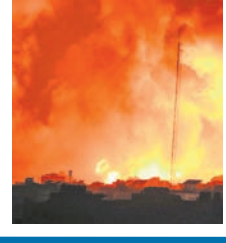




DIGITAL WOES
An AI-generated vulgar clip of actress Rashmika Mandanna goes viral prompting sharp reactions from netizens and celebs **LEISURE P2**



CALL FOR CEASEFIRE
UN agency leaders say 'enough is enough' and demand a humanitarian ceasefire nearly a month into Gaza's war **INTERNATIONAL P10**



TIMED OUT
Sri Lanka all-rounder Angelo Mathews becomes first cricketer to be 'timed out' after not being ready to face the ball within 2 minutes **SPORTS P11**

Fresh quake strikes Nepal, felt in Delhi

New Delhi: An earthquake of 5.6 magnitude struck west Nepal Monday and strong tremors were felt in parts of north India, the National Centre for Seismology said. It said the epicentre for the quake was 233 kilometres north of Ayodhya in Uttar Pradesh. The quake triggered panic among people, with many in Delhi and the National Capital Region reporting vigorous shaking of furniture. Several social media users shared visuals of people rushing out of residential buildings. At least 157 people were killed and more than 160 injured when a powerful 6.4 magnitude earthquake, the worst since 2015, struck Nepal Friday night and destroyed hundreds of houses in the Himalayan nation's remote mountainous region.

Heeralal Samariya first Dalit to be CIC

New Delhi: Former IAS officer Heeralal Samariya was Monday sworn in as the Chief Information Commissioner by President Droupadi Murmu. The post was lying vacant following the completion of YK Sinha's tenure October 3. Samariya, the first Dalit to have been appointed to the post, was working as information commissioner in the transparency panel Central Information Commission (CIC). A 1985-batch Indian Administrative Service (IAS) officer of Telangana cadre, Samariya retired after serving as the Labour and Employment Secretary in the government of India. He was sworn in as the Information Commissioner November 7, 2020.



SOURCE OF WAR: Samir Ayoub, uncle of three children who were killed by an Israeli airstrike, puts flowers on their car in Ainata, a Lebanese village bordering Israel in south Lebanon, Monday AP/PTI

FRESH TENSION IN IMPHAL OVER 'MISSING' BOYS

Imphal, Nov 6: Fresh tension gripped the Manipur capital and its adjoining areas Monday after two teenage boys went missing from Imphal West district in Manipur. The two, identified as 16-year-old Maibam Avinash and 19-year-old Ningthoujam Anthony, had gone towards Sekmai area in Imphal West district on a two-wheeler Sunday morning to attend a function before they went missing, locals said. Locals suspect that the duo, whose hometown is in Lamshang, was abducted by unidentified men. Lamshang police has registered a missing case and started an investigation. Police have recovered the phones of the teens wrapped in a black polythene packet near an oil pump in Senapati district which comes after crossing Kangpokpi district. Demanding swift police action to rescue the teens, higher secondary students of three prominent schools in Imphal town took out a rally and protested at Keisampat junction in the heart of the capital. At Lamshang, locals in large numbers came out on the streets and burnt tyres and put boulders in the middle of the streets as a mark of protest.

Odd-even scheme in Delhi from Nov 13

New Delhi: Delhi Environment Minister Gopal Rai announced Monday that the odd-even car rationing scheme will be enforced from November 13 to 20 in the National Capital as a measure to combat air pollution. Rai also said that to safeguard the health of schoolchildren, the government has decided to suspend in-person classes in all schools, except for students in grades X and XII preparing for board exams. The odd-even scheme will come into effect in Delhi after Diwali, running from November 13 to November 20. A decision to extend the scheme will be made after November 20, the minister said during a press meet here. **P9**



Here it goes, sir. Thanks to your exemplary work, business is doing great.

Fraud in name of farmers

14 JAN SEVA KENDRA EMPLOYEES ARRESTED FOR CONSPIRING TO EMBEZZLE ₹10 CRORE UNDER PMFBY

POST NEWS NETWORK

Bolangir, Nov 6: Bolangir police busted a major online fraud racket as it arrested as many as 14 employees of Sahaj Jan Seva Kendras on charge of planning to embezzle insurance claims worth over ₹10 crore under the Centre-sponsored Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY) by manipulating the land pattas and land records of thousands of farmers, a police official said Monday. The arrested accused were identified as Kuber Meher, 28, Hiradhar Meher, 42, Bidyadhar Meher, 43, of Bhalumunda village, Samant Majhi, 25, of Dumerpada village, Champaram Kumbhar, 41, of Sanagamada village under Bangomunda police limits, Balaram Behera, 33, of Kandakhal village, Pravin Sahu, 22, of Patrapali village under Muribahal police limits, Chudeshwar Behera, 41, Sisir Bhu, 32, of Sriram village under Sindhekela police limits, Kunal Jindal, 24, of Kantabanji, Purennder Patel, 43, of Saintala police limits, Sunral Meher, 29, of Meherpada in Patnagarh, Rahul



Ranjan Deep, 31, of Badimunda village under Bolangir Sadar police limits and Durjyodhan Bag, 25, of Kuhuura village under Kegaon police limits in Kalahandi district. Seven laptops, 11 numbers of computer CPUs, five printers, three monitors, four finger print scanners and 16 mobile phones were seized from the possession of the accused. This was stated here by Bolangir Superintendent of Police (SP) Rishikesh Dnyandeo Khilari at a presser held at the ODRAF building near the Reserve Police Ground in Bolangir, Monday. The district police managed to crack the case due to timely complaint lodged by the district agriculture department, the SP said. According to the police, the district agriculture department somehow came to know that

ously, the Cyber Police registered a case and four teams comprising officers of Cyber Police and district police conducted raids at different locations and apprehended 14 persons for their alleged involvement in the crime. During the investigation, the police teams found that the land pattas and land records had been manipulated at 13 Sahaj Jan Seva Kendras in Bolangir district and one centre in Kalahandi district. During the probe they found that the land pattas, Aadhaar cards, copies of bank passbooks and mobile phone numbers of farmers had been manipulated by the proprietors of the Sahaj Jan Seva Kendras and their employees. They uploaded the available data without the knowledge of the farmers and mentioned various people as sharecroppers. They even submitted necessary premiums towards the PMFBY as per the guideline of crop insurance. "We will soon nab others involved in this case," said the SP adding that the district administration has been asked to close the Common Service Centres (CSCs) involved in the crime.

GADAKANA DUMPING YARD ROW

OHRC seeks report from BMC by Dec 11

POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar, Nov 6: Peeved at the alleged insensitivity of the civic authorities towards the plight of citizens, the Odisha Human Rights Commission (OHRC) Monday issued notice to the Bhubaneswar Municipal Corporation (BMC), seeking a detailed factual report on dumping of garbage at the Gadakana dumping yard by December 11. The hearing on the matter will commence at the state rights body December 14. The commission's directive came in response to a petition filed by Anchalika Suraksha Manch, a local non-profit from Gadakana, alleging that the prevailing unhealthy condition borne out of the garbage dump is a violation of human rights. OHRC chairperson Justice Satrugana Pujahari said the complainant Sura Patra and other members of the Manch have alleged that the BMC keeps on dumping all waste articles collected from across the city in Mancheswar area, making life difficult for the residents in the

vicinity, while also exposing them to serious health risks. Taking into consideration that the allegations prima facie reveals violation of human rights, the rights body directed the BMC Commissioner to initiate an enquiry into the matter and submit a detailed factual report by December 11, 2023. Citizens of the capital city of Bhubaneswar, especially those living in the surrounding areas of various Temporary Transit Centres, are reportedly being choked by the toxic air and foul stench emanating from the ever-expanding waste piles. The inordinate delay in setting up solid waste management units is adding to the woes of these residents. Members of the Manch knocked on the doors of the Odisha Human Rights Commission (OHRC), the National Commission for Protection of Child Rights (NCPCR) and other key forums, seeking action. The outfit alleged that the civic body has not acted despite an order of the Orissa High Court in 2012 to remove all temporary transit stations in the city.

Panel sticks to Hindi names

AGENCIES

New Delhi, Nov 6: The parliamentary committee examining three Bills, which seek to replace as many 'colonial' era laws, Monday adopted its draft report offering a slew of **NEW CRIMINAL LAWS** amendments but sticking to their Hindi names, with nearly 10 Opposition members likely to submit dissent notes. Congress leader P Chidambaram spoke at length in the meeting offering a host of suggestions, including that the committee should define community service and what all it envisages, and wanted three instead of two days for members to file dissent notes, sources said, adding that the panel has stuck to the deadline of 48 hours. While some Opposition members such as Adhir Ranjan

Chowdhary have already submitted their dissent notes, a few others are likely to submit in the next two days. The committee, the sources said, has stuck to the Hindi names given to the bills and ignored suggestions from some Opposition members, including Dayanidhi Maran, that they should have English versions too. Home Minister Amit Shah had introduced Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita, Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita and Bharatiya Sakshya Adhiniyam Bills in Lok Sabha August 11 during the Winter Session. They are meant to replace the Indian Penal Code, The Code of Criminal Procedure and the Indian Evidence Act and were sent to the committee for scrutiny with a three-month deadline.

Arnold's accent, ascent in Hollywood

AGENCIES

Los Angeles, Nov 6: Arnold Schwarzenegger says he had multiple coaches to prepare for his Hollywood debut and that included a guy who was supposed to help the Austria-born star get rid of his accent. Schwarzenegger, however, ended up landing a role in Terminator because of his accent as filmmaker James Cameron thought he sounded like a machine, reported entertainment portal IndieWire. During an appearance on "The Graham Norton Show", Schwarzenegger spoke about the beginnings of his American acting career. "I had an English coach, and an acting coach, and a speech coach, and an accent-removal

"When I did 'Terminator', Jim Cameron said, 'What made 'Terminator' work and why it became successful is because Schwarzenegger talks like a machine'" **ARNOLD SCHWARZENEGGER** coach — who has passed away since then, but I mean, I should have otherwise gotten my money back," Schwarzenegger told Norton. The former California governor said he would spend hours with the coach to sound like an American, working on pronunciation of words like 'three' or 'wine', which sound different in German, the official language of Austria. "I remember he'd say, 'You



guy had me say 'A fine wine grows on vine.' I was saying things like that over and over again. It was very helpful, but it didn't get rid of my accent." He may not have succeeded in sounding American but Schwarzenegger managed to break out as an action star with 1982's "Conan the Barbarian" and 1984's "The Terminator", where his accent became an asset in playing the cyborg killer antagonist. "When I did 'Terminator', Jim Cameron said, 'What made 'Terminator' work and why it became successful is because Schwarzenegger talks like a machine,'" Schwarzenegger recalled. The actor most recently featured in the Netflix series "FUBAR" and documentary series Arnold.

MARKET WATCH

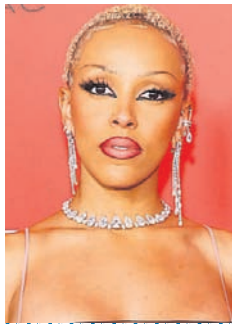
INDEX	VAIATION
SENSEX	64958.69 ↑ 594.91
NIFTY	19411.80 ↑ 181.20
DOLLAR	83.22 ↓ ₹0.08
EURO	89.46 ↑ ₹0.71
GOLD	₹60,786 ↓ ₹234
SILVER	₹71,986 ↓ ₹266

WEATHER

	BHUB	CTK
TEMP MAX	30.9°C	30.8°C
TEMP MIN	23.6°C	23.0°C
Humidity	89%	86%
Rainfall	Nil	Nil

Forecast: Light to moderate rain

leisure



DOJA CAT APOLOGISES AFTER TAUNTING HER FOLLOWERS

Singer Doja Cat has apologised the social media users after she made use of her Instagram account to taunt her haters with a bizarre video posted over the weekend. It featured her sticking her tongue out repeatedly and saying 'bleah!' to the camera in a mocking manner, reports *aceshowbiz.com*.

SCHWARZENEGGER CAUGHT KISSING MYSTERY WOMAN

Hollywood star Arnold Schwarzenegger has been caught kissing a woman amid his brewing romance with his girlfriend Heather Milligan. The *Terminator: Dark Fate* actor appeared to have packed on the PDA with an unidentified woman during a recent outing in California.



FORTUNE FORECAST

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

ARIES
You may want to meet up with friends you haven't met in a long time, and the stars indicate that you will have great fun. Your enthusiasm will add a glow to whatever you do. Your sincerity in approach is what makes it special, says Ganesh.

TAURUS
You will focus on nurturing the positive aspects of your life today, says Ganesh. You might exhaust yourself mentally trying to set things straight. It would be better to brainstorm with someone close to you or approach people whom you have differences with. The nitty-gritty is fine, but do not forget the larger picture, suggests Ganesh.

GEMINI
You will let your personal likes and dislikes cloud your judgement today. Don't let that happen, or you may lose a worthy friend. You are likely to have a chance meeting with your soul mate or maybe even your ex-sweetheart. A romantic evening is on the anvil.

CANCER
Today may not be a productive day for you. Though there may not be any major loss, you may feel a little lost and would like to be left alone. If you have kids, you may suffer from the empty nest syndrome with your kids not at home.

LEO
You may wear the trendiest suit, drive the swankiest car and dine at the costliest restaurant, but if luck is not on your side, you can forget becoming a business tycoon. Fortunately, that is not the case with you today. With a favourable alignment of the cosmos, you are set for a day where your business proposals will be the hardest thing to overlook.

VIRGO
Family matters. And matters of family matter more. Your negotiation skills are supreme and you shall bring harmonious ends to disputes today. Life has taught you to be balanced and level-headed, and you strongly believe that there is progression in opposition.

LIBRA
It's a full platter today, and you have to manage it all somehow. The day promises to be full of activities, especially those that involve writing letters and reviving old contacts. Expect a call to appear for an interview for a better job. Also, look forward to being put in charge of organising events at work, says Ganesh.

SCORPIO
In all probability, you are set to shine out as a man of care and kindness. Ganesh advises you to shut the doors on worries and open the windows to let merrymaking and happiness sweep you off your feet today. The social bug will bite you hard, says Ganesh.

SAGITTARIUS
Providence smiles upon you today, predicts Ganesh. Catching a film with your beloved today is a very good idea. Chances are you may have a nice outing along with your friends or family. In either case, the load in your wallet is likely to lessen, steadily if not dramatically.

CAPRICORN
Not many can match you when it comes to living a healthy lifestyle, and as Ganesh says, health won't be an issue today either. On the work front, you are likely to complete pending projects successfully and your boss, who may be furious because of the delay caused, will reluctantly admit that you did justice to the work and that it was worth the wait.

AQUARIUS
Today, you will wish there were two of you! You are deluged with pending work, and even doubling up efforts will not seem enough. You may even cancel your movie date, deciding to deal with your sweetheart's tantrums later. It's your boss who are worried about, says Ganesh.

PISCES
Bright prospects will greet whatever new ventures you decide to focus on today, says Ganesh. It is a good time to implement your plans. Apart from short-term monetary gains, you may also find yourself pursuing activities which bring you intangible rewards, like goodwill for example.



Kat on Tiger 3's action sheroism

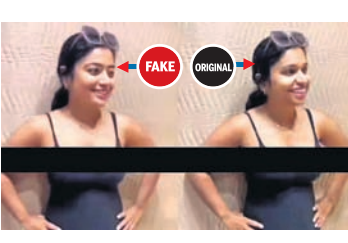
Mumbai: Actress Katrina Kaif, whose towel fight sequence at a hammam from *Tiger 3* has caught the eye of many, spoke about how the action sequence with two women has not been shown before on screen in India. The *Welcome* actress said: "Tiger franchise consistently offers me the opportunity to elevate the standard of female action heroism. I've experienced the life of a super spy vicariously through Zoya, and I appreciate her fierce combat skills. Like Tiger, she can outlast any opponent, which brings a fresh and captivating dynamic for both me and the audience." She added, "Shooting a challenging sequence within a steamy Hammam room, featuring intense hand-to-hand combat, presented formidable difficulties. Credit goes to Adi for conceiving this remarkable scene, as it's a rarity in Indian cinema to showcase such an intense fight between two women. The execution by Maneesh and the action team was impeccable, and Zoya's showdown with the formidable fighter portrayed by Michelle Lee promises to deliver astonishing intensity, aggression, and brutality, leaving audiences in awe." She added: "This is one of the best action sequences I have ever seen women do on screen." *Tiger 3* is set to release November 12 in Hindi, Tamil and Telugu.



AI-generated vulgar clip goes viral

Support pours in for Rashmika

The video originally featured Zara Patel, a British-Indian influencer, but her face changes to that of the 'Pushpa' actress in the deepfake



Mumbai: Actress Rashmika Mandanna speaks out against her deepfake video which has been doing the rounds on social media and said technology is being misused. Taking to X she wrote, "I feel really hurt to share this and have to talk about the deepfake video of me being spread online. Something like this is honestly, extremely scary not only for me, but also for each one of us who today is vulnerable to so much harm because of how technology is being misused." The actor continued, "Today as a woman and as an actor, I am thankful for my family,"

when I was in school or college, I genuinely can't imagine how I could ever tackle this." Coming out in her support, Amitabh Bachchan took to X to re-share a tweet by a user calling for the 'urgent need for a legal and regulatory framework to deal with deepfake in India'. Reacting to the tweet, the veteran actor shared the video and wrote, "Yes, this is a strong case for legal." Acknowledging the fake video of the actress, Union Minister Rajeev Chandrasekhar today reminded the social media platforms of their legal obligations to fight misinformation. If platforms do not comply with this, they can be taken to court by the aggrieved person under the provisions of Indian Penal Code, added the minister. "Deep fakes are latest and even more dangerous and damaging form of misinformation and needs to be dealt with by platforms," said Chandrasekhar. The video originally featured Zara Patel, a British-Indian influencer, but her face changes to that of the actor in the deepfake.

'World's behind the wrong Sara'

Mumbai: Actress Sara Ali Khan has clarified that she is not dating Indian cricketer Shubman Gill, who is currently busy with the ongoing World Cup. The *Atrangi Re* actress is set to appear on the popular chat show *Koffee With Karan* in its season 8 along with actress Ananya Panday. Sara issued a clarification during the course of the episode as per the latest promo of the show. In the promo host Karan Johar is seen telling Sara: "There were alleged rumours about you dating Shubman Gill." To which she quipped: "You have got the wrong Sara, guys. Sara ka saara duniya galat Sara ke peechhe pada hai." The actress was referring to Sara Tendulkar, the daughter of the India cricketing legend Sachin Tendulkar, whose record of the most centuries in One Day International was recently equaled by Virat Kohli. Kohli made a stellar comeback as he smashed his 49th ton during the recent match between India and South Africa during the ongoing World Cup. During the match, Shubman was also teased by the spectators with Sara's name to which Kohli jumped and asked them to call the cricketer by his name pointing to his name written at the back of his jersey.



Ishaan's homework to play real-life war hero

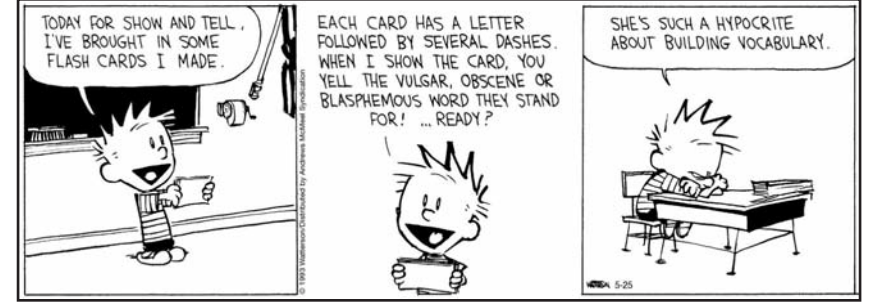
Mumbai: Actor Ishaan Khatter, who is all set to woo the audience with his uniform look in the upcoming war film *Pippa*, opened up on the preparations that he went for the portrayal of real-life war hero. He shared: "The character of Capt Bahram Mehta in *Pippa* fascinated me. I considered myself incredibly honoured to portray Captain Bahram at the age of 26, which is coincidentally the same age at which Captain Bahram Singh Mehta (now Brigadier) fought in the war." Ishaan dedicated significant time to research, attending multiple boot-camps and spending a substantial amount of time with armed forces. He said: "We lived for seven days each at two army cantonments, one in Rajasthan and another in Maharashtra. We were taught how to drive tanks. We shot in West Bengal for 45 days and filmed important events like the Battle of Garibpur, which allowed me to gain an understanding of the war from his perspective." *Pippa* is a thrilling narrative of a landmark moment in history, the Battle of Garibpur, during the Indo-Pakistan war of 1971, that was pivotal in Bangladesh's struggle for independence. The film also features Mrunal Thakur, Priyanshu Panyuli and Soni Razdan in pivotal roles.



PEANUTS



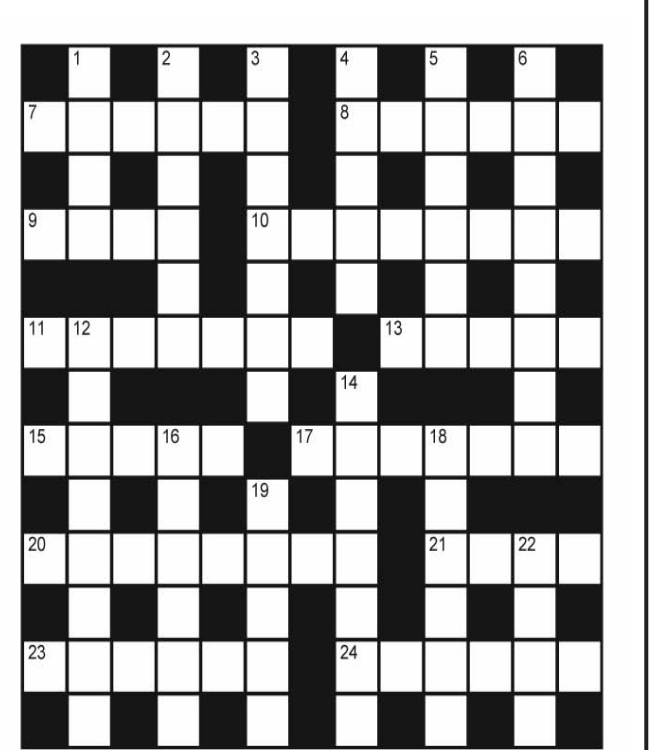
CALVIN AND HOBBS



BREVITY



FUN post CROSSWORD



- Across**
- 7 Polished
 - 8 Do over
 - 9 Fearless
 - 10 Traffic stopper (3,5)
 - 11 Amazing adventure
 - 13 Like a gymnast
 - 15 Musical exercise
 - 17 Computer scheme
 - 20 Dinner choice (4,4)
 - 21 Walkway
 - 23 Thin out
 - 24 Reciprocal
 - 3 Hunting dog
 - 4 Rank
 - 5 Season
 - 6 Type of party
 - 12 Run-down
 - 14 Eau de cologne, e.g.
 - 16 Kind of test
 - 18 American elk
 - 19 Vestibule
 - 22 Squad
- Down**
- 1 Verve
 - 2 Zoo inhabitants

SUDOKU

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

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

SOLUTIONS

CROSSWORD

F	I	C	T	I	O	N	T	R	O	U	T
A	E	C	G	U	E						
C	O	N	C	E	R	G	E				
E	T	C	S	T	U	T					
T	Y	R	O	L	E	T	H	I	C	A	L
E	E	S									
C	S	A	S	H							
U	N	D	E	R	S						
S	T	A	U	N	C	H					
T	O	D	E								
O	D	E									
M	E	R	V	E							
S	E	R	V	E							

SUDOKU

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

CHECK FOR SOLUTIONS OF THE PUZZLES TOMORROW

downtown

RICH TRIBUTE

Odisha Assembly Speaker Pramila Mallik paying floral tribute at the statue of Pandit Nilakantha Das on the occasion of the erudite scholar and freedom fighter's 56th death anniversary on the House premises in Bhubaneswar, Monday



SOCIAL SECURITY PENSION SCHEME

Remove ghost beneficiaries, SSEPD dept tells Collectors

AGENCIES

Bhubaneswar, Nov 6: The state government has directed all district Collectors to identify and remove ghost beneficiaries under the social security pension scheme.

Social Security & Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities (SSEPD) department principal secretary Bishnupada Sethi has written letters to Collectors November 3 regarding ghost beneficiaries under the Madhu Babu Pension Yojana (MBPY) and National Social Assistance Programme (NSAP).

"It has come to the notice of the department that death cases are not being reported properly, for which the money is being credited to a non-existing person," Sethi said.

He said proper identification of death vacancies and its immediate filling up is a prerequisite for ensuring that eligible needy people get their entitlements smoothly.

The block development officers (BDOs) should review the pension matter every month, cancel pension in cases of death

and ensure that a new beneficiary is included in the scheme to ensure that the vacancy remains nil all the time, he instructed.

During the review for the month of October 2023, he said, 12,405 vacancies were found under MBPY and 6,614 under NSAP.

Moreover, the pension of 41,046 NSAP beneficiaries could not be credited through direct benefit transfer (DBT) as required. And the reasons of which the pension was not credited are not known, Sethi pointed out.

"Though verified online applications are pending with the district administrations to be sanctioned, it is sad that vacancies are not being filled up," said the letter.

The district administrations should take proactive steps in identifying the vacancies and fill up the same as soon as possible so that the pending eligible applicants can be accommodated, he added.

The Collectors have been directed to properly scrutinise and verify the pensioners and take necessary measures for immediate filling up of the vacancies under both pension schemes.

SINCE DEATH CASES ARE NOT BEING REPORTED PROPERLY, MONEY IS BEING CREDITED TO A NON-EXISTING PERSON, SAID SSEPD DEPT PRINCIPAL SECRETARY BISHNUPADA SETHI



ART WORK: A painter draws murals at Exhibition Ground Road in Bhubaneswar, Monday, as part of a beautification drive

OP PHOTO

'INJUSTICE' TO CHANDALA COMMUNITY

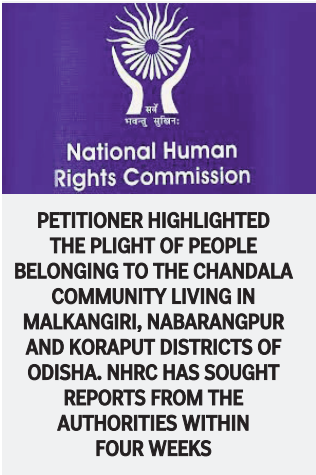
NHRC notice to Odisha, Centre

KULDEEP SINGH, OP

New Delhi, Nov 6: The National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) has issued notice to the secretary of Union Ministry of Tribal Affairs and Chief Secretary of Odisha government on the alleged injustice caused to people belonging to 'Chandala' community in Odisha.

The NHRC was told that the community is facing discrimination in getting benefits of welfare schemes and basic amenities and, also, untouchability. The Commission also issued notice to the secretary of Union Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment on a plea moved by rights activist Radhakanta Tripathy, who also pleaded for changing the name of the community from 'Chandala' to 'Adi Utkal'.

The petitioner highlighted the plight of people belonging to the



Chandala community living in Malkangiri, Nabarangpur and Koraput districts of the state. The NHRC sought reports from the authorities within four weeks.

Tripathy also contended that a movement was initiated by

people in the state to rename the community as Adi Utkal and a proposal submitted to Harijan Welfare Advisory Board of the state government, and also forwarded to the Union Tribal Affairs Ministry. However, the proposal was turned down by the Union government stating that it would create inconvenience in allotting caste certificates since Adi Utkal doesn't find mention as a caste in records of rights, Tripathy said.

The petitioner urged that the total population of Chandala community across Odisha is quite low and, of them, very few have records of right or patta, while rest of them are very poor so issuance of caste certificate would not be a herculean task. Tripathy contended that there is a need to change the name Chandala to ensure dignity and relief to the members of the community and their future generation.

Brace for chill

AGENCIES

Bhubaneswar, Nov 6: Odisha is likely to witness cold conditions as the Regional Meteorological Centre here Monday forecast a drop of night temperature by 3-4 degree Celsius in the next 24 hours.

There will be no large change in minimum temperature (night temperature) during the next 24 hours and it will gradually fall by 3-4 degrees Celsius in next two to three days at many places over the districts of Odisha, the MeT office said in its mid-day bulletin.

Meanwhile, Koraput recorded the lowest temperature of 13.2 degree Celsius during the last 24 hours. However, the IMD said that the state is likely to experience light to moderate rain/thundershower at one or two places in the districts of South Coastal Odisha, Koraput, Rayagada and Malkangiri till 8:30am of Tuesday. Light to moderate rain is very likely to occur at one or two places in Gajapati, Rayagada, Koraput and Malkangiri districts in next 24 hours.

HC asks ASI to file affidavit on Nata Mandap repair work

POST NEWS NETWORK

Cuttack, Nov 6: The Orissa High Court Monday directed the Archaeological Survey of India (ASI) to file an affidavit with detailed information regarding steps taken to repair the Nata Mandap of Srimandir in Puri. The court has also asked the Shree Jagannath Temple Administration (SJTA) to submit its report in this regard.

A division bench of Acting Chief Justice BR Sarangi and Justice MS Raman posted the matter for hearing November 8. The court has also scheduled the hearing of the twin issues related to repair and restoration of Ratnabhandar and Konark Sun Temple on the same day.

The court expressed its displeasure over non-completion of repair works at Nata Mandap which started way back in 2017, and said that the respondents are resorting to delaying tactics by buying time. The HC also



sought a report from the superintending archaeologist of Puri circle Dibishad Brajasundar Gadnayak about pending work related to repair of Nata Mandap. The court was informed that the progress in the work would happen only after the receipt of detailed consultancy report from IIT-Madras whose technical suggestions had been sought.

A similar remark on the repair of Nata Mandap was made by amicus curiae NK Mohanty, who submitted a report to that effect. It is learnt that due to the alleged inaction of IIT-Madras the repair work has been stalled.

It may be recalled that the original petition seeking expeditious repair of Srimandir Nata Mandap was filed by Abhishek Das.

Police nab domestic help for jewellery theft

POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar, Nov 6: The police have arrested a domestic help who allegedly stole gold ornaments from the residence of his monogerman employer at Khandagiri, here.

Assistant Commissioner of Police, Zone III, Pradipta Kumar Rout said Monday that Tapas Nayak was nabbed following a brief hunt. The police have recovered gold ornaments weighing 35 gram from his possession.

Nayak is a native of Dhenkanal. Nayak was engaged by Sujata Mohanty and Gopal Krushna Mohanty, both aged above 90 years, at their residence in Barabari area of Khandagiri.

IIC Abhimanyu Das of Khandagiri police station said Nayak was hired intermittently by the couple to help them with their daily chores since August 2021. He was in the habit of leaving the job abruptly and coming back again, Das said.

The elderly couple recently discovered that a gold chain and four pairs of earrings were missing from their wardrobe. "Suspecting the role of Tapas in the theft, they registered a complaint with us," Das said.

Working on multiple leads, the police finally managed to lay their hands on Nayak November 2 (Thursday), he added.

The recovered ornaments will be returned to the couple by following due procedure, police said.

Justice Muralidhar appears as senior advocate before SC

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, Nov 6: Former Orissa High Court Chief Justice S Muralidhar appeared as a senior advocate before the Supreme Court Monday to defend a retired judicial officer in a case related to adverse remarks issued against her by the Madras High Court.

The top court has designated Justice Muralidhar as a senior advocate after the decision of a full court of judges October 16. Justice Muralidhar appeared before Chief Justice DY Chandrachud's court.

As the former judge appeared for the judicial officer, the CJ said in a lighter vein, "I can't say brother Muralidhar, but I will say Mr Muralidhar now." The apex court recorded advocate Muralidhar's submission that the judicial officer has an "unblemished" record and permitted his client to submit a written response to the adverse remarks.

BJP names heads for 36 organisational districts

AGENCIES

Bhubaneswar, Nov 6: The state BJP Monday announced the names of presidents for its 36 organisational districts, seven months after Manmohan Samal was appointed the state chief.

Babu Singh was made the BJP president of Bhubaneswar, while Rashmi Ranjan Mohapatra was appointed the chief of Khurda district. Lalatendu Badu was made the head of Cuttack Nagar, Prakash Behera the president of Cuttack Sadar and Asrit Patnaik was appointed the BJP

president of Puri.

Umakant Mohapatra will be the BJP president of Balasore, Hemant Padhi of Bhadrak, Aswin Kumar Sarangi of Bargarh, Shibaji Mohanty of Bolangir, Naresh Mohapatra of Dhenkanal and MLA K Narayan Rao will head the party in Gajapati district.

Samal, who was made the Odisha president of the BJP in March, had in August announced the names of 35 office bearers of the party's state unit, including 10 vice presidents and five general secretaries.



DEFT HANDS: A potter dries earthen lamps at Basantpur on the outskirts of Capital City ahead of Deepavali celebrations

OP PHOTO

New flexible X-ray detectors could revolutionise cancer treatment

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, Nov 6: Scientists have developed a new generation of low-cost, flexible X-ray detectors with potential applications ranging from cancer treatment to better airport scanners.

Traditionally, X-ray detectors are made of heavy, rigid material such as silicon or germanium, the researchers said.

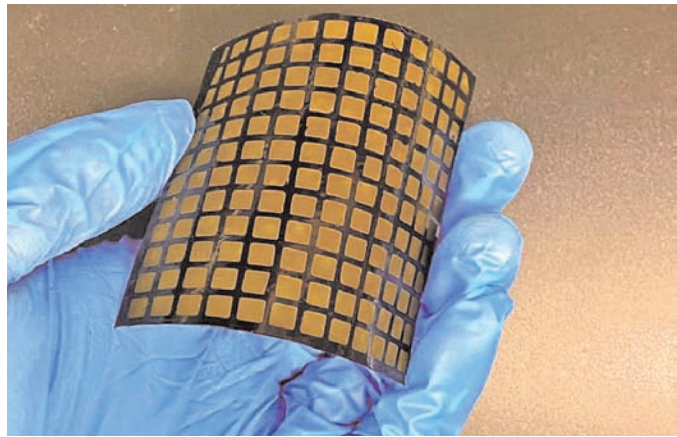
The new detectors are cheaper and can be shaped around the objects that need to be scanned, improving accuracy when screening patients and reducing risk when imaging tumours and administering radiotherapy, they said.

"This new material is flexible, low-cost, and sensitive. But what's exciting is that this material is tissue equivalent. This paves the way for live dosimetry (measurement of radiation), which just isn't possible with current technology," said Prabodhi Nanayakkara, who led the research at the University of Surrey in the UK.

The findings are published in the journal Advanced Science.

The researchers noted that most of the X-ray detectors in the market are heavy, rigid, energy-consuming and expensive if a large area needs to be covered.

Substances built up of hydrogen and carbon, known as organic semiconductors, offer



reduced as traditional detectors, they said.

To solve this challenge, the

sue under X-rays, which they say could lead to new, safer techniques for administering imaging methods such as radiotherapy, mammography and radiography.

"This new technology could be used in a variety of settings, such as radiotherapy, scanning historical artefacts and in security scanners," said Professor Ravi Silva, director of Surrey's Advanced Technology Institute.

"These results are very exciting, especially considering this was the first material investigated, and there is plenty of scope for further improvements," said study co-author, Professor Martin Heeney from Imperial College London, UK.

Building on the team's previous research, their new detector behaves more like human tis-

Doubt is not a sport to indulge in with impunity; it is a poison, which drop by drop corrodes the soul.

THE MOTHER



Sportswashing

World sporting events have, for decades, become an arena for settling political scores. Ideological fights and propaganda wars are what triggered the political grandstanding and it all started in 1930s with the Berlin Olympics. With the cold war becoming a thing of the past, political issues that touch the lives of women and men far more than ideological shadowboxing are now being glossed over while organising world sports. This has become possible for the power that emanates from money. The matter has come under international focus once again following the recent virtual capitulation of FIFA to Saudi Arabia in the latter's bid to host the soccer World Cup in 2034. In the process, the world is all set to enjoy the magical display of contemporary soccer greats and not pay heed to the abuse of human rights, curbing of women's freedom by the ruling powers and carbon emission that has already harmed global climate beyond repair. International sports are used to highlight burning issues for the simple reason that the world's attention gets riveted on such events.

FIFA's announcement that Saudi Arabia was the lone bidder to host the World Cup in 2034 raises many questions. It is all about the process of according this opportunity to a country, known for all the wrong reasons, to host one of the most watched sporting events on the planet. The official announcement of awarding of the competition can be made only towards the end of 2024, but the outcome is fairly predictable with the Saudi kingdom becoming the sole candidate after Australia's withdrawal. Once Indonesia backed Saudi Arabia instead of teaming up with Australia for a joint bid, there was not a shadow of doubt about who the host would be.

Such a turn of events is mainly due to the way FIFA has conducted the process. If Australia and Saudi Arabia seemed to be the only countries in the running, it was because, on October 4, FIFA chose to reserve the 2034 World Cup for Asia-Oceania (which includes the Middle East), having awarded the 2030 World Cup to a group of countries across three continents, breaking the tradition of geographical rotation. Spain, Portugal and Morocco will host the 2030 edition, but three matches will be played in Argentina, Paraguay and Uruguay, for the avowed reason that this will allow Uruguay to celebrate the centenary of the World Cup which was first played in that country in 1930. Such a jugglery makes it possible to hold the tournament in Europe, Africa and South America. Its logical corollary is that the event will be organised in Asia-Oceania in 2034.

Saudi Arabia's Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman, known as MBS, has, for the past few years been trying hard to turn the kingdom into one of the great centres of international sporting competition of all kinds - golf, boxing, Formula 1 and football which is very popular in the country and the Arab world in general. MBS is charged with some of the atrocious crimes, including the killing of Saudi journalist Jamal Khashoggi. He also faced international ostracism. He chose sports to invest petro-dollars and whitewash his wrongdoings. The hosting of world sports championships and the recruitment by local clubs of international football stars such as Neymar, Cristiano Ronaldo and Karim Benzema have become a major soft power asset for the kingdom. It has also given MBS a means for economic diversification from exporting liquid gold - petroleum - to tourism.

MBS is brutally honest about his intention to use sports to get internationally rehabilitated for his reported complicity in crimes. He has said to a US media outlet if sportswashing is going to increase his country's GDP by 1%, then he would continue doing exactly that and he does not care a fig for what others say about him.

That is too haughty a voice. The tragedy is he can afford to be arrogant because he has the money power which is irresistible to today's world of sports that help sportspersons and sports bodies become filthy rich.

WISDOM CORNER

- A man is like a fraction whose numerator is what he is and whose denominator is what he thinks of himself. The larger the denominator, the smaller the fraction.** LEO TOLSTOY
- Live! Live the wonderful life that is in you! Let nothing be lost upon you. Be always searching for new sensations. Be afraid of nothing.** OSCAR WILDE
- Greatness occurs when your children love you, when your critics respect you and when you have peace of mind.** QUINCY JONES

THIS DAY IN HISTORY

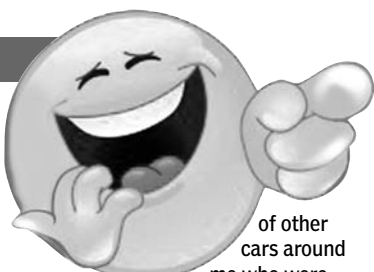
- 1874:** Harper's Weekly featured a Thomas Nast cartoon about the possibility of US President Ulysses S. Grant seeking a third term, and the Republican vote was represented by an elephant; the animal, which appeared in several other Republican-related cartoons by Nast, eventually became the party's official logo.
- 1916:** Jeannette Rankin from Montana won a seat in the US House of Representatives, becoming the first woman elected to Congress.
- 1917:** The October Revolution (named after the dates of this event in the Julian calendar), the last phase of the Russian Revolution of 1917, ended as the Bolshevik Party seized power in Russia, inaugurating the Soviet regime. The Bolsheviks, led by Vladimir Lenin, took over the winter palace and ended the rule of the post-Tsarist provisional government and transferred all powers to the communists in Russia
- 2000:** Disputed US presidential election. On this day in 2000, the U.S. presidential election ended in a statistical tie between Democrat Al Gore and Republican George W. Bush, only to be settled on December 12 by the U.S. Supreme Court after a bitter legal dispute.

LOL

Charged for speeding

A man was speeding down a Alabama highway, feeling secure in a gaggle of cars all travelling at the same speed. However, as they passed a speed trap, he got nailed with an infrared speed detector and was pulled over. The officer handed him the citation, received his signature and was about to walk away when the man asked, "Officer, I know I was speeding, but I don't think it's fair - there were plenty

of other cars around me who were going just as fast, so why did I get the ticket?" "Ever go a fishing?" the policeman suddenly asked the man. "Ummm, yeah..." the startled man replied. The officer grinned and added, "Did you ever catch 'em all?"



FOCUS WORK HOURS

POOR PITCH ON PRODUCTIVITY

There is something very 19th-century, Bombay mill-owner type of flavour to the comment by NR Narayana Murthy that the youth must work 70-hour weeks to help increase national productivity. In the India of the late 1800s and early 1900s, mill hands worked hard, and were pushed to work harder. The norm was sunrise to sunset, which stretched longer when technology arrived in the form of the light bulb. Now, work didn't have to stop at sunset and stretched on, till workers smashed the filament bulbs to protest the inhuman exploitation that technology brought in its wake.



Jagdish Rattanani

MANY IN INDIA SUFFER LOW WAGES, ZERO BENEFITS AND LONG WORK HOURS

The IT world is very different today, shaped in part by the work of, and the large share of voice enjoyed by, Murthy and the company he co-founded, Infosys Ltd. Given this background, Murthy's remarks will immediately be applied to the IT services sector, which, while revolutionising India's participation in global markets, has essentially been a sweatshop built on labour arbitrage. Some will argue this is the reason why the company and many in the sector remained body-shopping pros and largely failed to move up the value chain. Innovation continues to pour in from other markets, the offerings of AI being only the latest coming from an ecosystem that is dramatically different from that obtained here - non-hierarchical, with the spirit of experimentation, risk-taking and the acceptability of failure being a few highlights. None of this sits well with mandated, regulated, monitored hard work in the sense it is understood in India, marked largely by a do-as-you-are-told work philosophy, monotonous, unexciting and exploitative all at the same time.

It should be plain that hard work does not necessarily lead to higher labour productivity. Even if it did, in the mills then and in the IT sector now, it may not take the nation anywhere. It benefited the mill owners then. It benefits the IT czars now. In



It should be plain that hard work does not necessarily lead to higher labour productivity. Even if it did, in the mills then and in the IT sector now, it may not take the nation anywhere

fact, it reinforces the culture of milking a workforce without investing in human capital so that the bulk of the people are "used" without the appropriate investments in building their potential and offering them the requisite support to grow. This short-termism benefits the businessman in the immediate but hurts the system and productivity in the long run, an approach that has characterised many facets of the India growth story so far. This is made worse by a combination of factors like weak labour laws, increasing contractualisation of labour force, declining power of trade unions, a long history of exploitation and the desperate need for a job, any job in fact, making the conditions ripe for a systemic abuse of workforce.

In IT sector, this tends to reduce the bulk of the workers at a very young age to zombies who are pushed to work on screens with little awareness of anything else, and to that extent, taking them that much away from anything remotely enterprising or innovative. The work pressures mean the educated youth of India, particularly the estimated 5.4 million employed in the IT-enabled services sector, are relegated largely to the lower end of the value chain, with low skills, low pay and

long work hours. Weekends, they break out into bars and clubs to unwind, their time off from a routine that is back-breaking and self-defeating with little options for holistic growth and a higher-than-normal chance of mental illness.

It is instructive that the remarks of Murthy came in an interview with TV Mohandas Pai, who is the former CFO of Infosys and personally known to Murthy in that capacity. Murthy cannot be unaware that Mohan, as he calls him, is the person who objected to students at JNU taking a political stance, calling it a "misuse of tax payers' monies" as if education is all about being devoid of political sensemaking or participation in political events.

It may serve Infosys to have zombies but it can never serve the nation to valorise this as the route to a national revival. Many in India suffer low wages, zero benefits and long work hours. Murthy's remarks will be used to legitimise these malpractices. Without putting it in that many words, it pushes the pernicious argument that the poor are lazy, that the rich are rich because they are hard-working citizens who take the nation forward and sets the stage for the misplaced argument that the tax payers are givers and the

rest are takers and subsidies to the underprivileged are an unfair burden on the hard working.

As it is, one of the problems of the Indian education and work system has been a rather narrow focus on the immediate work at the cost of curiosity, or a long-term panoramic view, or an engagement with future. This limits interdisciplinary knowledge, constrains the capacity to connect the dots, and does not empower students and workers to see the big picture in a world marked by rapid change and high complexity.

The danger is ending with workers and leaders without purpose, with a single-minded, unidirectional focus on targets, zeroed in on the insignificant tasks of their times and oblivious to the morally significant issues that confront their organisations and indeed the nation today. These are people concerned with speed, not the direction in which we are headed. With such an approach, the danger remains of reaching faster than ever, and landing in the wrong place ahead of time. Nothing could be more disastrous for India.

Consider a very different message that Murthy with all his seniority and the respect he commands could have given: Our youth must be driven by a larger purpose beyond the immediate. We need to build the idea of caring and sharing, of understanding the pain of others and realising that India can grow only when all of us grow together - all regions, religions, castes, groups, strata and communities. This is an India where wage disparities are lower than ever, where quality education and health are made available to all and our workforce is noted for being industrious, corruption-free and ready to be in service of the common citizen. That would be a message to celebrate.

The writer is a journalist and faculty member at SPJIMR. Views are personal. ©THE BILLION PRESS

SPECTRUM GEOPOLITICS

What is the Global South?

The term "Global South" is in constant use nowadays. For example, some commentators warn that Israel's incursion into Gaza is "alienating the Global South," and we often hear that the "Global South" wants a ceasefire in Ukraine. But what do people mean when they use it?



Joseph S. Nye, Jr.

THE TERM IS MORE OF A POLITICAL SLOGAN THAN AN ACCURATE DESCRIPTION OF THE WORLD

Geographically, the term refers to the 32 countries below the equator (in the southern hemisphere), in contrast to the 54 countries that lie entirely north of it. Yet it is often misleadingly used as shorthand for a global majority, even though most of the global population is above the equator (as is most of the world's landmass). For example, we often hear that India, the world's most populous country, and China, the second most populous, are vying for leadership of the Global South, with both having recently held diplomatic conferences for that purpose. Yet both are in the northern hemisphere.

The term, then, is more of a political slogan than an accurate description of the world. In this sense, it seems to have gained traction as a euphemism to

place less acceptable terms. During the Cold War, countries that were not aligned with either the US or the Soviet Union blocs were said to belong to the "Third World." Non-aligned countries held their own conference in Bandung, Indonesia, in 1955, and there are still 120 countries constituting a weak non-aligned movement today.

Nonetheless, with the Soviet Union's demise in 1991, the idea of a non-aligned Third World no longer made much sense. For a time, it became common to refer to "less-developed countries." But that term had a pejorative ring to it, so people soon began to refer to "developing countries."

Although that term has its own problems - not all low-income countries are developing, after all - it proved useful in the context of United Nations diplomacy. The Group of 77 (G77) now comprises 135 countries, and exists to promote their collective economic interests. Outside the UN context, however, there are too many differences between members for the organisation to serve a meaningful role. Another fad term that has

come into vogue is "emerging markets," which refers to countries like India, Mexico, Russia, Pakistan, Saudi Arabia, China, Brazil, and a few others. In 2001, Jim O'Neill, then a managing director at Goldman Sachs, coined the acronym BRIC in a paper that identified Brazil, Russia, India, and China as emerging economies with high growth potential. Though he was offering investment analysis, some political leaders, including Russian President Vladimir Putin, seized on the grouping as a potential diplomatic platform to counter American global influence.

After a series of meetings, the first BRIC summit was held in Yekaterinburg, Russia, in 2009. With the addition of South Africa the following year, the group became the BRICS. Then, at the 15th BRICS summit this past August, South African President Cyril Ramaphosa announced that six emerging-market countries (Argentina, Egypt, Ethiopia, Iran, Saudi Arabia, and the United Arab Emirates) would join the bloc on January 1, 2024.

Ever since it became a conference-holding body, the BRICS has often been seen as repre-

senting the Global South. But, again, Brazil and South Africa (and now Argentina) are the only members from the Southern Hemisphere, and even as a political replacement for the Third World, BRICS is rather limited conceptually and organisationally. While a few of its members are democracies, most are autocracies, and many have on-going conflicts with each other.

The term's main value is diplomatic. Though China is a middle-income country in the Northern Hemisphere that is competing with the US for global influence, it likes to describe itself as a developing country that plays an important leadership role within the Global South. For journalists and politicians, the high-, middle-, low-income terminology does not roll easily off the tongue or fit well in headlines. For want of an alternative shorthand, they will continue to rely on "Global South." But anyone interested in a more accurate description of the world should be wary of such a misleading term.

The writer is a professor at Harvard University. ©PROJECT SYNDICATE

Red-hot form

Sir, On current form of both the teams, the India-South Africa World Cup 2023 tie at Eden Gardens, Kolkata was expected to be a pitched battle. But in the end it turned out to be a demonic battle over the pitch for South African batters, as the Indian bowlers, as is their wont in this tournament, cut them to ribbons, and made them look like newbies in batting. For teams, the bugaboo of facing Indian bowlers in the semi-final and in finals probably, will be a major concern, and our bowlers, who are in red-hot form, should use it to their fullest advantage to go on and win the cup ultimately. Meanwhile, many congratulations to the run machine Virat Kohli for equalling Sachin Tendulkar's record of 49 ODI tons, and with his rampaging form, the King has every opportunity to break the record in this world cup itself. If anything on India's massive win over Sri Lanka and South Africa in WC 2023, the tidal waves of the Arabian sea in Mumbai and the imposing Howrah bridge, and the Hooghly river running beneath it in Kolkata, will have plenty of tales to offer for generations.

Ranganathan Sivakumar, CHENNAI

Refugee crisis

Sir, The refugee crisis in Afghanistan and Pakistan is really a tragic human crisis that affects millions of people. According to the UNHCR, there are about 2.8 million registered Afghan refugees in Pakistan, and another 1.7 million who are undocumented. Many of them have lived in Pakistan for decades, but now face the risk of deportation or arrest as the Pakistani government had imposed a deadline of November 1, 2023 for all illegal migrants to leave the country. The Pakistani government says that the crackdown on undocumented Afghans is necessary for security reasons, as it blames some of the recent attacks in Pakistan on Afghanistan-based groups and nationals. However, many Afghans say that they have nothing to go back to in their war-torn homeland, and that they are terrified of living under the Taliban regime. Some of them have also faced harassment and discrimination in Pakistan, and have seen their homes and businesses destroyed by the authorities.

Amarjeet Kumar, HAZARIBAGH

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

Orissa POST
B-15, Russagarh Industrial Estate, Bhubaneswar-751010



Tourists visit the Taj Mahal amid dense smog, in Agra, Uttar Pradesh. Domestic as well as overseas visitors have expressed dismay after they failed to capture the moments in their camera with the monument in the background



Danish Queen Margrethe, left, receives Spain's King Felipe at the airport in Copenhagen, Denmark. King Felipe and Queen Letizia begin a three-day state visit to Denmark



Congress leader Rahul Gandhi visits the 'Samadhi Sthal' of Adi Guru Shankaracharya at Kedarnath, in Rudraprayag district, Uttarakhand



Polling officials leave for poll duty from left-wing extremism-affected areas of Dantewada ahead of the first phase of voting for Chhattisgarh Assembly elections



Iraqi Prime Minister Mohammed Shia al-Sudani, centre right, reviews an honour guard as he is welcomed by Iranian President Ebrahim Raisi, left, during an official welcoming ceremony at the Saadabad Palace in Tehran, Iran



Palestinian children mop outside their home after an Israeli bombardment in the Maghazi refugee camp in the Gaza Strip

AP/PTI PHOTOS



A BJP candidate celebrates his win in the Gram Panchayat polls, in Nagpur district of Maharashtra



national



There was nothing wrong in what I had spoken. We will face the matter legally. I will not change my stand. I have only talked about my ideology

UDHAYANIDHI STALIN | TN MINISTER FOR YOUTH WELFARE

INDIGO TO START FLIGHTS TO BALI, MEDINA THIS FISCAL

IndiGo plans to start flights to Bali and Medina in the current fiscal as the airline continues to expand its network, its chief Pieter Elbers said Monday. The airline is "well on track" to achieve the target of carrying 100 million passengers this financial year, he told reporters here. In the September quarter, which also saw the carrier posting a net profit of Rs 189 crore, it carried 26 million passengers



of the day quote

The people of Telangana are desperately waiting for November 30 when they will decisively vote out those who cheated them



PAWAN KHERA | SENIOR CONG LEADER

The Central government has not been able to release drought relief funds yet



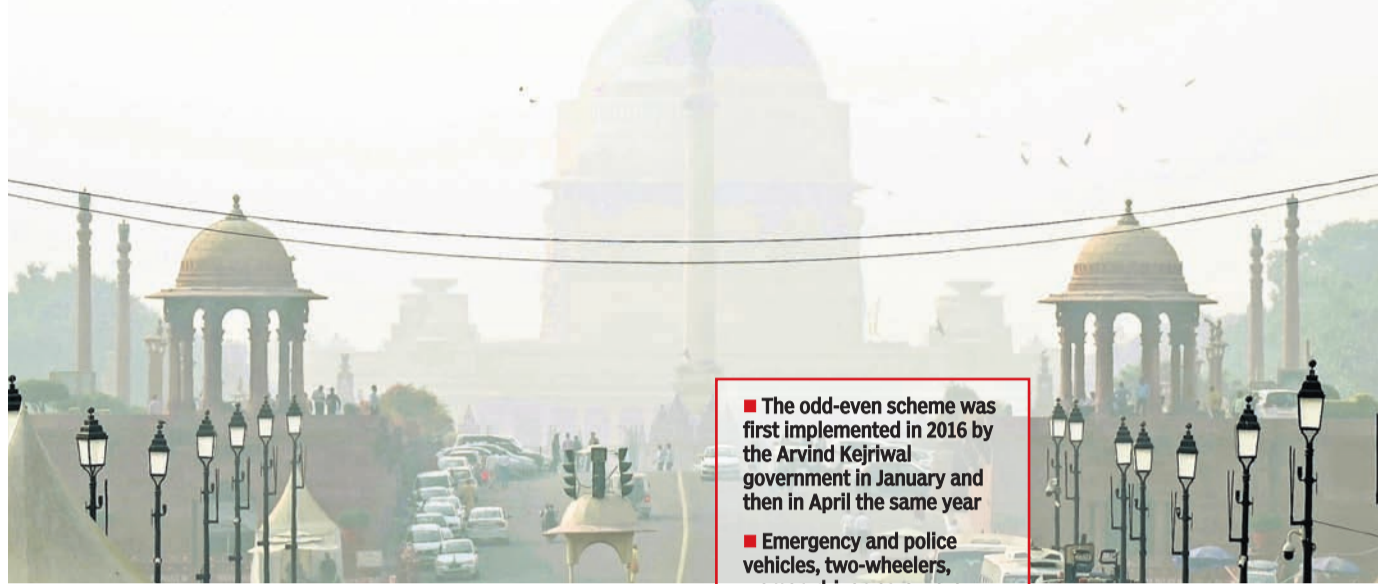
SIDDARAMAIAH | K TAKA CM

A report by the central government revealed that stubble burning incidents (since September 15) in Punjab have reduced by 50% compared to the corresponding period last year



GOPAL RAI | DELHI ENVIRONMENT MINISTER

AIR EMERGENCY



- The odd-even scheme was first implemented in 2016 by the Arvind Kejriwal government in January and then in April the same year
- Emergency and police vehicles, two-wheelers, women-driven cars were exempted under the scheme
- In 2019, when the scheme was implemented in November, two-wheelers and electric vehicles were exempted along with medical emergency vehicles and those carrying school children in uniform
- Vehicles carrying VIPs, only women and those occupied by differently-disabled persons were also exempted

New Delhi ranks among the world's top polluted cities every year ahead of the onset of winter, when calm winds and low temperatures trap pollutants from sources including vehicles, industries, construction dust & crop residue burning in nearby fields

AGENCIES

New Delhi, Nov 6: Delhi will restrict use of vehicles next week to curb rising pollution as air quality in the capital remained dangerously unsafe for a third consecutive day despite mitigation efforts.

A thick smog shrouded the federal secretariat and president's palace in the heart of the city early Monday, and lowered visibility in other parts, as public outrage over hazardous air quality grew and the city extended closure of primary schools until November 10.

The local government said that it will impose the "odd-even" vehicle rule from November 13-20 to mitigate pollution levels that are expected to rise after the Hindu festival of Diwali November 12, when firecrackers are often set despite a ban.

The rule will allow vehicles with odd registration numbers on the road on odd dates and similarly vehicles with even numbers on alternate days.

Environmental experts have previously said that the rule, which has been imposed multiple times with some variations since 2016, has been more effective in de-congesting roads and less effective in bringing down pollution.

"In view of rising pollution, odd-even will be imposed in Delhi," Gopal Rai, the local environment minister, told reporters, adding that a meeting will be held with police and transport department Tuesday to decide on the implementation.

Air quality was "severe" for a third consecutive day in the city Monday, making it the second most polluted city in the world,

SHORT TAKES

Bank fraud case: ED arrests Punjab MLA

Chandigarh: Punjab AAP MLA Jaswant Singh Gajjan Majra was Monday arrested by the Enforcement Directorate in connection with a money laundering investigation linked to a bank fraud case, official sources said. The legislator was taken into custody under provisions of the Prevention of Money Laundering Act (PMLA) after he was detained by agency officials from a public meeting he was holding in Malerkotla, they said.

India's 2nd batch of aid reaches Nepal

New Delhi: India Monday sent a second batch of medicines and other relief materials to Nepal for its earthquake-affected people. The first consignment of relief materials was sent Sunday. "Second flight carrying 9 tonnes worth of emergency relief assistance lands in Nepal."

Death toll in Kerala blasts rises to four

Kochi: The death toll from the blasts that rocked a Christian religious gathering near here a week ago has now reached four, after a 61-year-old woman succumbed to her injuries. The victim, identified as Moly Joy from Kalamassery, died at a private hospital in the early hours of Monday.

Ex-Pondy Speaker dies

Pondicherry: Former Speaker of Pondicherry Assembly P Kannan passed away at a private hospital here after prolonged illness. He was 74 and is survived by wife, a son and daughter, sources said. In a release, the hospital where he was treated said, Kannan was suffering from viral pneumonia.

All schools in the national capital have been directed to suspend physical classes 10 and 12, until November 10

The rule will allow vehicles with odd registration numbers on the road on odd dates and similarly vehicles with even numbers on alternate days. Environmental experts have previously said that the rule, which has been imposed multiple times with some variations since 2016, has been more effective in de-congesting roads and less effective in bringing down pollution.

behind Lahore in Pakistan, according to a real-time compilation by Swiss group IQAir.

The cricket World Cup match involving Sri Lanka and Bangladesh, however, went ahead in the city Monday with organizers installing air purifiers in the players' dressing rooms and using water sprinklers to reduce pollutants in the air.

Curbs on vehicles are in addition to a ban on construction work for public projects in the national capital region, and restrictions on entry of trucks and heavy vehicles in Delhi, imposed by a federal pollution control watchdog Sunday.

An analysis of 25 research studies by the Down To Earth magazine, published Sunday, showed that poor air quality was linked to low birth weight, preterm delivery, stillbirth, developmental delay, restricted growth in children and even death.

Punjab reports 2,060 farm fires

CHANDIGARH: Punjab Monday reported over 2,000 farm fires even as many parts of Haryana saw air quality indices in the 'severe' and 'very poor' categories while it was 'poor' in areas of the border state. As farmers continued to set crop residue ablaze, 2,060 fresh stubble-burning incidents were recorded in Punjab, taking the total number of such cases to 19,463 till Monday, according to Ludhiana-based Punjab Remote Sensing Centre data.

Stubble-burning incidents reported from November 1 till November 6 constitute 61 per cent of the total such cases in the current season, as per the data. The total stubble-burning incidents of 19,463 registered from September 15 till November 6 was 35 per cent less than 29,999 such cases in the corresponding period last year, the data stated. The state had reported 32,734 farm fires during the same period in 2021.



ISRAEL-HAMAS WAR PM Modi speaks to Iran prez

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, Nov 6: Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Iranian President Seyyed Ebrahim Raisi n Monday exchanged views on the "difficult situation" in the West Asia region, with the PM expressing deep concern at the "terrorist incidents, violence and loss of civilian lives".

The two leaders stressed the need for preventing escalation, ensuring continued humanitarian aid and early restoration of peace and stability, a statement issued by the Prime Minister's Office (PMO) said.

In his telephonic conversation with Raisi, Modi also reiterated India's longstanding and consistent position on the Israel-Palestine issue.

"Good exchange of perspectives with President @raisi.com of Iran on the difficult situation in West Asia and the Israel-Hamas conflict. Terrorist incidents, violence and loss of civilian lives are serious concerns."

"Preventing escalation, ensuring continued humanitarian aid and early restoration of peace and stability are important. Welcomed the progress in our bilateral cooperation, including on the Chabahar port," the Prime Minister said on X.



■ Modi's conversation with Raisi is part of his ongoing dialogue with top leaders of the region in the wake of the escalation in violence in the Israel-Hamas conflict

■ Last week, Modi spoke separately to his British counterpart Rishi Sunak and UAE President Mohamed bin Zayed Al Nahyan during which concerns over terrorism and civilian deaths were shared

■ Modi and Raisi exchanged views on the "difficult situation" in the West Asia region, and the Israel-Hamas conflict, the statement said

President Raisi shared his assessment of the situation, it added. The two leaders also reviewed and positively assessed progress in multifaceted bilateral cooperation. Modi and Raisi welcomed the focus and priority accorded to the Chabahar Port in Iran for improving regional connectivity. Both sides agreed to remain in touch given their shared interest in regional peace, security and stability, the statement said.

SNIPPETS

Elvish case: Investigating officer shunted

Noida: A sub-inspector who was investigating the snake venom case in which YouTuber Elvish Yadav is an accused has been shunted and the matter transferred to another Noida police station, officials said. The investigating officer, SI Sandeep Chaudhary, was the in-charge of Noida's Sector 49 police station and has been transferred to police lines. "The station in-charge Sector-49, Noida, has been transferred to the Reserve Police Line due to his inability to effectively control crime within the police station area," a police spokesperson said Sunday night.

Driver held for geologist's murder

Bangalore: The former driver of a senior geologist who was found murdered at her residence here was arrested Monday. He admitted during police interrogation that he killed her as he was upset that she had dismissed him from his job a few days ago. Kiran had been working as a driver for Prathima K S, who was serving in the Department of Mines and Geology, for the past four years, but he was recently replaced. Under interrogation, the 32-year-old driver said he was dismissed from the job about a week ago. He used to often get scolded by her for driving "carelessly". Later, he apologised and requested the 45-year-old geologist to take him back but when she refused to do so, he killed her, police said. T

Health dept urges people to be vigilant

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Thiruvananthapuram, Nov 6:

Days after an outbreak of Zika virus was reported from northern Kannur district, the Kerala health department issued a directive on Monday urging people to remain vigilant against the mosquito-borne disease.

The department said that symptoms such as fever, headache, body pain, joint pain, and red eyes should be taken seriously.

It urged the public to promptly inform healthcare workers if they notice these symptoms. The first infection was reported in the Thalassery area of Kannur district on October 30, and after that, a medical camp was organised in the area on November 1 during which 24 samples were collected and sent for testing. The statement was

ZIKA VIRUS OUTBREAK



issued after a high-level meeting chaired by Health Minister Veena George held here reviewed the Zika virus cases in Thalassery. Currently, eight Zika virus cases have been confirmed there.

The department said if pregnant women are affected by the virus, there is a possibility of birth defects, such as microcephaly in the unborn baby. Therefore, pregnant women in areas with reported cases of the disease should receive special monitoring, it said.

SPARRING OVER GEMS AND JEWELLERY

Instant solutions have long term implications for governments may come and governments may go but bruises blight for long.

In recent times, three states saw popular mandate being side-stepped to ensure change of horses mid-stream. The verdict is out in Karnataka with the Congress back in the saddle, this time on its own steam. Madhya Pradesh is full scale in poll mode and the outcome is just around the corner. Maharashtra, the third state has just about a year to go but the government so cobbled seems foot sore and travel weary. Whatever may be the outcome, it is however the fall-out of this politics that is impacting popular perceptions between Maharashtra and Gujarat and calls for a soothing touch.

Once a part of bi-lingual Bombay state, the separation was not rancour-free and while

the hurt may have healed, the sore remains, surfacing every time the 'sunny' summer gives way to the winter 'chill'.

The latest spot of abrasion-whether perceived or real-is caused by the push and pull over India's largest Gems and Jewellery Park. On the one hand Surat in South Gujarat, considered one of the world's largest diamond cutting and polishing centre is set to inaugurate the Surat Diamond Bourse (SDB) December 17, while on the other The Gems and Jewellery Export promotion Council (GJEPC) and the Bharat Diamond Bourse (BDB) are moving strong to set up the country's largest gem and Jewellery park in Navi Mumbai at an estimated cost of Rs 40,000 crores.

According to Melvyn Thomas, the Surat-based editor of the Blunt Times who closely monitors the sector feels that the move gained impetus after Vallabhhai



Lakhani, chairman of Kiran Gems announced shifting base from BDB in Mumbai to Surat along with his 1200 employees.

Minister of Industries of Maharashtra Uday Samant is determined to push the Navi Mumbai project, which according to him, will create one lakh new jobs, and has also announced that additional land will be allocated next to the park for the residence of the workers employed therein. However, for Surat, which houses a large number of small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) the abiding concern would be that of affordability if they relocate to Navi Mumbai.

The Maharashtra government has already approved subsidy incentives for Jewellery Park such as 5 FSI; One Rupee Electricity Subsidy for all units and 2 rupee for LGD units in the Park; waiver of Electricity Duty for all units in the Park; 50% SGST waiver for 5 years to all units in the Park; 5% interest subvention on Term Loan for all MSME units; and Stamp duty waiver to IJPM for lease.

Meanwhile, with the Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs (CBITC) adding Surat to the list of towns where private bonded warehouses for diamonds can be established, the city is the fifth jurisdiction in India to facilitate the setup of private bonded warehouses for diamonds, following in the footsteps of CSI Airport, Mumbai, Jodhpur, Air Cargo Export in Delhi, and Airport and Air Cargo in Chennai.

Thomas says that the tug-of-

war between Surat and Mumbai over India's largest gems and jewellery park is a sign of the growing competition between the two cities for business and investment.

There has already been noticeable disquiet in Maharashtra after Vedanta-Foxconn who were in advanced talks with Maharashtra, signed an MOU with the Gujarat government to set-up their semi-conductor and display manufacturing unit. In September this year TATA Projects, a leading technologically led Indian EPC Company, announced its collaboration with Micron Technology in a ground-breaking venture to construct an advanced semiconductor assembly and test plant in Sanand, Gujarat. The contract awarded to TATA Projects solidifies the company's proficiency in large-scale, sustainable infrastructure development in the Indian manufacturing landscape.

OFFICE OF THE MUNICIPAL COUNCIL, SUNDARGARH No. C-1761
Tender Call Notice No. 9112 Dt.02.11.23
COMPETITIVE BIDDING THROUGH e-Procurement NOTICE INVITING TENDER
Bid Reference No. SNGM-19/2023-24/Dt.

- Total No. of works for which tenders invited: 06 Nos.
- Place of Execution: Different Locations of Sundargarh Municipality.
- Estimated Cost of Individual Works excluding GST: Rs.3,00,795.00/- to Rs.16,86,354.00/-
- Eligible Class of Contractors: Registered Contractors of Class-'D' to Class-'C' as indicated against each work mentioned in the Tender Call Notice.
- Intending bidders have to participate through "On-Line" bidding only. The website for online bidding is <https://www.tendersodisha.gov.in>
- The bid documents will be available in the above website from 11.00 A.M. of 04.11.2023 to 5.00 P.M. of 13.11.2023 for online bidding.
- Bids received will be opened on e-Procurement System at 11.00 A.M. onwards on 14.11.2023.
- The bidder must possess valid and compatible Digital Signature Certificate (DSC).
- The DTCN for bid shall be available in the e-procurement portal <https://www.tendersodisha.gov.in> for on-line bidding.

Sd./- Executive Officer, Sundargarh Municipality
OIPR-13130/11/0028/2324

international

of the day quote

The Thailand government has seen photographic evidence that Thai hostages held by the Hamas militant group in Gaza are alive

SRETHA THAVISIN | THAILAND PM

Peace will be only come if Israel ends its military rule over the State of Palestine

MAHMOUD ABBAS | PRESIDENT OF THE STATE OF PALESTINE

Party leaders must begin their preparations for the national elections

NAWAZ SHARIF | PML-N SUPREMO

SHORT TAKES

Special celebration

London: King Charles III turns 75 November 14 and the milestone birthday of the British monarch will be marked with a giveaway of a special series of commemorative coins to other Britons also turning 75 this year, the UK's Royal Mint announced Monday. The Royal Mint said it is on the hunt for 75 people turning 75 years old this year to gift them the GBP 5 coin designed in honour of and as a tribute to the King's passions and interests.

Yellen to host He Lifeng

Washington: US Treasury Secretary Janet Yellen will host Chinese Vice Premier He Lifeng for two days of talks this week, the latest in a series of high-level talks between US and Chinese officials as the world's two largest economies aim to ease tensions, the Treasury Department announced Monday. The Yellen-He talks set for Thursday and Friday come ahead of the start of the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation summit in San Francisco which starts November 11.

Nepal President cancels Europe visit

Kathmandu: Nepal President Ramchandra Paudel has cancelled his planned 10-day visit to Europe in view of the devastating earthquake in the country, his office said Monday. Paudel was scheduled to depart on November 8 to participate in the Paris Peace Forum and subsequently visit Germany and Italy. He was scheduled to return home on November 17.

DIFFICULT TIMES

INDIA, CANADA TIES IN DEEP CRISIS: EXPERTS

India recently decided to partially restore visa services, weeks after suspending them in anger at Ottawa's claim that Indian agents may have been involved in the murder of a Khalistani terrorist from Punjab

REUTERS

New Delhi, Nov 6: Mending frayed diplomatic relations between India and Canada will be a long process after each side adopted maximalist positions, despite New Delhi's surprise move to ease some visa curbs on Canadians, officials and experts say.

India recently decided to partially restore visa services, weeks after suspending them in anger at Ottawa's claim that Indian agents may have been involved in the murder of a Khalistani terrorist from Punjab. Mutual recriminations since that accusation, which India strongly denies, have strained ties between the two countries - close for almost a century and

10,000 people killed in Gaza since start of war

REUTERS

Gaza, Nov 6: UN agency leaders saying "enough is enough" demanded a humanitarian ceasefire Monday nearly a month into Gaza's war, as the enclave's health authorities said the death toll from Israeli strikes on the enclave now exceeded 10,000.

Israel has rebuffed mounting international pressure for a ceasefire, saying hostages taken by Hamas militants during their rampage in southern Israel on October 7 should be released first. "An entire population is besieged and under attack, denied access to the essentials for survival, bombed in their homes, shelters, hospitals and places of worship. This is unacceptable," the U.N. chiefs said in a joint statement.

"We need an immediate humanitarian ceasefire. It's been 30 days. Enough is enough. This must stop now." The 18 signatories include the U.N. High Commissioner for Human Rights Volker Turk, World Health Organization head Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus, and U.N. aid chief Martin Griffiths.

The reported number of fatalities in Israeli strikes on Gaza since October 7 has now surpassed 10,000, with the health ministry in the Hamas-controlled enclave saying at least 10,022 Palestinians were killed including 4,104 children.

A Reuters journalist in Gaza said an overnight bombardment by air, ground and sea was one of the most intense since Israel began its offensive following the Oct. 7 attack in which Hamas



GRIM MILESTONE

Israel has rebuffed mounting international pressure for a ceasefire, saying hostages taken by Hamas militants during their rampage in southern Israel on October 7 should be released first

Palestinian health officials said eight people were killed in an air strike overnight on Gaza City's Rantissi cancer hospital

killed 1,400 people and seized more than 240 hostages.

Israel, which says its forces have encircled Gaza City, faces mounting pressure over civilian casualties. A US diplomatic push in the region is intended to reduce risks of the conflict escalating.

The health ministry in Gaza said dozens of people were killed by the Israeli air strikes in Gaza City and further south in Gaza neighbourhoods such as Zawaida and Deir Al-Balah. Hamas-affiliated Al-Aqsa TV quoted med-

ical sources as saying at least 75 Palestinians were killed and 106 hurt in the attacks.

Palestinian health officials said eight people were killed in an air strike overnight on Gaza City's Rantissi cancer hospital. Israel's military said it was looking into the report.

The Israeli army said its strikes hit "tunnels, terrorists, military compounds, observation posts, and anti-tank missile launch posts". Ground troops killed several Hamas fighters while taking a militant compound containing observation posts, training areas and underground tunnels, it said.

Gaza border officials said the Rafah crossing has resumed operations to allow foreign passport holders and critically wounded Palestinians into Egypt. Hundreds of foreign nationals and wounded were allowed to leave Gaza for Egypt last week but no such exits have been reported since November 3.

FOR BETTER SURVEILLANCE

SK may launch 1st spy satellite Nov 30



ASSOCIATED PRESS

Seoul, Nov 6: South Korea said Monday it plans to launch its first domestically built spy satellite at the end of this month to better monitor rival North Korea, as the North pushes to expand its arsenal of nuclear weapons targeting its adversaries.

The plan was unveiled days after North Korea failed to follow through on its vow to make a third attempt to launch its own reconnaissance satellite in October, likely because of technical issues. Jeon Ha Gyu, a spokesperson for the South Korean Defense Ministry, told reporters Monday that the country's first military spy satellite will be launched from California's

Vandenberg Air Force Base on November 30.

The satellite will be carried by SpaceX's Falcon 9 rocket. Under a contract with SpaceX, South Korea plans to launch four more spy satellites by 2025, according to South Korea's Defense Acquisition Program Administration.

South Korea currently has no military reconnaissance satellites of its own and relies on U.S. spy satellites to monitor moves by North Korea. The possession of its own spy satellites would give South Korea an independent space-based surveillance system to monitor North Korea in almost near-time. When operated together with South Korea's so-called three-axis system - preemptive strike, missile defense and retaliatory assets - the country's overall defense against North Korea would be sharply strengthened, according to Lee Choon Geun, an honorary research fellow at South Korea's Science and Technology Policy Institute.



From the beginning of my time in the New Zealand Parliament, I've advocated for global climate action. My passion and sense of urgency on this issue has only increased over the last 15 years, especially as I witnessed firsthand the impact of climate change in our region

JACINDA ARDERN | FORMER NEW ZEALAND PM

LIFER FOR WIFE KILLER

An Indian man has been sentenced to life in the US state of Florida for fatally stabbing his 26-year-old wife 17 times and then driving over her body before fleeing from the scene in 2020, a media report said



19 soldiers killed in Russian missile strike

ASSOCIATED PRESS

Kyiv, Nov 6: Ukraine confirmed Monday that 19 service members were killed by a Russian missile strike in Zaporizhzhia during a military awards ceremony in what President Volodymyr Zelenskyy lamented was a "tragedy that could've been avoided".

Defence Minister Rustem Umerov has ordered an investigation into why the 128th Separate Mountain-Assault Brigade of Zakarpattia participated in the crowded event Friday honouring troops for Rocket Forces and Artillery Day so close to front lines.

The announcement came as officials said Russian drone and missile strikes in Odesa wounded eight people and damaged an art museum that is part of a UNESCO World Heritage site, and satellite photos showed damage done by a Ukrainian missile strike to a Russian naval ship.

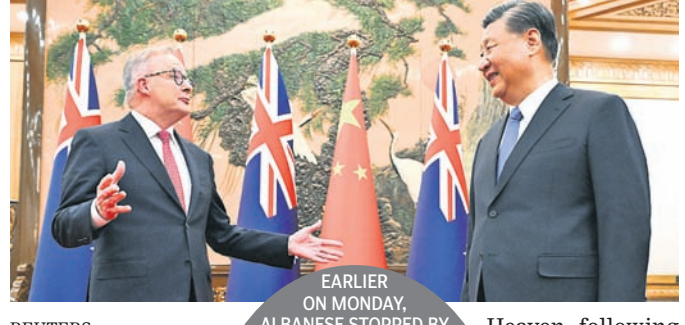
Odesa's National Art Museum said seven exhibitions, most featuring the work of contemporary Ukrainian artists, were damaged by a strike that left a large crater outside the museum celebrating its 124th anniversary.



Photos and video showed shattered windows, doors, and some paintings lying on the floor amid debris strewn across the galleries. The attack followed reports by the Russian Defense Ministry that Ukrainian cruise missiles aimed at the Zaliv shipyard in Kerch, a city in the east of the Moscow-held Crimean Peninsula, had struck one of its vessels.

TENSIONS EASE

China, Aus agree to turn the page



REUTERS

Beijing, Nov 6: Chinese President Xi Jinping said Monday that a "healthy and stable" relationship with Australia served each country's interests, and that it was important to move forward with strategic ties.

Mutual benefit is what China wants, Xi told Australian Prime Minister Anthony Albanese, the first Australian leader to visit Beijing since 2016, as both men met at the Great Hall of the People in the heart of the Chinese capital.

A strong relationship between China and Australia "will be beneficial into the future," Albanese told Xi in their second face-to-face talks in a year.

On his visit, Albanese is seeking to mend relations between the trading partners after disputes in recent years - over issues ranging from security concerns to the origin of COVID-19 - triggered Chinese blocks on Australian products including wine, barley and beef.

Earlier on Monday, Albanese stopped by Beijing's Temple of

EARLIER ON MONDAY, ALBANESE STOPPED BY BEIJING'S TEMPLE OF HEAVEN, FOLLOWING IN THE FOOTSTEPS OF THE FIRST AUSTRALIAN LEADER TO VISIT CHINA FIVE DECADES AGO AS DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS WERE BEING ESTABLISHED. MUTUAL BENEFIT IS WHAT CHINA WANTS, XI TOLD AUSTRALIAN PRIME MINISTER ANTHONY ALBANESE

Heaven, following in the footsteps of the first Australian leader to visit China five decades ago as diplomatic relations were being established. At the historic landmark, Albanese posed for a photograph at the circular Echo Wall, the spot where Australia's then Prime Minister, Gough Whitlam, stood in 1973, a year after the two countries established ties.

"In China we often say that when drinking water, we should not forget those who dug the well," Xi said. "The Chinese people will not forget Prime Minister Whitlam for digging the well for us." For decades, China and Australia built a relationship on trade, with Beijing becoming Canberra's biggest commercial partner with purchases of Australian food and natural resources. But ties soured after Australia in 2017 accused China of meddling in its politics. The following year, Australia banned equipment from Chinese tech giant Huawei Technologies Co for its 5G network out of national security fears.



Britain's Prince William participates in a dragon boat event in Singapore, Monday

AP/PTI PHOTO

JUDGE CHIDES DONALD TRUMP

ASSOCIATED PRESS

New York, Nov 6: The judge presiding over the civil fraud trial of Donald Trump admonished him to keep his answers concise, reminding him and the courtroom that "this is not a political rally" as the former President and leading Republican presidential candidate began testifying in a lawsuit accusing him of dramatically inflating his net worth.

"We don't have time to waste. We have one day to do this," an exasperated Supreme Court Judge Arthur Engoron said at one point. At another, he said, "In addition to the answers being non-responsive, they're repetitive."

Trump's turn on the witness stand, in a case that cuts to the heart of the business brand he spent decades crafting, represents a remarkable convergence of his legal troubles and his political ventures at a time when he also faces criminal indictments while vying to reclaim the White House in 2024.



at the Wilson Center in Washington. "Each side may have a strong interest in the crisis not getting completely out of control, but that doesn't mean there are strong incentives to resolve the crisis."

Ajay Bisaria, India's ambassador to Canada from 2020 to 2022, said the relationship is in a "de-escalation phase" following "quiet diplomacy". Even with the reprieve, the visa curbs are expected to hinder the move-

ment of tens of thousands of Indians and people of Indian origin who live in Canada or plan to study there.

Although both governments have spared business and trade links, the acrimony has delayed discussions on a free-trade deal and threatens Group of Seven member Canada's Indo-Pacific plans, where New Delhi is critical to efforts to check an increasingly assertive China.

On September 18 Prime Minister Justin Trudeau said Canada was "actively pursuing credible allegations" linking Indian government agents to the June killing in a Vancouver suburb of Hardeep Singh Nijjar, 45, who had advocated the fringe position seeking to carve an independent Sikh homeland of Khalistan out of India.

Canada expelled India's intelligence chief in Ottawa. India quickly responded by halting 13 categories of visas for Canadians and cutting Canada's

diplomatic presence in India, a move Ottawa said violated the Vienna Conventions.

Then on October 25, New Delhi said it would resume issuing visas under four categories, a measure Indian officials said aims to help people of Indian origin travel to India during the wedding season beginning this month.

"This is not a thaw," an Indian foreign ministry official said. "People can read whatever they want into it." Ottawa triggered the crisis and must take the first step towards climbing down from its position, another official said.

A senior Canadian government source said that while Ottawa's ultimate goal was to return to where things were, unpredictability in coming months over the murder investigation and trial, as well as India's elections, could interfere. "This is a difficult moment, but Canada is not abandoning its Indo-Pacific strategy," the source said.

SHORT TAKES

Verstappen wins

SAO PAULO: Three-time champion Max Verstappen led from the start and won the Brazilian Grand Prix ahead of McLaren's Lando Norris. Sergio Perez of Red Bull finished fourth, distancing himself from Mercedes' Lewis Hamilton in one of the few competitions left this season — a position for runner-up. Perez nearly took the podium position from third-place Fernando Alonso of Aston Martin, but the Spaniard saw the checkered flag 0.053 seconds before the Mexican. Verstappen earned his record-breaking 17th win and never lost the lead.

Real held at home

MADRID: Jude Bellingham couldn't come through this time and Real Madrid were held by Rayo Vallecano in their Madrid derby to drop to second place in the Spanish league. The 0-0 draw ended Madrid's perfect record at home and kept them from joining Girona at the top of the standings after 12 rounds. Girona had moved three points clear. Barcelona remained in third place, two points behind Madrid. Brothers Inaki and Nico Williams led Athletic Bilbao to a 3-2 win at Villarreal. The Basque Country club moved to fifth place, four points behind fourth-placed Atletico Madrid.

Luis Diaz's appeal

LUTON: Luis Diaz returned to Liverpool's team and scored a late equaliser in their Premier League match against Luton, with his father still missing after being kidnapped by a guerrilla group in Colombia. He revealed a T-shirt with the words "Libertad Para Papa" (Freedom for Papa) after the goal. Diaz followed that up with a post on Instagram later Sunday. It read: "Today the footballer is not speaking to you. Today Lucho Diaz, the son of Luis Manuel Diaz, is speaking to you... I beg you to release him immediately, respecting his integrity and ending this painful wait as soon as possible." Both of Diaz's parents were kidnapped in the small Colombian town of Barrancas last weekend, though his mother was rescued within hours by police.

Bangladesh beat Sri Lanka



PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, Nov 6: Angelo Mathews became the first batter to be timed out in international cricket as Bangladesh officially knocked Sri Lanka out of the World Cup with a three-wicket win in a dramatic match, which was held amid severe air pollution here Monday.

Despite the AQI hovering close to the 400 mark, it was business as usual after the two teams braved toxic conditions as Bangladesh bowled Sri Lanka

out for 279 in 49.3 overs, with Charith Asalanka scoring a 105-ball 108 (6x4, 5x6).

But Bangladesh chased down the target with 53 balls to spare. Bangladesh skipper Shakib Al Hasan (82, 65b, 12x4, 2x6), who took 2/57 with the ball, and Najmul Hossain Shanto (90, 101b, 12x4) shared a 169-run stand off 147 balls to lay the foundation of the run chase. From 210/2, Bangladesh slumped to 269/7 before romping home in 41.1 overs.

The win snapped Bangladesh's six-match losing streak and kept

UNWANTED RECORD FOR MATHEWS

NEW DELHI: Sri Lanka all-rounder Angelo Mathews Monday became the first international cricketer to be 'timed out' after not being ready to face the ball within two minutes of the fall of a wicket against Bangladesh. The incident happened in the 25th over when the 36-year-old walked out to bat after the dismissal of Sadeera Samarawickrama but found that the helmet strap was broken and immediately signalled for a replacement instead of facing the bowler Shakib Al Hasan. This prompted Bangladesh to appeal for a 'time out'. Mathews was seen having an animated discussion with umpire Marais Erasmus and Richard Illingworth, explaining that he had some issue with the helmet strap. He also approached Shakib, who didn't withdraw his appeal and the Sri Lankan cricketer was forced to leave the field. According to article 40.1.1 of the ICC playing conditions for the 2023 World Cup, "After the fall of a wicket or the retirement of a batter, the incoming batter must, unless Time has been called, be ready to receive the ball, or for the other batter to be ready to receive the next ball within two minutes of the dismissal or retirement. If this requirement is not met, the incoming batter will be out, Timed out." Article 40.1.2 says: "In the event of an extended delay in which no batter comes to the wicket, the umpires shall adopt the procedure of Law 16.3 (ICC Match referee awarding a match). For the purposes of that clause the start of the action shall be taken as the expiry of the two minutes referred to above."

them in the race for the Champions Trophy qualification, while denting Sri Lanka's chances for the 2025 event in Pakistan. The top seven teams from this World Cup will qualify for the Champions Trophy, while Pakistan, being the hosts, have qualified automatically.

For Sri Lanka, it was their sixth loss in eight games. Both Bangladesh and Sri Lanka, who are at four points each, need to finish inside the top-8 to make the cut.

Earlier, Asalanka's timely hundred took them to 279. He forged a 63-run partnership with Sadeera Samarawickrama (41),

before adding 78 with Dhananjaya de Silva (34). He also shared 45 with Theekshana (22). Opener Pathum Nissanka also contributed with a 36-ball 41.

BRIEF SCORES

Sri Lanka 279 (Charith Asalanka 108, Pathum Nissanka 41, Sadeera Samarawickrama 41; Tanzim Hasan Sakib 3/80, Shoriful Islam 2/51, Shakib Al Hasan 2/57) lost to Bangladesh 282/7 (Nazmul Hossain Shanto 90, Shakib Al Hasan 82; Dilshan Madushanka 3/69, Angelo Mathews 2/35, Maheesh Theekshana 2/44) by 7 wickets.

Rare double for India at FIDE Grand Swiss



PRESS TRUST OF INDIA



Vaishali got richer by USD 25000 (Over Rs 20 Lakhs) while Vidit took home a whopping prize purse of USD 80000 (Over Rs 66 Lakhs).

Isle of Man (UK), Nov 6: R Vaishali and Vidit Gujrathi clinched the women's and open category titles respectively in the FIDE Grand Swiss in a rare double for India on the world stage, with both players also qualifying for the prestigious Candidates tournament.

While Vaishali played out a draw with Batkhuyag Munguntuul of Mongolia in the 11th and final round to bag the women's title Sunday night, Vidit beat Alexandr Predke of Serbia to record his seventh victory in the event and take the top spot in open section.

Both Vaishali and Vidit ended with identical 8.5 points apiece and stayed a half point clear of nearest rivals. Apart from a place in the Candidates to be played in April next year in Canada,

The second place in the women's section went to Anna Muzychuk of Ukraine. The second woman player to make it to the Candidates was Tan Zhongyi who finished third.

In the open section, Arjun Erigaisi ended a creditable fourth and remained unbeaten throughout the event. Vaishali had her eyes trained for the gold and the Grandmaster title can wait for which she is shy of a few points.

Vaishali became the first Indian to win the Grand Swiss and will have her task cut out in the Candidates alongside India's first woman Grandmaster — Koneru Humpy, who is likely to qualify by virtue of her high rating but the decision will be known only in January 2024.

SWIATEK IN FINAL, EYES TOP SPOT IN WTA CHART

ASSOCIATED PRESS

Cancun, Nov 6: Iga Swiatek gave herself a shot at her first WTA Finals title and the year-end top ranking by eliminating No.1 Aryna Sabalenka 6-3, 6-2 in a rain-suspended semifinal.

The second-seeded Swiatek, a 22-year-old from Poland, will meet the fifth-seeded Jessica Pegula, a 29-year-old from the United States, Monday for the trophy at the tour's season-ending championship. Both play-

ers went undefeated during round-robin play and have claimed all eight sets they've played on the outdoor hard court in Cancun.

The final was supposed to be played Sunday, but a series of showers throughout the week continued Saturday, when Pegula defeated Coco Gauff in the first semifinal. The second semifinal, Swiatek vs Sabalenka, was stopped in the fourth game.

Swiatek consistently out-hit the powerful Sabalenka, the run-

ner-up at last year's WTA Finals, from the baseline and wound up with more winners, 16-13, while also making fewer than half as many unforced errors, 23-10.

Sabalenka, who won the Australian Open in January for her first major title, could have guaranteed herself remaining at No.1 by beating Swiatek. Instead, a victory over Pegula would allow Swiatek to rise from No.2 to regain the top spot she held from April 2022 to this September, when Sabalenka overtook her.

Wanted to set record straight at ACT: Savita

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, Nov 6: A disappointing Asian Games campaign on their mind, the Indian women's hockey team wanted to set the record straight by clinching the gold medal in the just-concluded Asian Champions Trophy in Ranchi, skipper Savita Punia said.

Touted as favourites, India fell short at the Asian Games, losing to eventual winners China 0-4 in the semifinal in Hangzhou in October. But the Indians roared

back to form, demolishing all their Asian rivals, including China, to clinch their second Asian Champions Trophy title in Ranchi Sunday with a 4-0 win over Japan.

"We came with a target. We wanted to set the record straight after the team fell short in the Asian Games. We wanted to claim the gold medal here, especially since it was being held in India for the first time," said Savita after claiming the ACT title Sunday.

"We always take it one game at a time in every tournament.

This time, the whole team had a point to prove and I am glad we were able to do so."

India, who won the bronze at the Asian Games, will return to Ranchi and look to repeat the performance at the women's FIH Hockey Olympic Qualifiers, scheduled to be held January 13-19.

"The team played a lot of attacking hockey. We took the initiative as we have the players suited for it and everyone gave their best to make sure we stand on top of the podium," Savita said.



Inauguration of
Odisha Table Tennis Academy
and
29th State Table Tennis Championship 2023
by
Sj. Naveen Patnaik
Hon'ble Chief Minister, Odisha

7 November 2023
Laxmisagar, Bhubaneswar

“Sports for Youth
Youth for Future”



Transforming The Sports Landscape | Empowering Athletes

business



India in the near future will remain the largest coking coal export destination, one due to a significant increase in domestic steel demand and the other as China will depend more on its own resources

DILIP OOMMEN | PRESIDENT, ISA

MUNDRA PORT SETS NEW RECORD

Mundra Port, the flagship of Adani Ports and Special Economic Zone Ltd (APSEZ), has set a record by handling 16.1 million metric tonnes (MMT) of cargo in October, the highest-ever volume by any port in India. Mundra Port, the country's largest port, crossed the 100 MMT-mark in 210 days, surpassing the record of 231 days last year



of the day quote

We are announcing a partnership with HPCL to roll out thousands of Gogoro battery swapping stations across its retail outlets throughout the country in the coming years

HORACE LUKE | FOUNDER AND CEO, GOGORO

We are planning to launch three projects in Gurugram and Andhra Pradesh within the next 6-9 months. We are expecting a revenue of about ₹4,000 crore from these projects

AMIT SARIN | MD, ANANT RAJ

The extremely encouraging sales growth in the second quarter of the current fiscal year is largely a result of increased momentum in implementation of infrastructure projects

V VIVEKANAND | PRESIDENT, ICEMA

POSITIVE GLOBAL TRENDS

Bulls remain strong

Sensex, Nifty jump nearly 1% on gain in IT, banking shares; rally for 3rd day on the trot

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Mumbai, Nov 6: Benchmark Sensex and Nifty rallied for a third straight session Monday, closing higher by nearly 1 per cent on gains in IT, private banks and capital goods shares amid favourable trends in global markets.

The 30-share BSE Sensex jumped 594.91 points or 0.92 per cent to settle at 64,958.69. During the day, it rallied 628.76 points or 0.97 per cent to 64,992.54.

Optimism continued as soft US payroll data and expectations of moderation in monetary tightening by the Fed supported the sentiment. Since most of the headwinds are global in nature, investor sentiment has shifted to domestic-oriented businesses, where festive demand is healthy

VINOD NAIR | HEAD OF RESEARCH, GEJOIT FINANCIAL SERVICES



around 1,367 points and Nifty by 422 points to trade above 19,400 level.

Among the Sensex firms, Larsen & Toubro, Axis Bank, Tata Steel, Bajaj Finance, Power Grid, Asian Paints, Mahindra & Mahindra and Bajaj Finserv were the biggest gainers.

State Bank of India, Hindustan Unilever, Tata Motors and Titan were the laggards.

In the broader market, the BSE smallcap gauge jumped 1 per cent and midcap index rallied 0.90 per cent.

Among the indices, capital

Investors richer

Investors' wealth climbed ₹7.95 lakh crore in three days of market rally amid positive trends in global markets. The market capitalisation of BSE-listed firms soared ₹7,95,290.63 crore to reach ₹3,18,17,766.44 crore, in three trading days.

goods advanced 1.68 per cent, metal jumped 1.64 per cent, industrials (1.42 per cent), utilities (1.39 per cent), commodities (1.38 per cent), oil & gas (1.33 per cent), energy (1.27 per cent), realty (1.19 per cent), bankex climbed 0.74 per cent and auto (0.65 per cent).

Consumer Durables emerged as the only laggard.

In Asian markets, Seoul, Tokyo, Shanghai and Hong Kong settled in the green. European markets were trading lower.

The US markets ended in positive territory Friday.

Global oil benchmark Brent crude climbed 1.35 per cent to \$86.04 a barrel. Foreign institutional investors (FIIs) of-flooded equities worth ₹12.43 crore Friday, according to exchange data.

In the three sessions to Monday, Sensex has rallied around 1,367 points and Nifty by 422 points to trade above 19,400 level

Q2 RESULTS

Barbeque Nation slips into red

New Delhi: Barbeque Nation Hospitality on Monday reported a loss of ₹11.92 crore on a consolidated basis in the second quarter ended September 2023. The company had reported a Profit After Tax (PAT) of ₹7.53 crore in the July-September period a year ago, according to a regulatory filing.

HPCL swings back to black

New Delhi: State-owned Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Ltd (HPCL) Monday reported returning to profitability in the September quarter after a boost in marketing margin improved earnings. It logged a consolidated net profit of ₹5,826.96 crore in July-September 2023-24.

The broader Nifty of the National Stock Exchange climbed 181.15 points or 0.94 per cent to 19,411.75.

In the three sessions to Monday, Sensex has rallied

2Ws take down Oct automobile retail sales

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, Nov 6: Retail sales of automobiles in the domestic market saw a 7.73 per cent year-on-year decline in October this year at 21,17,596 units, mainly due to dip in two-wheeler uptake with the inauspicious period of Shradh affecting new purchases, the Federation of Automobile Dealers Associations (FADA) said Monday.

Retail sales of automobiles in the domestic market stood at 22,95,099 units in October 2022, FADA said in a statement.

Two-wheeler retail sales were at 15,07,756 units last month, as



against 17,25,043 units in the year-ago period, down 12.60 per cent, as per the latest data by FADA.

Similarly, passenger vehicle (PV) retail also declined by 1.35 per cent at 3,53,990 last month, as compared to 3,58,884 units in October 2022.

AUTO RETAIL SALES DIP 7.73% IN OCT	THREE-WHEELER SALES JUMP 45.63%
TWO-WHEELER SALES PLUNGE 12.60%	COMMERCIAL VEHICLE RETAIL UP 10.26%
PV RETAIL DIPS 1.35%	

On the other hand, three-wheeler sales were up 45.63 per cent at 1,04,711 units, as compared to 71,903 units in the year-ago month. Tractor retail sales also grew by 6.15 per cent at 62,440 units, as against 58,823 units in October 2022.

Commercial vehicles retail

Patra named Business Development General Manager of UCO Bank

BHUBANESWAR: To look after the business development in Odisha, Chhattisgarh, Andhra Pradesh and Telangana a new Business Development General Manager Office has started functioning in Bhubaneswar: 5 Zonal Offices at Bhubaneswar, Sambalpur, Balasore, Raipur and Hyderabad within the above states will be covered under the jurisdiction of the General Manager's Office. This General Manager Office will work for the overall business growth of the bank. General Manager Goutam



Patra will lead the office for the first time. Previously Patra was serving as the Zonal Head of UCO Bank Zonal Office, Bhubaneswar. This office will predominantly focus on digital banking, forex business, export and to intact customer base. The total business mix of the above 5 zones is about 47,000 crore. With this new responsibility, General Manager Patra will also continue as the Convener of the State Level Bankers Committee as before.

PEAKING DEMAND

Power plants told to run at full pace

POWER MIN DIRECTS STATES TO RUN POWER PLANTS AT FULL CAPACITY AS ELECTRICITY DEMAND ROSE 20% YOY IN THE LAST THREE MONTHS

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, Nov 6: Union Minister RK Singh Monday asked his counterparts in states to run all power plants at full capacity to meet the peak demand against the backdrop of rising electricity consumption and coal shortage.

The minister made the remarks at the inauguration of two-day National Conference of Power and New & Renewable Energy Ministers of States & UTs in New Delhi. "To meet the growing demand, all states need to run all power plants and at full capacity," Singh said.

He met with his counterparts in states and union territories and shared his views on steps being taken to address the growing power demand in the country, which he said is a sign of fast growth of the Indian economy.

The power demand has increased phenomenally. The demand increased by 20 per cent year-on-year in August, September and October 2023. This shows how fast the country's economy is growing.

"Also, we met peak demand of 2.41 lakh MW recently while peak demand was 1.9 lakh MW in 2017-18. If the peak demand grows even higher, it will not be able to meet. This is one challenge that needs to be addressed."

Singh also asked states to blend domestic coal with imported



coal to address supply-demand gap.

"I am certain that Coal India must have increased production, but our demand has increased faster. This has led to shortages and that's why we need to do 6 per cent blending. NTPC and DVC are doing the blending, states too should do the blending, depending on shortage of coal," he added.

The minister stressed that available coal will have to be distributed equitably among states, depending on requirements.

"We don't play politics in electricity. It is a fully integrated system; power is generated in some state and consumed in 3-4 different states. Coal is produced somewhere, wind somewhere and solar somewhere else. We are not going to do any favouritism. The shortage will have to be shared by all and supplemented by all."

The minister further urged states to set up new power plants near coal belts so that issues related to long-distance transportation of coal and availability of rakes do not arise.

"We need to add capacity as well... We need about 80,000 MW of thermal capacity under construction. All this capacity addition is being done through the public sector; private sector investment has not started coming, but I am quite certain that private sector investments will come, as we have made the system viable and the sector gives returns," Singh said.

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