephants used for begging or entertainment are often tied with heavy saddles that alter their gait, inflict pain, and result in spinal protrusions. The elephant is now under the vigilant care and supervision of the NGO's veterinary team, where he is receiving much-needed rest, hydration, and oral medication to alleviate his pain and expedite his healing.

Dr. S. Iyayaraja, Deputy Director-Veterinary Services, Wildlife SOS, said, "The elephant's condition calls for immediate and comprehensive attention to minimise the chances of any untoward prognosis. As a preliminary measure, the elephant has been provided with essential hydration through the provision of water and salt."

Kartick Satyanarayan, CEO and Co-founder of Wildlife SOS said, "The condition of this elephant underscores the urgency of providing long-term intensive veterinary treatment and care for the elephants used for begging and in processions. It also emphasises the urgent need to implement mandatory bi-annual inspections and veterinary certificates of health for elephants in captivity."

## Tribal CM causing damage to tribals of Jharkhand: Nadda

**Ranchi:** BJP national president JP Nadda Saturday claimed a tribal CM like Hemant Soren has caused the most damage to tribals in Jharkhand. Predicting the BJP's win in the next Assembly elections in the state, Nadda told a rally that the Soren-led government was "involved in a number of scams." "The enthusiasm of people proves that they have taken a pledge to help the lotus bloom here again. Corruption has grown exponentially under Soren. The Jharkhand chief minister is doing vote bank politics," Nadda said. "A tribal CM like Hemant Soren has caused maximum damage to tribals in the state," he alleged. He also claimed that the state government is patronising land, sand and other mafias which is why ED, CBI and other agencies are "chasing the Soren government." "The Soren government is neck-deep in corruption," the BJP chief said.



Boys play cricket in a field near Taj Mahal in Agra.

PTI PHOTO

## Digital atlas to map socio-economic condition of tribals

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

**Ranchi, Oct 28:** To map the socio-economic conditions of all tribal communities residing in the state, Jharkhand government will soon develop a Tribal Development Digital Atlas and will interweave Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Community (PVTGs) into the socio-economic fabric of the country, an official statement said Saturday.

In the first phase, a baseline survey of all habitations with PVTGs will be conducted.

"Under the leadership of Chief Minister Hemant Soren, sin-

cere efforts are being made to prepare a Tribal Development Digital Atlas to map the socio-economic conditions of all tribal communities residing in the state," the statement said.

"The Tribal Development Digital Atlas will be prepared by the Department of Welfare, under which in the first phase, all the PVTG habitations will be evaluated and mapped and a digital Geo linked database will be prepared. Based on which a comprehensive action plan for the implementation of major socio-economic infrastructure projects and livelihood centric

initiatives will be implemented on a mission mode," it said.

Preparations in this regard are on by the Department of Tribal Welfare through the Tribal Welfare Commissioner.

By August 2024, the target is the development of a total of 67,501 PVTG families, comprising a population of 2,92,359 people residing in 3,705 villages identified in the state.

"Along with the critical gap survey on the current status of basic facilities of tribal villages and the development parameters, details regarding education, skill capability, employ-

ment, income, standard of living, etc. of the PVTG households and habitations will also be prepared," the statement said.

The state government will implement the action plan by focusing on their social infrastructure, livelihood and health so that the people of such tribal groups get pucca houses for accommodation, sanitation, pure drinking water through pipeline, electricity/solar electrification, pension, Ayushman card, benefits of PDS and e-shram, access to health centres, Anganwadi, education, availability of water for irrigation

and other facilities, it said.

The PVTGs will be integrated into the social - infrastructure and consistent work shall be done to strengthen their traditional livelihood activities.

"Jharkhand Tribal Development Society (JTDS) has been working on this through facilitating chickpea cultivation and SHGs and cluster-based work... Efforts will be made towards increasing the income by making the products accessible to the markets through Sidhu Kanhu Van Upyog Federation," the statement said.

## Museum of temple architecture to come up in Ayodhya

**PRIME MINISTER NARENDRA MODI HAS SUGGESTED THAT THE CITY SHOULD TAKE UP PROJECTS TO ENSURE AN EXTENDED STAY OF PILGRIMS VISITING THE RAM TEMPLE**

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

**New Delhi, Oct 28:** A museum to showcase rich architectural traditions of Indian temples will be built in Ayodhya and 25 acres of land has been identified for the project following a suggestion from Prime Minister Narendra Modi that the city should take up projects to ensure an extended stay of pilgrims visiting the Ram temple.

Modi made the suggestion to

senior functionaries of the Shri Ram Janmabhoomi Teerth Kshetra trust who met him October 25 to invite him for the consecration ceremony at the under-construction Ram temple January 22. The prime minister agreed to it and said he felt blessed that he would witness the historic occasion.

Sources said a host

of other projects are also being undertaken in Ayodhya on these lines so that pilgrims arriving in the town to pay obeisance at the Ram temple find enough reasons to stay

for a long period.

During his interaction with the trust's members, sources said, the prime minister told that people's faith in God may bring them to holy places but it does not necessarily guarantee their extended stay. This can only be ensured through other efforts, he said, making his suggestions, they added.

philosophy is the driving force behind multiple projects being taken up in Ayodhya and the idea behind them is to ensure that people visiting the city do not only see the temple but stay there for a few days to see other attractions as well, sources said.

A major project being taken up on these lines is the museum to showcase architectures of Indian temples. It will display various facets of the rich architectural traditions of temples from across the country.

Other projects include the 'Ram Charit Manas Experience Centre' which will depict the life of Lord Ram in an engaging manner while a world-class wax museum will depict various subjects related to Ram's era, they said.

A mega multimedia foundation park is also being constructed in the shape of a lotus flower besides projects such as Ayodhya Haat and Ayodhya Aerocity.

## Jharkhand to protect fossil rock to attract tourists

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

**Dumka, Oct 28:** Jharkhand Agriculture Minister Badal Patralekh has said that steps will be taken to protect a huge rock in Dumka district's Barmasia village containing fossils of birds and animals to attract tourists.

This rock containing many animals and birds such as squirrels, hoofs of deer, fish, primitive man, etc in the fossil form has been brought to the notice of the Tourism department, he said.

The minister said the fossil rock would help discover the mysteries about the development of the civilisation. A letter is being written to the Tourism department for the protection of the rock and construction of a park, etc, the minister said, adding that "I am determined for the protection and preservation of this fos-



sil rock and the development of the area."

A Dumka-based author Pandit Anoop Kumar Vajpayee had researched and discovered the fossil rock over a decade ago and also authored a book on the research work titled "Dumka Zille ki Dharmik-Sanskritik-Puratatik Jhalak" (Glimpses of Dumka district's important religious, cultural, archaeological sites), which was released October 3.



CDF, Seychelles, Brigadier Michael Rosette inspects the Tri-Services' Guard of Honour in New Delhi



Flower petals being showered on Sikh devotees during a 'Nagar Kirtan' procession at Golden temple in Amritsar



Delhi Environment Minister Gopal Rai during the 'Red Light On, Gaadi Off' campaign at a Red Light in New Delhi



A shopkeeper arranging his shop with colourful 'Rangoli' at a main market ahead of Diwali in Nagpur



Assam Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma holds a rifle during arms laying down ceremony of DNLA (Dimasa National Liberation Army) members, in Dima Hasao district



BSF and police personnel during a flag march ahead of Rajasthan Assembly elections in Bikaner



Children take part in a walkathon to raise awareness regarding the importance of mental health in Mumbai

## of the day quote

The BJP government at the Centre lacks the courage to hold polls in Jammu and Kashmir and even the parliamentary elections would not be held here had it not been a matter of compulsion

OMAR ABDULLAH | NC LEADER

The Centre has decided to sell products made by women-associated self-help groups through e-commerce to double their income

ANURAG THAKUR | UNION INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING MINISTER

Punjab is my family. We worked hard to bring a political change in Punjab. Now, we have to work even harder to free our country from corruption and unemployment

BHAGWANT MANN | PUNJAB CM

## SHORT TAKES

### Woman shot dead

**New Delhi:** A 24-year-old woman was shot dead allegedly by a man in front of her brother and mother inside her house in the southeast Delhi's Jaitpur area, police said Saturday. The assailant Friday night pumped four bullets into the woman, Pooja Yadav, killing her on the spot, police said. The attacker, identified as Rocky from Haryana's Faridabad, has been arrested, they said. According to police, Rocky disapproved of Yadav's "illicit" relationship with his elder brother, Krishna Pradhan, a real estate dealer, and decided to kill her. "Rocky told us that his elder brother was already married with four children. Because of his relationship with Yadav, his sister-in-law and mother would often fight with Pradhan. This led him to kill Yadav," said a police officer. Yadav worked at Pradhan's office in Basantpur village of Faridabad.

### Jawan arrested

**Jammu:** An Army jawan visiting home on leave was arrested for allegedly murdering his wife in Kathua district of Jammu and Kashmir Saturday, police said. Sarabjeet Kour was found strangled to death at her residence in Kunde Chak Marheen Saturday morning, following which a case was registered at Rajbagh police station, a police official said. During the course of investigation, Kour's husband Bhopinder Singh was taken into custody and confessed to his involvement in the murder, the official said, adding Singh is a serving Army personnel and was visiting home on leave.

### Doctor suspended

**Indore:** A junior doctor of the government-run Maharaja Yeshwantrao Hospital (MYH) in Indore was suspended after a purported video showing him slapping an HIV-infected person surfaced Saturday, an official said. The official said the 45-year-old HIV-infected man was sent to MYH from a hospital in Ujjain for treatment of a broken bone. The junior doctor was angry at not being told by the patient or his attendant about the HIV infection before the start of the bone treatment, the official said. In the purported video of the incident, the junior doctor is seen continuously slapping the patient lying on the stretcher and also abusing him.

### Leopard kills girl

**Amreli:** A 5-year-old girl was killed by a leopard in Gujarat's Amreli district Saturday, an official said. The incident took place in Paniyadev village at around 10:30 am, Range Forest Officer Jyoti Vaja said.



**Our Prime Minister is a vishwaguru. He has ED, IT, CBI, DRI and NIA (all Central investigative agencies). He is very powerful. He conducts raids at anyone's place, picks anyone and sends anyone to jail**

BHUPESH BAGHEL | CHHATTISGARH CM

## TERROR MODULE BUSTED

The Punjab police Saturday said it has busted a terror module with the arrest of four operatives of the banned pro-Khalistan group Babbar Khalsa International. Director General of Police Gaurav Yadav said police also recovered six pistols and 275 cartridges from them



# ED arrests Parabolic Drugs promoters in bank fraud case

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

**New Delhi/Chandigarh, Oct 28:** The Enforcement Directorate (ED) Saturday arrested two promoters of Chandigarh-based pharma company Parabolic Drugs and its chartered accountant in a money-laundering probe linked to an alleged bank fraud, official sources said.

Parabolic Drugs promoters Vineet Gupta and Pranav Gupta and CA S K Bansal were taken into custody under the provisions of the Prevention of Money Laundering Act (PMLA) following a long session of questioning.

A special PMLA court in Panchkula sent them to five days of ED custody, they said.

The central agency continued with its searches against the group for the second day, including at the Ashoka University's corporate and registered offices in Delhi and campus in Haryana's Sonapat.

A total of 17 premises in Delhi, Mumbai, Chandigarh, and Panchkula were covered by the ED after the raids were launched on Friday.

The Guptas are also the co-founders of the Sonapat-based Ashoka University but had stepped down from their posts in 2022 after the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) registered a case against them and the company in 2021.

The university on Friday said the "Enforcement Directorate has sought information in the matter of investigations into the case of Parabolic Drugs where Ashoka University



The sources said Parabolic Drugs promoters Vineet Gupta and Pranav Gupta and CA S K Bansal were taken into custody under the provisions of the Prevention of Money Laundering Act (PMLA) following a long session of questioning

founders, Vineet Gupta and Pranav Gupta, are directors."

While a statement from the institute on the ED action is awaited, it had said Parabolic Drugs was "in no way linked to the Ashoka University." "Ashoka University has no past or current relationship with Parabolic Drugs, the company being investigated, and any attempt to create a link is without any basis and misleading," it had said.

The money-laundering case stems from a CBI FIR in which the promoters and the pharma company were booked for allegedly defrauding a consortium of banks, led by the Central Bank of India, of Rs 1,626.74 crore.

According to the sources, the ED suspects that the Guptas "layered and diverted" bank loan funds to the tune of Rs 7 crore to the university.

It has found documents that allegedly show that an amount of the loan funds was transferred

The central agency continued with its searches against the group for the second day, including at the Ashoka University's corporate and registered offices in Delhi and campus in Haryana's Sonapat

in September 2013 to an infrastructure company and was further transferred to Vineet Gupta's bank accounts and of this, he reportedly sent Rs 1 crore to the university.

Another amount of Rs 50 lakh is under the ED's scanner as the agency suspects it was transferred to a sister company of Parabolic Drugs — Jamboree Education Private Limited — and subsequently, transferred to the university by Vineet Gupta.

The agency is looking at a total of 20 linked companies as part of the bank-loan fraud case, sources said.

"Vineet and Pranav Gupta are two among the more than 200 founders and donors of the Ashoka University who have contributed to Ashoka's creation and growth in their personal philanthropic capacity and whose individual businesses have absolutely no bearing on the university," the university in its statement said.

## PM Modi distributes appointment letters to 51,000 people

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

**New Delhi, Oct 28:** Prime Minister Narendra Modi asserted Saturday that his government has boosted employment opportunities in traditional as well as emerging sectors like renewable energy, defence exports and automation.

Distributing appointment letters at a virtual event to nearly 51,000 people recruited in different government departments as part of 'Rozgar Mela', he said the exercise underscores his government's commitment to the youth in the country.

The government is not only providing employment but also maintaining a transparent recruitment process and efforts have been made to restructure and streamline the examination procedure, Modi stressed.

The Prime Minister noted that lakhs of youngsters have been given appointment letters so far in the 'Rozgar Mela' being organised since October last year by his government and the states ruled by the BJP and its allies. "Today, India is equipping its youths with skills and education to harness emerging opportunities." "India's trajectory and the pace of its progress are generating new employment prospects across all sectors," he said.

The Prime Minister said the time taken for recruitment by the Staff Selection Commission has been reduced to almost half. Exams are now being conducted in 13 different regional languages apart from Hindi and English to help the language barrier for those affected, he said.

He also spoke about the recent recognition by UN bodies to several Indian places as tourism and heritage sites.

# Seven of family found dead in Surat



*The bodies of the seven deceased were found in an apartment in Adajan locality, police said, adding that a note was also recovered from their house which says that the family was taking the extreme step out of financial distress*

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

**Surat, Oct 28:** Seven members of a family, including three children, were found dead at their residence in Surat city of Gujarat Saturday, with the police suspecting it to be a case of mass suicide.

The bodies of the seven deceased were found in an apartment in Adajan locality, police said, adding that a note was also recovered from their house which says that the family was taking the extreme step out of financial distress.

Police found that six persons died apparently due to consuming some poisonous substance, while one was found

hanging. "A man, his wife, his parents, the couple's six-year-old son and two daughters aged 10 and 13 were found dead at their residence in Siddheshwar Apartment in Surat Saturday afternoon. We are trying to ascertain the exact cause of their death," DCP (Zone-5) R P Barot said.

While the man - Manish Solanki (37) who worked as a contractor - was found hanging, the bodies of six members of his family, including three children, were found lying on the bed and the floor of the house.

The six family members appeared to have died after consuming a poisonous substance, the official said. As per the note recovered from the house, the family took the extreme step out of financial distress caused after being unable to recover money lent to someone, Barot said, adding that a bottle, which apparently contained the poisonous substance, has also been recovered.

Surat Mayor Niranjan Zanzmer said, "It appears that Solanki made his family members consume poison before hanging himself. The bodies are being sent for post-mortem."

# BSF lodges protest with Pak Rangers



PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

The protest was registered at an hour-long commander-level meeting at the Border Outpost Octroi in Suchetgarh, a BSF officer said

The incident in this sector was the first violation of the February 25, 2021 renewed ceasefire along Jammu and Kashmir borders between India and Pakistan

**Jammu, Oct 28:** The Border Security Force (BSF) Saturday lodged a strong protest with the Pakistan Rangers over the recent unprovoked firing and mortar shelling on forward posts and villages along the International Border here, officials said.

The cross-border shelling by Pakistan Rangers, the first major ceasefire violation since 2021, started around 8 pm Thursday in the Arnia area of RS Pura sector and lasted around seven hours, leaving a BSF jawan and a woman injured.

The protest was registered at an hour-long commander-level meeting at the Border Outpost Octroi in Suchetgarh, a BSF of-

ficer said. This was the second flag meeting between the two sides in 10 days after two BSF personnel were injured when their post in Arnia came under fire from across the border on October 17.

The incident in this sector was the first violation of the February 25, 2021 renewed ceasefire along Jammu and Kashmir borders between India and Pakistan.

The officials said the latest meeting, which was attended by seven members each of the BSF and the Pakistan Rangers, was held in a peaceful atmosphere with both sides highlighting the need to maintain peace along the border.



A shopkeeper sorts earthen lamps ahead of Diwali in Bikaner

PTI PHOTO

## CHHATTISGARH POLLS

### Rahul promises free edu in govt schools

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

**Bhanupratappur/Farasaogon, Oct 28:** Congress leader Rahul Gandhi Saturday promised free education in government schools and colleges in Chhattisgarh, ₹4,000 a year for 'tendu' leaves collectors if his party retains power in the state, and slammed the BJP-led Centre over a host of issues.

Addressing election rallies in the Bhanupratappur and Farasaogon towns in the Naxal-hit Bastar division, Gandhi asked if Prime Minister Narendra Modi brings up 'OBC' (other backward class) in his speeches, then why he is scared of a caste census.

Caste census will be conducted in the country if the Congress is voted to power (at the Centre), he said. While the Bhanupratappur assembly seat is located in the Kanker district, Farasaogon is a part of the Kondagaon constituency in neighbouring Kondagaon district.

The two seats are among the 20 constituencies that will see polling on November 7 in the first phase of the Chhattisgarh elections.

# BJP in desperate search for right candidates against Gehlot, Pilot

*While the saffron party is struggling to find a challenger for Ashok Gehlot on his home turf Sardarpura, it is facing the same situation in finding the right candidate to take on Sachin Pilot in his bastion Tonk*

INDO-ASIAN NEWS SERVICE

**Jaipur, Oct 28:** Even though the BJP has released names of candidates on 124 seats in Rajasthan, it is still trying hard to find eligible and winnable candidates against Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot and former Deputy Chief Minister Sachin Pilot.

While the saffron party is struggling to find a challenger for Ashok Gehlot on his home turf Sardarpura, it is facing the same situation in finding the right candidate to take on Sachin Pilot in his bastion Tonk.

As per BJP sources, "Ashok Gehlot comes as one of the

biggest challenges for the BJP. The saffron party wants to adopt a special strategy to take on the Chief Minister in this decades-old seat dominated by the wily politician. They would need to field such a strong face that the candidate would not only challenge Gehlot but would change the political equation there as well. The simple objective is that if challenged, Gehlot will focus more on his seat and less on the election campaign across the state. This strategy will keep him glued to his seat."

According to sources, the BJP high command is in touch with the erstwhile royal family of Jodhpur. When Prime Minister



Narendra Modi went on a Jodhpur tour recently, a member of the former royal family, Gaj Singh, had also received him at the airport.

According to sources, Modi

and Gaj Singh had a one-on-one meeting for 15-20 minutes. It is believed that there were talks of supporting the BJP in Marwar in this Assembly election. The BJP high command wants a

member of the erstwhile royal family to become active in politics in this election itself. However, the former royal family has not yet issued any statement in this regard.

Sources said that in the past, the BJP had held discussions with Union Minister Gajendra Singh Shekhawat, about contesting elections from the Sardarpura seat, but things did not work out and the party is continuing its search for a powerful leader to take on Gehlot.

Apart from this, the BJP is currently unable to find any strong local leader in Tonk, which is considered the stronghold of the Congress because of Sachin Pilot. The BJP had also tried to rope in Lok Sabha MP Sukhbir Singh Jaunapuria from the area to contest the elections against Pilot, but yet again things did not work out.

Now, the name of South Delhi

MP and Gurjar leader Ramesh Bihuri is doing the rounds for the Tonk seat. However, it's not yet clear if he will contest from Rajasthan as of now, even though he is frequently seen campaigning in East Rajasthan for the party.

The name of former MLA Ajit Mehta is being banded about too. Last time, former Chief Minister Vasundhara Raje's ticket was given to his close aide Yunus Khan at the last moment. Significantly, Khan was the only Muslim to be given a ticket by the party, however he lost the election. This time, the party has not given a ticket to any Muslim candidate, the reason being that the party's core agenda is Hindutva, said sources. Meanwhile Mehta, who is close to the RSS, is a man-in-waiting. Who will contest from Tonk and Sardarpura is a billion dollar question for the BJP as of now.

# international



**We have started negotiations with India to remove its military presence. We want a bilateral relationship that's mutually beneficial. Indian soldiers would not be replaced by troops from other countries**  
MOHAMED MUIZZU | PRESIDENT-ELECT, MALDIVES

**S KOREA'S HALLOWEEN HORROR**  
Halloween celebrations in South Korea were subdued on the eve of the first anniversary of the harrowing party crush that killed about 160 people. Many restaurants, bars, department stores and amusement parks are avoiding Halloween-themed events as a sign of respect for the victims



## of the day quote

**I** once again call on Republicans in Congress to fulfill their obligation to keep the American people safe. Until that day comes, I will continue to do everything in my power to end this gun violence epidemic  
JOE BIDEN | PRESIDENT, US

**The** three incidents that resulted in damage to a gas pipeline and two telecom cables between Estonia, Finland and Sweden are related  
KAJA KALLAS | PM, ESTONIA

**All** eight North East states are well connected by air, land and rail with other parts of India. I invite airlines from Vietnam to explore possibilities of connecting NE states with cities by air  
RAJKUMAR RANJAN SINGH | UNION MINISTER OF STATE FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

## SHORT TAKES

### Biden-Xi talks soon

**Washington:** President Joe Biden and Chinese President Xi Jinping have agreed to meet on the sidelines of next month's Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation summit in San Francisco, according to a US Official familiar with the planning. The two sides worked out an agreement in principle to hold a meeting during the summit as Chinese Foreign Minister Wang Yi met Friday with Secretary of State Antony Blinken and White House national security adviser Jake Sullivan, according to the official.

### 21 dead in mine fire

**London:** A coal mine fire in central Kazakhstan killed at least 21 workers while another 25 remained unaccounted for Saturday, the operating company ArcelorMittal Temirtau said in a statement. Some 252 people were working at the Kostenko coal mine at the time of the blaze, believed to have been caused by a pocket of methane gas, the company said. ArcelorMittal Temirtau is the local representative for Luxembourg-based multinational ArcelorMittal, the world's second-largest steel producer.

## FULL FORCE

# Israel sees war progress

## 35 dead, over 50 hurt in Egypt road mishap

*Besieged Gaza cut off from the world after heavy Israeli bombardment knocks out communications creating a near-blackout of information*

**D**EATH TOLL IN GAZA HAS REACHED 7,703 & 19,734 PEOPLE HAVE BEEN WOUNDED

**I**SRAELI OFFICIALS SAY HAMAS HAS KILLED AT LEAST 1,400 PEOPLE, MOSTLY CIVILIANS



REUTERS

**Jerusalem, Oct 28:** Gaza was largely cut off from the outside world Saturday after Israel expanded air and ground operations and suggested its long-promised ground offensive against the Hamas militants controlling the Palestinian enclave had begun.

Israel said Saturday morning its troops, sent in Friday night, were still in the field, without elaborating. The country had earlier made only brief sorties into Gaza during three weeks of bombardment to root out Hamas militants, who it said had killed 1,400 Israelis, mostly civilians, October 7.

"The forces are still in the field and continuing the war," Rear Admiral Daniel Hagari told a news briefing Saturday morning.

Gaza was under an almost complete communications blackout, with internet and phone

services cut for more than 12 hours by Saturday morning. The Palestinian Red Crescent said Israel had cut the communications.

Hagari also said Israel would allow trucks carrying food, water and medicine to enter Gaza Saturday, indicating that bombing might pause, at least in the area of its border with Egypt where small amounts of aid have been arriving.

Aid agencies have said a humanitarian catastrophe is unfolding in Gaza, whose 2.3 million people are under a total Israeli blockade. Health authorities in the Hamas-run enclave have said more than 7,000 Palestinians have been killed since Israel's bom-

**The main culprit behind the massacre unfolding in Gaza is the West**  
RECEP TAYYIP ERDOGAN | PRESIDENT, TURKEY

**I am raising alarm about the possibly catastrophic consequences of large-scale ground operations in Gaza and the potential for thousands more civilians to die**  
VOLKER TURK | UN HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR HUMAN RIGHTS

bardment began. The head of the World Health Organisation (WHO), Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus, said the blackout was "making it impossible" for ambulances to reach the injured in Gaza. "Evacuation of patients is not possible under such circumstances, nor to find safe shel-

## NY's Grand Central shut, over 200 held

**H**undreds of people were arrested Friday when police broke up a large demonstration of mostly Jewish New Yorkers who had taken over the main hall of Grand Central station in protest of Israel's bombardment of Gaza, police and organizers said. The New York Police Department said at least 200 people had been arrested, while protest organizers put the number at more than 300. "Grand Central Terminal is closed until further notice due to a protest," the MTA said on its website, urging commuters to use alternate stations and plan for extra travel time. Photos from the scene showed long lines of young people standing in handcuffs and wearing black sweatshirts with the words "Not In Our Name" and "Cease Fire Now" printed in white. "Mourn the dead, and fight like hell for the living," read one banner raised inside the building.

**We moved to the next stage in the war. Last evening, the ground shook in Gaza. We attacked above ground and underground. The instructions to the forces are clear. The campaign will continue until further notice**  
YOAV GALLANT | DEFENCE MINISTER

run government said rescue crews were unable to receive emergency calls.

Palestinians say this war is robbing them not only of their loved ones but also of the funeral rites that long have offered mourners some dignity and closure in the midst of unbearable grief.

Across Gaza, terrified civilians were huddling in homes and shelters with food and water supplies running out. Electricity was knocked out by Israel in the early stages of the war.

More than 1.4 million people have fled their homes, nearly half crowding into UN schools and shelters.

Humanitarian workers say the trickle of aid Israel has allowed to enter from Egypt in the past week is a tiny fraction of what is needed. Gaza hospitals have been scrounging for fuel to run emergency generators that power incubators and other life-saving equipment.

## ANOTHER IRANIAN TEEN KILLED OVER HEAD SCARF

*The Iranian teen who was mysteriously hurt on Tehran Metro succumbed to her injuries*



AGENCIES

**Dubai, Oct 28:** An Iranian teenage girl injured weeks ago in a mysterious incident on Tehran's Metro while not wearing a headscarf has died, state media reported Saturday.

The death of Armita Geravand comes after her being in a coma for weeks in Tehran and after the one-year anniversary of the death of 22-year-old Mahsa Amini which sparked nationwide protests at the time.

Geravand's October 1 injury and now her death threaten to reignite that popular anger, particularly as women in Tehran and elsewhere still defy Iran's mandatory headscarf, or hijab, law as a sign of their discontent with Iran's theocracy.

Iran's state-run IRNA news agency reported Geravand's death, without noting the wider unrest surrounding the headscarf law. What happened in the few seconds after Armita Geravand entered the train October 1 remains in question.

Geravand's parents appeared in state media footage saying a blood pressure issue, a fall or perhaps both contributed to their daughter's injury.



**CLIMATE CONSCIOUSNESS:** Climate activists from the organisation Last Generation, Letzte Generation, block the "Strasse des 17. Juni" boulevard in protest against the climate policy in central Berlin Germany

## Why China wants Taliban as friend, not foe

**THE THREAT OF ISLAMIC MILITANCY FROM ACROSS THE AFGHAN BORDER HAS POSED A VERY REAL CHALLENGE FOR BEIJING**

ASSOCIATED PRESS

**London, Oct 28:** The Taliban's presence at the massive October jamboree in Beijing to celebrate the 10th year of China's ambitious trade plan, the Belt and Road Initiative (BRI), is part of Beijing's regional strategy.

This was one of only a handful of foreign visits made by the Taliban since taking power after NATO's withdrawal from Afghanistan in 2021. Interim Afghan minister for commerce Haji Nooruddin Azizi even talked about the Taliban's desire for Afghanistan to join the BRI.

The idea of an Islamist group such as the Taliban allying with the nominally secular and communist China might appear surprising. But this is a logical outcome of China's strategic fears over Islamic militancy at home and abroad.

It is also part of a deepening of ties between China and many Islamic nations in recent years. Historically, Beijing has had no problems working with religious groups or religious-led countries, despite its suspicion of religion at home.

To understand Beijing's motivations for cementing ties with Taliban-led Afghanistan, one only needs to look at Afghanistan's recent history.



With the conclusion of the Soviet-Afghan War (1979-1989) and the collapse of the Moscow-installed Najibullah government in 1992, Afghanistan became a hotbed of Islamic radicalism. It became a magnet for militants from all over the world, from Chechen separatists battling Yeltsin's Russia to the Islamist Abu Sayaf, based in the Philippines.

China had been one of the biggest supporters of the Mujaheddin, the Islamic group which ran Afghanistan from 1978 to 1992, providing the group with training and weaponry. This was partly motivated by Beijing's desire to bolster its ties with the United States and to strike a blow

against the Soviet Union, its major communist rival.

Beijing is less worried about Russia these days. Not only does it have Russia as an ally, but is the dominant partner in the relationship. But it was the assistance to the Mujaheddin that provided some of the groundwork for the security challenges that China faces today as it created a breeding ground for extremism, close to its borders.

The threat of Islamic militancy from across the Afghan border has posed a very real challenge for Beijing. This was demonstrated by a wave of attacks carried out by Uighur militants in China's western Xinjiang

province throughout the 1990s and 2000s, culminating in the 2014 Kunming knife attack, which killed 31 and injured 141 people.

Attacks such as those at Kunming led to China's controversial and repressive policies used against Uighurs in Xinjiang. They also reinforced Beijing's fears of extremism spilling over the borders from Afghanistan.

These would threaten Chinese interests in central Asia and China's western border regions, which have become pivotal for the BRI. The presence of the Taliban at the BRI summit can be seen as an example of how China hopes to create an ally in an attempt to shore up its political and economic interests.

The Taliban's presence at the BRI summit also demonstrates China's growing ties with the Islamic world, which has drawn notable attention in recent years.

Beijing mediated between Iran and Saudi Arabia over their long-standing rivalry in the region. It was also involved in the agreement to add several Islamic nations to the BRICS (Brazil, Russia, India, China, South Africa) partnership.

More recently, China's military ties with the region were further underlined by the deployment of Chinese warships as part of a naval exercise with Saudi Arabia.

## B'desh Oppn stir turns wild amid calls for PM to resign

**PM Hasina's govt is under pressure from the Oppn, Western countries to hold 'free and fair' polls**

REUTERS

**Dhaka, Oct 28:** One police officer was killed in Bangladesh Saturday and over 100 people injured during an opposition party protest demanding the resignation of Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina and calling for a free and fair vote under a caretaker government.

Police fired tear gas and rubber bullets as clashes erupted when tens of thousands of supporters of the opposition Bangladesh Nationalist Party (BNP) gathered in the capital Dhaka, chanting slogans against the government.

Dozens of vehicles, including police vans and ambulances, were set on fire, police and media said. Dhaka Metropolitan Police spokesman Faruq Hossain told reporters one officer had been killed and 41 others were injured in clashes with protesters.

Several journalists were attacked and injured while trying to cover the clashes, media reports said. Security was tightened in the



city in recent days as thousands of people arrived to attend the rally. Hundreds of opposition party activists have been arrested, BNP leaders said.

The party has been calling on Hasina to resign to allow elections scheduled in January to be held under a neutral caretaker government - a demand her government has so far rejected.

"Today's rally continued for hours in a perfectly disciplined and peaceful manner until all of a sudden the lobbing of tear gas shells started," senior BNP leader Abdul Moyeen Khan told Reuters. "The intensity increased and violent attacks with sounds of blasts and shootings turned the whole place into a war zone."

The BNP has called for a dawn-to-dusk countrywide strike in

protest against the police action. "I came to protest the enforced disappearances, murders, and oppression that we have suffered for the past 15 years. This government is not safe anymore for even a second," BNP supporter Arif Khan said.

Hasina, who has maintained tight control since coming to power in 2009, has been accused of authoritarianism, human rights violations, cracking down on free speech and suppressing dissent while jailing her critics.

In May, Washington said it would impose visa sanctions on Bangladeshis who undermine the democratic process at home, after accusations of vote-rigging and suppressing the opposition marred elections in 2014 and 2018. Hasina's government has denied the charges.

## of the day quote

The nation applied the 1% TDS tax on crypto transactions 16 months ago, saying the goal was to track buying and selling rather than raise revenue. But the levy drove 95% of Indian trading volumes to overseas platforms that are difficult for local officials to monitor

SUMIT GUPTA | CEO, COINDCX

If India is to become a leader in 6G, in line with the PM's ambitions, the youngsters must create applications and integrate these with the networks

SP KOCCHAR | DIRECTOR GENERAL, COAI

The current dip in job postings is a transient phase, and it highlights the industry's ability to adapt and evolve. The cybersecurity sector remains a cornerstone of technological advancement. Our data also reinforces that the future holds tremendous potential

SASHI KUMAR | HEAD OF SALES, INDEED

## Q2 RESULTS

### BPCL scripts history

**New Delhi:** Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited (BPCL), one of India's leading energy companies, has announced a remarkable financial achievement, reporting its highest ever half-yearly profit of Rs 19,052 crore for the fiscal year 2023-24. BPCL's standalone net profit for the second quarter of FY 23-24 stood at an impressive Rs 8,501 crore, a significant turnaround from the loss of Rs 304 crore reported in Q2 FY22-23. The consolidated net profit for the same quarter reached Rs 8,244 crore, marking a remarkable recovery from the loss of Rs 338 crore in the previous fiscal year.

### Pfizer net dips 52%

**New Delhi:** Drug firm Pfizer Ltd Saturday reported 52.11 per cent decline in net profit at Rs 148.96 crore for the second quarter ended September 2023. The company had logged a net profit of Rs 311.07 crore in July-September period a year ago, according to a regulatory filing by Pfizer. Revenue from operations declined 9.76 per cent to Rs 575.21 crore in the quarter as against Rs 637.47 crore in the year-ago period. Total expense was at Rs 410.76 crore, down 5.66 per cent. Total income was at Rs 611.28 crore in September quarter 2023-24, down 7.62 per cent.

### IDFC First Bank up

**New Delhi:** IDFC First Bank Saturday reported a 35 per cent rise in net profit at Rs 751 crore in the second quarter ended September driven by operating income. The lender had posted a net profit of Rs 556 crore in the year-ago period. Total income in the second quarter of the current fiscal rose to Rs 8,786 crore from Rs 6,531 crore in the same period a year ago, IDFC First Bank said in a regulatory filing. The net interest income (NII) of the bank improved by 32 per cent to Rs 3,950 crore against Rs 3,002 crore in September 2022.

### NTPC net rises 38%

**New Delhi:** State-owned power giant NTPC Saturday posted over 38 per cent rise in consolidated net profit at Rs 4,726.40 crore for September quarter 2023-24 mainly on the back of higher revenues. Its net profit in the year-ago period stood at Rs 3,417.67 crore, a BSE filing said. Total income rose to Rs 45,384.64 crore in the quarter from Rs 44,681.50 crore in the same period a year ago.



I urged the countries participating in the G7 trade ministers meeting to enhance collaboration on a regulatory framework to facilitate cross border trade

PIYUSH GOYAL | COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY MINISTER

### BSNL'S 4G, 5G PLANS ON ANVIL

State-owned telecom firm BSNL is planning to launch 4G service in December at a small scale and then roll it out across the country by June next year, Chairman and Managing Director PK Purwar said Saturday. Speaking to PTI at the India Mobile Congress, Purwar said that the company plans to upgrade 4G service to 5G after June



## FIRST ANNIVERSARY OF TWITTER TAKEOVER

# X struggles on many fronts

X's identity is on shaky grounds as it fights with misinfo, advertising, usage dip after a year of its takeover. It also remains unclear whether Musk can achieve his ambition of turning it into an "everything app" that everyone uses

ASSOCIATED PRESS

**Washington, Oct 28:** One year ago, billionaire and new owner Elon Musk walked into Twitter's San Francisco headquarters with a white bathroom sink and a grin, fired its CEO and other top executives and began transforming the social media platform into what is now known as X.

X looks and feels something like Twitter, but the more time you spend on it the clearer it becomes that it's merely an approximation. Musk has dismantled core features of what made Twitter, Twitter - its name and blue bird logo, its verification system, its Trust and Safety advisory group. Not to mention content moderation and hate speech enforcement.

He also fired, laid off or lost the majority of its workforce - engineers who keep the site running, moderators who keep it from being overrun with hate, executives in charge of making rules and enforcing them.

The result, long-term Twitter watchers say, has been the end of the platform's role as an imperfect but useful place to find out what's going on in the world.

As one of the platform's most popular and prolific users even before he bought the company, Musk had a unique experience on Twitter that is markedly dif-



Musk hasn't managed to make a single meaningful improvement to the platform and is no closer to his vision of an 'everything app,' than he was a year ago. Instead, X has driven away users, advertisers, and now it has lost its primary value proposition in the social media world: Being a central hub for news

JASMINE ENBERG | ANALYST, INSIDER INTELLIGENCE

ferent from how regular users experience it. But many of the changes he's introduced to X has been based on his own impressions of the site - in fact, he even polled his millions of followers for advice on how to run it (they said he should step down).

"Musk's treatment of the platform as a technology company that he could remake in his vision rather than a social network fueled by people and ad dollars has been the single largest cause of the demise of Twitter," Insider Intelligence analyst

Jasmine Enberg said. **BLUE TICK BLUNDER**

The blue checkmarks that once signified that the person or institution behind an account was who they said they are - a celebrity, athlete, journalist from global or local publication, a nonprofit agency - now merely shows that someone pays \$8 a month for a subscription service that boosts their posts above unchecked users. It's these paying accounts that have been found to spread misinformation on the platform that is often amplified

## BIZ BUZZ

### Lalchnd holds lucky draw for Raghunathpur store

**Bhubaneswar:** On the second day of Lalchnd's 'Kaun Banega Lakhpati', the lucky draw was organised for Raghunathpur store Saturday. In this lucky draw, Nibedita Patnaik from Dhenkanal won a car, Rajesh Satpathy and Kalyani Singh, both from Bhubaneswar, won a motorcycle each and eight customers became 'lakhpatis'. Due to Covid-19 hiatus the lucky draw plan was put on hold. In the presence of customers, the lucky draw was organised at Hotel New Marrion. Sunjoy Hans, founder and chairman of Lalchnd Jewellers, along with Odia film actors Kuna Tripathy, Akash Das Nayak and Bhoomika Dash participated in the lucky draw. Speaking on the occasion, Hans said, "Conducting the lucky draw was not possible due to adverse circumstances. However, as Lalchnd is known for its pure gold and transparent discount, we also strive to keep our promise." It was planned to hold the rest of the lucky draws in the month of October under 'Kaun Banega Lakhpati' scheme. The lucky draw for the Cuttack store will be held Sunday at Cuttack Club.



### UltraTech set to invest ₹13K-cr to raise output

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

**New Delhi, Oct 28:** Cement maker UltraTech Saturday announced a fresh investment of Rs 13,000 crore to add production capacity by 21.9 million tonne per annum in the third phase of the growth, taking its total capacity to 182 MTPA after completion.

The board of the Aditya Birla Group flagship firm "approved the 3rd phase of growth with an investment of Rs 13,000 crore towards increasing the capacity by another 21.9 MTPA with a mix of brownfield and greenfield projects," said a statement from the company.

The company has an existing capacity of 132.45 MTPA of domestic grey cement.

"Post commissioning of the 3rd phase of expansion, approved by the Board today, UltraTech will be strongly placed across the country with 35.5 MTPA in south; 40.4 MTPA in east; 36.2 MTPA in north; 35.7 MTPA in central and 33.8 MTPA in the west," it added. This will be achieved by setting up 4 greenfield and 4 brownfield plants along with 4 greenfield bulk terminals.

UltraTech Cement is the third largest Cement producer in the world, outside of China, with a consolidated grey cement capacity of 137.85 MTPA.

# Russia's fuel oil, VGO exports to India hit record high in Sept

IN TOTAL, RUSSIAN FUEL OIL, VGO EXPORTS TO INDIA HAVE EXCEEDED 5.5MT DURING JAN-SEPT VERSUS 2.5MT IN THE FIRST NINE MONTHS OF 2022

REUTERS

**Moscow, Oct 28:** Russia has sent record volumes of sea-borne fuel oil and vacuum gasoil (VGO) to India in September, replacing some crude oil volumes, traders said and LSEG data showed.

The move will cement India's position as the top buyer of Russian crude and products at the expense of shipments by previously dominant OPEC producers, allowing Moscow to collect stable and rising revenue despite Western sanctions.

India has also become a major exporter of fuels to Europe on the back of refining cheaper Russian barrels.

The European Union's full embargo on Russian oil products came into effect February 5 and the bulk of Russia's fuel oil and VGO was redirected to other regions, mostly Asia.

In September, fuel oil and VGO shipments from Russian ports to India totalled 1.4 million metric tonne after 0.7 million tonne in August, according to LSEG

# Govt imposes MEP on onion as prices surge

CENTRE TO BUY ADDITIONAL 2 LAKH TONNE FOR BUFFER TO CALM DOMESTIC PRICES

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

**New Delhi, Oct 28:** The government Saturday imposed a minimum export price (MEP) of \$800 per tonne on onion exports till December 31 this year with a view to increase availability of the vegetable in the domestic market and contain prices.

The decision will come into effect from October 29. Besides, the government has also announced the procurement of additional 2 lakh tonne of onion for the buffer, over and above the 5 lakh tonne already procured.

The MEP is there for all varieties of onion except Bangalore Rose and Krishnapuram onions; and for cut, sliced, or broken in powder forms.

"Exports of onions is free. MEP of \$800 FOB (free on board) per tonne is imposed till December 31, 2023," the Directorate General of Foreign Trade said in a notification.

An official statement said that the step will help in maintaining sufficient availability of onion to domestic consumers at affordable prices as the quantity of stored Rabi 2023 onion is declining.

The \$800 per tonne MEP translates into about Rs 67 per kg.

Onion from the buffer has been disposed continuously since



the second week of August in major consumption centres all over the country, and also supplied to retail consumers at Rs 25 per kg through mobile vans operated by NCCF and NAFED.

"Till date about 1.70 lakh metric tonne of onion has been disposed from the buffer. The continuous procurement and disposal of onion from the buffer are undertaken to moderate the prices for consumers while ensuring remunerative prices to the onion farmers," it said.

The DGFT notification added that certain onion consignments will be allowed to be exported without MEP and that included consignments that have been handed over to the Customs before this notification and is registered in their system.

According to the Department of Consumer Affairs data, on Saturday the all-India average retail price of onion is Rs 45 per kg, but the maximum price is Rs 80 per kg. In Delhi, the average price is ruling at Rs 75 per kg.

Since mid-August, about 1.7 lakh tonnes of buffer onion has been offloaded in 22 states at different locations.



India has also become a major exporter of fuels to Europe on the back of refining cheaper Russian barrels

data and Reuters calculations. Most of those cargoes will arrive at Indian ports in October.

In total, Russian fuel oil and VGO exports to India have exceeded 5.5 million tonne between January and September, 2023 versus 2.5 million tonne in the

first nine months of 2022.

India buys straight-run fuel oil and VGO for refining, partially replacing more expensive Urals barrels, market sources added.

United Arab Emirates, China, Singapore and Malaysia are also among the big importers of Russian fuel oil and VGO, accounting in total about 1.3 million metric tonne in September, according to LSEG data and Reuters calculations.

Croatia, which is allowed to buy Russian VGO under EU embargo terms, increased vacuum gasoil imports last month twice to August to 66,000 metric tonne and purchased another 66,000 tonne in October, shipping data showed.

Russia also exports in September about 160,000 tonne of fuel oil to Senegal, which buys it for power generation, according to data from LSEG and market sources.

No cargoes with fuel oil or VGO from Russian port were seen heading to Saudi Arabia last month after record volumes in June and July.

# Ukraine conflict a boon for big US defence contractors

Big US defense contractors witness remarkable growth and expect more revenue boost from the Russia-Ukraine, Israel-Hamas conflicts

REUTERS

**Washington, Oct 28:** The Russian invasion of Ukraine in 2022 is starting to boost defence contractors' revenues, as customers such as the US government restock supplies shipped to Ukraine and countries around Europe arm themselves with an eye on Moscow's aggressions.

US defence contractors such as Lockheed Martin, General Dynamics and others expect that existing orders for hundreds of thousands of artillery rounds, hundreds of Patriot missile interceptors and a surge in orders

for armored vehicles expected in the months ahead will underpin their results in coming quarters.

New contracts to supply Ukraine directly - or backfill US weapons sent to Ukraine - were signed late last year, and now revenue is flowing to the big defence contractors. Lockheed, General Dynamics and RTX all reported better than expected results over the past several days, and executives expect both the conflict in Ukraine and Israel's war with Palestinian militant group Hamas to drive up near-term demand.

"We've gone from 14,000 (artillery) rounds per month to 20,000 very quickly. We're working ahead of schedule to accelerate that production capacity up to 85,000, even as high as 100,000 rounds per month," Jason Aiken, General Dynamics' chief financial officer, said on a call



with Wall Street analysts Wednesday.

"And I think the Israel situation is only going to put upward pressure on that demand."

The General Dynamics' Combat Systems unit, which makes armored vehicles, tanks and the artillery Ukraine uses, saw its revenue rise almost 25% versus the same period a year ago.

RTX, which makes AMRAAM rockets used in Ukraine, said Tuesday's earnings call with Wall Street analysts it has received \$3 billion of orders since Russia's February 2022 invasion that are related to replenishing Ukraine and US war stocks, and the company expects more.

Third-quarter sales for Northrop Grumman's Defense

Systems segment rose 6% on high demand for ammunition and rocket motors used in guided multiple-launch rocket systems, which play a crucial role in supporting Ukraine's defence efforts against Russian forces.

This is part of a global trend. Sweden's Saab raised its full-year sales outlook Thursday on the back of strong defense demand and Germany's Rheinmetall said third-quarter profit jumped on strong demand for weapons and ammunition.

During his latest request for \$106 billion in new funds for Ukraine, Israel, the Indo-Pacific region and border enforcement, US President Joe Biden October 20 said some of the supplemental request would go to companies that backfill production of US weapons sent abroad. Biden mentioned Patriot missiles made in Arizona, and "artillery shells manufactured in 12 states across

the country," naming Pennsylvania, Ohio and Texas.

To be sure, executives from several defence firms at a recent trade show cautioned that a lack of skilled labor and supply chain issues continue to hamper companies' capacity to fill orders.

"The supply chain, to be completely candid with you, remains, and I think we expect to remain what I call fragile," General Dynamics's Aiken said on the earnings call, as the company said it was cutting its forecast for 2023 business jet deliveries. "I don't think that's going to get back to what we saw pre-pandemic for the foreseeable future."

Lockheed October 17 said supply and labor disruptions are affecting divisions like aeronautics, which makes the advanced F-35 fighter jet, due to the need for processor assemblies, solid-rocket motors, castings and forgings.

# 111 MEDALS IN PARA ASIAD



Odisha's Soundarya Kumar Pradhan (R), who won the team gold with Satish Inani Darpan and Ashwinbhai Kanchanbhai Makwana, as well as individual silver in B1 category, shakes hand with his Vietnamese opponent after a match in Hangzhou

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Hangzhou, Oct 28: Indian para athletes created history Saturday as they ended their Hangzhou Asian Para Games campaign with an unprecedented 111 medals, the biggest haul for the country in any major international multi-sport event.

With 29 gold, 31 silver and 51 bronze in their kitty, the Indian para athletes won four medals more than the record tally of 107 won by the able-bodied athletes in the Asian Games held from September 23 to October 8.

India ended at fifth place in the medals tally, a remarkable achievement in itself, below China (521 medals: 214 gold, 167 silver, 140 bronze), Iran (131: 44, 46, 41), Japan (150: 42, 49, 59) and Korea (103: 30, 33, 40).

The first Para Asiad was held in 2010 in Guangzhou, China, where India had finished 15th with 14 medals, including one gold. Four year later, India had finished ninth.

The only earlier instance of India crossing the 100-medal mark in a major international multi-

sport event (Olympics, Asian Games and Commonwealth Games) was the 101 medals the country won during the 2010 Delhi Commonwealth Games.

India won 39 more medals than the 2018 edition with athletics contributing 55 (18 gold, 17 silver, 20) out of 111. Indian shuttlers contributed the second most count with 21 medals, including four gold. Chess and archery gave eight and seven medals respectively while shooting contributed six.

On the concluding day Saturday, India added 12 medals, including four gold. Seven medals came from chess, four from athletics and one from rowing.

Neeraj Yadav began the day for India with a gold in men's javelin throw F55 with a Games record of 33.69m. Compatriot Tek Chand clinched a bronze with a personal best of 30.36m in the same event.

Neeraj was diagnosed with Post-Polio Residual Paralysis at the tender age of seven but he always had the inclination towards sports and played wheelchair tennis from 2005 to 2012.

His life changed after he participated in the 2015 Delhi State

Athletic Meet, winning gold medals in each of the three events – shot put, javelin and discus throw. The 39-year-old claimed a gold in javelin throw in the Asian para Games in 2018 before securing the yellow metal in javelin and discus throw in Marrakesh Grand Prix last year.

Dilip Mahadu Gaviot added another athletics gold winning the men's 400m T47 race with a time of 49.48 seconds. The 20-year-old from Nashik was only four-year-old when he had lost his right arm in an accident.

Born in a poor family of five members, Dilip found his calling when coach Vajjanath Kale spotted his talent during one of the inter-school events.

Dilip, who completed his schooling from Shahid Bhagat Singh School, went on to finish 4th in World Para Athletics Championship this year, earning him a Paris Paralympic quota. Pooja then picked up the last athletics medal by bagging a bronze in women's 1500m T20 race with a time of 5:38.81s.

Chess players saved the best for the last with a seven-medal

day, including two gold. India swept all the three medals in men's individual rapid VI-B1 event with Satish Inani Darpan winning gold while Soundarya Kumar Pradhan and Ashwinbhai Kanchanbhai Makwana bagged silver and bronze respectively. The trio also bagged the team gold.

Kishan Gangoli won a bronze in men's individual rapid VI-B2/B3 event. Gangoli, Somendra and Aryan Balchandra Joshi won a team bronze in the same event. The trio of Vruthi Saganlal Jain, Himanshi Bhaveshkumar Rathi and Sanskruti Vikas More won a bronze in women's rapid VI-B1 team event.

Saturday, India also won the lone medal in rowing with Anita and Konganapalle Narayana picking up a silver in PR3 mixed double sculls event.

India had sent 313 athletes at the Hangzhou Para Asian Games, the biggest in any edition with 51 Tokyo Paralympians in the team. India competed in 17 out of 22 events, with the country fielding athletes for the first time in rowing, canoeing, lawn bowl, taekwondo and blind football.

## Umpire's call in DRS divides opinion of cricketing fraternity

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Bangalore, Oct 28: The umpire's call, one of cricket's most ambiguous laws, has come under spotlight once again and it has sharply divided the opinion of fans as well as those who have deep stakes in the sport.

Heated debates in social media emerged after South Africa's Tabraiz Shamsi escaped a leg-before appeal by Haris Rauf as the TV umpire decided to stick with on-field umpire's decision to give not out. The whole sequence eventually pushed Pakistan to defeat in a crucial World Cup match at Chennai Friday.

Former cricketers like Harbhajan Singh, Graeme Smith and commentators like Harsha Bhogle took to X (formerly Twitter) to express their views as well. But the whole cacophony is far away from settled, as former Pakistan captain Misbah-ul-Haq asked for the removal of umpire's call.

Harbhajan too echoed similar sentiments while asking for the change in rule. "Bad umpiring and bad rules cost Pakistan this game. ICC should change this rule...if the ball is hitting the stump that's out whether umpire gave out or not out doesn't matter... otherwise what is the use of technology?" he wrote on Twitter.

But those from the backstage has a different take on the umpire's call and the use of technology. "At this moment, the umpire's call will not be removed. The whole system has undergone several tweaks in the last few years to keep it relevant while giving good share of space for both technology and prediction," an official, who has long associated with the DRS system, told PTI.

Bhogle's view on X concurred with the umpire's opinion. "After the ball strikes the pad, what you see is a projection of where the ball might have been, it isn't the actual ball because that has met an obstruction. If more than 50% of the ball is projected to hit the stumps, you can be 100% sure it will. "But if less than 50% of the ball is projected to hit the stumps, the current accuracy levels cannot state with 100% certainty that the ball would have hit the stumps. Hence, you go back to the umpire's original decision because you cannot be certain enough to overturn his call. It is a very good and fair method," Bhogle wrote.

## Unstoppable India face deflated England in WC



PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Lucknow, Oct 28: India and England have played with contrasting approaches in the World Cup so far, producing contrasting results. And that is unlikely to change here Sunday.

India are on course to top the league stage while England are looking to survive in the tournament they won four years ago. The Rohit Sharma-led side has hardly put a foot wrong, having chased successfully for five games in a row.

England set the benchmark in white-ball cricket with their pure aggressive style of play, resulting in global triumphs in both the shorter formats.

However, the boom or bust approach has clearly not worked in Indian conditions and the defending champions find themselves on the brink of an embarrassing exit.

**Ashwin's inclusion**

Compared to England, India have very little to worry about though they will be missing the all-round services of Hardik Pandya for at least the next couple of games.

In the usual scenario, R Ashwin would have replaced Shardul Thakur on a pitch that is likely to assist the spinners. However, Pandya's absence forces the team management to play only five bowlers. Jasprit Bumrah, Kuldeep Yadav and Ravindra Jadeja walk into the combination for Sunday's game.

To accommodate Ashwin as the third spinner, India will have to choose between Mohammad Siraj and Mohammed Shami, who asserted his world class credentials with five wickets in Dharamsala. Picking between the two proven performers will be a tough call.

Chance for SKY, Iyer

Helped by Rohit's bold intent in the powerplay, the Indian batters have set the ideal template for rival teams to follow. India have mastered the art of chasing, whether they are in cruise control or in a pressure situation like they found themselves against Australia.

In Pandya's absence, Suryakumar Yadav (SKY) is the team's choice at No.6. Following an unfortunate run out in his first game of the competition, the X factor player will be itching to make an impact.

The chatter on Shreyas Iyer's perpetual struggles against the short-ball has resumed following his dismissal in Dharamsala. He will be fired up to prove his doubters wrong.

**England's approach**

England possess plenty of firepower in the batting department and they would be hoping to string together a worthy performance after a string of abject failures. Jos Buttler, Jonny Bairstow, Ben Stokes, Liam Livingstone, Harry Brook. They are all formidable names in world cricket but have found the going tough in very familiar conditions.

Going hammer and tongs from ball one is the need of the hour in the shortest format but the demands of the ODI format are different. England batters must gauge the conditions better and accordingly alter their way of playing.

They all love to whack the ball through the line but the Lucknow pitch might not allow them to do that. Root is one batter who has different gears, others need to follow him and show some patience when required.

England also have a fair amount of concerns on the bowling front, especially the pacers. However, the spin of combination of Moeen Ali and Adil Rashid could pose a threat to the in-form Indian batters.

## Oz win Trans-Tasmanian derby



PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Dharamsala, Oct 28: Travis Head's bulldozing hundred and game awareness in crunch moments helped Australia negate a marvellous century by Rachin Ravindra to register a thrilling five-run victory over New Zealand in their World Cup match here Saturday.

The destruction of Head (109, 67b, 10x4, 7x6) and his opening partner David Warner (81, 65b, 5x4, 6x6) during their 175-run alliance upfront gelled well with some late-order biffing as Aussies overcame a middle-order meltdown to post 388 all out, after they were put into bat.

Ravindra made a sparkling 116 (89b, 9x4, 5x6) and James Neesham a manic 39-ball 58 (3x4, 3x6) but the Kiwis could only manage 383/9 to suffer their second successive defeat in the tournament.

With this win, Australia have eight points from six matches, same as New Zealand, and they

**The cumulative score of 771 posted by the two teams is highest aggregate score in a World Cup game surpassing 754 collectively notched up by South Africa (428) and Sri Lanka (326) in New Delhi October 7, in this very event**

are firmly entrenched at No.4 at this point.

Ravindra pieced together good stands – 61 with fellow opener Devon Conway (28), 96 with Darryl Mitchell (54, 51b, 6x4, 1x6) for the third wicket and 54 with Tom Latham (21) for the fourth wicket.

Neesham did try his best to take Black Caps home with a breezy fifty but some limb-forgetting fielding by the Aussies on a dodgy HPCA stadium outfield

**DUTCH STUN BANGLA**

Kolkata: The Netherlands pacers Paul van Meekeren (4/23) and Bas de Leede (2/25) struck with a vengeance to thrash Bangladesh by 87 runs and cause another upset in the World Cup here Saturday. Bangladesh's chances of making it to the semifinals are effectively over after suffering their fifth consecutive loss in six games.

The Dutch, who had defeated South Africa by 38 runs in Dharamsala, did so again as they fought tenaciously to demolish Bangladesh for 142 after setting them a 230-run target for victory. Earlier, Netherlands batted very slowly to manage 229, courtesy skipper Scott Edwards (68), Wesley Barresi (41) and Sybrand Engelbrecht (35).

in the last few overs denied Kiwis a remarkable win.

Earlier, Head, who returned to the playing 11 from an injury, and Warner garnered 175 runs in a mere 19.1 overs. Fortune also favoured Head while cruising to his fourth ODI hundred. Head was dropped by Mitchell Santner off his own bowling when the batter was on 70. Five runs later, Glenn Phillips at covers allowed the ball whizz through his hands.

The Kiwis bowlers could not hit the right lines and their fielders too were butterfingers, dropping five catches. But the breaks came in after Warner's dismissal, caught by spinner Phillips off his own bowling. The spin trio of Phillips, Santner and Ravindra stifled the Australian middle-order.

Australia needed some momentum from 274/5, and Maxwell (41, 24b, 5x4, 2x6), Josh Inglis (38) and captain Cummins (37, 14b, 2x4, 4x6) provided that.

**BRIEF SCORES:** Australia 388 (Travis Head 109, David Warner 81, Glenn Maxwell 41, Josh Inglis 38, Pat Cummins 37; Glenn Phillips 3/37, Trent Boult 3/77) beat New Zealand 383/9 (Rachin Ravindra 116, James Neesham 58, Daryl Mitchell 54; Adam Zampa 3/74) by 5 runs.

## India women rout Malaysia 5-0 in ACT

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Ranchi, Oct 28: Stalwart Vandana Katariya slammed a brace while Sangita Kumari, Lalremisiami and Jyoti scored a goal each as India came up with another dominating display of stick-work to thrash Malaysia 5-0 in the women's Asian Champions Trophy (ACT) hockey tournament here Saturday.

Continuing from where they had left off Friday, decimating Thailand 7-1 in the opening match, the Indian midfield worked in tandem with the forward line to give them the momentum right from the start of the contest. Vandana (seventh & 21st minutes), Sangita (28th), Lalremisiami (28th) and Jyoti (38th) were on target for India.

Malaysia were never in the contest against a far superior Indian side marshalled by captain Savita Punia as veteran forward Vandana pierced the porous defence of the rivals with ease



Indian players celebrate a goal against Malaysia, Saturday

to score the opening goal from a penalty corner in the seventh minute of the first quarter.

Another rasping penalty corner from Vandana saw Malaysia go down 0-2 midway through the second quarter and just before the conclusion of the first half, Sangita, who had slammed a

hat-trick against Thailand Friday, weaved her way into the circle to score a fine field goal.

Almost immediately, Lalremisiami too got her name on the scoresheet with another field effort before Jyoti piled on the rivals' misery in the 38th minute. India could have won by a 6-0

## Colts beat Malaysia

**JOHOR BAHRU (Malaysia):** Goals from Aditya Lalage, Amandeep Lakra and Rohit helped Indian colts decimate hosts Malaysia 3-1 in the Sultan of Johor Cup hockey tournament here Saturday. After drawing their opening match against Pakistan, the Uttam Singh-led India junior side took the lead in the 28th minute through Lalage, which was followed by goals from Amandeep (37th) and Rohit (54th) as the defending champions earned three full points. It was after Malaysia took the lead through Suhaimi Irfan Shahmie in the 13th minute. India will take on New Zealand, Monday.

margin had a penalty stroke awarded to them in the first quarter not been declared void following video referral.

India will next take on China Monday. China had defeated India in the Hangzhou Asian Games semifinals, preventing them from securing a direct 2024 Paris Olympic qualification.

## NKETIAH TREBLE HELPS ARSENAL ROUT BOTTOM-PLACED SHEFFIELD

ASSOCIATED PRESS

London, Oct 28: Eddie Nketiah scored his first Premier League hat-trick as Arsenal brushed aside last-placed Sheffield United 5-0 Saturday to keep pace in the title race. The win keeps Arsenal two points behind leaders Tottenham.

The England striker opened the scoring in the 28th minute before doubling the lead in the 50th and completed his hat-trick in the 58th. Substitute Fabio Vieira netted the fourth from the penalty spot in the 88th and Takehiro Tomiyasu completed the rout deep into stoppage time.

The matchday also saw Brentford win at Stamford Bridge in the Premier League for the third straight season as second-half goals by Ethan Pinnock and Bryan Mbeumo earned a 2-0 vic-



tory over Chelsea. Chelsea have only won one of their six league games at home this season.

Earlier Friday, Son Heung-min scored again in Tottenham's 2-1 win over Crystal Palace 2-1. The Spurs took the lead in the 53rd through an own goal by Palace defender Joel Ward. Son then netted his eighth league goal of the season to ensure Tottenham stayed unbeaten after 10 games. Jordan Ayew pulled a goal back for Palace in stoppage time.

## Bellingham marks 'Clasico' debut with brace, Real win

ASSOCIATED PRESS

Barcelona, Oct 28: Jude Bellingham won't forget his first 'Clasico' match as the England midfielder scored two goals including a stoppage-time winner to lead Real Madrid to a 2-1 comeback victory at Barcelona in the Spanish league (La Liga) Saturday.

They were Bellingham's 12th and 13th goals in 13 games in all competitions since he joined Madrid this summer, including a Spanish league-leading 10 goals in 11 rounds.

Barcelona went ahead in the sixth minute through former Manchester City midfielder Ilkay Gundogan's first goal for his new club. The hosts also hit the woodwork twice before Bellingham equalized.

Bellingham was kept in check



by Barcelona's Gavi Paéz until he found space well outside the box to unleash a strike in the 68th that swerved past Marc-Andre ter Stegen and hit the corner of the net.

Bellingham then tapped in the stoppage-time winner when a deflected ball fell to him in front of the net. Real remained top, equal on points with second-placed Girona. Barcelona are four points behind in third.