DESI GIRL

Actress Sara Ali Khan says she doesn't believe in wearing designer clothes as she looks fine in traditional outfits

LEISURE



WARMEST YEAR EVER

This year is 'virtually certain' to be the warmest in 125,000 years, after data shows last month was the world's hottest October in that period

INTERNATIONAL P10



STOKES LIFTS ENGLAND

Ben Stokes's century helps England secure a 160-run win in the ongoing World Cup, beating the Netherlands SPORTS P12

12 PAGES | ₹5.00

VOLUME 13, ISSUE 219 | www.orissapost.com

BHUBANESWAR | THURSDAY NOVEMBER 9 | 2023

Nitish apologises

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Patna, Nov 8: Bihar Chief Minister Nitish Kumar Wednesday apologised in both Houses of the legislature, as well as outside, for remarks made a day before on the importance of women's education to control population growth.

Upon his arrival on the Vidhan Sabha premises, Kumar was greeted by a posse of MLAs, all belonging to the opposition BJP, carrying placards denouncing his utterances and demanding his resignation.

"I have come to know today that something I had said yesterday has not gone down well with many people. My intent was to highlight my government's thrust on women's empowerment and the role improved literacy among women plays in population control. Though if anybody's sentiments have been hurt. I seek an apology and take back my words,' said Kumar.

Pvt buses likely to go off roads from Dec 1

Bhubaneswar: The All Odisha Private Bus Owners' Association Wednesday threatened to go on a state-wide agitation by keeping their buses off roads from December 1, 2023. "The private bus owners have also decided to stage a dharna in front of the Odisha Assembly November 22," said association member Barada Acharya after a meeting of the private bus body members at Bhawanipatna. The private bus owners have been opposing the launch of bus services from block to district level under the Location Accessible Multimodal Initiative (LAccMI).

Man pulls tusker's tail in Angul, held

Bhubaneswar: The forest department has arrested a 24-year-old man for instigating a wild elephant to attack people by pulling its tail while chasing it in Angul district, an official said. The man, identified as Dinesh Sahoo, a resident of Kulad village in Talcher Forest Range, was arrested Wednesday and booked under Wildlife Protection Act, 1972. The tusker was moving around near Kulad when it was chased by locals, including Sahoo, Sunday. While chasing the pachyderm, the accused had pulled its tail, instigating it to charge towards the humans, he said.

IRREGULAR by MANJUL



Neither star campaigners nor top netas, we need Glenn Maxwell for the last leg of campaigning

MARKET WATCH

DOLLAR 83.25

EURO

GOLD

WEATHER

SILVER

SENSEX **64975.61** 👚 33.21

19443.50

₹59,977

₹ 70,620

INDEX

VARIATION

36.80

1 ₹0.01

₹370

₹0.05

BATTLE READY: Soldiers of Ukraine's National Guard 1st brigade Bureviy (Hurricane) practice during combat training at a military training ground in the north of Ukraine, Wednesday

Dy Speaker steps down AGENCIES

Bhubaneswar, Nov 8: Odisha Assembly Deputy Speaker Rajanikant Singh Wednesday resigned from the post citing 'personal reasons'

However, the senior BJD leader said he will concentrate on poll preparations as Lok Sabha and Assembly elections in the state are due in a few months' time.

Singh submitted his resignation to Speaker Pramila Mallik.

"I am planning to concentrate on political activities as elections are round the corner," Singh told reporters, adding he would be now able to devote more time to the party and reach out to the people.

Singh, who was elected as the deputy speaker of the Odisha Assembly in June 2019, earlier served as the Steel and Mines Minister in the Naveen Patnaik government. Asked whether he would be given any major responsibility in the party, the fourtime lawmaker from Angul constituency said it is for the BJD president to decide. Singh, son of former minister A P Singh, is a popular leader in Dhenkanal district.

His active participation in party work is considered significant amid speculations of Union minister Dharmendra Pradhan contesting the 2024 elections from either Dhenkanal or Sambalpur Lok Sabha seats.

Delhi plans artificial rain

SRIMANDIR NATAMANDAP REPAIR HC bins Asi report

POST NEWS NETWORK

Cuttack, Nov 8: Terming it 'incomplete', the Orissa High Court Wednesday rejected the affidavit submitted by the Archaeological Survey of India (ASI) on the status of repair works at Srimandir Natamandap (dancing hall) in Puri and asked the agency to file a comprehensive report on or before the next hearing November 15.

A division bench of the HC, comprising acting Chief Justice BR Sarangi and Justice MS Raman, asked Superintending Archaeologist (Puri Circle) DB Garnayak to take back the 'incomplete' affidavit filed by the ASI, Wednesday.

The court posted the hearing to November 15.

The HC has been monitoring Natamandap conservation work as part of adjudication on a public interest litigation (PIL) filed by Abhisek Das, a resident of Cuttack, in 2016. The

Natamandap repair work was

taken up by the ASI after completion of the restoration of Jay-Bijay Dwar of the 12th century

The Orissa High Court has been

monitoring the conservation of

adjudication on a plea filed by

Natamandap as part of

Cuttack, in 2016

Abhisek Das, a resident of

shrine in 2017 The ASI had Monday informed the HC that the Indian Institute of Technology (IIT), Madras had in October submitted the structural design of steel frame and detailed intervention for strengthening the cracked beam of Natamandap with the Shree Jagannath Temple

Administration (SJTA). However, it was pending with

the temple body. The Natamandap repair work will begin after getting approval from

Natamandap repair work

was taken up by the

of India in 2017

Archaeological Survey

the SJTA, according to the ASI. Expressing dissatisfaction over the inordinate delay in completion of the repair work, the HC had adjourned the matter to Wednesday and sought an affidavit from the agency explaining elaborately the exact status of the repair work of the Srimandir dance hall.

The HC had September 18 this year directed ASI to expedite strengthening of the cracked beam inside the Natamandap.

According to High Court-appointed amicus curiae NK Mohanty's August 15, 2023 report, the Natamandap and Jagamohan of the 12th century shrine were in a critical state and anything could happen at any moment.

"Many distressed locations were observed in the second pidha of Jagamohan mostly in the form of wide structural cracks, localised dislodgement of stone blocks and detached weak lime plasters, and extensive corrosion of the existing wrought-iron clamps. These distressed locations were on the eastern and south-eastern corner of Jagamohan. There is a crack in the beam of the Natamandap. This work is very important and catastrophe may happen at any time as this subiect beam is working as a cantilever from both sides, Mohanty had pointed out in his report.

New Delhi, Nov 8: The Delhi government plans to induce artificial rain through cloud seeding this month to combat air pollution in the national capital. Environment Minister Gopal Rai said Wednesday.

Rai held a meeting with scintists from IIT-Kanpur who explained that cloud seeding can only be attempted when there are clouds or moisture in the atmosphere.

"Experts anticipate that such conditions could develop around November 20-21. We have asked the scientists to prepare a proposal by Thursday that will be submitted to the Supreme Court," the minister told reporters.

Rai emphasised that obtaining the necessary clearances and permissions for using this technology from both the central and the state governments is a time-sensitive matter.

The IIT-Kanpur scientists, who have conducted research on artificial rain, delivered a presentation to the minister September 12.

Schools shut till Nov 18 In view of air pollution in the national

capital, the December winter break of all schools has been rescheduled and it will be now from November 9 to November 18, a circular from the Delhi Directorate of Education stated on Wednesday. Holidays were earlier announced from November 3 to November 10 due to bad air quality.

'Odd-even' deferred

The Delhi government Wednesday said the odd-even car rationing scheme will be implemented in the national capital after the Supreme Court reviews its effectiveness and issues an order. Environment Minister Gopal Rai said the city government would submit the results of two major studies conducted by the Energy Policy Institute of the University of Chicago and the Delhi Technical University to determine the scheme's effectiveness for the SC's review. P7

IMD Director General Mrutyunjay Mohapatra told PTI that inducing artificial rain can only be attempted when there are clouds or moisture available.

Court, Dhinkia villagers' last hope for justice

SHARAT ROUT, OP

Paradip, Nov 8: For the residents of Dhinkia, a sleepy village on the fringes of the port township of Paradip, court seems to be the last resort for any ostensible relief from the endless cycle of violence and tyranny they have been subjected to for long.

First, it was during the forcible eviction from their ancestral land, and subsequent acquisition, by South Korean steel major POSCO, and now the ongoing works for a steel plant and captive port by JSW. The villagers continue to live

on the, proverbial, edge.

A visit to ground zero adds credence to what has been widely reported, or talked about, so far about the plight of the hapless

Fear is palpable and omnipresent as one walks down the dusty roads of the village. An eerie silence hangs in air, while the doors of the humble dwellings

are mostly shut and few peep through partly ajar windows. Needless to say strangers here are viewed with suspicion and taken for plain cloth sleuths looking out for potential trouble makers.

Some who dare speak out squarely put the blame on JSW for the state of affairs. From land acquisition to eviction of betel vines, the villagers are allegedly facing attacks and intimidation every now and then, or being rounded up in bogus "That is why people in the proposed JSW steel plant affected area are unable to protest through democratic means. The court seems to be their last hope for justice," says well-known social worker and environmentalist of the locality, Manas Kar.

He says the camaraderie once shared between people living across villages like Dhinkia, Gobindpur, Nuagaon, Patana, Gadakujanga, Mahala, Bhuyanpala, Polanga and Nolia Sahi doesn't exist anymore.



According to Kar, the administration and henchmen of the company have unleashed violence and tyranny to quell protests launched by villagers after the state government announced the POSCO project in 2005."Police was complicit in that," he says.

While four protestors were, over 350 cases registered against the villagers during the protracted protests between 2005 and 2012, forcing POSCO to finally fold up.

"Ironically, instead of handing over the land back to the villagers, it was allotted to JSW after the company signed an MoU with the state government in 2018 for setting up a 13.02 million tonne annual capacity steel plant and a captive port," Kar adds. Though protests erupted following the signing of the MoU, the public hearing on environment for the project was completed December 20, 2019. "So far, more than 100 cases have been filed against the villagers,'

he says. Manas Bardhan, a resident of Dhinkia village, says," JSW is

JSW is only selling false dreams and never fulfilled its promises. I have been slapped with 22 false cases and thrashed black and blue several times when I raised my voice for protection of forests, land and water bodies

MANAS BARDHAN DHINKIA RESIDENT

only selling false dreams and never fulfilled its promises. I have been slapped with 22 false cases and thrashed black and blue several times when I raised my voice for protection of forests, land and water bodies." Manas who returned home on bail a month ago, claims he has been constantly under police surveillance.

'They (police) are threatening to implicate me in narcotics case if I dare open my mouth again," he adds. With fear writ large on her face, an elderly

woman in the village begged not to click her photograph or mention her name anywhere anticipating retribution from police.

Another villager, Gagan Mallick, says though over 90 per cent of the villagers are opposed to the project, they are not coming forward fearing frame-up by police. Many allege that the Jagatsinghpur district police are behaving like JSW police as the company has virtually bought them over.

Significantly, over 2,200 betel vines have been evicted so far for the JSW project, forcing the dependents to work as bonded labourers in other states, says Kar. He says the betel farmers of the area were doing business to the tune of Rs 80-90 crore annually with the local UCO bank."The situation has changed

now," he laments. Meanwhile, JSW officials declined to comment even afterthey were apprised of the people's

Partly cloudy sky



leisure

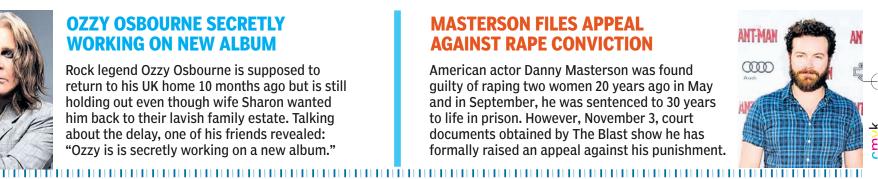


OZZY OSBOURNE SECRETLY WORKING ON NEW ALBUM

Rock legend Ozzy Osbourne is supposed to return to his UK home 10 months ago but is still holding out even though wife Sharon wanted him back to their lavish family estate. Talking about the delay, one of his friends revealed: "Ozzy is is secretly working on a new album."

MASTERSON FILES APPEAL AGAINST RAPE CONVICTION

American actor Danny Masterson was found guilty of raping two women 20 years ago in May and in September, he was sentenced to 30 years to life in prison. However, November 3, court documents obtained by The Blast show he has formally raised an appeal against his punishment.



A plain Jane day. Work goes on as usual, and there is progress. But as Ganesha says, it's an ordinary day. Hum, whistle, doodle, and sip your green tea. While day dreaming, start planning your dream home. After all, that's where the first plan

TAURUS

Luck is a four-leaf clover in your pocket. You might get the long desired success in education related matters today - a favourable result of a competitive examination, maybe. You will proudly smile at your power of resilience and sense of proportion, says Ganesha.

GEMINI

The day will be dedicated to spending quality time with children, predicts Ganesha You will be overloaded with household responsibilities and will find it tough to deal with them. However, you will manage to do well and will be satisfied with the outcome

CANCER

Today, you will strictly follow your plan book. All Ganesha needs to do to predict your day is take a peep into the book. However, this is only one of those rare days when things go according to plan. You are likely to keep your views to yourself, and will hardly betray what's on your mind.

LEO

Most battles are fought and won inside our head. Hence. Ganesha urges you to main tain a positive outlook today. The stars grant you the ability to double your efforts, and allow your imagination to take flight

VIRGO

A day to look inside and contemplate. Find peace and prosperity, says Ganesha. Clam up like those oysters and discover the peal within you. A fine helping hand you shall lend today to those who need it, says Ganesha.

Ganesha has a feeling that today may not be the best day to undertake any gov ernment dealings. Call it red-tapism, or bureaucratic procrastination, but it is highly unlikely that such tasks shall be fruitful today. This may test your patience, and in doing so, bring out your competency and efficiency to the fore, especially if you happen to be a public servant. Touché!

SCORPIO

It is about time you learn to deal with frustration in a more healthy manner. The right choice is always the hardest to make Do not let sentiments sway you into hasty choices because they may feel right, but might also be extremely impractical.

SAGITTARIUS

Today, arranging meetings with customers and suppliers will eat into most of your time. Your patience will enable you to listen to suggestions and opinions offered by people. The result of all this, however, is slated to be most favourable and productive.

CAPRICORN

You have always been generous by nature, but your benevolent attitude will do you no good, warns Ganesha. People will try, almost blatantly, to take advantage of you, and for once, you will feel that being crafty and unrelenting would have helped kept those blood-sucking leeches at bay. But as the day progresses, you will thank the Almighty for all the precious things he made you the guardian of.

AQUARIUS

Today, you work hard and party harder! The morning sees you sweating it out at work, as you do your best to implement your plans. In the evening, you will don your best attire and get ready to have a gala time with your beloved. Ganesha says, you receive as much as you give.

PISCES

inspire, they aspire.

You set irreproachable standards for yourself, but what keeps your subordinates from grumbling about it is the efforts you make to help them achieve perfection in their endeavours, says Ganesha. You



for her real and natural personality, which she has shown over time. A recent example of this was witnessed when she made a visit to Koffee With Karan, and there she was asked about why she doesn't prefer wearing designer clothes.

Her honest reply was, "It is not like I don't have designer bags and shoes. I don't believe in wearing designer clothes be-

cause I look fine

in Zara. I feel I have the confidence to carry it off." She further revealed that she doesn't

Continuing the same, the Atrangi Re actress said, "I don't do it to come across as relatable, but maybe what I need to be aware of is that I am an actor and I have a good amount of followers on Instagram. It's important because I am putting myself out there. So, perceptions

Elaborating on it more, Sara added, "What I should be careful of is that I shouldn't come across as lazy; I shouldn't come across as unkempt, so maybe I don't need oil in my hair, but I don't think I will ever say, 'Oh, I need a blow dry; I am going to the airport.' I find that ridiculous, and I am not going to apologize for that either.'



Mumbai:

Expanding on the world of audio podcasts for different storytelling, now after the Marvel character Hawkeye, Black Widow has got her own audio podcast series titled Marvel's Wastelanders: Black *Widow* in Hindi dubbed by Kareena Kapoor.

Talking about her experience in getting to voice the iconic spy-assassinsuperhero, Kareena called it a surreal experience. Elaborating on her ex-

perience, she said: "Breathing life into a character as iconic as *Black Widow* has been a surreal experience. Taking listeners on an action-packed journey in Marvel's Black Widow, using only my voice, has been a unique challenge. I hope that listeners are able to envision the story using their imagination and resonate with her unyielding spirit like I

Introducing new timelines, alternate futures, and stories, 'Marvel's

Wastelanders: Black Widow' takes place in a far darker future where the villains have won.

The Hindi dub of Marvel's Wastelanders: Black Widow features a strong cast with the

voices of Kareena Kapoor Khan as the voice of Black Widow/Helen Black, Masaba Gupta as Lisa Cartwright, Vihaan Samat as Jordan Temple, Adah Sharma as Yelena Belova, Nitu Chandra as Judy Kratz, and Aditi

Bhatia as K.I.M. The audio series is streaming on Audible.

Other Wastelanders series include characters such as Wolverine, Doom, Deadpool, Daredevil, Spider-Man and more.

IANS

FUN

JUST



hosted *Bigg Boss 17* has been in the headlines ever since it went on air for multiple reasons. While there are many con-

troversial contestants in this season, one of the most popular celebrities is Ankita Lokhande who has entered the house with her husband Vicky Jain.

Recently in an episode, the actress again talked about her late ex-boyfriend Sushant Singh Rajput.

During her conversation with co-contestant Abhishek Kumar, Ankita reportedly said "When you roam around in pants and without shirt, you remind me of Sushant. His physique was exactly like yours.

She added, "Sushant was hard-working to the next level. He would be very involved and was a perfectionist. I'm very easy-golucky, but he would dive deep into things. He would get affected by what people talked about him on

Twitter." Recalling that Sushant cared for everyone around

'One life not enough to be an artist'



Eminent artist Jatin Das (M) with other luminaries at NGMA, Delhi

EXPO

ON SELECT

WORKS OF

JATIN DAS

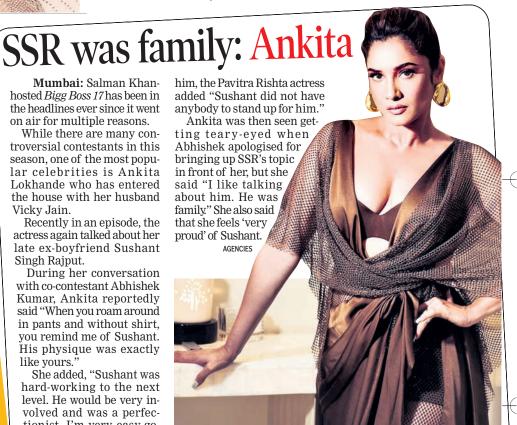
New Delhi: Veteran artist Jatin Das does not exhibit too often or talk about his work. But this month art enthusiasts will have a rare opportunity to experience a retro-

spective of Das' finest works: a lifetime of paintings on canvas and paper, drawings, watercolours, sculptures, graphics, terracotta, ceramic and porcelain platters, pinch toys; as well as his poems and insights about art and life. Six decades of his life as an artist.

The exhibition, $titled\ Jatin\ Das-A$ Retrospective: 1963-2023, was inaugurated at the National Gallery of Modern Art, Delhi Tuesday and will continue till January 7, 2024. It is a celebration of the 82-year-old Padma Bhushan recipient, who is widely regarded as one of India's eminent contemporary artists. Speaking about the event, Das said:

This retrospective was long overdue. It was not easy to make a selection for the show. What you'll see is only the tip of the iceberg. I got the chance to distance myself and view the works as a viewer. I struggle with the

dichotomy that I live on the sale of my paintings, but I do not paint to sell. I am almost 83, and have been working for over 60 years. How time has escaped from my hands! I am a painter wanting to become an artist. And to be an artist, you need two or three lives. One life is not enough.



SUDOKU

5

6

4

SOLUTIONS

CROSSWOR

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

manner that every row, column and 3x3 box contains

6

9

3

9 5 3

7

8

2

9

SCRAPGRASP

CRUET AGRE

4 9

6

5 8

the digits 1 to 9, without repeating any

9

PEANUTS



YOU MADE IT THROUGH THE NIGHT WITHOUT A MIDNIGHT SNACK! DOESN'T THAT PROVE







CALVIN AND HOBBES



BREVITY



CROSSWORD Copyright ©2023 PuzzleJunction.com

24 Dry, as wine

27 Olde worlde

28 Illustrator or

painter

Across 7 Sailplane

- 8 Eton rival
- 9 Large snake
- 10 Knocks over
- 11 Pesky insect 14 Arbour
- 15 Ice cream
- topping
- 17 Slough

- 19 Honesty
- 22 Variety
- 23 Soft cheese
- **Down**
 - Breakfast nook
 - 2 Eccentric 3 Breakable
 - 4 Fish and
 - 5 Meddle
 - 6 Golf course feature
- 18 Tusked mammal

(4,3)

12 Terrestrial

lizard

sherpa

16 Troglodyte

13 Pathfinder or

- 20 On pins and needles
- 21 Breathing fire
- 25 Young fox 26 Utmost degree

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

SUDOKU

CHECK FOR SOLUTIONS OF THE PUZZLES TOMORROW



downtown

LIGHTS, CAMERA, ACTION

Artistes perform 'Mughal Tamsha' as part of a cultural programme organised by Infosys Foundation and Bharatiya Vidya Bhavan at Bhanja Kala Mandap in Bhubaneswar, Wednesday



India beats China in top ranked varsity list

ACCORDING TO THE OS WORLD UNIVERSITY RANKINGS-ASIA ANNOUNCED WEDNESDAY. INDIA IS NOW THE 'MOST REPRESENTED **HIGHER EDUCATION SYSTEM**



PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, Nov 8: The Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Bombay has retained its top po sition in India in the QS (Quacquarelli Symonds) World University Rankings-Asia and the country has surpassed China in the number of ranked univer-

According to the rankings an nounced Wednesday, India is now the "most represented higher education system", with 148 featured universities, 37 more than last year. It is followed by Mainland China with 133 and Japan with 96. Myanmar Cambodia and Nepal featured in the rankings for the first time. Like last year, IISc Bangalore, Delhi University and five Indian

Institutes of Technology Bombay, Delhi, Madras, Kharagpur and Kanpur- have secured positions in the elite top 100 institutes in Asia.

"The increasing visibility of Indian universities in the QS rankings reflects the dynamic

Like last year, IISc Bangalore, Delhi **University and five IITs** - Bombay, Delhi. Madras, Kharagpur

and Kanpur-have

secured positions in

the elite top 100

institutes in Asia

expansion of India's higher education landscape. While the significant growth in the number of Indian institutions and their research contributions marks a noteworthy development in the region's educational profile, it also illuminates the path ahead for India to further elevate its standing in the global academic community," said Ben Sowter, Senior Vice President

Other Indian institutes which made it to the top 100 in the QS Asia University Rankings 2024

include IIT-Delhi (46), IIT-Madras (53), Indian Institute of Science (58), IIT-Kharagpur (59), IIT-Kanpur (63), and University of

While India falls below the regional average in academic reputation and employer reputation, it has achieved the second-best regional results in the papers per faculty metric among the higher education systems with more than 10 universities ranked.

According to QS, India's outbound student mobility marks a significant milestone, exceeding China's for the first time in 15 years with a notable increase in students pursuing education in the US, while concurrently, the country works to enhance its appeal to international students.

The Quacquarelli Symonds (QS), a UK-based company specialised in the analysis of higher education institutions around the world, ranked institutions on the basis of 10 indicators -- academic reputation, employer reputation, faculty-student ratio, international relation network, citations per paper, paper per faculty, staff with PhD, international faculty, international students, and outbound exchange

India produces an exceptional amount of research with seven of Asia's 10 best universities for papers per faculty are Indian. including both the region's most productive research institutions, Anna University and Maulana Abul Kalam Azad University of Technology, West Bengal



RIOT OF COLOURS: Women checking terracotta items during an exhibition organised by Directorate of Handicrafts at Exhibition Ground in

3 convicted of corruption, forgery

Bhubaneswar, Nov 8: Two state government officials and a retired employee were convicted Tuesday in connection with corruption and forgery cases registered by the Vigilance department.

The convicts are - school teacher Nagesh Kumar Mahakud, Anganwadi worker Lilabati Mohanta, and revenue inspector (RI) Ramesh Chandra Mishra (retired), the department said in a statement.

The court of Sub-Divisional Judicial Magistrate (SDJM), Balasore, awarded imprison-

ment for a period of one year to Mahakud and two years to

Mohanta. Both were asked to pay a fine of ₹10,000, failing which they

have to undergo further im-

prisonment for another two

months, the statement said. The retired RI has been convicted for showing undue official

favour to a beneficiary, thereby causing loss of government/public money, it said The court of Special Judge-Vigilance, Bolangir, awarded a two-year jail term and ₹10,000

fine to Mishra. In default of the

payment, the retired employee

will have to undergo rigorous

imprisonment for another two months. The department said it will now move the competent authority for dismissal of Mahakud and Mohanta, and stoppage of Sambalpur: A passenger train derailed in Sambalpur district after hitting a buffalo Wednesday evening, East Coast Railway (ECoR) said. All the passengers were safe, it added. Four wheels of a coach of Jharsuguda-Sambalpur passenger special train jumped the tracks at about 6:25pm on Sarla-Sambalpur section, when the animal suddenly entered the track, ECoR said in a statement. The buffalo was killed in the accident. Divisional Railway Manager of Sambalpur and his team reached the spot to supervise

Train derails after

hitting buffalo

the operations for clearing the blocked line. The track was declared fit at 8:35pm

ED chargesheet against state govt official, wife

New Delhi, Nov 8: The Enforcement Directorate (ED) said Wednesday that it has filed a chargesheet against Lingarai Jena, the erstwhile 'safei mohareer' (cleaning assistant) in the office of additional sub-collector (settlement) in Puri, Odisha, and his wife in connection with a money laundering probe involving disproportionate assets to the tune of ₹1.88 crore.

The ED filed the chargesheet against Jena and his wife under several Sections of the Prevention of Money Laundering Act (PMLA) at a court in Bhubaneswar with a prayer for conviction of the accused persons and confiscation of their attached properties worth ₹1.88 crore.

The ED case is based on an FIR registered by the Vigilance Police, Bhubaneswar, against Jena and others for commission of offences under various sections of the Prevention of Corruption Act for alleged possession of disproportionate assets to the tune of ₹1.88 crore.

"The ED probe found that Jena invested his ill-gotten income, over and above his known source of income, in acquiring immovable properties, mutual funds and in bank investments in his name and his wife's name, who actively betted the accused in acquisition of the properties,' the ED said.

Leopard shifted to Sambalpur

Bhubaneswar: A leopard, which was

caged for mauling to death two persons in Nuapada district, has been translocated to Sambalpur Wildlife Rescue Centre for observation and treatment, a Forest official said Wednesday. A special team of forest personnel from Sambalpur brought the leopard from Nuapada by road Tuesday night, said Anshu Pragyan Das, DFO (Wildlife), Hirakud. "A dedicated team has been engaged to look after the animal," the divisional forest officer said. The leopard was captured in a cage November 4 when it entered a house in Kodapali village on the outskirts of Sunabeda Wildlife Sanctuary in Nuapada. It has mauled to death a minor boy and a woman in the district in the past 10 days, officials said

International Convention on Millets starts today



POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar, Nov 8: Odisha Millets Mission (OMM) is all set to organise International Convention on Millets (ICM) from November 9 to 10 at Janta Maidan here with participation of local farmers, self-help groups (SHGs) and entrepreneurs.

The theme of ICM has been kept as 'Millets – Ancient Grains for Modern Challenges'. The event will have farmer engagement activities, displaying emerging technologies and machinery, featuring experience centres, technical sessions, policy roundtables, B2B meetings, food festival, quiz competitions and cooking competitions.

The convention will have special focus on tribal heritage of millets and showcase success stories of millet entrepreneurship of Mission Shakti women SHGs.

Officials from UN agencies such as FAO, WFP, IFAD, agricounsellors of Southeast Asian, Middle Eastern and African countries, embassy officials, and agriculture secretaries of different states will attend the session.

Thirty-one technical and nontechnical sessions will be conducted at the convention. Threetime Grammy Winner Ricky Kej will perform a musical concert on climate change and Millet November 9. Renowned chef Vikas Khanna will also interact with hoteliers, restaurateurs. food bloggers and SHG members on millet cuisine

Slapgate: Producer Tutu Nayak gets bail

Bhubaneswar, Nov 8: A Sub-Divisional Judicial Magistrate (SDJM) court here Wednesday granted bail to Odia film producer Sanjay Nayak, aka Tutu Nayak. who was arrested on charges of slapping and abusing a woman



After the court accepted his bail petition, Nayak was released from Jharpada jail in the evening.

The producer was arrested Saturday for allegedly slapping and hurling abusive words at the female journalist while she was at a theatre here covering an event a day before his arrest.

After receiving a complaint from the scribe, a case was registered against Nayak under IPC Sections 341 (wrongful restraint), 323 (voluntarily causing hurt), 294 (use of obscene words in public place) and 354 (assault or criminal force to woman with intent to outrage her modesty) of the IPC.

STA adopts timed-out theme to promote quality helmets_

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Bhubaneswar, Nov 8: To cre-State Transport Authority (STA) has used Sri Lankan cricketer Angelo Mathews controversial timed-out dismissal to stress the importance on the use of standard and certified helmets while driving on roads.

Mathews was given out 'timed out' as he was not ready to face the first ball of his innings within the stipulated time

of two minutes because the strap of his helmet was broken.

In the awareness post on X and Facebook about the importance of using hel-

mets, the STA shared

On Bangladesh played November 6. field or off field.....bad quality lesson from #CWC23....Don't

helmets can take your wicket, said the STA in a post shared on X and Facebook wear ISI certified helmet & tie the strap. Also, encourage pillion rider to do so.

a post, "On field or off field.....bad quality helmets can take your wicket." It has shared these words with two photos of the cricketer Angelo Mathews during the World Cup match between Sri Lanka and

ment section as one user commented, "Even if we wear helmets, there would be accidents due to bad roads.

"#RoadSafety

throw away your

wicket, play a

consistent long

innings. Always

This was not the first time the STA has used such a creative approach on a current topic to create road safety awareness among the people. Earlier, it had used the blockbuster movies 'Baahubali', 'Pushpa' and 'RRR' to create awareness on the use of helmets

ternet and people praised the

creative approach of the trans-

larious remarks in the com-

port authority.

As per the annual 'Road accidents in India' report released by the Ministry of Road Transport and Highways recently, Odisha recorded 5,467 deaths in 11,663 accidents in

Among those, two-wheeler riders bore the brunt as 2,498 persons were killed in road accidents last year. Out of the 2498 deaths, 1795 people were killed due to non-use of helmets, the report said.

The score differences were

"Given that the anterior cin-

found to be greater in the sam-

ple that participated in fMRI,

gulate is one of the main (brain)

areas heavily involved in the

representation of the affective

state of others, we believe that

the differences shown by reg-

ular cannabis users in the emo-

tional comprehension scores

and their brain functional con-

nectivity, could be related to

the use of cannabis," the re-

searchers wrote in their study.

they said.

Regular cannabis users tend to show greater empathy

study has found that people regularly using cannabis, or marijuana, tended to have more empathy.

Researchers from Nacional Universidad Autónoma de México found through brain imaging that the brain region generally affected by cannabis use and related to empathy, the anterior cingulate, had a stronger connectivity with regions related to sensing the emotional states of others within one's own body.

The anterior cingulate is present in the brain's limbic system, which is involved in emotional behaviour.

The study findings could help in exploring "the potential effects of cannabis in aiding treatments for conditions involvdeficits in social interactions, such as sociopathy, social anxiety, and avoidant personality disorder, among others," according to study coauthor Víctor Olalde-Mathieu from the university

The study is published in the Journal of Neuroscience Research.

For the study, the researchers recruited 85 regular cannabis users and 51 non-consumers (controls). The participants completed psychometric tests and were asked to report their cannabis consumption behaviour through questionnaires. Of these participants, 46 users and 34 controls also participated in brain imaging stud-

Of the total group, cannabis users showed a greater ability to recognise and understand



other people's emotions and impressions, as adjudged by the emotional comprehension

part of the cognitive and affective empathy test, the researchers found. The test makes

researchers recruited 85 regular cannabis users and 51 non-consumers (controls)

On Field or Off Field

#SafetyFirst always!" the trans-

port authority said in the social

The post surfaced on the in-

media post.

■ The participants completed psychometric tests and were asked to report their cannabis consumption behaviour through questionnaires

Of the total group, cannabis users showed a greater ability to recognise and understand other people's emotions and impressions, as adjudged by the emotional comprehension part of the cognitive and affective empathy test, the researchers found

use of cognitive and affective

approaches to measure an in-

dividual's empathetic capacity.

'We believe that these results contribute to open a pathway to

study further the clinical applications of the positive effect that cannabis or cannabis components could have in affect and social interactions, they wrote.

Development boost for three more dists

Bhubaneswar, Nov 8: Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik Wednesday launched the 'Ama Odisha Nabin Odisha' initiative for Sundargarh, Dhenkanal and Boudh districts to boost rural infrastructure and promote Jagannath culture. Under the scheme, each Gram Panchavat of the districts will get ₹50 lakh for infrastructure development.

As per the initiatives, six conincluding stituencies Sundargarh. Talsara. Birmitrapur, Raghunathpalli, Rajgangpur and Bonai in Sundargarh district will get ₹139.50 crore. As many as 3,016 projects will be undertaken in 279 Gram Panchayats of 17 blocks of these constituencies.

In Dhenkanal district, Dhenkanal, Kamakhyanagar, Parjanga and Hindol assembly constituencies will get ₹106 crore for the execution of 3,053 projects in eight blocks.

The Chief Minister sanctioned ₹34.50 crore for Boudh and AMA ODISHA NABIN ODISHA



Kantamal constituencies of Boudh district. As many as 1,159 projects will be undertaken in 699 Gram Panchayats of three blocks of these constituencies.

Addressing the function through video-conference, Patnaik said the 'Ama Odisha Nabin Odisha' scheme will ensure the development of villages,

both in terms of culture and infrastructure. He said the scheme aims at promoting the 'Jagannath culture' and the tradition of the

Besides, people will also get digital infrastructure, skill development centres and banking facilities under the scheme, he added. It will create opportunities for youths, women, and farmers, Patnaik said.

The Chief Minister sought the cooperation of all for the successful implementation of the programme.

Nabin Odisha and 5T chairman VK Pandian, who coordinated the event, said that the transformation programme has the people.

Pandian said that people in rural areas have become real partners in development in Odisha. The Chief Minister has approved the projects as per their request and demands, Pandian added.

He has presented five gifts to the women. These include meal for ₹5, ₹5,000 assistance to pregnant women under Mamata Yojana, travel for ₹5 in LAccMI bus, interest-free loans up to ₹5 lakh to Mission Shakti members and health insurance of ₹5 lakh more for women under BSKY. Pandian said that the Chief Minister has realized the passion of the people of Sundargarh towards hockey. Respecting their passion, Patnaik organized the Hockey World Cup in Sundargarh and built a mega international hockey stadium which was also built in record time.

Pandian informed that ₹1,765.03 crore has been sanctioned for a total of 119 important projects in three districts.

BMC launches drive for clean & green Diwali

POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar, Nov 8: Diwali, the festival of lights, is a time of joy, celebration and togetherness, but most importantly, it's a festival of cleanliness. To foster cleanliness in Bhubaneswar this Diwali, the Bhubaneswar Municipal Corporation (BMC) Wednesday launched 'Swachh Diwali Subh Diwali' campaign.

This initiative is dedicated to celebrating Diwali in an environmentally responsible and sustainable manner. The campaign puts emphasis on the significance of supporting local products, reducing single-use plastic, and maintaining cleanliness throughout and after the festival.

The campaign aims to instill a sense of environmental responsibility and align the cultural essence of Diwali with the principles of a clean Bhubaneswar and lifestyle for the environ-

Citizens have been encouraged to engage in cleaning and misting activities before and after Diwali, ensuring a fresh and hygienic environment. Various citizens' groups will actively participate in the Signature Campaign, encouraging citizen involvement and commitment to a clean and green Diwali.

The civic body will collaborate with market associations, trade associations, business entities, resident welfare associations, ward committees, selfhelp groups, NGOs, and CSOs, as well as youth clubs. The objective is to raise awareness on various aspects of cleanliness, including waste segregation, adoption of principles of reduce, reuse, recycle, and the transformation of waste into valuable resources.

Mayor Sulochana Das has called upon citizens to actively support this initiative, contributing to a cleaner and greener

CJ opens legal aid clinic for convicts

POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar, Nov 8: A legal aid clinic and a driving training centre for the rehabilitation of convicts at Biju Patnaik Open Air Ashram at Jamujhari, Khurda was inaugurated by the acting Chief Justice of Orissa High Court and executive chairman, Odisha State Legal Services Authority, Cuttack Justice Bidyut Ranjan Sarangi, Wednesday. Jail legal aid clinic at

CLASSIFIED

AFFIDAVIT

Acharjya, At-

Aska Road, P.O.-

I, Narayan Acharya (62),

S/o Late Shyama Sundar

Ganapatinagar, 3rd Lane,

Panigrahipentho, P.S.-

Ganjam, Odisha, Pin-

760006, declare by this

Affidavit No.- A915

Dt.04.11.2023 that my

father's name Shyam

Sundara Acharya, as

Sundar Acharjya as

future purposes.

I, Mamata Das, W/o.

Nirmal Prakash Das,

Resident of Ward No.1,

Village-Bahilipada, PO-

Harirajpur, PS-Pipili, Dist-

Puri, Pin-752104, Odisha,

declare by this affidavit

No.3342, dtd.3.11.23 that

now onwards. I shall be

I, Mayank Jaiswal, S/o. Manohar Jaiswal, Resident Flat No.8, Tower

Bhubaneswar, BJB Nagar,

No.503/5069- Ac.0.010 Dec,

Kisam- Ma.Pa.l. and Plot

dec, Kisam- Ma.Pa.l., area

of Ac. 0.080 dec. of Mouza,

Sambalpur Town unit no.

No.1437 of 1987 and some

15, bearing Sale deed

other documents and

couldn't trace out the

same.

No. 504/ 5070- Ac. 0.070

Dist.Khordha declared

that I have lost R.O.R

bearing M.S. Khata

No.559/460, Plot

No.1, Shree Tower,

DAS for all future

purposes.

LOS1

known as MAMATARANI

mentioned in Aadhaar

Card No. xxxxxxxx 3684

are same person for all

mentioned in the Passport

F2579480 and Shyama

Badabazar, Berhampur,



Jamujhari has been established by the OSLSA, Cuttack in collaboration with DLSA, Khurda with an aim to cater to the legal needs of the convicts and bridge the gap between the convicts

and concerned departments. It is also meant to facilitate various benefits which are available to them under NALSA, SOP for their premature release.

The driving training centre has been set up at the instance of OSLSA, Cuttack in collaboration with the Transport Department. This would rehabilitate the convicts aiming to step into the society after their release and help making them

Each woman can become self-reliant: Chowdhury

ARINDAM GANGULY, OP

Bhubaneswar, Nov 8: The Odisha Startup Yatra organised a bootcamp Wednesday at Ramadevi Women's University here, Wednesday.

More than 250 students took part in the event which offered an opportunity to female students to enrich their knowledge about startup ecosystem, and present their innovative ideas to industry experts.

The event was graced by chief guest, Startup Odisha executive chairman Omkar Rai and Ramadevi Women's University vice-chancellor Aparajita Chowdhury

Rai said, "I am encouraged by the positive response we've received. This event encourages a culture of ideation, and I'm confident that some of these ideas will evolve into successful startups.'

"With several van camps and bootcamps organized in schools and colleges across the state, we are optimistic that by the end, we will have generated 5,000 new ideas," he said. Chowdhury said, "At this junc-

ture, the Startup Odisha initiative is a boon for today's youth. It plays a pivotal role in shaping the startup and innovation ecosystem in the state, and the Startup Yatra stands out as one of its flagship initiatives." She expressed her confidence

in the potential of the Ramadevi students, saying, "I'm quite confident that some of our students may see their dreams of ideation come to fruition.

"Through this yatra, we will witness the most appropriate ways for promoting self-reliance among women. Each individual woman can become self-reliant,"





FESTIVAL PREPARATION: People buying jute sticks ahead of Diwali near Kathajodi Bridge in Cuttack, Wednesday

'Academy will take us to the level of bests'

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Bhubaneswar, Nov 8: "The introduction of Odisha Table Tennis Academy is massive for the sport in the state. It will not only enhance the quality of our players, but will also encourage youngsters to take up the sport, Odisha State Table Tennis Association (OSTTA) secretary Rabindra Kumar Parida said.

He was speaking on the sidelines of newly inaugurated Odisha Table Tennis Academy in Bhubaneswar by Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik Tuesday.

"Odisha's status in TT is growing rapidly. We may not be considered a powerhouse as of now, but our improved performances



in national events will eventually take us to the level of the bests. he asserted

Parida said the academy will play a big role in producing world class players. Having more professional coaches, modern infrastructures will help our players massively.'

The academy has a spacious

arena with 16 TT tables, a gymnasium, a weightlifting room and a chess area. Also, there are spaces for yoga and zumba enthusiasts, officials said.

Inaugurating the academy Tuesday, the Chief Minister said, "With the inauguration of the Odisha Table Tennis Academy, we are taking another signifi-

bout 82% of Indians surveyed have About 82% or murans survey.

sages and 49% said that scam mes-

making them more believable and

harder to identify, according to

sages no longer have typos or errors,

cellence in table tennis. This academy will not only nurture budding talents but also serve as a hub for recreation and competitive spirit.'

cant step towards promoting ex-

He also announced that 33 table tennis centres are being built across the state, and they will be made operational by next month. All the centres will have three TT tables each, except the one in Cuttack, which will have 16 tables.

Patnaik commended the Odisha State Table Tennis Association for taking significant steps for promoting the sport in the state, and offered all necessary support to produce players who can represent India.

Average Indian gets nearly 12 fake messages daily

n average Indian receives nearly 12 fake messages or scams each day via email, text or social media daily on average and spends 1.8 hours a week reviewing, verifying or deciding whether a message sent is real or fake, a new report showed on Wednesday.

About 82 per cent of Indians surveyed have clicked on or fallen for fake messages and 49 per cent said that scam messages no longer have typos or errors, making them more believable and harder to identify, according to McAfee's first-ever 'Global Scam Message'

Among the most common forms of sophisticated trickery, most Indian consumers fall for fake job notifications or offers (64 per cent) and bank alert messages (52 per cent).

The study surveyed more than 7,000 adults in seven countries, including India, to understand how scam messages, and the increased scam sophistication brought about by Artificial Intelligence (AI), have impacted the lives of consumers worldwide

"It's truly a sign of the times that most Indian consumers would rather subject themselves to the pain and distress of a root canal than be subjected to scam texts and messages throughout the year," said Roma Majumder, SVP of Product at McAfee.



"Thanks to AI it can be in-So much so that 73 per cent of credibly difficult to know if that Indians believe they have a better shot at solving the Rubik's delivery text message or bank alert notification is real or not. cube than identifying a scam

McAfee's first-ever 'Global Scam ▲ mong the most common forms of

Asophisticated trickery, most Indian consumers fall for fake job notifications or offers (64%) and bank alert messages (52%)

message," Majumder added. About 60 per cent of Indian respondents think it has become harder to identify scam messages, attributing this trend to hackers using AI to make their

scams more believable.

About 90 per cent of Indians surveyed indicate that they receive fake messages or scams via email and text on a daily basis, and 84 per cent said the same about social media, according to the report.

As the number of AI-powered scams continues to rise, 37 per cent of India survey respondents say their trust in digital communications has decreased.

'This trend is largely due to a lack of depth of digital defense knowledge. Most Indians say they don't know if they are doing the right things to protect themselves," the report mentioned.

FOR CLASSIFIED ADVERTISEMENTS CONTACT OUR BOOKING STATIONS

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

ATEI RESERVE FOREST

Slurry pipeline laying hits animal movement at night



POST NEWS NETWORK

Keonjhar, Nov 8: Laying of slurry and other pipelines along National Highway-20 close to the Atei reserve forest under Ghatagaon forest range and Keonjhar forest division has seriously affected the movement of wildlife including elephants in

Reports said that the works are being implemented during the night for years. This has seriously impeded the movement of wild animals as most prefer to come out at night due to prevailing silence and tranquility in the area.

Rule debars that no construction can be carried out after sunset if there is a jungle nearby. However, the consultancy agencies are laying the slurry pipelines at night with impunity in complete violation of norms.

Local residents have demanded a probe and legal action against the agencies. Environmentalists and nature lovers also apprehend that laying of slurry pipelines may also affect the water flow in Kukurkata nullah, a perennial water body in the area.

Moreover, pipeline works are not only affecting the movement of animals but also destroying the green cover in the area. The implementing agencies are digging up pits for laying the pipelines which are proving hazardous for wild animals during their movement.

This has sparked sharp resentment among the locals as the pipeline laying work, which is being implemented on the main thoroughfare of the district, has seen inordinate delays. Meanwhile, the Forest department has been sitting pretty and no legal action has been taken against the concerned consultancy agencies so far.

Sources said movement of elephants and other animals in Atei reserve forest has become regular at a time when the district has seen a rise in elephant menace. The jumbo herds are often spotted crossing the NH-20 while moving from one jungle to

The elephants and other animals are finding it difficult to move at night with the slurry pipeline works being carried out from Pipilia Melan area to Kolimati area on NH-20 roadside adjoining the reserve forest.

This apart, the Forest department recently claimed the presence of a Royal Bengal Tiger in Atei reserve forest. Leopards and several other animals in the forest are often seen crossing the highway. Night-time work is creating deafening noise while bright lights being used for the same is also affecting the free movement of the animals at

Sources said that the Odisha Forest Development Corporation (OFDC) counted the number of trees along the NH after being permitted by the Forest department. Later, trees were identified and chopped down to make way for slurry pipelines. However, whether new trees are being chopped down while the work is in progress is yet to be ascertained.

The forest officials are neither monitoring works nor carrying out patrolling at night for which they are unable to see the laying of pipelines at night.

When contacted, ACF Prabhat Kuanr of Ghatagaon range said that in the past an agency was pulled up for laying the pipelines at night. He, however, assured of action if the allegations are found true.

Sanjiv Samal, a senior official of JSW said that the pipeline laying works of his company are not being done at night adding that it could be some



FESTIVAL OF LIGHTS: Terracotta earthen lamps made by women self-help groups put on display for sale ahead of Diwali at a stall opened by ORMAS at

Tusker electrocuted



POST NEWS NETWORK

Satamile, Nov 8: A tusker was electrocuted after coming in conwild boars and other animals near Kantakula barrage under Nuabaga panchavat of Hindol forest range in Dhenkanal district, Wednesday.

The deceased animal aged over 22 was electrocuted, forest officials said. On being informed, forest officials comprising joint task force officer Manoj Nayar, Angul RCCF Sudhanshu Sekhar Khora, DFO Sumit Kumar Kar, forest ranger Lohit Rath rushed to the spot and launched an investigation.

Veterinarians conducted a postmortem of the carcass before burying it in the jungle. The tusks were trimmed and brought to the forest office. The accused will be arrested soon, DFO Sumit Kumar Kar said.

In a separate incident, a 36-yearold man was killed in elephant attack in Kuanrpal village under Badamba block in Cuttack district, Wednesday.

The deceased was identified as Sanjay Pradhan, 36, son of Kartik Pradhan in the village. He was near a mango orchard and trying to drive away elephants from destroying crops when the animal attacked killing him on the spot.

PIPELINES DIVISION

SOUTH EASTERN REGION PIPELINES, JHARSUGUDA REQUIRES PANEL DOCTOR

Applications are invited from Medical Professionals for part-time Doctorin-Attendance on retainership basis to visit our Jharsuguda Office for 2 (two) hours per day for 8 (Eight) days a month. Doctors with MBBS qualification and with 5 years' experience as General Practitioner are eligible to apply. The retainer fees shall be ₹ 1071/- per hour and the maximum remuneration for working for 2 (two) hours per day for 8 (Eight) days a month will be ₹ 17136.00/-. An increase of 5 % annually on cumulative basis will also be paid for the next four years or till next revision. The remuneration will be paid on actual attendance basis.

Interested candidates may send their application in a sealed cover super scribing 'Application for Panel Doctor' to Assistant Manager (O&M), Indian Oil Corporation Limited (Pipelines Division) South Eastern Region Pipelines, At-village Malimunda, PO -Talmal, Jharsuguda Odisha-768204 latest by 21.11.2023 in the format as enclosed at https://www.iocl.com/latest-job-opening

Please note that all further announcements in this regard including corrigendum, if any, would be made only at this website i.e. https://www.iocl.com/latest-job-opening

For further details, please write on e-mail id akhileshd@indianoil.in or contact at +91-8305398636

Teacher gets 10-yr RI for minor's rape

POST NEWS NETWORK

Berhampur, Nov 8: A Fast Track Special POCSO court Wednesday sentenced a man to 10 years of rigorous imprisonment (RI) after convicting him for raping a Dalit minor girl over a year after kidnapping her.

The convict was identified as Nabaratna Pradhan, 40, a native of Sheragada police limits in Ganjam district. At the time of committing the crime, he was a teacher. Special POCSO Judge Ganeshwar Pati also slapped a penalty of ₹80,000 on Pradhan apart from the punishment. In default, Pradhan has to undergo additional eight months of imprisonment, the judge observed while delivering the order.

The court also directed the district legal services authority (DLSA) to pay ₹4 lakh financial assistance to the survivor. The judge passed the order after recording statements of 17 witnesses and examining the police investigation report, special public prosecutor Mohan Singari said. At the time of the hearing Nabaratna was present in the court.

According to the case diary, the victim was found missing September 30, 2016. Even after a frantic search, the family members of the girl could not trace her. After one year, the family members of the girl came to know that a youth had kept the girl at Bangalore after kidnapping her. The father of the girl then

lodged a complaint at Sheragada police station September 16, 2017. Acting on the complaint police rescued the minor from Bangalore and nabbed the kidnapper. As per the statement of the girl, police arrested Nabaratna and forwarded him to court.

MAN HACKED TO DEATH,

POST NEWS NETWORK

Kujang/Tirtol, Nov 8: A man was hacked to death Wednesday while two others including a woman sustained critical injuries in attack by a co-villager at Hitarana village under Sailo panchayat of Kujang block in Jagatsinghpur district.

The deceased was Binod Das, 55, a milk farmer and daily wager in the village. He is survived by his wife, two daughters and a son. The injured persons Bishnu Charan Palai and Janaki Biswal were admitted to the Manijanga community health centre and undergoing treatment.

On being informed, Tirtol police rushed to the spot and arrested the accused Subhash Biswal when he was trying to flee via a farmland. Police also detained Subhash's father Batakrushna Biswal and questioning him in this connection.

Kalahandi woman

dies in bear attack

Tetelpada village in the early hours of Wednesday, a

police officer said. The woman died on the spot, he

said. The body of the deceased has been sent for

post-mortem examination, and an investigation is

underway, the officer added.

woman died Wednesday after a

wild bear attacked her at a village

returning home from neighbouring

in Kalahandi district, police said.

The deceased was identified as

Bhawani Bag, a resident of

Patrabasa village. The bear

attacked her while she was



Police registered a case over a complaint filed by the deceased's son Bikash Das and launched an investigation.

THE ACCUSED A scientific team was also pressed into service and the murder weapon, an axe and blood-stained napkin, seized

The murder sparked tension in the village as villagers put up the body of Binod which was handed over to them after post-mortem outside the house of the accused and demanded compensation.

The incident occurred when Bishnu Charan was returning home on his bicycle after delivering milk to OMFED. Subhash who was cutting wood outside his house suddenly assaulted Bishnu on his shoulder with the

axe. Meanwhile, the deceased Binod who too was returning home after delivering milk raised an alarm on noticing the attack.

Subhash, who had gone berserk turned back and assaulted Binod on his head. A profusely bleeding Binod collapsed on the spot as Bishnu screamed for help.

Subhash then rushed towards a tube well where one of his sisters-in-law Janaki Biswal was taking bath and tried to attack her. Sensing the fury, Janaki caught hold of Subhash's leg and pleaded to spare her. Subhash broke her hand, threw the murder weapon inside a bush and tried to flee.

Villagers rushed the three to Manijanga community health centre where doctors pronounced Binod dead and admitted the other two for treatment. On being informed, police rushed to the spot and arrested Subhash when he was trying to flee through a farmland.

EAST COAST RAILWAY

NAME OF WORK : GENERAL ELECTRIFICATION OF 1 NO. TUNNEI BETWEEN SUNAKHANI - SAMAI SECTION IN CONNECTION WITH CONSTRUCTION OF TALCHER BIMLAGARH NEW RAIL LINK PROJECT

Period of the Work: 03 Months Tender Closing Date & Time : At 1200 Hrs. of 24.11.2023.

Approx. Cost of the Work (₹): 92.04

No manual offers sent by Post / Courier Fax or in person shall be accepted agains such e-tenders even if these are submitte on firm's letter head and received in time All such manual offers shall be considered invalid and shall be rejected summarily without any consideration. Complete information including e ender documents of the above e-tender is available in website http://www.ireps.gov.in

Note: The prospective tenderers are advised to revisit the website 15 (Fifteen days before the date of closing of tende o note any changes / corrigenda issue nust have Class-III Digital Signature Certificate and must be registered or IREPS portal. Only registered tenderer bidder can participate on e-tendering.

The tenderers should read al and ensure compliance of all instructions including check lists, para 3.1 (check-list) of Tender form (Second sheet) Annexure-I of chapter-2 of Tender documents, submission o nnexure-B, G & G1 duly verified and

Dy. Chief Electrical Engineer (Con-I)

GOVERNMENT OF ODISHA

OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER, P.H. DIVISION, BALASORE Phone: 9438660004, e-mail: eephbls@gmail.com

NATIONAL COMPETITIVE BIDDING THROUGH e-Procurement (Online Mode) d Identification No. SEPHBLS-19 of 2023-24 dt.30.10.2023

No. C-1771:- The Superintending Engineer, P.H. Division, Balasore on behalf of Governor of Odisha invites Percentage Rate bids in Single Bid system in ONLINE mode only. Availability of bid Name of the Work Value Period of Last date

Date & time Identification of Work Compdocuments for online and time of opening (Rs. bidding Lakh) From Augmentation of 02 (two) 17.00 Hrs. 17.00 Hrs. 11.00 Hrs. 11.00 Water Supply to Ward | SEPHBLS-19 19.64 dt.30.10.2023 No.09 of Balasore 09.11.2023 dt.24.11.2023 dt.20.11.2023 dt.28.11.202 month Municipality.

The bidders shall have to participate in ONLINE bidding only. Further details can be seen from the website http://tendersodisha.gov.in. Any addendum/corrigendum/cancellation of tender can also be seen in the said website

The authority reserves the right to reject any or all bids without assigning any reason thereof.

Name and Address of the officer inviting bid:- The Superintending Engineer, P.H. Division, Balasore, At- Samalpur, Post- Balia, Dist.- Balasore, Pin-756056, Odisha, Phone: 9438660004 Sd./- Superintending Engineer, P.H. Division, Balasore

Leopard hides seized, 2 held



PNN & AGENCIES

Bhubaneswar, Nov 8: Two persons were arrested and two leopard skins were seized from their possession in

Rayagada district, police said Wednesday. Acting on a tip-off, sleuths of the Special Task Force of the police's Crime Branch conducted a raid at Tamparbiduni Chhak in Chandili police station area Tuesday and made the arrests and seizures, a police officer said. The STF identified the accused as Bikram Majhi and Raja Majhi. During the search, two leopard skins and other incriminating materials were recovered from them.

The accused persons will be forwarded to the Court of SDJM, Rayagada. In this connection, a case under U/s 379/411/120(B) IPC r/w. Sec.51 of the Wild Life (Protection) Act. 1972, was registered. The skins will be sent to Director, WII, Dehradun, for biological examination. An investigation is going on.

∰UCO BANK

Zonal Office, UCO Bank Building, 2nd Floor, C-2, Ashok Nagar, Bhubaneswar-751009, Tel: 0674-2620423 POSSESSION NOTICE

(Under Section 13(4) of the Securitization & Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act., 2002 read with Rule 8 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules 2002 for Immovable Property)

Whereas, the undersigned being the Authorised Officer of the UCO Bank, Bajrakabati Road Branch under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002(54 of 2002) and in exercise of powers conferred under section 13 (12) read with Rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 issued a Demand Notice under section 13(2) of the said Act calling upon the Borrower to repay the amount with interest at the contractual rate together with incidental expenses and costs within 60 days from the date of receipt of the said Notice. The Borrower having failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby giver to the Borrower and the public in general that the undersigned has taken POSSESSION of the property described here-in below in exercise of powers conferred on him under section 13 (4) of the said Act read with Rule 8 of the said Rules. The Borrower in particular and the public in general is hereby cautioned not to deal with the property and any dealings with the property will be subject to the charge of he UCO Bank, Bajrakabati Road Branch for an amount plus interest & expenses thereon.

BAJRAKABA	TI ROA	AD B	RAN	ICH /
Name and Add	dress of t	he Bo	rrow	er
Danner M/s	Chusa		^-	Descri

Borrower: M/s. Shree and Co, Prop.: Mr. Sriraj Dash, S/o.: Mr. Durga Prasad Dash, Address-1: Near Chandralok Apartment Professor Para, P.O.: College Square, P.S.: Mangalabag, Cuttack - 753003, **Address-2**: DCO Plot No.: 5/D, Industrial Estate, Nuasasan, Dhurusia, Cuttack - 754027

Place: Bhubaneswar, Date: 08.11.2023

Outstanding as on Notice Specified Date ₹41,52,007/-28.07.2023 + further interest & other charges 06.11.2023

Amount

Description of the Immovable Property All that part and parcel of Land and Building a Revenue Plot No.: 832/1198(P), under Khata No. 162, Corresponding to IDCO Plot No.: 5/D, in Revenue village: Nuasasan, comprising an Area of Ac. 0.459 Dec, within village limit of Nuasasar Tahasil: Athagarh, P.S.: Gurudi Jhatia, District: Cuttack, Bounded by North: IDCO Road

South: IDCO Plot No.: 5, East: IDCO Plot No.: 5/E, West: IDCO Plot No.: 5/C

Authorised Officer, UCO Bank

⋈DBS

Notice of Branch Relocation

The following branches of DBS Bank India Limited are relocating with effect from 11 December 2023, as per the details given below.

Current branch addresses:

1. Bhubaneswar Branch: 622B, 1st Floor, Saheed Nagar, Bhubaneswar - 751007 Odisha

2. Bhubaneswar (Esplanade One Mall): Esplanade One Mall, 3rd Floor, Office No-301, 721 Rasulgarh, Bhubaneswar-751010

New branch address:

Ground floor, Mouza-Bhubaneswar Sahar Unit No.1 Bapuji Nagar, Khata No.321, Plot No. 1619/(P), Bhubaneswar - 751009 Odisha

Business Hours:

Monday to Saturday 10am to 4pm. 2nd and 4th Saturdays are closed.

hanking services from the earlier branch premises will be seamlessly offered in the new premises.

Please feel free to contact us at 1860 2674567 for further

GOVERNMENT OF ODISHA, "e"-PROCUREMENT NOTICE OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER

PURI (R&B) DIVISION, PURI WORKS DEPARTMENT

Short Tender Call Notice Bid Identification No. SE (R&B) Puri-45/2023-24 No. B-1218:- The Superintending Engineer, Puri (R&B) Division. Puri on behalf of

Sovernor of Odisha inviting percentage rate bid in single Cover system in ONLINE MODE from the eligible class of contractors registered with the State Governments and ontractors of equivalent Grade/Class registered with Central Government / Railways. Electrical Work Nature of work 4 Nos. Rs.6000.00 (On-line) Tender Cost

'MV' Class & 'HT' Class From 10.00 AM of Dt.09.11.2023 to Class of bidde Available of Bid document in the 05.00 PM of Dt.16.11.2023 Dt.16.11.2023 up to 5.00 PM Dt.17.11.2023 at 11.30 AM Last Date of receipt of tender Date of opening of Bid The Bidders have to participate in ONLINE bidding only. Further details can be seen from the Website: https://tenderodisha.gov.in. Any Addendum Corrigendum/ Cancellation of tender can also be seen in the said website. Sd./- Superintending Engineer, Puri (R&B) Division, Puri

DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF TEXTILES, BARGARH

E-mail : ddtbargarh@gmail.com

TENDER CALL NOTICE

No.PP-55:- Deputy Director of Textiles, Bargarh on behalf of District Administration, Bargarh invites Tender Notice with certain terms & conditions from reputed & registered Company/Event Management Agencies/Firms having GSTIN No. with minimum last three years average turnover of Rs.2 Crores and having work experience of minimum 3 years of similar nature within India for the "Tentage& allied works for National Level Handloom Summit" to be organized at George High School Ground, Bargarh on dt. 13th & 14th December 2023 (may be changed due to exigency of work). The agency must have executed/ongoing at least 02 (two) events/ Exhibitions/ Summits for any Government Organization/ PSUs in the last three years

The Tender Papers for Tentage & allied works will be available for purchase from 07.11.2023 to 20.11.2023 during official days of Office hour at the Office of Deputy Director of Textiles, Bargarh. Detail documents, Specifications, Terms & Conditions for applying for Tentage & allied works for Handloom Summit is mentioned in the tender paper. The sealed tenders will be received latest up to 05.00 P.M or dt. 20.11.2023 in the tender box. The sealed tender papers (Technica bid) shall be opened on dt.21.11.2023 at 11.00 A.M in the Office of Deputy Director of Textiles, Bargarh and presentation shall be carried out for evaluation and after that the price bid shall be opened in the presence of the tenderers or their authorized representatives. If it is found that the quoted amount of L1 party will exceed the budget limit of the particular head then the party may be called for negotiation. The undersigned reserves the right to accept or reject any or all the tenders vithout assigning any reason thereof.

Sd./-S.k.Nag. Deputy Director of Textiles, Bargarh

















We find in others what is in us. If we always find mud around us, it proves that there is mud somewhere in us.

THE MOTHER



Muhannad Alazzeh

Oppressed people

may go through

seemingly deep

apathy, but their

desire for freedom

remains. They will

always awaken

from their

quiescence

at some point

periods of

Violence in Vain

The October 7 Hamas attack and Israel's remorseless military response have once again revived a seemingly unending cycle of violence in the Middle East. As matters stand, there are no serious efforts underway to break the cycle, and the prospect of finally resolving the Israeli-Palestinian conflict seems more distant than ever. All those who desire peace must speak truth to both Israelis and militant Islamic fundamentalists.

Growing up, most of us were taught that knowing and carefully considering one's own past is a mark of character. Today, however, we are dealing with parties that refuse to account properly for past experiences, or to plan for their futures.

Hamas' operation on October 7 was a more advanced version of its previous attacks in 2008, 2014, and 2021. Its professed goal was to respond to the provocative occupation practices around Al-Aqsa Mosque in East Jerusalem, and to liberate Palestinian prisoners. But these attacks have never changed anything on the ground in Gaza; rather, they have consistently caused more deaths on both sides - though usually five times as many Palestinians as Israelis. Then there is the inevitable destruction of infrastructure, the predictable tightening of the blockade, and the continuing crackdown on

at Al-Aqsa in growing numbers). Similarly, in seeking to punish Hamas militarily for the 1,400 Israelis killed on October 7, Israel has not paused to examine its own record. Previous wars in Gaza did not achieve their primary objective of taming Hamas, because Israel's approach has been to deal with the symptoms instead of the root causes.

Palestinians (such as those being arrested

Since its inception, Israel has fought many bloody wars in the name of preserving its security, which in turn has come at the cost of Palestinians' lives, rights, and future prospects. Most recently, Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu's far-right government (now pushed aside in favour of an emergency national-unity government) had placed religious zealots in key cabinet positions, where they ratcheted up tensions with Palestinians over Al-Aqsa and throughout the occupied West Bank.

Israelis consistently make the mistake of believing that the Palestinians will submissively accept the status quo despite leading lives under harsh conditions with little hope. Yet the history of conflicts and occupations in Algeria, Morocco, Tunisia, Syria, and Egypt makes clear that such a mindset is doomed to bring failure. Oppressed people may go through periods of seemingly deep apathy, but their

desire for freedom remains. They will always awaken from their quiescence at some point.

In this latest war, Israel's goals seem to be to avenge those who were killed by Hamas, to restore the Israel Defense Forces' dented deterrent power, and to eliminate Hamas from Gaza. But it has not explained how it will accomplish the latter goal, nor how it will deal with the aftermath.

Every time Hamas drags Gaza and its people into a bloody war with Israel, emotions inevitably run high across the Arab world. Images of Gaza's destruction incite anger not just on the Arab street, but also among typically cooler heads. While disappointing, it is not surprising to see support for Hamas and its usurpation of the Palestinian cause spread to some of the most educated and enlightened members of the Arab elite. One such figure recently chastised me for criticising Hamas, arguing that it is not a terrorist organisation but a resistance movement, and that the slain Israelis were not civilians but settlers who deserved it.

Such reactions demonstrate how waves of violence and hatred consume everyone in their path. Even intellectuals can succumb to emotions and rage, much of it fueled by social media and propaganda.

If Israel is unable to eliminate Hamas, or even to undermine its military power and political authority, it will have accomplished little. The unprecedented damage being inflicted on Gaza will take decades to overcome. Likewise, all Hamas will have done is stage a narcissistic display of force, one that the innocent people of Gaza must pay for with their blood, their homes, and their future. Hamas' disdain for innocent civilians will reach its peak whenever the war ends. Once again, its supporters will celebrate "victory" while standing on the rubble of demolished homes and the corpses of innocent Gazans.

Both Arabs and Israelis must think carefully about what their policies and actions are likely to accomplish. Remembering past experience is the only way to return to a path that offers at least some hope for the future on both sides of the conflict.

The writer, a former member of the Jordanian Senate, is an international human-rights expert.

WISDOM CORNER

Even the darkest night will end and the sun will rise.

No amount of anxiety makes any difference to anything that is going

ALAN WATTS

The journey is the reward.

STEVE JOBS

THIS DAY IN HISTORY

- **1888:** Jack the Ripper's infamous killing spree in the Whitechapel district of London's East End came to an end. Jack the Ripper is the pseudonymous murderer of at least five women in or near the Whitechapel district of London's East End between August and November 1888. The case is one of the most famous unsolved mysteries of English crime.
- **1922:** Albert Einstein was named the winner of the 1921 Nobel Prize for Physics for his explanation of the photoelectric effect; the Nobel committee had delayed awarding the 1921 physics prize until 1922.
- 1938: Beginning on this night, called Kristallnacht ("Crystal Night" or "Night of Broken Glass"), some 48 hours of Nazi-orchestrated anti-Jewish violence erupted throughout Germany and Austria, resulting in the destruction and vandalizing of synagogues and Jewish businesses and the deaths of at least 91 Jews.
- **1989:** Long a symbol of the Cold War, the Berlin Wall, erected in 1961 and eventually extending 28 miles (45 km) to divide the western and eastern sectors of Berlin, was opened by the East German government on this day in 1989.

FOCUS CULTURE

STAGNANCY OF CUISINE



Anwesh Satpathy

THE UTILITARIAN **MINDSET LEADS** THE POPULACE TO SHIFT THE **FOCUS OF CUISINE FROM AN ART WORTHY OF AESTHETIC APPRECIATION** TO ONE **NECESSARY SOLELY FOR NUTRITIONAL REQUIREMENTS**

īndian cuisine has a problem, and no one is willing to address it. The pitfalls of consumerism have perhaps been its reduction of cultural value to mere utility. Thus, painting, music, cinema, literature and cuisine are measured purely through a utilitarian lens. This is not a Marxist critique, notwithstanding the similarities. The conservative philosopher Roger Scruton, for instance, lamented the same loss of beauty in modern societies. Cuisine has been particularly susceptible to this mentality. Popular discourse often revolves around cinema, music and even literature but the space for a nuanced conversation on cuisine is woefully limited and

The utilitarian mindset leads the populace to shift the focus of cuisine from an art worthy of aesthetic appreciation to one necessary solely for nutritional requirements. "Gym diets" and "healthy eating cookbooks" abound. What they lack is any serious engagement with the art of cooking itself. To blame this attitude solely on consumerism wouldn't be fair. Gandhi emphasised on the need to eat to satisfy hunger, not to please one's palette. In this regard, cows were favorably compared to human beings. Such an attitude had a precedence in Jain diet. Buddhist diet, though often similar, did not stress on vegetarianism. Many Buddhist texts permit consumption of certain meats, including veni-

Ancient Indians took food extremely seriously. There are ecstatic paens to food in both the Vedas and the Upanishads. In a hymn praising the personification of food, the Rig Veda describes food as the material on which the mind of the great Gods is set. Kautilya's



Food is an intimate art and unless one experiences the richness of Indian historical cuisine, one cannot properly get a sense of the dullness that is characteristic of the average Indian restaurant

Arthashashtra describes superintendents whose job was to inspect slaughterhouses, alcoholic drinks and the preparation of food in market to ensure customers are given the best service. Kautilya also describes specific portions of food that ought to be allocated not just to humans but also to domesticated animals. Recipes for many alcoholic drinks can also be found in the Arthashastra.

The 12th century Sanskrit text Manasollasa by the Kalyani Chalukya King Somesvara III is a particularly fascinating text. Though the text is encyclopedic, its emphasis on aesthetics is noteworthy. There are many recipes, including those involving pork, venison, field rats, rabbit, goat's head etc. The food to be eaten also had to be season appropriate. Cold and sweet food were supposed to be eaten in summer, hot and oily food in autumn, pungent food in spring while salty food was $\,$ appropriate for winter. Somesvara gives elaborate and

complex recipes for different varieties of meat and fish dishes. Different kinds of alcoholic drinks, including Madhyi made from Mahua and Gaudi made from molasses. Many of the ingredients mentioned, including Khoya, continue to be used in Indian cuisine. The text is extremely helpful in exploring continuities and divergences in contemporary Indian cuisine compared with historical Indian cuisine.

The most significant divergence is perhaps the use of spices. It is not that recipes from Manasollasa or the 14th century Nimatnama don't utilise spices. However, they differ radically from contemporary cuisine. The average Indian restaurant today (or a dhaba) uses overabundance of chilies. Its medieval/ancient equivalent black pepper, on the other hand, is used sparingly. Thus, a single flavour does not overwhelm vour senses. Roasted meat, or bhaditrakam, for instance have

greek as their primary ingredients while salt and pepper are only added for flavour afterwards. Saffron meat from Nimatnama has almost a perfect balance of spices in the recipe. Over the last few decades, there has been a Punjabification of Indian cuisine, characterised by tomato puree, garlic paste, chilies and butter. This has served as the "culture industry" of Indian cuisine, infecting the food culture with a sameness that dulls one's palette. There are notable sparks of brilliance and originality that one witnesses through chefs like Manish Mehrotra, Julia Carmen Desa and more recently Niyati Rao. However, the innovation usually occurs within the contours of Western or Asian cuisine. Led by Bhaskar Menon, Delhi's Mala Akbari features an exhaustively researched menu with dishes curated from ancient texts like the Nimatnama and Arthashashtra. It is a remarkably original idea and one that has the potential to help Indians experience the striking ingenuity of their ancestor's cuisine. Food is an intimate art and unless one experiences the richness of Indian historical cuisine, one cannot properly get a sense of the dullness that is characteristic of the average Indian restaurant My optimism about the future of Indian cuisine might be limited but the future of Indian chefs seems bright. For Indian cuisine to recover from this stagnancy, it must reduce its obsession with authenticity and embrace originality with the risks and surprises that it

> The writer is an author and a student at Jindal School of International Affairs.

SPECTRUM SATIRE

Call for corruption management



Rajiv Saxena

CORRUPTION **MAY NEVER BE ERADICATED. BUT IT CAN BE MADE MORE PREDICTABLE**

witnessing the grand spectacle of Indian elections! Rajasthan and Telangana. Back is the time when politicians turn into masterful magicians, conjuring up promises out of thin air, only for them to vanish like a puff of smoke after the results are announced. It's like a Bollywood movie, but with more drama and

fewer dance numbers. Dear voters, it is that special time when our beloved leaders bow, scrape, and beg for our votes. They swear by the soul of democracy, but we all know they are just practicing their yoga stretches for bending the truth. They make promises that rival the tallest tales of the Mahabharata – bridges over non-existent rivers, corruptionfree governance, and unicorns

But let us be realistic. Expecting all our politicians to be honest is like expecting an auto-rickshaw to turn into a luxury sedan. Corruption and politics are the best of friends, inseparable like Laila and Majnu. Scams and frauds are like the silver garnishing atop stolen halva. It's a match made in heaven which no one dare break.

Big scams and frauds? Well,

The month of November is they're beyond the common man's reach. Those are like starstudded Bollywood blockbusters, Legislative assembly polls are with politicians and bureaubeing held in Mizoram, crats in the leading roles. We're Chhattisgarh, Madhya Pradesh, the extras, the ones who pay the price of admission but never get a seat at the premiere. We can only watch in awe as they siphon off billions.

> The earlier we internalise this reality the better. Why should we cling to the ideals of truth and honesty? Great people have been preaching them for millennia. and what have we achieved? Instead, our politicians have perfected the art of minting money even in the name of the reformist souls who tried to prevent us from straying into the wrong path.

> So, here's a revolutionary idea – let's be pragmatic. Next time a politician shows up at your doorstep with a manifesto promising the moon, ask him to sign an affidavit in front of the glaring media, pledging to create a "Corruption Regulation Commission" once in power. That will be a manifesto we can trust, unlike the usual ones that end up as paper kites.

> You see, my fellow citizens. corruption in high places might be unstoppable, but the corruption that pinches you daily - the bribes you pay for your water supply, electricity, sani-

tation, medical facilities and other basic services – can be controlled. The Corruption Regulation Commission will be mandated to fix reasonable bribe rates, quick time. It will be like a menu for corruption; you will know exactly how much to pay and to whom. No more haggling, no more guessing. Among the Commission's foremost duties would be widespread publicity of the new system and rates so that the janata gets used to the new way of greasing palms fast

The tech-savvy among us will be able to check the rates on their mobile phones. For the not-so-tech-savvy, signs and hoardings will be strategically placed in government offices as restaurants and eating joints do to display their menu. No more fear of accidentally meeting an honest government employee which is, in any case, a highly rare occurrence.

The best part? The government can stop giving annual increments to its employees collecting bribes officially. They can set realistic revenue targets for them, and to be fair, add a part of the regulated bribe amount to their salaries. It will be a winwin for everyone, except for those who rely entirely on shady deals and backroom conspiracies.

So, there you have it, a new era of transparency and efficiency in our Bharat mahaan. Say goodbye to the cloak and dagger game, and say hello to the Corruption Regulation Commission.

After all, who needs honesty and integrity when you can have a well-regulated, governmentapproved bribe system? It will be a purely desi way where chaos and order shall coexist just like our traffic!

And if you think this corruption issue is unique to India, think again. It is a global phenomenon, more prevalent in less advanced and low-income countries, creating an ironic brotherhood of corruption. Even in the most developed nations, they have their own creative ways to blend politics and pocketfilling. So, we are in good company, at least in this regard.

So, let's embrace this brave new world where bribes are regulated, where you can bribe with confidence and pay at government-approved rates. It will be a revolution in its own right, making life easier for both citizens and the government. Corruption may never be eradicated, but it can be made more predictable. May the people's manifesto

The writer is a Former RE (special projects), The Indian Express, New Delhi.

etters

TO THE EDITOR

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

rissapost

B-15, Rasulgarh Industrial Estate, Bhubaneswar-751010

Afghan scapegoats

Sir, Apropos, "Trapped Afghans," Orissa POST, Nov 8. The Pakistan government's order to all undocumented migrants to leave the country by October 31 has thrown the lives of hundreds of thousands of Afghan refugees in jeopardy. Thousands are now stranded on the Afghan-Pakistan border, while others are in fear of arrest and violence in Pakistan, leading to the UN's warning of a "humanitarian tragedy". Pakistan's argument is that the presence of illegal migrants has led to rising crime and terror attacks and is straining its struggling economy. Pakistan, which is to have its national elections in January, is also reeling under hyperinflation, a balance of payment crisis and high rupee depreciation. But the solution to these woes is not the forceful deportation of 1.7 million people. The responsibility for most of the problems Pakistan now faces lies with its rulers. When its military and civilian leadership continued to play power games, trying to outwit each other and maximise powers in their hands, its economy was neglected. What Pakistan is doing is scapegoating tens of thousands of poor Afghan refugees for the failures of its own policies

N Saāhasiva Reddy, BANGALORE

Australian dynamite

Sir, Glenn Maxwell must be a cricketer sprouted from a different planet. Battling severe cramps and batting literally with one leg for most part of the game, the Australian dynamite hit an epic double hundred against Afghanistan that not only snatched victory from the jaws of defeat, but as well enabled Australia earn a spot in the World Cup semifinals. The ridiculous ease with which Maxwell, enduring pain, repeatedly sent the white sphere to the ropes and into the stands was stunning. The effortless switch-hit six, in particular, was a shot out-of-the-box stuff. Australian captain Pat Cummins, who was seen grinning every time when Maxwell hit a boundary or a six as if conveying that batting is a child's play for him, was a blessed man, as he wouldn't have seen a better ODI knock on field than this one from his own teammate. It was a knock that left Afghanistan players in daze and heartbroken. It was a knock that shone brighter than the floodlights at the Wankhede stadium on that memorable night.

Ranganathan Sivakumar, CHENNAI



TWOSTATES





THURSDAY | NOVEMBER 9 | 2023 | BHUBANESWAR

INDO-ASIAN NEWS SERVICE

Lucknow, Nov 8: As the construction of the grand Ram temple goes on in Avodhva in full swing, the Yogi Adityanath government has also intensified efforts to build the temple mu-

A dream project of the chief minister, the Temple Museum will not only tell visitors about the sacred stories of all the major temples in India, but also introduce people to the basic concept of Sanatan Dharma.

To be built under the supervision of the country's famous architect Vrinda Sumaya, the Temple Museum will also display scientific aspects of temples' architecture.

Not only in the country but across the world, the faith of crores of Hindus is linked to the temple of Lord Ram

It is believed that after the inauguration of the Ram Temple, there will be an unexpected increase in the number of devotees in Ayodhya. Therefore, the Yogi government is focusing on developing all the facilities in Ayodhya for the convenience of people.

The search for land for the temple museum to be built on approximately 50 acres on the banks of Saryu has intensified.

Architect Vrinda Sumaya and her team recently inspected the three sites identified at Jamthara on the Saryu coast and another site identified at Rampur Halwara. One of these identified sites will be selected for the construction of the Temple

According to the government spokesman, the Yogi government's intention behind building this special museum, showcasing the greatness of Indian temples and their magnificent architecture, is to make the world, especially the youth,

INDO-ASIAN NEWS SERVICE

Lucknow, Nov 8: Taking les-

sons from last year when a large

number of children had got lost

in the crowd, the Lucknow ad

ministration has decided to issue

identity cards to all minors ac-

companying their parents to the

The decision was taken by

District Magistrate Surya Pal

Gangwar for smooth conduct of

Chhath Puja that will be cele-

people along with their kids

gather at 15 designated places.

Due to the rush, there are chances

of children getting lost. Thus, this

year, we will be issuing ID cards

to the children," said Gangwar.

ing the ghats must visit the

counters set up at the venues and

provide all details so that they

can be issued ID cards. All kids

must wear the cards around

He added that parents visit-

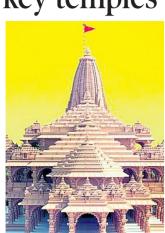
"On the day, a large number of

brated November 19 and 20.

Chhath Puja grounds.

Kids to get ID cards for

Chhath Puja in Lucknow



aware of the importance of Sanatan culture

The Temple Museum will educate the youth about why a temple was built at a particular place and what was the philosophy behind its construction. It will also display the technologies used in the ancient India, as well as the worship methods and their importance for the

The temples as well as the ancient Indian educational institutions that developed there, including monasteries and peethams, will showcase the exquisite architectural styles of the

The Temple Museum will be divided into 12 galleries. These galleries will mesmerise visitors with their effortless artistry, instilling a sense of pride and reverence among the spectators, while showcasing the scientific and philosophical aspects of the temples to people.

These include the concept of God in Sanatan Dharma, the $philosophy\ behind\ the\ method$ of worship, the need for temples for worship, the architecture and craftsmanship of temples, the philosophy behind the rituals of temples, the social utility of temples beyond worship and basic elements of

This would make it easier

for authorities and parents to

locate them in case they get sep-

arated from their kin," he added.

formed at spots including

Laxman Mela Ground, Jhulelal

Park, Khatu Shyam Temple,

Hanuman Setu, Kudiaghat,

Picnic Spot (Kukrail) Shaheed

Path Ghat (near Stadium),

Rastogi Ghat and Mawaiya near

railway crossing and BBD

Gangwar also directed the

Lucknow Municipal Corporation

(LMC) to ensure proper sanita-

tion during the festivities. He

also instructed the LMC to carry

out fogging and make arrange-

ments for CCTV cameras, mobile

toilets, public address system,

College near Chinhat.

This year rituals will be per-

'Museum in Ayodhya will tell stories of key temples' Delhi govt defers odd-even scheme

EFFECTIVENESS. ISSUES ORDER

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, Nov 8: The Delhi government Wednesday said the odd-even car rationing scheme will be implemented in the national capital after the Supreme Court reviews its effectiveness and issues an order.

Addressing a press conference, Environment Minister Gopal Rai said the city government would submit the results of two major studies conducted by the Energy Policy Institute of the University of Chicago and the Delhi Technical University to determine the scheme's effectiveness for the Supreme Court's

The decision to implement the odd-even scheme will be made only after the Supreme Court reviews its effectiveness and issues an order, the minister said, adding that the matter will be next heard Friday.

On Tuesday, the apex court questioned the effectiveness of the Delhi government's scheme, aimed at curbing vehicular pollution, and referred to it as all optics.

Rai had previously announced the flagship scheme, which permits cars to operate on alternate days based on their odd or



NASA SATELLITE CAPTURES SPREAD OF TOXIC SMOKE

even number plates, would be enforced between November 13 and November 20

The Energy Policy Institute at the University of Chicago and the Evidence for Policy Design had analysed the impact of the odd-even system in 2016 and found that Delhi saw a 14-16 per cent reduction in PM2.5 levels during the hours it remained in force in January that year.

However, there was no reduction in pollution when the scheme was brought back in April that year

The entry of app-based taxis

deteriorating to unhealthy levels in surrounding Delhi.

air quality

the nation's capital

NASA Worldview's

visuals unveiled a

smog shrouding the

northern plains of

India Monday, with

thick blanket of

the minister said. The minister also said that the Delhi government has issued directives to the Delhi Pollution Control Committee to restart the Connaught Place smog tower at full capacity and release the remaining funds to IIT Kanpur to resume a study to identify different sources of pollution in the capital.

into Delhi has also been banned

as per the Supreme Court's order,

Rai said that a special drive will be conducted to check open burning of waste in Delhi, with 611 teams set up for this purpose.

AAP blames Haryana govt for air pollution

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, Nov 8: The Aam Aadmi Party Wednesday accused the Haryana government of being the "biggest culprit" behind pollution in Delhi, a day after the Supreme Court observed that there cannot be a "political battle" over the issue all the time.

Amid a spike in pollution levels in Delhi-NCR, the apex court Tuesday directed Punjab, Haryana, Uttar Pradesh and Rajasthan to ensure crop residue burning was stopped forthwith, saying it cannot let people die due to pollu-

There was no immediate reaction from the BJP or the Haryana government on the allegations.

Earlier in the day, Haryana Chief Minister Manohar Lal Khattar said polluted air is not restricted by borders.

He claimed that people in his state as well as in Delhi were suffering with Punjab reporting several cases of crop-residue burning.

Khattar, however, stressed there should not be politics over the issue and that it is the

collective responsibility of everyone to keep the envi-

ronment clean. Addressing a press conference, AAP MLA Durgesh Pathak said the Union Environment minister is busy with election campaigning at

a time when Delhi is facing a

pollution crisis. The BJP blames Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal and Punjab for the pollution problem. It seems that an agenda is being run to defame Kejriwal, Pathak alleged.

The AAP is in power in Delhi and Punjab. Pathak claimed it has come

to light that Haryana's Kaithal is the most polluted district but there has been no discussion

Asserting that stubble-burning has reduced in Punjab ever since AAP came to power, he said more measures will be taken.

"Please don't do politics over the issue. I urge the Centre to wake up. Elections will come and go. Environment Minister should call all the stakeholders and states to discuss the issue and find solutions," he stressed

SHARP CONTRAST: Garbage seen on a polluted bank of the Yamuna river near the historic Taj Mahal in Agra, Wednesday

3-day Diwali fair in all UP districts

INDO-ASIAN NEWS SERVICE

Lucknow, Nov 8: A three-day Diwali fair, where street vendors and self-help groups will display their wares, will be organised in all 75 districts of Uttar Pradesh from November 9 to 11.

The fair will be held as part lighting and tankers for pure of the PM SVANidhi scheme. drinking water among others. The State Urban Livelihood He also directed the CMO to arrange for one ambulance each Mission has issued guidelines for the event, during which food at every venue.

cultural programmes organ-

ised

Urban Development Minister AK Sharma said the Diwali Fair will help to increase the income of street vendors, selfhelp groups, and other indi-

viduals ahead of the festival. All district magistrates have been directed to organise the fair in open spaces, with sufficient space

for parking, food stalls, swings and cultural programmes.

'The event will be publicised in the main markets through microphone announcements. At the district level, a chief nodal officer will be appointed to coordinate with the municipal nodal officer to ensure proper execution of the event," said a government spokesperson.

The state government has to be planted in huge numbers outside the forest. At least 70 made agroforestry (trees per cent of non-forest land may outside forest area) as one be with farmers," the government spokesman said, adding of the main constituents of that motivating farmers to plant on their land is the key content the annual plantation drives since 2017

UP to come up with its

1st agroforestry policy-

Lucknow, Nov 8: The Uttar Pradesh government is preparing to implement the state's first agroforestry policy which will promote plantation of trees on the agricultural land along with

INDO-ASIAN NEWS SERVICE

As per forest department sources, the policy is ready and cabinet's approval soon.

The Yogi government is keen to promote agroforestry which has multiple benefits. The first and the foremost benefit is that it increases the green cover.

The state government has made agroforestry (trees outside forest area) as one of the main constituents of the annual plantation drives since 2017.

Farmers are given free saplings of their choice to plant on their land. Of the 163 crore trees planted in the state since 2017, a total of 105 crore have been planted outside forest.

"If green cover has to be increased in the state, trees need of the policy. Agroforestry will increase the income of farmers, promote treebased industry, improve qual-

ity of soil and environment, promote research in forestry and generate employment. The policy will aim to pro-

mote commercial plantation of trees outside forest.

The forest department will rope in NGOs to reach out to farmers and create awareness on types of tree species to be planted under agroforestry, nurturing of trees, sourcing the highquality planting material besides others. The forest department has also tied up with the forestry research institutes to introduce high-yielding species of some of the tree varieties, like neem,

hamboo and others.

The state's first agroforestry policy will be another significant step taken by the Yogi government in the forestry sector in the last six years, after it implemented the first forest policy for UP, following the division of Uttarakhand

The forest policy for undivided UP was implemented

'Dead' man comes alive, faces threat to his life

CITING THREAT TO HIS LIFE, LAL BIHARI MRITAK HAS SOUGHT A LICENCE FOR THE PROHIBITED AK-47 RIFLE

INDO-ASIAN NEWS SERVICE

Varanasi (UP), Nov 8: It is a story of struggle that just does not seem to end

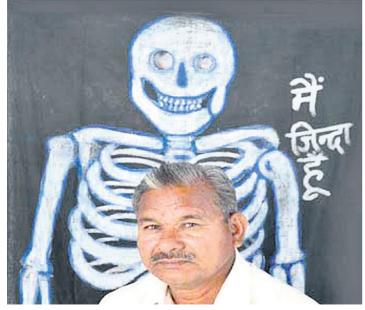
Lal Bihari Mritak, who remained dead in revenue records for 19 years till he managed to reclaim his living status, is now facing a threat to his life because he is helping others who have been declared dead in revenue records.

Lal Bihari Mritak has sought a licence for the prohibited AK-47 rifle, citing threat to his life.

"I request the chief secretary to permit me to get a licence of AK-47 rifle, as I fear life threat because of my struggle for scores of men who are living but are dead in government records," said Lal Bihari.

He said he is writing to UP chief secretary for a licence for the prohibited gun. An individual cannot own a licensed AK-47 in India, as it is only for special forces.

"I know this sophisticated gun is prohibited for the public, but it can be given to a 'mritak' (dead



person)," he said. Lal Bihari remained officially

'dead' in revenue records between 1975 and 1994 He fought with the bureaucracy

for 19 years to prove he was alive. Meanwhile, he suffixed 'Mritak' (dead) to his name, and founded the Mritak Sangh to highlight the plight of people declared dead on records in connivance with government staff to usurp their prop-

Mritak came to know that he was declared dead in revenue records when he applied for a bank loan. His uncle had bribed an official to register him dead and got ownership of his ancestral land transferred in his name.

Over the years, Bihari tried various ingenious ways to expose the misappropriation in records and attract attention to his plight.

He organised his own funeral, and even applied for a widow pension for his wife. He went on to contest elections to prove he was alive. In 1994, Bihari finally managed to have his dead status annulled after a prolonged legal

A biopic on his struggle, 'Kaagaz', was made by Satish Kaushik in 2021, in which actor Pankaj Tripathi portrayed his character. The movie, based on corruption and flaws in the system, featured Monal Gajjar, Mita Vashisht, Amar Upadhyay and also Satish Kaushik.

यूनियन बैंक Union Bank | UNION BANK OF INDIA REGIONAL OFFICE : BHUBANESWAR AUCTION SALE

3/1A Civic Centre, IRC Village,

Nayapalli, Bhubaneswar-751015

Applications are invited from interested bidders for purchase of following vehicle, seized by the Bank on "As is where is basis" as per terms and conditions listed below. This public notice will be treated as a notice to the borrower/guarantor/mortgagor of the loan. They are hereby advised to be present at the auction venue on the auction date and are free to liquidate their entire dues before the auction date, failing which the vehicle will be auctioned and balance dues, if any will be recovered from them with interest and cost

No.	Contact Number	Borrower	Vehicle No.	Make & Model	Price				
1.	VSS Nagar Branch / Ph.:8098989397	Chinmaya Kumar Behera	OD 02 AC 3114 HYUNDAI VERNA		Rs.3,05,000/-				
	Auction Date & Time : Dt 17 11 2023 11 30A M to 12 30 PM								

Auction Venue: Union Bank of India, VSS Nagar Branch, VSS Nagar, Bhubaneswar . EMD is 10% of the Reserve Price mentioned above

1) Applications accompanied by ID/address proof copy (originals to be verified) and EMD as applicable for vehicle in shape of Banker's cheque/Draft drawn in favour of **Union Bank of India**, payable at Concerned Branch should reach on or before 15.11.2023 upto 11.00 A.M. . 2) However the bank reserves the right to accept/reject/cancel the auction process of any/all vehicle at its own discretion at any point of time without assigning any reason whatsoever. 3) Bid amount does not include any statutory tax pending and applicable RTA fees. All these cost are additional and must be borne by the successfully bidder. 4) Dispute pertaining to year of manufacture, documents, condition of vehicle/assets, etc. will not be consider after successful bid. 5) Entry to the event is strictly restricted to the registered bidder only. 6) The refund of EMD will be made immediately after the closure of the bidding process to the unsuccessful idder. 7) Successful Highest bidder has to deposit a minimum amount of 25% of the bid amount inclusive EMD on the same day, failing which the bid taken will not be considered as EMD amount will be forfeited without further intimation. 8) The balance should be paid by the successful bidder within next 15 days from the date of auction. 9) Delayed interest @18%p.a. will be charged against any amount due and payable by the successful bidder beyond 15 days from the date of the event, subject to a maximum waiting period of 22 days from the date of auction. 10) Default in payment beyond the stipulated 22 days, will lead to deal cancellation and forfeiture of EMD paid and the vehicle/equipment/machinery will be resold without further information. Acceptance of payment on later date will be sole discretion of Bank. 11) Successful Bidder are fully responsible for taking delivery of vehicle or equipment from Stockyard after full payment is made. 12) Successful bidder must remove the vehicle/equipment within 7 days from the date of release order along with RC Transfer in to their name.

Place: Bhubaneswar, Date:08.11.2023

Authorised Officer, Union Bank of India



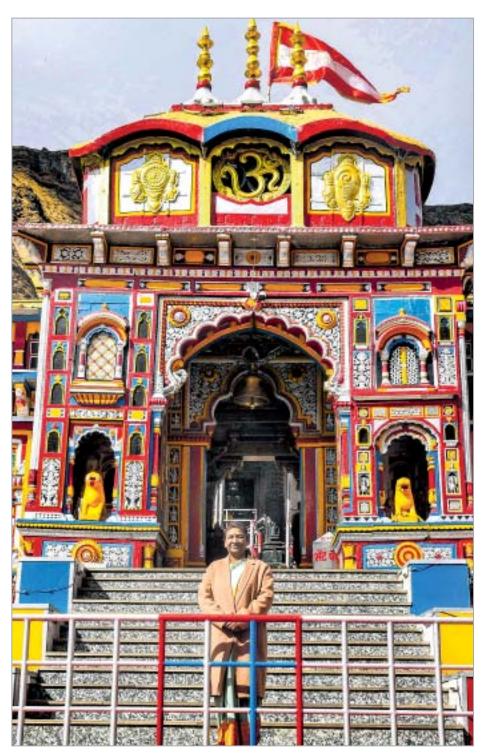
Palestinians flee to the southern Gaza Strip on Salah al-Din Street in Bureij. Israel faced pressure from some of its closest allies over the plight of civilians in Gaza, where thousands streamed on foot out of the enclave's north because of dwindling food, water & fear of approaching Israeli forces



Troops march past Azerbaijani President Ilham Aliyev during a parade dedicated to the third anniversary of the Victory in the Patriotic War in Khankendi, also known by Armenians as Stepanakert, in Khankendi, Azerbaijan



Prime Minister Narendra Modi during a public meeting ahead of Madhya Pradesh Assembly elections, in Guna district



President Droupadi Murmu visits the Badrinath Temple, in Chamoli district, Uttarakhand. She was received at the Army helipad in Badrinath by Uttarakhand Governor Lt Gen (Retd) Gurmit Singh, Chief Minister Pushkar Singh Dhami and Badrinath-Kedarnath Temple Committee Chairman Ajendra Ajay



Mahila Congress activists stage a protest outside the State Secretariat against the Kerala Higher Education Minister R Bindhu for allegedly purchasing spectacles worth Rs 30,000/ with public money, in Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala



From third left in clockwise, US Secretary of State Antony Blinken, Japanese Foreign Minister Yoko Kamikawa, Canadian Minister of Foreign Affairs Melanie Joly, French Foreign Minister Catherine Colonna, Italian Foreign Minister Antonio Tajani, High Representative of the European Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy Josep Borrell, British Foreign Secretary James Cleverly and German Foreign Minister Annalena Baerbock attend a session on the war in Ukraine during the G7 Foreign Ministers' Meeting in Tokyo

national



Congress brought IIM and big hospitals like AIIMS, and **Jawaharlal Nehru's thought** behind it was to set up such institutions which will take the country forward. But it has become BJP's policy to hand over the government-run companies to industrialists and take out the money from people's kitty

PRIYANKA GANDHI VADRA | CONGRESS LEADER

PUNJAB REPORTS OVER 2K FARM FIRES

More than 2,000 farm fires were reported from Punjab Wednesday, a day after the Supreme Court issued directions to ensure stopping of crop residue burning "forthwith"



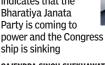


(Operation Lotus), coined by Opposition parties, refers to an alleged attempt of the BJP to engineer defection of Opposition legislators to install its own government and ensure its stability SIDDARAMAIAH KARNATAKA CM

In reality, PM Modi cannot digest that unlike his party's fake claims of social justice, it is only the Congress that is capable of democratically throwing up such towering leaders

PRESIDENT OF INDIAN NATIONAL CONGRESS

Thousands of people are family every day. This indicates that the Bharatiya Janata Party is coming to ship is sinking



GAJENDRA SINGH SHEKHAWAT UNION JAL SHAKTI MINISTER

SHORT TAKES

SIA raids in J&K, Delhi

Srinagar: The Jammu and Kashmir Police's Special Investigation Agency (SIA) Wednesday raided multiple locations in the union territory and Delhi in connection with a terror funding case, the agency said. "Continuing with its endeavour to dismantle terror support systems in J&K, the SIA Kashmir conducted searches at houses and offices at 22 locations in J&K and Delhi," the investigating agency said.

Two dead, 12 injured as bus catches fire Gurugram: Two passengers

died and a dozen sustained serious burn injuries when a moving sleeper bus caught fire on the Delhi-Gurugram Expressway Wednesday night, a senior police official said. The bus was gutted by fire was not known immediately.

HC adjourns hearing in Gyanvapi case till Dec 1

Prayagraj (UP): The Allahabad High Court Wednesday adjourned the hearing till December 1 on a petition challenging the maintainability of a suit seeking restoration of a temple at the site where the Gyanvapi mosque exists in Varanasi. The petition was filed by the Anjuman Intezamia Committee (AIC) which manages the Gyanvapi

Nitish's remarks spark row BJP MP claims CBI probe

The defacto JD(U) boss faced attacks from Prime Minister Narendra Modi, several other BJP leaders, and AIMIM chief Asaduddin Owaisi for the comments that led Bihar's Opposition parties to demand his resignation and force repeated adjournments in the Assembly

Guna (MP)/Patna, Nov 8: Prime Minister Narendra Modi Wednesday tore into Bihar Chief Minister Nitish Kumar over his population control remarks, saying he did not even feel ashamed for using "derogatory" language against women, even as the JD(U) leader apologised for the comments that sparked a huge row.

PM Modi also slammed the opposition bloc INDIA and wondered why no leader of its constituents have uttered a word vet despite the "big disrespect" shown to women by a key leader of the grouping.

Facing mounting flak for his remarks made in the Bihar Legislative Assembly and Council Tuesday on the importance of women's education to control population growth, Nitish Kumar apologised in both Houses, which witnessed chaos, as well as outside and retracted his statement.

The National Commission for Women (NCW), meanwhile, shot off a letter to the Assembly Speaker demanding "strong action" against the Chief Minister for using "derogatory and cheap language"

Addressing a rally in Guna in poll-bound Madhya Pradesh, Modi said he will do whatever he can to ensure the respect of women, and also brought up Nitish Kumar's remarks without taking his name.

Nitish Kumar, while emphasising the importance of education among women to control



Delhi BJP President Virendra Sachdeva with party workers burns an effigy during a protest outside Bihar Bhavan over Nitish Kumar's remarks PTI PHOTO

petition was

filed before a court

trial of Nitish

the population, Tuesday put forward a vivid description of how an educated woman can restrain her husband during sexual intercourse.

In Patna, Nitish Kumar Kumar was greeted at the Vidhan Sabha premises by a posse of MLAs, all belonging to the opposition BJP, carrying placards denouncing his utterances and demanding his resignation.

Nitish Kumar, the longest serving Chief Minister of Bihar, stood still at the entrance gate for some time, before marching towards a make-shift podium

erected nearby,

where leaders ad-

dress journalists

while the House

is in session. in Muzaffarpurhere "I have come to Wednesday, seeking know today that something I had said yesterday has not gone down well

with many people. My intent was to highlight my government's thrust on women's empowerment and the role improved literacy among women plays in population control. Though if anybody's sentiments have been hurt, I seek an apology and take back my words," he said in a statement. However, when the assembly session began at 11 am, BJP members led by the Leader of the Opposition Vijay Kumar Sinha trooped into the well, some of them even picking up chairs, meant for the reporting staff, to express their outrage.

The Opposition members were raising slogans alleging that the CM had become "a mental case" and was hence unfit to govern Bihar. However, the Opposition members continued to create a ruckus, demanding the CM's resignation.

Former Bihar Chief Minister Rabri Devi, an MLC from the RJD, told PTI Video that she agreed what Nitish Kumar had said was not proper but we should let bygones be bygones since he has apologised". NCW chairperson Rekha Sharma, who sent the letter to the Assembly Speaker demanding "strong action against the Chief Minister", also came out with a strongly worded statement on X, urging opposition leaders like Priyanka Gandhi Vadra of the Congress to condemn Nitish Kumar, a key leader of the INDIA coalition.

Priyanka Chaturvedi hit back at Sharma, accusing her of being "biased and politically moti-

JD (U) leader KC Tyagi, however, said there should be no politics over the Chief Minister's remarks. Activists of the Delhi BJP unit staged a demonstration near the Bihar Bhawan in the national capital and demanded Nitish Kumar's resignation.

ordered against Moitra



PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, Nov 8: The Lokpal has ordered a CBI probe against Mahua Moitra for alleged corruption, BJP MP Nishikant Dubey claimed Wednesday, a day before the Ethics Committee of Lok Sabha, which is probing the 'cash-for-query' charges by him against the TMC MP, is to adopt a draft report in the case.

However, there was no official confirmation about the anti-corruption body ordering a CBI probe against Moitra. "On my complaint, Lokpal

today ordered a CBI inquiry against accused Mahua Moitra for indulging in corruption at the cost of national security," Dubey said in a post on X. His comment was in Hindi.

In an apparent reaction to Dubey's comment, Moitra said the CBI should first file an FIR to probe the alleged coal scam by the Adani Group.

Moitra posted on X, "For the media calling me- my answer: 1.CBI needs to first file FIR on ₹13.000 crore Adani coal scam. 2. National security issue is how dodgy FPI-owned (inc Chinese & UAE) Adani firms buying Indian ports & airports with the Home

Minister office's clearance. Then CBI welcome to come, count my

"Lok Pal Abhi Zinda Hai," the TMC MP said on X later.

Last month, Dubey had approached Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla and the Lokpal against Moitra, accusing her of asking questions in Lok Sabha to target the Adani Group at the behest of businessman Darshan Hiranandani in exchange for gifts. Dubev had also accused Moitra of compromising national security for monetary

Moitra has denied the charge of receiving any pecuniary benefit. Following Dubey's complaint, the Ethics Committee of Lok Sabha initiated the probe.

The 15-member committee has seven members from the BJP, three from the Congress, and one each from BSP. Shiv Sena, YSRCP, CPI(M) and JDU.

The committee is likely to take a grim view of the charges against Moitra, more so after she accused its chief Vinod Kumar Sonkar of asking filthy and personal questions to her in the last meeting before walking out in a rage along with opposition members.

UGC unveils guidelines on setting up campuses of foreign varsities in India



PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi. Nov 8: The University Grants Commission (UGC) Wednesday notified the regulations for foreign universities to set up and operate their campuses in India.

"The regulations aim to facilitate the entry of Foreign Higher Educational Institutions (FHEIs) into India, in line with the NEP recommendations and to provide an international dimension to higher education in India.

"These regulations aim to ensure that the education imparted in the (India) campus is at par with that of the main campus in the country of origin and that its operations comply with the applicable laws and regulations," UGC Chairman M Jagadesh Kumar said.

According to the regulations, "Foreign institutions intending to establish campuses in India should have secured a position within the top 500 in the overall category of global rankings, as decided by the commission from time to time, or should have secured a position within the top 500 in the subject-wise category of global rankings and should possess outstanding expertise in a particular area, as decided by the commission from time to time.

In case an FHEI desires to receive or utilise foreign contributions, it will have to obtain registration or prior permission under the Foreign Contribution (Regulation) Act, 2010 and comply with legal requirement

under the FCRA, the UGC stated. In their Indian campuses, foreign universities will be allowed to offer study programmes leading to the award of certificates, diplomas, degrees, research and other programmes at the undergraduate, postgraduate, doctoral and post-doctoral levels.

SNIPPETS

Refunds of air tickets during lockdown soon

New Delhi: The government Wednesday directed online travel aggregators to process pending refunds related to air

ticket bookings during the coronavirus lockdown period by the third week of November. In the wake of the coronavirus pandemic, there was a nationwide lockdown for varying periods starting from March 25, 2020, and scheduled commercial flight services were also suspended for a certain period. On Wednesday, the Consumer Affairs Ministry held a meeting with online travel aggregators to

Parl's Winter session likely to commence in second week of December: Sources



New Delhi: The Winter session of Parliament is likely to commence in the second week of December and could conclude ahead of Christmas. sources said Wednesday. The session, they said, could commence days after the counting of votes in five states December 3. Some people said the session could commence

even earlier. Three key bills which seek to replace the IPC, CrPC and the Evidence Act are likely to be taken up for consideration during the session as the standing committee on Home has already adopted the three reports recently. The Winter session usually commences in the third week of November and concludes ahead of December 25.

HUMAN TRAFFICKING CASES

44 arrested in nationwide raids

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi/Jammu, Nov 8: Five modules engaged in human trafficking were busted and 44 operatives arrested as the National Investigation Agency (NIA) carried out nationwide raids Wednesday, an official said.

The raids were conducted in coordination with the Border Security Force and state police forces at 55 locations in eight states and two union territories to dismantle human trafficking support networks involved in the infiltration and settlement of illegal migrants across the Indo-Bangladesh border, a spokesperson of the NIA said.

The official said the searches were carried out in Tripura, Assam, West Bengal, Karnataka, Tamil Nadu, Telangana, Haryana, Rajasthan and the Union territories of Jammu and Kashmir and Pondicherry, dealing a big blow to the human trafficking networks.

Of the 44 operatives arrested, 21 were in Tripura, followed by 10 in Karnataka, five in Assam, three in West Bengal, two in Tamil Nadu, and one each in Pondicherry, Telangana and Haryana, the spokesperson said.

Official sources said a couple of more people, including Rohingya Muslim from Myanmar identified as Zaffar Alam, were detained during the raids in Jammu and

Samba districts. The NIA said the coordinated raids were executed across the country early Wednesday, leading to the recovery of various items of significance including digital devices, identity-related documents including Aadhaar and PAN cards (suspected to be forged), more than ₹20 lakh in cash and foreign currency

amounting to \$4,550.

ALL ABOUT ZOLGENSMA

The ₹17cr injection for spinal muscular atrophy

WORLDWIDE, THE **INCIDENCE OF SMA IS ONE IN 10,000 LIVE-BORN BABIES AND IS THE LEADING CAUSE OF DEATH** IN THE INFANTILE **AGE GROUP**

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, Nov 8: A staggering ₹17 crore for a single jab! That's the cost of one Zolgensma injection used for children under two suffering from spinal muscular atrophy (SMA), the disease and its treatment once again in the headlines over a 15-month-old boy in Karnataka staring at an un-

certain tomorrow. The gene therapy, one of the world's most expensive drugs, offers promising results but experts caution that it is not a definitive solution for the rare nerve condition that leads to muscle wasting and weakness. It can't cure but

limits the progress of the disease.

Karnataka Chief Minister Siddaramaiah recently wrote to Prime Minister Narendra Modi seeking help for the treatment of a 15-month-old child from the state diagnosed with SMA.

Though it is yet to be approved in India, insiders estimate that about 90 children have received Zolgensma in the last few years. Given that the single shot infusion is out of reach for everybody except the super-rich, most of this is through humanitarian programmes or crowd funding. The drug can be imported following a doctor's recommendation and government approval.

"In the West, the carrier frequency - number of people carrying the gene - of the SMA is 1 in 50. In a recent Indian study, however, the SMA carrier frequency was identified as 1 in 38. Another study from north India found it to be 1 in 30," said Sheffali Gulati, child neurologist, All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS), New Delhi. "The survival of children with SMA type 1 has increased re-



cently with the availability of supportive care such as physiotherapy, nasogastric feeding (through a tube) and invasive or non-invasive respiratory care," Gulati told PTI.

As concern mounts over the incidence of the disease and the astronomical cost of the single injection, experts decode what it exactly is:

WHAT IS ZOLGENSMA?

Zolgensma, developed by Swiss pharmaceutical company Novartis, is designed to treat SMA, a rare genetic disease affecting motor neurons - complex circuits throughout the body that allow for movements of glands and muscles. SMA is caused by mutations in the SMN gene, leading to muscle weakness and, in severe cases, paralysis and even death.

WHY IS IT SO EXPENSIVE?

Paediatrician Vibhu Kawatra noted that Zolgensma's cost at approximately ₹17 crore (\$2.1 million) in India (minus taxes) is due to the extensive research and development involved.

WHO CAN USE IT?

Zolgensma is specifically designed for children under two who are diagnosed with SMA through genetic testing. It is a one-time infusion administered over one hour, aiming to improve muscle movement and developmental milestones in SMA patients.

HOW EFFECTIVE IS IT?

The US Food and Drug Administration (FDA) May 24, 2019, approved on a semnogene abeparvovec for the treatment of SMA. The drug has been marketed under the trade name Zolgensma.

Kawatra believes the therapy is not an endpoint solution for the disease, but it does stall the progress of the disease to a large extent.

international

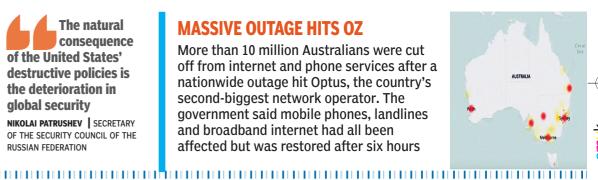


The natural consequence of the United States' destructive policies is the deterioration in global security

NIKOLAI PATRUSHEV | SECRETARY OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL OF THE

MASSIVE OUTAGE HITS OZ

More than 10 million Australians were cut off from internet and phone services after a nationwide outage hit Optus, the country's second-biggest network operator. The government said mobile phones, landlines and broadband internet had all been affected but was restored after six hours



China will work with other countries to address risks brought by the development of AI and expressed his objections to cyberspace hegemony. China is ready to promote the safe

development of AI XI JINPING PRESIDENT, CHINA Unfortunately,

establishment

after the

of the interim Afghan

govt, there has been a 60 per cent increase in terror incidents and a 500 per cent rise in

suicide attacks in Pakistan

ANWAARUL HAQ KAKAR | CARETAKER PM, PAR

We're ready to strengthen communication and dialogue with the United States at all levels, advance mutually beneficial

cooperation, properly manage differences and jointly address global challenges

HAN ZHENG | VICE PRESIDENT, CHINA

SHORT TAKES

SA min robbed

Johannesburg: South African police are on a manhunt for suspects who robbed a government minister at gunpoint and disarmed her two bodyguards of their pistols on a busy Johannesburg highway, police said Tuesday. The robbery took place while Transport Minister Sindisiwe Chikunga's bodyguards were changing a punctured tire in the early hours of Monday morning. Three gunmen allegedly appeared from bushes, ordered the bodyguards to lie on the ground before taking their firearms, and then pointed a gun at Chikunga and robbed her of some personal items.

May 9 attacks: More than 60 held

Lahore: More than 60 leaders and workers of jailed former prime minister İmran Khan's Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) party have been arrested here in Punjab province in connection with the attacks on military installations in May. police said Wednesday, an act described as "illegal fascist measures" by the party. Police action against the PTI leaders and workers has been intensified across the country following the announcement of general elections in Pakistan February 8, 2024. These are fresh arrests in addition to those already arrested May 9 and soon after.

2023 set to be warmest in 125,000 years: EU

Record-breaking Oct means 2023 is now "virtually certain" to be the warmest year recorded. The previous record was 2016 - another El Nino year

Brussels, Nov 8: This year is 'virtually certain" to be the warmest in 125,000 years, European Union scientists said Wednesday, after data showed last month was the world's hottest October in that period.

Last month heat smashed through the previous October temperature record, from 2019, by a massive margin, the EU's Copernicus Climate Change Service (C3S) said.

"The record was broken by 0.4 degrees Celsius, which is a huge margin," said C3S Deputy Director Samantha Burgess, who described the October temperature anomaly as "very extreme".

The heat is a result of continued greenhouse gas emissions from human activity, combined with the emergence



this year of the El Nino weather pattern, which warms the surface waters in the eastern Pacific Ocean.

Globally, the average surface air temperature in October was 1.7 degrees Celsius warmer than the same month in 1850-1900, which Copernicus defines as the pre-industrial period.

Copernicus' dataset goes back to 1940. "When we combine our data with the IPCC, then we can say that this is the warmest year for the last 125,000 years,' Burgess said

The longer-term data from UN climate science panel IPCC

EU MEMBERSHIP

HUGE WIN FOR UKRAINE

So after last month, it's hard to determine whether we're in a new climate state. **But now records keep** tumbling and they're surprising me less than they did a month ago SAMANTHA BURGESS | DEPUTY DIRECTOR, c3s

includes readings from sources such as ice cores, tree rings and coral deposits

The only other time before October a month breached the temperature record by such a large margin was in September

Michael Mann, a climate scientist at University of Pennsylvania, said: "Most El Nino years are now record-breakers, because the extra global warmth of El Nino adds to the steady ramp of human-caused warming.

Climate change is fuelling increasingly destructive extremes. This year, that included floods that killed thousands of people in Libya, severe heatwaves in South America, and Canada's worst wildfire season on record

"We must not let the devas tating floods, wildfires, storms, and heatwaves seen this year become the new normal," said Piers Forster, climate scientist at University of Leeds.

"By rapidly reducing greenhouse gas emissions over the next decade, we can halve the rate of warming," he added.

Despite countries setting increasingly ambitious targets to gradually cut emissions, so far that has not happened. Global CO2 emissions hit a record high in 2022.

'SYMBOL OF LIGHT'

Trudeau attends **Diwali festivities** amid India row



AGENCIES

New Delhi, Nov 8: Canadian Prime Minister Justin Trudeau joined the Indian community in the country to bring in Diwali, lighting lamps at Parliament Hill in Ottawa. This comes at a time when Canada's relations with India are at an all-time low.

Sharing glimpses of the event on his Instagram, Trudeau wrote: 'In just a few days, people across the country and around the world will celebrate Diwali and Bandi Chhor Divas. Both celebrations are about the triumph of light over darkness, and about optimism - and both are a symbol of the light we all need more of. To everyone who came together for yesterday's event on Parliament Hill: Happy Diwali! Happy Bandi Chhor Divas! I hope the celebrations this week bring you optimism for the year ahead.'

The Diwali celebration at Parliament Hill was led by Indo-Canadian parliamentarian Chandrasekhar Arya. The event saw an impressive turnout of Indians from various Canadian cities, including Ottawa, the Greater Toronto Area, and

"I was pleased to host Diwali on Parliament Hill," Arya, originally from Karnataka, wrote on X. "We also used this opportunity to raise the flag of the Hindu sacred symbol Aum at Parliament Hill. Great turnout with participants from Ottawa, the Greater Toronto Area. Montreal, and many other places. The event was supported by 67 Hindu and Indo-Canadian organizations across Canada. The added pleasure this year was Diwali is also part of the Hindu Heritage Month across Canada. My sincere thanks to all those who attended, volunteers, and artists of excellent cultural performances at the event.

Pierre Poilievre, the leader of the Conservative Party, also attended the event. "Happy Diwali from Brampton! As light overcomes darkness, may your year be filled

with love and joy," he wrote on X.

The Diwali celebrations took place amid strained bilateral relations between India and Canada. Tensions between the two countries escalated after Justin Trudeau, in September, claimed Indian agents were involved in the killing of Khalistani leader Hardeep Singh Nijjar in Canada's Surrey. India had designated Nijjar as a terrorist in 2020.

FINANCING GAP

Pak seeks \$600mn in new loans from China

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Islamabad, Nov 8: Cashstrapped Pakistan has sought \$600 million in fresh loans from two Chinese banks to bridge a big financing gap as it negotiates with the IMF for the release of the second tranche of a \$3 billion bailout package, a media report said Wednesday.

Citing sources, The Express Tribune newspaper reported that the federal government was in negotiations with the Industrial and Commercial Bank of China (ICBC) and the Bank of China for a total loan of \$600 million. Each bank has been approached for \$300 million in fi-

Negotiations are at an advanced stage and loans are expected to be received by next month, according to officials of the finance ministry.

Abbasi also did not respond to a query on whether Pakistan had sought another loan from the State Administration of Foreign Exchange (SAFE) of China, SAFE has already given \$4 billion in loans that are rescheduled every year due to Pakistan's inability to pay them back

Citing diplomatic sources, the paper said that China and Pakistan were in close coordination to complete the remaining technical procedures for the loan of \$600 million.

In recent years, China. Pakistan's all-weather ally, has become Islamabad's last hope for meeting emergency financing needs. Every government, including the caretakers, has reached out to China for rescue

Ukraine clears key milestone of becoming a member of European Union as Russia war drags into 21st month

BOSNIA AS WELL

GEORGIA WHEN

READY

REUTERS

Brussels, Nov 8: Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy praised as a "historic step" a recommendation by the European Union executive Wednesday to invite Kyiv to begin membership talks as soon as it meets final conditions, even as it fights to repel Russia's war. The recommendation by

European Commission is an important milestone on Kviv's road to Western integration and a geo-political gambit for the EU as Ukraine has been fighting against a large-scale Russian invasion February 2022.

The Commission said the talks should formally be launched once Kyiv satisfies remaining conditions related to reining in corruption, adopting a law on lobbying in line with EU standards and strengthening national minority safeguards.

The 27 national EU leaders are next due to decide mid-December on whether to accept the Commission's recommendation. Any such decision requires unanimity of the bloc's 27 members, with Hungary seen as the main potential obstacle.

If accepted, EU officials expect formal accession talks with Kyiv to start next year. Such negotiations take years before candidates meet extensive legal and economic criteria to join. The bloc is also wary of taking in a country at war.

"Ukraine continues to face tremendous hardship and tragedy provoked by Russia's war of aggression," said European Commission President Ursula von der Leyen. "And yet, the Ukrainians are deeply reforming their country, even as they are fighting a war that is existential for them. Her Commission's re-

port Wednesday RECOMMENDATION WILL INFORM DECEMBER showed that Kyiv met four out of **DECISION BY EU LEADERS** seven conditions to start formal **CONDITIONAL BACKING** accession talks, FOR TALKS WITH MOLDOVA AND though more were near com-COMMISSION PROPOSES EU pletion. Von der **CANDIDATE STATUS FOR** Leven said the Brussels-based Commission would

reassess progress next

A top aide to Hungarian Prime Minister Viktor Orban said Budapest would not support Ukraine's EU integration unless Kyiy changes its laws on minorities, in particular as regards education.

Still, advancing Western integration is a top priority for Ukraine at a time of growing fatigue with the war and concerns swirling over the future of vital US military aid.

FOCUS ON BALKANS

The Commission Wednesday made a similar recommendation for Moldova, a small neighbour of Ukraine that is struggling with its own tensions with



Completing our Union is the call of history. Completing our Union also has a strong economic and geopolitical logic. Past enlargements have shown the enormous benefits both for the accession countries and the EU.

URSULA VON DER LEYEN | PRESIDENT, EUROPEAN COMMISSION

paves the way to a stronger EU with Ukraine as its member VOLODYMYR ZELENSKYY UKRAINE

historic step that

Brussels further said Georgia should receive the status of a membership candidate once it meets outstanding conditions, including Tbilisi aligning with the EU sanctions against Russia for waging its war against Ukraine.

EU officials see the Georgian government as more inclined towards doing business with Moscow but they say Georgian society is strongly pro-European.

The Commission said the EU should also begin membership talks with Bosnia and Herzegovina once a long list of

extensive conditions are met. That is seen as a tall order as EU countries are split on Sarajevo with Austria, Slovenia and Croatia in favour of bringing it closer to the bloc but the Netherlands leading a camp highlighting democratic backsliding in Bosnia.

In 2013, Croatia was to join the EU - a bloc of 450 million people and one of the richest places in the world, though increasingly struggling to keep its international clout. In 2020, Britain was the first country to ever leave the EU, a major setback for European integration following World War Two.

Russia's invasion of Ukraine put enlargement back at the top of the EU's political agenda as the geo-political rivalry between Moscow and the West erupted with a new force.

NEW PHASE OF GAZA WAR

Israel targets Hamas tunnels

Gaza, Nov 8: Air strikes on the Gaza Strip killed a Hamas weapons maker and several fighters, the Israeli military said Wednesday, as its air and ground offensive targeted the militants' tunnel network beneath the besieged Palestinian enclave.

group's main stronghold in the territory, is encircled by Israeli forces. The military said troops have advanced to the heart of the densely-populated city while Hamas says its fighters have inflicted heavy losses

of people were leaving northern areas and heading south on a road controlled by Israeli tanks Wednesday, during a daily four-hour window proclaimed by Israeli forces for civilians to leave.

Thousands of others still remain inside the encircled area, including at Gaza City's main Al Shifa hospital, where Um Haitham Hejela was sheltering with her young children in an improvised tent.



day after day," she said. "There is no food, no water. When my son goes to pick up water, he queues for three or four hours in the line. They struck bakeries, we don't have bread.

With the war now entering its second month, UN officials and G7 nations stepped up appeals for a humanitarian pause in the hostilities to help alleviate the suffering in Gaza, where buildings have been flattened and basic supplies are running out.

The level of death and suffering is "hard to fathom", UN health agency spokesperson Christian Lindmeier said in

Israel struck at Gaza in response to a Hamas raid on southern Israel October 7 in which gunmen killed 1,400 people. mostly civilians, and took about 240 hostages, according to Israeli tallies. The war has descended into the bloodiest episode in the generations-long Israel-Palestinian conflict.

Israel's stated intention is to wipe out Hamas, the Islamist group that rules Gaza, pounding it from air, land and sea while ground troops have moved in to divide the narrow coastal strip in two in fierce urban fighting amid the ruins of buildings.

Private schools rethink China future

REUTERS Hong Kong, Nov 8: Some shareholders of Dulwich College International are in talks for a sale of the British school's Chinaheavy Asia operations, two sources said, in the latest indication of how turmoil in China's \$570 billion education industry is

forcing overhauls at institutions. A rapid expansion prior to the Covid-19 pandemic drove a surge of privately run bilingual schools in China offering a western exam curriculum. But the business stumbled as Beijing imposed new rules in 2021 and cracked down on the private tutoring business, aimed at easing pressure on children and lowering family costs.

Three years of the pandemic and slowing economic growth have exacerbated the challenges, said Julian Fisher, managing director of Venture Education, a Beijing-based market intelligence consultancy specialising in China's education sector.

"The cynic would say the sector is in terminal decline, the average Chinese investor simply that it's going through growing pains," said Fisher.

Dulwich College International operates nine schools in China

including bilingual schools catering to Chinese nationals that have been hit hardest by regulatory changes. Besides China, Dulwich International also has schools in Singapore and South Korea.

Strategic plans for growth of its high schools in China were "scaled back in light of changing government regulations", Dulwich said in its 2022 annual report.

In a response to Reuters' queries about a potential sale of its Asia business, Education in Motion (EiM), which owns and operates Dulwich College International schools and high schools in China, South Korea, and Singapore, said it was "in the process of bringing in a new strategic financial partner", adding the process would also allow partners to exit their investments in the group. It said it was a planned process of refinancing and "not connected to regulatory changes in any market".

SELF-SUFFICIENCY

China's schools, which are categorised into public, private and those for foreign passport holders, are crucial to leader Xi Jinping's strategy to use education to improve the country's self-sufficiency in science and technology and advance the



ozens of international and private schools in China are closing or merging, weighed down by tighter regulation, a slowing economy and dwindling foreign student numbers

"great rejuvenation of the Chinese nation on all fronts." In 2020 there were around

180,000 private education institutions nationwide, accounting for more than a third of all education institutions in China, with 55.6 million enrolled students, according to the British Council. However, international schools,

which can only enrol students

with foreign passports, have

mostly seen student numbers

decline due to expatriates from

countries including the US, Britain and Canada leaving after the pandemic and amid rising geopolitical tensions. Beijing's crackdown ampli-

→a law to strengthen

schools that will take effect

patriotic education in

January 1, 2024

fied the pressure. It mandated that Chinese compulsory education be taught in private schools, aligning the curriculum more closely to public schools and making parents question the need to pay private school fees when their children can attend free government schools.

Gaza City, the Hamas militant

Witnesses said thousands

"The situation is getting worse

business



This will facilitate

private sector-led

exchange inflows during its

shared vision for a free and

JULIE CHUNG US AMBASSADOR TO SRILANKA

Sri Lankan government defaulted

on the Chinese loans of more

than \$1 billion. China foreclosed

the loan in 2017, taking over the

key port's operations on a 99-

year lease, much to the concern

DFC is the US government's de-

velopment finance institution.

CWIT is a consortium of India's

largest port operator Adani Ports

and SEZ Ltd, Sri Lanka's leading

enterprise John Keells Holdings

Gradual capital deepening,

favourable demographics

and improving productivity

are essential growth factors

New Delhi, Nov 8: S&P Global

Ratings Wednesday said India's

economy has a track record of

strong growth and retained its

6 per cent growth forecast for

In Asia-Pacific Credit Outlook

2024 titled 'Slowing Dragons,

Roaring Tigers', S&P said grad-

ual capital deepening, favourable

demographics, and improving

productivity are essential growth

record of strong growth. We ex-

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

current fiscal year.

factors.

of India.

economic recovery. Sri Lanka

attract crucial foreign

regaining its economic

footing will further our

prosperous Indo-Pacific

growth in Sri Lanka and

It's hard to say exactly what that moment is, but there will come a point where no job is needed. You can have a job if you want a job or personal satisfaction, but the AI will be able to do everything ELON MUSK | CEO, TESLA

DABUR SCOUTING FOR ACQUISITIONS

Homegrown FMCG maker Dabur India, armed with a cash reserve of Rs 7,000 crore, is scouting for acquisition opportunities in healthcare and home & personal care segments, according to its **CEO Mohit Malhotra**





Close to 10,000 cooperative societies have already been digitised. We are targeting 65,000

digitised by March 2024

SHAJI KV CHAIRMAN, NABARD

PayGlocal is dedicated to establishing a robust platform, recognising the role transparent, and dependable payments in facilitating

YOGESH LOKHANDE

CO-FOUNDER, PAYGLOCAL



FY24, the company's operating portfolio GW. In FY24, the company has indicated a capex of Rs 14,000 crore

AMIT SINGH | CEO, ADANI GREEN ENERGY LIMITED

Q2 RESULTS

PFC profit surges

New Delhi: State-owned Power Finance Corporation (PFC) on Wednesday posted a nearly 27 per cent rise in its consolidated net profit to Rs 6,628.17 crore in the July-September quarter compared to a year ago. The consolidated net profit of the company was Rs 5,229.33 crore in the quarter ended on September 30, 2022, a BSE filing showed. Total income rose to Rs 22,403.69 crore in the quarter from Rs 19,344.39 crore in the same period a year ago.

Raymond net flat

New Delhi: Diversified group Raymond Ltd Tuesday said its net profit was almost flat at Rs 161.16 crore in the second quarter ended September 2023. It had reported a net profit of Rs 161.95 crore in the July-September guarter a year ago, according to a regulatory filing from the leading textile and apparel maker. Its revenue from operations rose 3.92 per cent to Rs 2,253.40 crore during the guarter under review as against Rs 2,168.24 crore in the year-ago period.

RCap sees net dip

New Delhi: Reliance Capital consolidated net loss of Rs 239 crore for the quarter ended September 30, 2023-24. It had posted a net profit of Rs 215 crore for the year-ago period. Total income rose to Rs 6,393 crore in the second quarter from Rs 5,796 crore in the year-ago period, Reliance Capital said in a regulatory filing. Total expenses increased to Rs 6,679 crore as compared to Rs 5,756 crore in the same quarter a year ago.

Tata Power net up

.....

New Delhi: Tata Power Wednesday posted a 9 per cent rise in its consolidated net profit to Rs 1.017.41 crore in the September quarter. mainly on the back of higher revenues from core business. Its consolidated net profit was Rs 935.18 crore in the year-ago period, according to a regulatory filing. Total income rose to Rs 16,029.54 crore in the July-September quarter from Rs 14.181.07 crore in the same period a year ago.

Bata profit plunges

New Delhi: Leading shoemaker Bata India Ltd Wednesday reported a decline of 37.77 per cent in its consolidated net profit at Rs 34 crore in the second quarter ended September 2023, citing exceptional items in its balance sheet. It had posted a net profit of Rs 54.62 crore in the July-September period a year ago, according to a regulatory filing from Bata

US-China rift benefits Adani

Adani's Colombo port terminal project to get \$553mn funding from US amidst China's aggressive infra push

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, Nov 8: The US will provide \$553 million financing to Colombo West International Terminal (CWIT) Pvt Ltd -- a consortium that includes India's largest port operator Adani Ports and SEZ Ltd, as it tries to blunt China's aggressive infrastructure investment in the island

Adani Ports and Special Economic Zone Limited (APSEZ) in a statement said that the US fund will support the development of a new deepwater shipping container terminal in the Port of Colombo.

"(It) will facilitate private sector-led growth and attract crucial foreign exchange to Sri Lanka to aid in its economic recovery," it added.

According to the statement, the US, Sri Lanka and India will foster an enduring legacy of cooperation in the development of sustainable infrastructure, like smart and green ports.

Over the years, China made inroads into Sri Lanka by offering loans and other forms of financial aid for infrastructure projects.

The Hambantota port, with its strategic location near busy Indian Ocean shipping routes, was touted as good for Sri Lanka. But it soon turned out to be a

loss-making investment, and the

HPCL to stop diesel

buy from other cos

New Delhi, Nov 8: Hindustan

Petroleum Corporation Ltd

(HPCL) will stop buying diesel

from companies like Reliance

Industries Ltd and Nayara

Energy once it completes ex-

pansion of its Visakhapatnam re-

finery in Andhra Pradesh and

builds a new one in Rajasthan

next financial year, company of-

HPCL owns almost a quar-

ter of petrol pumps in the

country but does not have

commensurate oil refining

capacity to produce petrol

and diesel. So to make up for

this, it buys products from

refiners such as Mangalore

Refinery and Petrochemicals

Ltd (MRPL), Reliance

Industries' Jamanagar units in Gujarat and Nayara's

At an investor call post an-

nouncing second quarter earn-

ings, HPCL chairman Pushp

Kumar Joshi says the firm's

focus on capital spending in

the last five years in "strength-

ening quality and capacity" of

assets has "started yielding re-

The company has already ex-

panded its Mumbai refinery

capacity to 9.5 million tonne

per annum from 7.5 million

tonne and would complete the

expansion of Visakhapatnam

unit to 15 million tonne next

million tonne a year oil refin-

erv and petrochemical complex

at Barmer in Rajasthan at a cost

Besides, it is building a new 9

Vadinar refinery.

sults now"

year, he said.

of Rs 73,000 crore.

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

ficials said.

(JKH) and the Sri Lanka

Authority. DFC partners with the private sector to finance solutions to the most critical challenges facing the developing world. It invests across sectors, in-

cluding energy, healthcare, infrastructure, agriculture and small business and financial

APSEZ whole-time director and CEO Karan Adani said, "We welcome the association of the US International Development Finance Corporation (DFC), the US government's development finance institution, in funding the Adani project." "When completed, Colombo West International Terminal project

pect this momentum to continue

and forecast growth of 6 per cent

for FY 2024, then 6.9 per cent for

FY 2025 and FY 2026," S&P said.

shines brightly. However, its

vields remain higher, as they

have been historically which

puts additional pressure on the

cost of funding India's large debt

It said India's economic growth

nomic landscape, not just in Colombo but across the island, through thousands of direct and indirect new employment opportunities and by massively boosting Sri Lanka's trade and commerce ecosystem," he added.

will transform the socio-eco-

The Port of Colombo is the largest and busiest transshipment port in the Indian Ocean. It has been operating at more than 90 per cent utilization since 2021, signalling its need for additional capacity.

is the first

time that the US

government,

through one of its

agencies, is funding

an Adani project

According to the statement, the new terminal will cater to growing economies in the

Bay of Bengal, taking advantage of Sri Lanka's prime position on major shipping routes and its proximity to these expanding markets. DFC CEO Scott

Nathan said, Sri Lanka is one of the world's key transit hubs, with half of all container ships transiting through its waters.

"DFC's commitment of USD 553 million in private-sector loans for the West Container Terminal will expand its shipping capacity, creating greater prosperity for Sri Lanka - without adding to sovereign debt - while at the same time strengthening the position of our allies across the region.'

India's economy has track record of strong growth: S&P eration, rates dynamics will be an additional determinant of

India's debt trajectory over the

next few years, the US-based rat-

ing agency said. 'Challenges for unlocking the next phase of growth include labour force participation, climate resilience, and further improvements in business environment," S&P said.

It said the Indian economy is reliant on strong growth performance in services industries.

The influence of services in the economy has grown over time, while agriculture and other primary industries have reduced economic shares

"We expect share of services in the economy to rise further as comparative advantages are still

India, Malaysia to trade in national currencies



Kuala Lumpur looking at accepting RuPay, UPI service: Malaysian foreign minister

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, Nov 8: India and Malaysia are firming up a framework for conducting trade in national currencies and initiating a process to review the 12-yearold comprehensive economic cooperation agreement to include new domains and items. Malaysian Foreign Minister Zambry Abdul Kadir said.

At the end of a three-day visit to India, Kadir told PTI that Malaysia is also in the process of accepting India's Unified Payments Interface (UPI) system and RuPay payment service that will boost overall financial engagement.

The Malaysian foreign minister said Prime Minister Anwar Ibrahim is likely to visit India in the first half of next year in reflection of growing upswing in overall ties between the two nations.

He said both sides are keen to expand trade engagement in new and emerging areas such as electronics, semiconductors, fintech, renewable energy, new technology and startups besides joining hands in defence industrial cooperation. Ways to further boost the over-

all trajectory of ties were discussed extensively during his talks with External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar last night

Asked about India's long-pending demand to Malaysia to extradite fugitive evangelist Zakir Naik, Kadir did not give a direct reply and said Kuala Lumpur is keen on strengthening institutional mechanisms to boost security cooperation rather than focusing on any individual.

Naik is facing a multi-agency probe in India on a variety of charges including terror-related activities and inciting extremism through hate speeches. He left India in 2016.

To a question on escalating tensions in South China Sea in view of China's increasing assertiveness, Kadir said Malaysia and other member nations of the ASEAN do not want to allow this region to become a "flashpoint" and an area for "big power" competition.

Listing various measures to expand India-Malaysia bilateral trade, he said both sides are finalising the framework for conducting trade in national currencies.

"We want to use it and both the countries can benefit from it. We think such a move will strengthen the local currencies,' he said late Tuesday night.

India is in talks with a number of partner countries to develop alternative arrangements for trade settlements in national currencies in addition to the existing system of using freely convertible currencies like the US dollar.

The Malaysian foreign minister also said that he and Jaishankar discussed the need for having a re-look at the Comprehensive Economic Cooperation Agreement (CECA) that came into effect in July, 2011.

"We feel there is a need to have a re-look at it to include new areas of trade like the digital economy and other emerging areas," Kadir said.

The CECA covers trade in goods, services, investments and movement of people. The Malaysian foreign minister also said that his country is interested to expand defence cooperation with India including procuring military platforms and hardware.

ket confidence and revenue gen-Volatile market trade amid weak global cues

Markets remained range-bound and ended marginally in the green

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Mumbai, Nov 8: Benchmark equity indices Sensex and Nifty edged higher Wednesday after a volatile trade amid weak cues from Asian and European markets along with unabated foreign fund outflows.

The 30-share BSE Sensex advanced by 33.21 points or 0.05 per cent to settle at 64,975.61. During the day, it hit a high of 65,124 and a low of 64,851.06. The broader Nifty went up by 36.80 points or 0.19 per cent to close at



19,443.50 with 29 of its components closing in green and the

The rupee consolidated in a narrow range and settled lower by 3 paise at 83.30 against the US dollar Wednesday, tracking a strong American currency overseas.

Among the Sensex firms, Asian Paints, Titan, Larsen & Toubro, JSW Steel, ITC, Hindustan Unilever, Maruti and Reliance Industries were the major gainers. ICICI Bank, NTPC, Infosys, Tech Mahindra, Tata Steel and Bajaj Finance were among the laggards.

In the broader market, the BSE midcap gauge climbed 0.78 per cent and smallcap index gained 0.60 per cent. Among the indices, realty jumped 1.40 per cent, services climbed 1.07 per cent, oil & gas (0.96 per cent), capital goods (0.86 per cent), consumer discretionary (0.84 per cent), auto (0.80 per cent) and energy (0.77 per cent).

Financial Services, IT, bankex and teck were the laggards. In Asian markets, Seoul, Tokyo, Shanghai and Hong Kong settled lower. European markets were trading in the negative territory. The US markets ended in positive territory on Tuesday. Global oil benchmark Brent

crude climbed 0.15 per cent to \$81.73 a barrel. Foreign Institutional Investors (FIIs) offloaded equities worth Rs 497.21 crore Tuesday, according to exchange data. The BSE benchmark dipped

16.29 points or 0.03 per cent to settle at 64,942.40 Tuesday. The Nifty slipped 5.05 points or 0.03 per cent to 19,406.70

Mobile giants flag risks with India's push for live TV on phones

THE INCLUSION OF ANY TECHNOLOGY WHICH IS NOT PROVEN AND GLOBALLY ACCEPTABLE WILL DERAIL THE PACE OF DOMESTIC **MANUFACTURING BY \$30, SAYS ICEA**

New Delhi, Nov 8: Samsung and Qualcomm are among those opposing India's choice of technology to bring live TV broadcasts on smartphones, arguing the required hardware changes will push up a device's cost by \$30, according to letters reviewed by

India is considering a policy to mandate equipping smartphones with hardware to receive live TV signals without the need for cellular networks. It has proposed use of so-called ATSC 3.0 technology popular in North America that allows precise geolocating of TV signals and provides high picture quality.

Companies however say their existing smartphones in India are not equipped to work with ATSC 3.0, and any efforts to add that compatibility will raise cost of each device by \$30 as more components need to be added. Some fear their existing manufacturing plans can be hurt.

In a joint letter to India's communication ministry, Samsung, Qualcomm, and telecom gear makers Ericsson and Nokia said

adding direct-to-mobile broadcasting can also degrade battery performance of devices and cellular reception.

"We do not find any merit in progressing discussion on the adoption of this," said the letter dated Oct. 17 and reviewed by Reuters.

The four companies and India's communication ministry did not respond to requests for comment. The proposal is still under deliberation and could be changed, and there is no fixed timeline for implementation, according to a source with direct knowledge.

The policy pushback is the latest from firms operating in India's smartphone sector. In recent months, they pushed back on India's move to make phones compatible with a home-grown



navigation system and another proposal to mandate security testing for handsets.

For India's government, the live TV broadcast features are a higher video consumption. The India Cellular and

Electronics Association (ICEA), a lobbying group of smartphone makers that represents Apple and

Digital broadcast of TV channels on smartphones has seen limited adoption in countries such as South Korea and US. It has not gained traction due to the lack of devices that support the technology

letter dated Oct 16, saying no major handset maker globally currently supports ATSC 3.0.

Samsung tops India's smartphone market with a 17.2% share, while Xiaomi follows with a

16.6% share, according to re-Xiaomi as well as other companies, way to offload the congestion search firm Counterpoint. Apple on telecom networks due to opposed the move privately in a holds 6%.

OrissaPOST

Cummins lauds Maxwell

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Mumbai, Nov 8: When Australian skipper Pat Cummins walked at 91/7 in a chase of 292 against Afghanistan, all he thought was of somehow getting to 200 so that the net run-rate remains in decent zone before the final World Cup game against Bangladesh.

But Glenn Maxwell had other ideas as the Australian skipper watched the "greatest ODI innings" unfold in-front of his eves with his partner hitting an unbelievable 201 not out off 128 balls to take his team to the semifinal of the global event.

"When I went out there, I thought if we can somehow scratch the 200, our net run rate should be pretty good for the semi-final. When Maxi got his 100, I kind of thought, wow, we are within 120 or something. And then I still thought, no way, Cummins was honest enough to admit that he thought winning was out of question.

"I think Maxi might be a bit different. I think he is always plotting his way to a win. I think even 200 runs out, he was kind of mapping out how he was going to do it. I was just trying to survive," Cummins said.

It was only when Australia reached 250 that he thought miracle could happen. "I reckon it was not until the spinners were just about done and there was maybe 40 off 40 or something where I thought okay even if Max gets out here, I reckon the other guys can get it done. But yeah, literally within the last 20 minutes was about the only time," he added.

Maxwell battled right leg cramp and needed multiple medical time-outs before accomplishing the impossible. "Initially when I walked out there, we thought the mystery spinners were the biggest trouble. The ball was still spinning a little bit and they were bowling really well. For me it was just basically hanging in there, Cummins shared with the media after Australia's sensational win. "Maxi was still scoring quite



NIGHT TO REMEMBER: Glenn Maxwell and Pat Cummins smile as they walks off the field after their win over Afghanistan

freely. We knew it was the kind of wicket that gets easier. (We) did not really feel like run rate was ever going to be an issue with Maxi still at the crease,' Cummins said.

The Australia skipper batted for as many as 68 balls during their 202-run stand for the eighth wicket and scored a mere 12 runs, not for once attempting a scoring shot for himself and leaving all the responsibility on Maxwell. Cummins said the plan worked out quite well for

"For me, it was just about basically survival and just hope we get a look at some of the

wicket does not suit as much. It was a pretty simple plan. (We) did not look too far ahead," Cummins

Cummins said in such situations, bowlers rarely have potent plans to stop on-song batters like Maxwell who are hitting them for sixes over third man batting on literally just one leg.

'It is just a one-man show. It is just like, it looks so easy. I am up the other end and I do not see any gaps in the field — I do not see where I am going to score a boundary — and it seems like every time he sees that he just runs away for four," Cummins praised his Australia teammate.

Players like Maxwell are freaks

and what they can pull off is only their preserve. "He still cannot move and still manages to hit a six of the third man with reverse (lap) — he is a freak, he hits into different areas, again, he makes it look so easy. When you are up against someone like that as a bowler, you just, you do not have many options, Cummins added.

With the crowd at Wankhede Stadium supporting Afghanistan for the majority of the game, Cummins could hear their allegiances shifting during the Maxwell 'freak show'. "The crowd is normally on Maxi's side whenever he is playing over here,"

Stokes fashions England win

Pune, Nov 8: Ben Stokes' attacking century (108, 84b, 6x4, 6x6) was well complemented by the bowlers as England cantered to a 160-run win over the Netherlands here Wednesday to stay in the hunt for a place in the 2025 Champions Trophy in

Though England and the Netherlands are out of reckoning for the semifinals, the contest between the two lowestplaced sides gain significance when it comes to qualifying for the Champions Trophy as only the top seven teams from the ongoing showpiece will qualify for

England's batting finally clicked as they posted 339/9 and then the bowlers did the rest, dismissing the Dutch for 179 in 37.2 overs. The win took England to the seventh spot in the points table on account of better run rate. The defending champions will take on Pakistan in their last match in Kolkata Saturday.

Opting to bat, Stokes initially provided the stability in the middle before opening up towards the end, while Dawid Malan (87, 74b. 10x4, 2x6) got England off to a flier with his breezy knock. Chris Woakes (51, 45b, 5x4, 1x6) also did his bit with the willow.

Chasing a huge target of 340. the Netherlands lost their first wicket in the fifth over when Max O'Dowd gave a simple catch to Moeen Ali at mid-on off the bowling of Woakes (1/19). In the next over, Netherlands were two down when Colin Ackermann nicked a David Willey (2/19) delivery to Jos Buttler behind the

Wesley Barresi (37) and Sybrand Engelbrecht (33) tried their best to stabilise the chase with a 55-run stand for the third wicket before Baressi was run

The Netherlands skipper Scott Edwards (38) and Teja Nidamanuru (41 n o) then shared 59 runs for the sixth wicket before the former got out off Ali's bowling (3/42). Thereafter, Netherlands wickets fell like nine pins as they were bowled out for 179 in 37.2 overs



wicketkeeper Scott Edwards looks on, Wednesday

Earlier, Malan looked at his attacking best. Boundaries came thick and fast for England. Netherlands had their first success in the seventh over in the form of Jonny Bairstow (15) Malan and Joe Root then played cautiously to take the innings for-

But two wickets in consecutive overs halted England's charge as England slumped to 139/3 in 22 overs. Harry Brook didn't last long. England skipper Jos Buttler's torrid time continued as he too perished shortly. Ali's departure reduced England to $19\overline{2}/6$ by the 36th over.

But Stokes and Woakes had other plans as they shared 129 runs for the seventh wicket to take England past the 300-run mark.

BRIEF SCORES

England 339/9 (Ben Stokes 108, Dawid Malan 87, Chris Woakes 51; Bas de Leede 3/74, Aryan Dutt 2/67, Logan van Beek 2/88) beat The Netherlands 179

(Teja Nidamanuru 41 n o, Scott Edwards 38; Moeen Ali 3/42, Adil Rashid 3/54)



Barca winning run in **UCL** ends at Shakhtar

Hamburg (Germany), Nov 8: Barcelona missed their chance to reach the knockout round of the Champions League with Shakhtar Donetsk Tuesday.

It was Shakhtar's first win as a host in the group stage of the competition since it started playing away from Ukraine because of the war with Russia. A crowd of nearly 50,000 was in hand at Volksparkstadion in Hamburg.

A draw would have been enough to secure Barcelona a spot in the round of 16 for the first time after two straight eliminations in the group stage of Europe's top club competition.

The result ended Barcelona's perfect Champions League record this season and moved Shakhtar into position to also advance from Group H. Barcelona stayed with nine points and are tied with Porto, which defeated winless Antwerp 2-0 at home later Tuesday Shakhtar have six points in third place.

Danylo Sikan scored the winner with a header in the 40th minute in the game that Shakhtar hosted in Germany because of the war. The Ukrainian team lost 1-3 to Porto in their first home game in the Champions League this season. Barcelona had lost only once this season to Real Madrid in the Spanish



Giroud helps AC Milan pip PSG



IMPRESSIVE OUTING: Olivier Giroud wheels away in celebration after scoring the winner against PSG, Tuesday

ASSOCIATED PRESS

Milan, Nov 8: AC Milan scored for the first time in this season's Champions League to beat Paris Saint-Germain 2-1 in a hugely entertaining match Tuesday at San Siro and leave Group F wide open.

Rafael Leao and Olivier Giroud, who set up the first goal, scored early in each half to help Milan recover from conceding a ninthminute opener to Milan Skrinjar and give their team their first group win. Milan, who lost 0-3 at PSG two weeks ago, started the day bottom of their group.

Borussia Dortmund beat Newcastle 2-0 in the other match and now lead the group with seven points. The German team are a point above PSG, two above Milan and three above Newcastle.

The match in Milan marked the first time Gianluigi Donnarumma had played at San Siro since leaving the Rossoneri on a free transfer two years ago and joining PSG. And the Italy goalkeeper got a predictably hostile reception at the stadium where he was once a beloved player.

Donnarumma made more than 250 appearances for Milan after breaking into the team when he was 16. As well as booing the 24vear-old Donnarumma and chanting offensive songs about him. Milan fans had also printed out thousands of fake dollar notes with his face on and the word "Dollarumma."

HAALAND ON TARGET

The Champions League is European club football's most testing stage. Try telling that to Erling Haaland. The Norway striker extended his record in the competition to 39 goals in 34 games as Manchester City advanced to the knockout round with a 3-0 win against Young Boys Tuesday.

Haaland scored twice, including a brilliant long-range effort in the second half, to move him to within two of City great Sergio Aguero's total of 41. Phil Foden was the other scorer in the night for City.

ATLETICO ON RAMPAGE

Antoine Griezmann and Alvaro Morata have come through for Atletico Madrid again. The red-hot duo scored two goals each in a 6-0 rout of 10man Celtic Tuesday, leaving Atletico top of Group E in the Champions League.

and Parneet Kaur set up a gold___ medal clash to assure India a top-two spot in the compound women's individual section.

Indian archers impress

at Asian Championships



Jyothi Surekha Vennam (L) and Parneet Kaur will vie for gold when they face off in the compound women's individual section final

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Bangkok, Nov 8: The Indian archers won two bronze, while also assuring themselves four more medals by advancing into their respective finals at the Asian Championships here Wednesday.

On a day World Champion Aditi Swami suffered a heartbreak after being ousted by Bonna Akter in the pre-quarters, veteran Jyothi Surekha Vennam

The top-seeded compound women's team of Aditi, Jyothi and Parneet eliminated hosts Thailand 228-217 in a lopsided semifinal. India will take on third seeds Chinese Taipei in

the gold medal clash. India have also advanced to the final of the compound mixed team event. The team of Aditi and Priyansh defeated Kazakhstan's Adel Zhexenbinova and Andrey Tyutyun 157-155 in the semifinal to set up a gold medal clash against Thailand.

The Indian compound men's team of Abhishek Verma, Prathamesh Fuge and Privansh bagged a bronze after a shoot-off win over Chinese Taipei. Both the teams were 235-235 after four ends, and India sealed the bronze

by winning the shoot-off 29-28. In the compound men's individual section, only Verma remained in the medal hunt and will fight for a bronze, taking on Joo Jaehoon of South Korea. In the recurve section, only the women's team remained in the medal hunt and will play for bronze against Chinese Taipei.

SHUBMAN, SIRAJ ATTAIN TOP POSITIONS IN ODI RANKINGS

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Dubai, Nov 8: India opener Shubman Gill and pacer Mohammed Siraj Wednesday grabbed the top positions in the batting and bowling charts respectively in the ICC ODI rankings. While Gill replaced Babar Azam from the top of the batters chart, Siraj displaced South Africa spinner Keshav Maharaj in the bowlers' list.

Gill became just the fourth player from his country behind Sachin Tendulkar, MS Dhoni and Virat Kohli to hold the No.1 ODI batter ranking.

Among other Indian batters, Virat Kohli has risen to fourth place following his sensational run in the World Cup, while skip-

per Rohit Sharma is placed sixth. Meanwhile among bowlers, Siraj rose to the top spot with his impressive effort so far in the tournament. Siraj displaced Maharaj from the top. Among other Indian bowlers, fellow Indian pacer Jasprit Bumrah

has risen three spots to eighth, while Mohammed Shami jumped

seven spots to be placed 10th on

Left-arm wrist spinner Kuldeep Yadav also climbed three places to be placed fourth, while fellow tweaker Ravindra Jadeja has moved up eight rungs to the 19th spot. Bangladesh skipper Shakib Al Hasan is leading the all-rounders' chart, while Jadeja is the highest-ranked Indian at

the 10th spot.

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, Nov 8: The All India Football Federation (AIFF) Wednesday announced that it has sacked secretary general Shaji Prabhakaran due to "breach of trust", a move described as "conspiracy" by the Delhi based sports administra-

Prabhakaran's sacking comes 14 months after his appointment to the high-profile job even as the national federation did not mention what the breach of trust was that prompted the action.

"The All India Football

Federation hereby announces

that the services of Dr. Shaji

Prabhakaran have been termi-

nated due to breach of trust with

immediate effect as of November 7, 2023," the AIFF statement

"The AIFF Deputy Secretary, Mr M Satyanarayan, will take charge as Acting Secretary General of AIFF with immediate effect," the statement added. AIFF president Kalyan

Chaubey served the termination letter Tuesday to Prabhakaran, who was appointed September 3 in 2022 and took charge September 6.

The 51-year-old Prabhakaran. however said the decision has no constitutional validity. In a letter addressed to the AIFF members, Prabhakaran wrote: "As per AIFF Constitution, it is the Executive Committee that can only dismiss or terminate the



General Secretary. Thus, this termination has no constitutional validity and approval of the Executive Committee."

Prabhakaran termed it as a conspiracy against him. "I must

say that there must be some conspiracy behind this decision, which I am not able to understand. You, as elected member's does have the responsibility to ask the right questions to the

chair, not for me but for the good of the game," he wrote in the letter.

"I must say, this is a totally irresponsible decision at a time when AIFF governance matter is still under discussion and scrutiny across. In the end, we have forgotten our struggles and pains to reach these far.

"I have worked with 100% honesty, and I have not made any decision that was bad for football in India, and it is the fact that I didn't interfere in the decision of the Judicial Bodies for which I was pressurised.'

AIFF vice-president NA Haris, however, told PTI that the AIFF executive committee members were also not happy with the way Prabhakaran worked.

