



LALCHND DHANTERAS AND DIWALI OFFERS

Get exclusive designs at the lowest making charges with crystal-clear, unconditional offers.



DON'T FALL PREY TO MISLEADING ADS ON JEWELLERY MAKING CHARGES.

Claim/Offer	Fact	Lalchnd Jewellers
Flat 4.5% off on total value of Gold Jewellery	Customers are getting flat 4.5% off on their entire purchase, but they are not informed about the actual MC on the jewellery. This jeweller is clearly trying to fool its customers with misleading discount offers.	₹625/GM MAKING CHARGES ON ALL HUID CERTIFIED GOLD ORNAMENTS
Upto 30% off on MC of gemstones and Polki jewellery	This jewellery brand is giving a maximum of 30% discount on MC of poor-selling items, while the rest of its collection has a higher MC.	... FLAT ₹20,000 OFF/CARAT ON DIAMOND VALUE
Gift vouchers worth ₹ 2000/-, ₹ 1000/-, ₹ 500/-	One jeweller is luring its customers with gift vouchers, but that is conditional upon a very high minimum bill amount.	... FLAT 50% OFF ON MC OF SILVER ORNAMENTS
Upto 25% off on MC of gold jewellery	This jewellery brand is offering upto 25% off on MC of gold jewellery. However, they are secretly increasing the MC as per their will and then giving discounts to lure in customers.	... FLAT 20% OFF ON SELECT INTERNATIONAL BRANDED WATCHES
Upto 20% off on MC of Gold Jewellery	This jeweller is offering a conditional (*) offer of "upto 20% off on MC of gold jewellery", but the jeweller isn't informing customers about the actual MC.	... FLAT 15% OFF ON MRP OF BRANDED ITEMS
Flat ₹ 599 MC on regular gold jewellery	In this case, the jeweller is not informing customers about HUID Gold and is offering a flat MC on regular gold jewellery. The customers therefore are unaware about the purity and quality of the gold. Also, the MC of ₹ 599 is applicable only to a few items or designs; for the rest, the MC is a staggering ₹ 1200.	ASSURED SILVER COIN (IJSF) ON PURCHASE OF ₹25,000/- AND ABOVE & ASSURED FREE GIFT ON PURCHASE OF ₹25,000/- AND ABOVE.
Gold Coin*	This jeweller is attracting customers with free gold coins. However, the offer is conditional (*)	

CALCULATE

COMPARE

THEN PURCHASE

Lalchnd Jewellers feels duty-bound to inform customers about the various ways other jewellers are trying to scam them.

Impeccable customer service is at the heart of everything we do at Lalchnd Jewellers. In order to offer our valued customers the best possible shopping experience, we are also 100% compliant with HUID.

100% GOLD VALUE ON EXCHANGE OF BIS HALLMARKED OLD GOLD.



Exciting Jewellery Shopping
Assured coupon & limited edition Silver coin on purchase of jewellery worth Rs.25,000

THE WORLD'S LARGEST JEWELLERY FESTIVAL AT LALCHND JEWELLERS

Dazzling Rewards
25 gram Gold coin on every set of 5,000 coupon as a periodical draw

CHAMKEGI SABKI KISMAT!

- 5 prizes of 1 kg Gold each
- 5 prizes of Jadau Jewellery worth Rs.10 Lakhs each
- 5 prizes of Temple Jewellery worth Rs.10 Lakhs each
- 10 prizes of Diamond & Precious Stones Studded Jewellery worth Rs.5 Lakhs each
- 10 prizes of Gold Jewellery worth Rs.2.5 Lakhs each
- 100 prizes of Diamond Studded Gold Coin from "Divine Solitaires"

IJSF INDIA JEWELLERY SHOPPING FESTIVAL 2023
Powered by DIVINE SOLITAIRE

The above IJSF scheme is valid from 15 October-22 November



FESTIVE TREATS

- 5% Instant Discount on HDFC Bank Credit/Debit Cards
- Valid on minimum transaction of ₹ 40,000. Maximum Discount of ₹ 3,000
- Valid once per card TILL 14th November 23

MMTC GOLD COINS AVAILABLE AT MASTER CANTEN AND MMTC SILVER COINS AVAILABLE ONLY AT RAGHUNATHPUR, CUTTACK AND BRAHMAMPUR

LALCHND PROMISES

★ HUID-HALLMARKED GOLD ★ LOWEST MAKING CHARGES ★ LIFETIME MAINTENANCE ★ BUY-BACK GUARANTEE ★ HIGH ACCURACY KARATMETER

JEWELLERS SINCE 1988

BHUBANESWAR
RAGHUNATHPUR
0674-2469149/150/151

BHUBANESWAR
MASTER CANTEN
0674-2534016/17/18

BHUBANESWAR
ESPLANADE MALL
+91-99372 29625

BRAHMAMPUR
DHARMA NAGAR
0680-2229401/02/04

CUTTACK
CANTONMENT ROAD
0671-2302505/3505/4505

NEW DELHI
LAJPAT NAGAR
011-45769564

Plenty of parking space by the new backside entrance and valet parking facility near the front entrance of the Master Canteen store.

leisure

FORTUNE FORECAST

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accuracy • reliability • trust
FOR ASTROLOGY DIAL 55181

ARIES
You will be very active today. Your activities will result in progress and success. However in the evening you will feel the need for some solitude. Pay heed to your moods, and get into a solitary corner to be alone. Ganesh says it's okay to confide your problems to your dog.

TAURUS
There is a strong prospect that you will work extremely hard to prove yourself at your workplace today, predicts Ganesh. At times, the returns may not be in proportion to your efforts. You will unwind at the end of the day with a happy and content feeling, expects Ganesh.

GEMINI
You will spend the major part of your day with your spouse and children, if any. You also stand to benefit from your parents. If unmarried, your relationship with your beloved will enter an exciting phase. Inhibitions, if any, will be thrown out of the window and the bonding is likely to be intense. Ganesh, however, warns you against throwing caution to the wind.

CANCER
Today you are likely to receive financial support from your loved ones, says Ganesh. By the time the Sun sets, your family may receive some good news in relation to a wedding. A festive mood is likely to set in your house. After a day full of good news and enjoyment, you will shift your focus on the pending as well as impending work at the end of the day.

LEO
You will be serious about your work today. You will organise your schedule for the day in the morning itself. You will take up tasks that are dear to you and will analyse the results of your labours in the past. In the later half of the day, you will be able to have good relations with everyone who comes into contact with you.

VIRGO
Today it will be family responsibilities that will dominate the day. Juniors will offer you a lot of help, but you must remember that what you seek is valuable and that it will demand a lot of effort from you. Ganesh advises you to be careful of people in general.

LIBRA
Ganesh says that today may not be a great day for you professionally as higher ups in your office may try to block your path to success. You will have to spend more time doing work and this will mean spending less time with your family. Ganesh says never forget the sacrifices your family members have made for your success.

SCORPIO
Important discussions in family would keep you occupied almost throughout the day. However, you do not neglect your work for that, says Ganesh. New projects are about to begin.

SAGITTARIUS
You are so energetic today that your feet are bouncing, literally, says Ganesh. Your dynamic ways at work will keep the work milieu full of enthusiasm and excitement. Work can also be fun is what you team mates learn from you.

CAPRICORN
You will be the centre of attention at work, foretells Ganesh. You will put your best foot forward and impress everyone around, including your boss, with the level of efficiency you bring to the table. Some of your colleagues may have given you a hard time in the past and said mean things behind your back, but today, they will also give you a pat on your back for your achievements.

AQUARIUS
If you're thinking of doing some soul-searching today, the stars completely back you. And yes, remember to take a break — no one deserves it more. Go on a long drive with a buddy if you must.

PISCES
Today is a day devoted to matters of the heart as well as your heart. So, while you will probably be busy during the day keeping tabs on the refurbishments you have planned for your residence, the evening should probably see you in a romantic setting murmuring sweet nothings to your soul mate, says Ganesh.



NICKI MINAJ REGRETS HER PLASTIC SURGERY

Singer-songwriter Nicki Minaj has some regrets about some of her plastic surgery decisions. "I guarantee you, if you change anything on your body and do anything surgical and all this, you're going to say some day, 'I was fine just the way I was,'" she said.

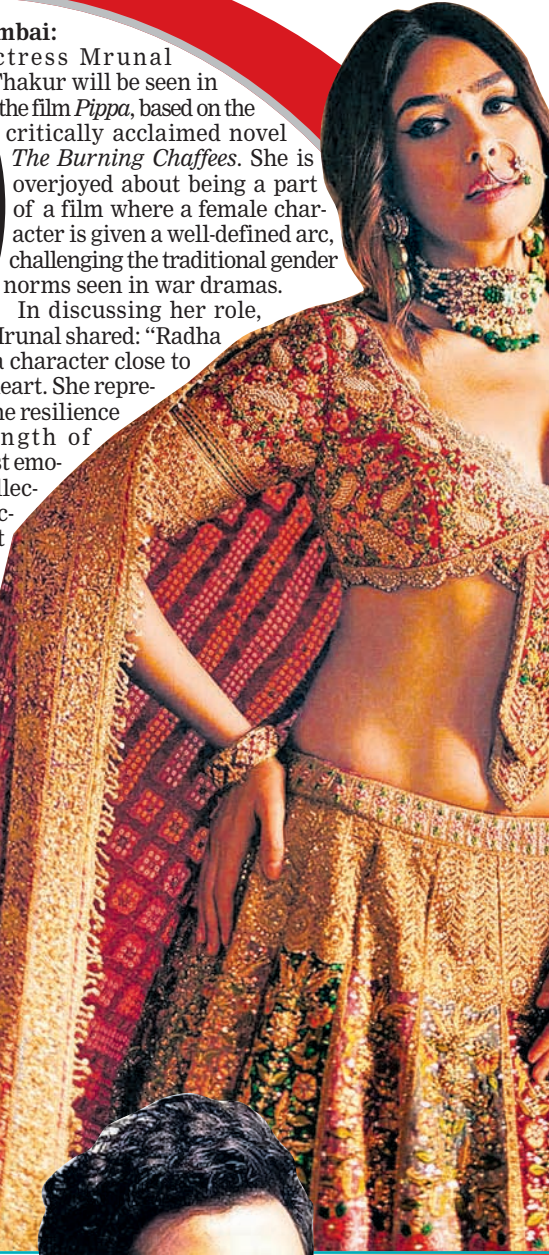
K-POP SINGER NAHEE DIES AT 24, CAUSE UNKNOWN

Popular K-pop singer Nahee has mysteriously died at the age of 24. The cause of death remains unknown. The idol-pop singer's death was announced on her Instagram in Korean, where her fans mourned her tragic passing and gave their condolences.



Mrunal on breaking gender norms

Mumbai: Actress Mrunal Thakur will be seen in the film *Pippa*, based on the critically acclaimed novel *The Burning Chaffees*. She is overjoyed about being a part of a film where a female character is given a well-defined arc, challenging the traditional gender norms seen in war dramas. In discussing her role, Mrunal shared: "Radha is a character close to my heart. She represents the resilience and strength of women, not just emotionally, but also intellectually. It was refreshing to see a female character actively involved in the war effort, making significant contributions through her expertise in cryptography. *Pippa* showcases a different perspective, and I am honoured to bring Radha's story to life." Mrunal plays Radha, a medical student and cryptographer, who becomes an essential part of the war alongside her siblings. Earlier, she was heavily trolled for playing sister to Ishan Khatter's character. Reacting to the same she said, "I want to break that stereotype mindset that actresses should play only female lead roles and they shouldn't act in other roles. If people don't like my performance in that role, they are free to share their feedback to me so that she will rectify it rather than asking her not to do particular roles." *Pippa*, directed by Raja Menon, has released widely on Amazon Prime video.



Sara-Shubman to tie knot soon!

Mumbai: While Sara Ali Khan has confirmed that she is not dating Shubman Gill, the cricketer continues to get linked with Sachin Tendulkar's daughter Sara Tendulkar. In the latest, UAE cricketer Chirag Suri has spilled some beans on the rumoured couple's relationship during an interview. A video of Chirag confirming Sara and Shubman's relationship on a podcast has surfaced on social media and grabbing a lot of eyeballs. Chirag also said that they are likely to get married and talked about how Sara's life will always be about 'cricket' because of Sachin first, and now Shubman. Several netizens criticised Chirag for talking about Sara and Shubman's relationship on a public platform without their permission. A user wrote, 'How can he spill the truth like that', whereas another one wrote 'I love them, even almost everyone knows about their relationship too. But it was not right from Chirag's side to say things like that without their permission'. A couple of other netizens pointed out in comments that Shubman Gill has unfollowed Chirag Suri on Instagram after this video went viral.

Real heroes' praise feels fantastic: Vicky

Mumbai: Actor Vicky Kaushal who is currently gearing up for the release of his upcoming venture *Sam Bahadur*, has now recalled his interaction with 6 Sikh regiments during the trailer launch of the film and also went into a flashback to recall preparing for his 2019 military action film *URI* with the soldiers. The Sanju actor also shared glimpses of his drilling session in the form of videos in the post on Instagram. "Must say I got a 'warm' welcome by the 6 Sikh Regiment this time during my trip to Delhi for #SAM BAHADUR Trailer launch! In 2018, before we started filming *URI*, I was trained by the 7 Sikh Regiment. Unki obstacle training drills *ki yaadein taaza ho gayi...* always feels great to get a pat on your back by the real heroes!" Kaushal said in an Instagram note. After the actor shared glimpses of his drilling sessions, fans were left amazed by the amount of hard work that Vicky Kaushal had put in for his film. Reacting to it, a fan exclaimed, "Damn...." while another said, "You have earned it." Several other fans flocked in the actor's post to heap adulation on him. *Sam Bahadur* is set to release December 1 in theatres. AGENCIES



Farrey heads to 54th IFFI

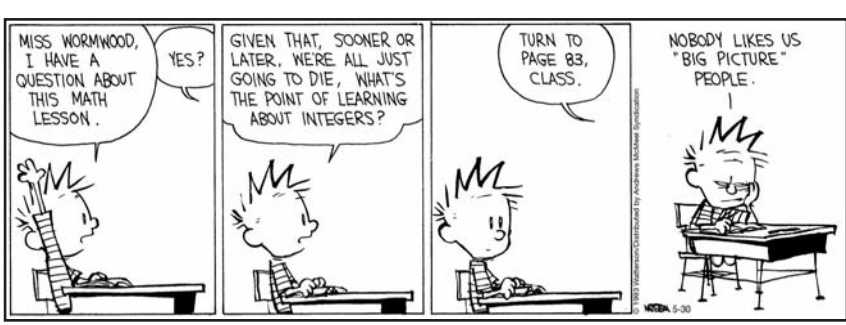
Mumbai: The upcoming film *Farrey*, starring Alizeh, Zeyn Shaw, Sahil Mehta, Prasanna Bisht, Ronit B. Roy, and Juhi Babbar Soni in pivotal roles, has been picked for an official screening for the upcoming 54th edition of the International Film Festival of India (IFFI). IFFI is set to be held in Goa from November 20 to November 28. The film marks Salman Khan's niece Alizeh Agnihotri's debut. Alizeh is the daughter of actor and producer Atul Agnihotri and Salman's sister Alvira Khan Agnihotri. Talking about the film's screening at IFFI, actor Salman Khan said: "IFFI is a very prestigious event and I am happy that *Farrey* is being screened at it. I have some fond memories of IFFI over the years and with *Farrey* making it to the esteemed panel it feels like a full circle. I wish the entire team the very best and hope the audience enjoys the film." Speaking about the film, director Soumendra Padhi said: "*Farrey* is a reflection of the intricacies between ambition and morality. We've woven a narrative that challenges perceptions and unravels the consequences of choices made in pursuit of success. *Farrey* is set to release in theatres November 24, 2023. AGENCIES



PEANUTS



CALVIN AND HOBBS

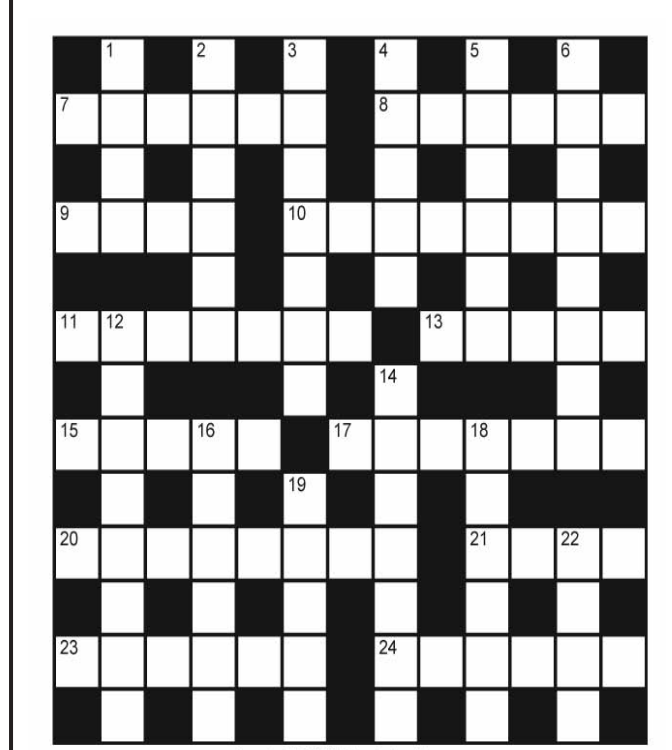


BREVITY



FUN post

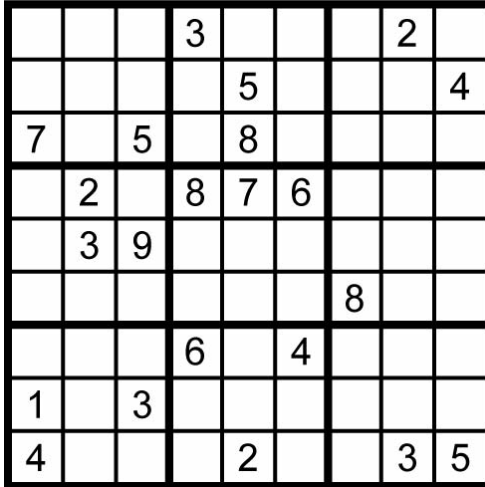
CROSSWORD



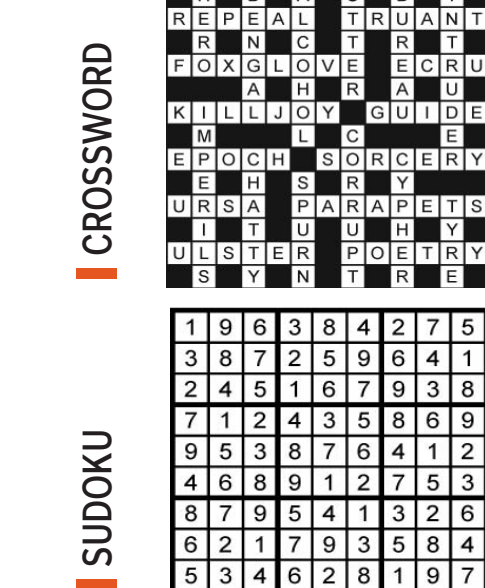
- Across**
7 Sponsor
8 Mistakes (3-3)
9 Farm equipment
10 Wicker craft
11 Pub regulars
13 Utter
15 Lorry
17 Increase
20 Uncivilised
21 Bee's cousin
- Down**
1 Water carrier
2 Spit
3 Mourning item, usually
4 Accumulate in large quantities
5 Skilled hand
6 Pre-dinner drink
12 Broadcasting medium
14 Strident
16 Small dwellings
18 State-of-the-art
19 Baleen whale food
22 Lawn starter

SUDOKU

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



SOLUTIONS



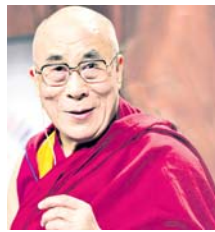
CHECK FOR SOLUTIONS OF THE PUZZLES TOMORROW



INDIA, US TO EXPAND TIES

India and the US vow to deepen their strategic partnership by shoring defence and security ties

NATIONAL P7



DALAI LAMA'S SUCCESSOR

China asserts that any successor to Dalai Lama should be from within the country

INTERNATIONAL P8



PAK FACE ENGLAND TODAY

Pakistan hope for a miracle for semifinal berth when they face England who will look to qualify for the 2025 Champions Trophy

SPORTS BACK PAGE ****



RUN FOR COVER: A Palestinian militant runs during clashes with Israeli forces in Jenin refugee camp in the West Bank

Child dead, 36 rescued as bus catches fire

POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar, Nov 10: A child was killed while 36 passengers had a narrow escape when a bus travelling to Odisha from Babughat in West Bengal caught fire near Kharagpur, Friday night. Superintendent of Police (SP), Paschim Medinipur district, Dhritiman Sarkar told **Orissa POST** that the child has been charred beyond recognition and the identity, including gender, will be established only after the postmortem reports were received.

He said the remaining 36 pas-

sengers have been taken to the Madpur police station after treatment. To a question if the passengers were natives of Odisha, Sarkar said efforts are on to establish their identity.

The incident, Sarkar said, occurred at around 9.30 pm when the driver of the vehicle, travelling to 'some place' in Odisha (reportedly Paradip), spotted fire and smoke emanating from the engine. He said the fire is suspected to have been caused by a short circuit. As soon as the fire spread, the driver stopped the vehicle near Madpur ghat near Kharagpur, jumped out of the ve-

hicle abandoning the passengers and fled the spot. Fortunately, the fire was spotted by a police patrolling vehicle which was stationed at a distance.

"The policemen soon came to the rescue of the passengers and informed the fire brigade which arrived at the spot in a short time," Sarkar said, adding that some passengers jumped through the windows to save themselves.

The injured were taken to a nearby hospital where they were administered first aid. Sarkar said, "We are trying to arrange a vehicle to send them to their destinations."

Armed men loot ₹1.73cr from cash van in Cuttack

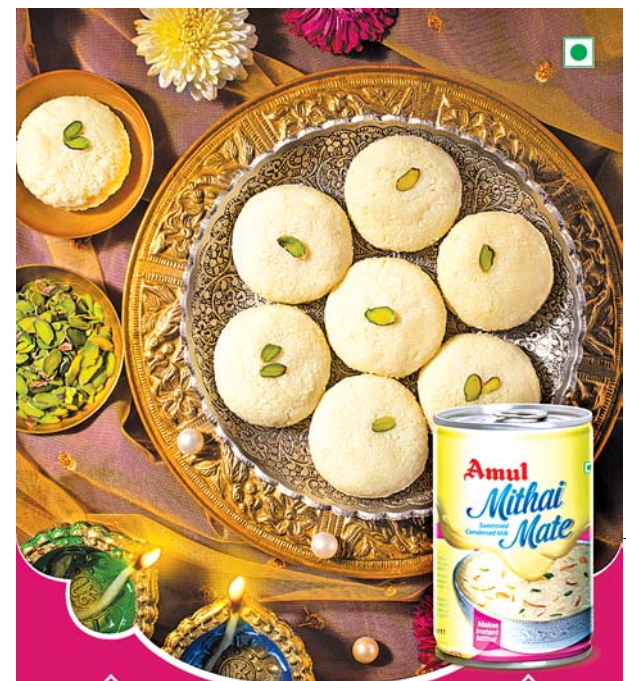
PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Bhubaneswar, Nov 10: Masked men looted ₹1.73 crore from an ATM cash van in Cuttack district Friday, police said.

The incident took place at Godijhar News road in the district's Athagarh area, they added.

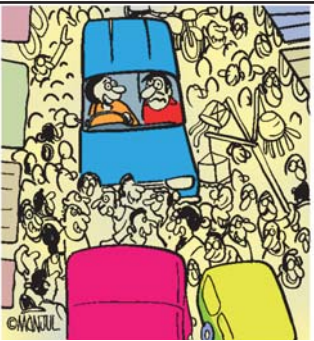
According to police, around 10 armed men stopped the cash van using an SUV and motorcycles and looted it. "We were returning after loading cash in an ATM machine at Godijhar when an SUV stopped in front of us. Eight-10 masked men carrying pistols and sharp weapons threatened us and snatched my rifle. Then, they took the cash trunk and fled the spot," said Ranjan Kumar Dehury, the van's security guard.

Cash loader Sanjay Swain said the criminals also took away their mobile phones after snatching the cash box. There were four persons in the cash van including the driver, two security personnel and a cash loader, police said.



HAPPY DIWALI

IRREGULAR by MANJUL



I am into adventure sports. I go for drives in the city during the festive season

10 devotees faint in Srimandir rush

PNN & AGENCIES

Puri, Nov 10: An unprecedented rush of devotees at Srimandir soon after the Mangala Aarati triggered a stampede-like situation early Friday, leaving over 20 people, mostly elderly, ill, with 10 of them losing consciousness. The devotees, who fell ill, were taken to the district headquarters hospital (DHH) for treatment, police said, adding that most of the ill persons were discharged after treatment.

Shree Jagannath Temple Administration (SJTA) chief administrator Ranjan Kumar Das said the heavy rush of devotees was responsible for the incident that took place in the early hours of the day.

The Indian traditional month of Kartika is considered holy and large number of devotees flock the 12th century shrine to pay their obeisance to the sibling deities. "Those who fell ill were mostly elderly persons. We are augmenting the arrangement to ensure smooth darshan of devotees inside the temple," Das said.

According to preliminary information, over 20 devotees were reported to have taken ill and



As the gates opened, many of the devotees scrambled towards the deities and some of them fell down and became unconscious near Ghanti Dwara and Sata Pahacha

A DEVOTEE

Those who fell ill were mostly elderly persons. We are augmenting the arrangement to ensure smooth darshan of devotees inside the temple

RANJAN KUMAR DAS | SJTA CHIEF

10 of them fainted soon after Mangala Aarati in the temple. They fell down as the crowd of devotees surged inside. They were given preliminary treatment in the temple and then shifted to the DHH.

Das said Jagannath Temple Police (JTP) helped the devotees who fell down.

Puri superintendent of police (SP) Kanwar Vishal Singh said, "There was rush in the temple but no stampede. A total 15 platoons (450 personnel) of the police were deployed to control the crowd. Their number will be increased keeping in view the rush of devotees."

One of the devotees said that those who went for darshan of the deities were allowed to enter the temple after the morning Mangala Aarti. As the gates opened, many of them scrambled towards the deities and some of them fell down and became unconscious near Ghanti Dwara and Sata Pahacha of the temple.

Playing with fire: SC to Punjab Guv

POST NEWS NETWORK

New Delhi, Nov 10: Exasperated with his inaction, the Supreme Court Friday pulled up Punjab Governor Banwarilal Purohit over withholding assent to bills passed by the state assembly and cautioned him by saying, 'you are playing with the fire.'

The apex court asked the governor to decide on the bills sent to him for assent. "We are of the view that the governor of Punjab must now proceed to take decision on bills submitted for assent on the basis that the sitting of the house conducted June 19 and 20 was constitutionally valid", the Supreme Court said.

While terming the tussle between the elected government and the governor in Punjab as a matter of 'serious concern', the bench observed that the country is running on established traditions and conventions and they need to be followed. We are not happy with what is happening in Punjab, the bench said.

"How can the Governor say

the bills passed by the Assembly are invalid because the session was irregular? These are bills passed by the elected members. This is a very serious matter. You're playing with the fire," the Supreme Court bench headed by Chief Justice DY Chandrachud said while hearing a petition filed by the AAP-led Punjab government against the governor alleging delay in giving assent to bills passed by the Assembly.

The Supreme Court said the Governor cannot cast doubt on the validity of a two-day Assembly session held in June and can't sit on the bills citing this as a reason. The bench observed that convening of the house in June was within the ambit of the rules and procedure of business and conduct of Vidhan Sabha.

"Any attempt to cast doubt on the session of the legislature would be fraught with great perils to democracy. Casting doubt on the validity of the session of the house is not a constitutional option open to the governor," the Supreme Court said.

₹100cr ponzi scam: 4th accused held

Bhubaneswar: Odisha Police has arrested the fourth accused in connection with the ₹1,000-crore STA Crypto ponzi scam, an official statement said Friday. The accused, identified as Sushil Kumar Tudu, was the Jharkhand head of STA India, a ponzi firm based in Rajasthan's Sri Ganganagar district, officials said. Tudu was arrested from Nirma in Jharkhand's Dhanbad district November 8 and brought to Odisha on transit remand, police added. Earlier, three accused including India head Gurtej Sidhu were arrested.

Jumbo dies of electrocution

Keonjhar: Forest department officials here recovered the body of a wild tusker from a farmland near Saleikena village under Telkoi range of Keonjhar forest division, Friday. According to forest officials, the elephant's age was around 40 years. After post-mortem, it was confirmed that the pachyderm died due to electrocution. The Forest department has arrested Raju Munda and Khajari Munda, the owners of the farmland where the carcass was found, and their two other brothers are also being interrogated in this regard. P3

US FDA NOD TO 1ST CHIKUNGUNYA VAX

AGENCIES

New Delhi, Nov 10: Ixchig, the first chikungunya vaccine, has been approved by the US Food and Drug Administration (FDA) for individuals 18 years of age and older who are at increased risk of exposure to mosquito-borne virus.

Containing a live, weakened version of the chikungunya-causing virus, Ixchig is administered as a single dose by injection into the muscle and may cause symptoms in the recipient similar to those experienced by people having the viral disease, the FDA said in a statement.

"Infection with chikungunya virus can lead to severe disease and prolonged health problems, particularly for older adults and individuals with underlying medical

conditions," said Peter Marks, director of the FDA's Center for Biologics Evaluation and Research. The effectiveness of the vaccine was determined through a clinical study in individuals 18 years of age and older in the US, the agency's statement said.

The level of antibody generated in the 266 vaccinated participants was 'based on a level shown to be protective in non-human primates that had received blood from people who had been vaccinated', it said.

The study had compared the immune response of these individuals with that of 96 participants receiving placebo.

The most commonly reported side effects were headache, fatigue, muscle pain, joint pain, fever, nausea and tenderness at the injection site, it said.

Diwali cheer to 3 Indian restaurants in America

'SEMMA' IN NEW YORK CITY, 'RANIA' IN WASHINGTON, D.C., AND 'INDIENNE' IN CHICAGO GET FIRST STAR FROM JUST-UNVEILED MICHELIN GUIDE

INDO-ASIAN NEWS SERVICE

New York, Nov 10: The just-unveiled Michelin Guide for Washington, D.C., New York and Chicago for 2023 has brought Diwali cheer to three Indian restaurants, two of which got their coveted first star from the guide regarded as the final word on gastronomy. Last year, the number was just one.

The restaurants are Semma in New York City, Rania in Washington, D.C., and Indienne in Chicago. They represent three distinctive styles of Progressive Indian Cuisine, their chefs bringing their own unique touches to the table.

Semma's Vijay Kumar, who grew up in rural Madurai and has worked up the ranks, which included being a line cook on a

cruise ship, brings the flavours of his memory to the second-time Michelin star-winning restaurant, which gets its name from the colloquial equivalent of 'super' or 'fantastic' in Tamil.

Kumar, who was previously with Rasa, San Francisco, has partnered with Roni Mazumdar and Chintan Pandya. Their company is called Unapologetic Foods, which is an appropriate name for a food philosophy to work in the Big Apple, one of the most competitive dining out markets in the world.

To quote from the Guide: "This is authentic Indian cooking that doesn't pander to American expectations, and if some of the dishes are unfamiliar, lean on the staff who know their stuff and are eager to share. One bite in and you'll quickly learn that this



cooking is all heart."

In the U.S. capital, Washington, D.C., not far from the White House, local restaurateur Karan Singh tied up with Amit Burman and Rohit Aggarwal's Lite Bite Foods to open Punjab Grill, but as Aggarwal puts it, the place wasn't doing well and Covid hit it badly.

So, from a mid-market Punjab Grill, under the flowing salt-and-pepper-maned Chef Chetan Shetty (a long-time Indian Accent hand), the restaurant got a new name, Rania, a menu upgrade and a complete makeover with

Ayush Kasliwal shipping the grand ready-to-fit interiors from Jaipur to D.C. In the words of the Guide: "Dishes like shiso leaf chaat balance a playful spirit with elegant overtones, while ghee-roasted lamb folded inside a delicate lentil cheela has a spicy kick that is tempered with a buttermilk mousse. Finally, a slightly sweet strained yogurt mousse with a hint of pistachio and cardamom is the perfect finale."

Indienne in Chicago, located in a converted 19th-century printing press warehouse, may

be a newbie in the Windy City's dining scene, but the man behind it, Sujan Sarkar, is no stranger to presenting Indian food with French cuisine nouvelle finesse - an art he perfected during his stint at Rook, also in Chicago, an outlet of which he opened opposite the Qutub Minar in Mehrauli, New Delhi.

Guide says about Sarkar: "In a city where kitchens break moulds and defy expectations, Sujan Sarkar makes a splash of his own on this quiet strip of River North. A la carte is available, but first-timers should start with the tasting menu, where Sarkar delivers an original, modern vision of Indian cuisine. His food may look like pieces of art but taste like familiar favorites pulled from across his vibrant homeland."

NABARANGPUR SHAME

OHRC seeks report on schoolgirl gangrape

Headmaster and a junior teacher of state-run school arrested



Bhubaneswar, Nov 10: Expressing concern over the alleged gangrape of a Class VI student by her teachers at a state-run high school in Nabarangpur district Tuesday, the Odisha Human Rights Commission (OHRC) Friday asked the District Magistrate (DM), Superintendent of Police (SP) and Chief District Medical Officer (CDMO)-cum-Public Health Officer (PHO) to file reports in connection with the incident within four weeks.

The rights panel asked the authorities to shift the victim to a higher set-up, if needed, and said that the govt will have to bear the cost of the entire treatment

PHO to take appropriate steps and ensure proper treatment of the victim. "If there is any need to send her (victim) to any higher set-up, the same shall be done at the cost of the government and the cost of the entire treatment shall

be borne by the government," the OHRC said. Quoting the police complaint, the petitioner informed the commission that the 13-year-old girl was in a state of shock ever since the headmaster and a junior teacher of her school allegedly took turns to force themselves on her on the school premises in Raigarh block under Kundei police limits in the tribal-dominated district November 7. The minor girl developed severe pain following which she narrated her ordeal before her parents who subsequently rushed her to the nearby community health centre (CHC) and also lodged a complaint with the police Thursday. The doctors at the CHC who claimed that the girl might have been sexually assaulted later referred her to the district headquarters hospital (DHH). Soon after the complaint, Kundei police registered a case (106/23) under multiple Sections of the Indian Penal Code and 6 of the Protection of Children from Sexual Offences (POCSO) Act before picking up the headmaster as well as the junior teacher for questioning Thursday night. The headmaster and the junior teacher were arrested Friday.



MILLETS IN MIND: Mission Shakti commissioner-cum-secretary Sujata R Karthikeyan addresses the gathering in presence of Women and Child Development and Mission Shakti Minister Basanti Hembram on the concluding day of the International Convention on Millets at Janata Maidan in Bhubaneswar, Friday

Int'l Science Centre & Science Museum Day

Bhubaneswar: The Regional Science Centre (RSC) here celebrated the International Science Centre and Science Museum Day Friday. The annual global event illustrating the impact and reach of the world's science centres and science museums was attended by nearly 100 students from different schools of Bhubaneswar. A science film show on 'Life and Works of Ramanujan' followed by an interactive science quiz and an open air science show were organised on the occasion. The participants were provided a guided tour of the centre. Education officer of RSC, Bhubaneswar Rabintra Nath Marandi also encouraged the students. The centre here is a unit of National Council of Science Museums (NCSM) and is the first regional level science centre in Odisha.

Munico Foods bags first prize

Bhubaneswar, Nov 10: Startup Odisha, which had started 'Millet Odisha Innovation Challenge' to recognise startups operating within the millet industry, Friday announced the winners of the innovation on the sidelines of 'International Convention on Millets' being organised here. Altogether 41 startups had participated in the challenge and after careful evaluation 10 had pitched their ideas. Out of these, Munico Foods that works closely with local farmers, providing them with training on processing & value addition secured the first position receiving a prize money

of ₹3 lakh. Munico Foods also provides handholding support to farmers on millet-based products like ragi papad, multi-millet-based Chhatua, millet-based energy bars, millet-based health drinks and meal replacement mixes. Similarly, AKM Technology (Grozip), a startup that works on post-harvest and value addition through market linkages, secured the second position with a prize money of ₹2 lakh. Likewise, Choccolaka, a startup that focuses on healthy and tasty

millet chocolates without using any artificial colour, secured the third position with a prize money of ₹1 lakh. Executive chairman of Startup Odisha Omkar Rai said, "We've seen impressive growth in millet cultivation in Odisha, reflecting the state's strong commitment. Odisha's startup ecosystem also has actively engaged in the millet industry and currently has about 68 startups working within this sector. These startups are not only contributing to the growth of millets but are also playing a vital role in supporting and adding value to our farmers and their livelihood needs, branding as well as driving product development."

Odisha, a destination of future: Naveen

Bhubaneswar, Nov 10: Odisha has emerged as a 'destination of the future' attracting investments of larger scale with a growing talent pool and ambitions, said Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik here Friday while inaugurating the new centre of Synopsis, a world leader in chip design and semiconductor manufacturing. The Bhubaneswar Centre of Synopsis will be its first design and R&D unit in Eastern India where more than 300 highly skilled very large scale integration and semiconductor design engineers will be employed. "The government has taken a range of bold and pioneering initiatives to lay strong foundation for a future where the state will emerge as a key player in the semiconductor landscape," said Patnaik, adding, "Synopsis, Bhubaneswar shall steadfast state's commitment for fostering innovation and economic growth, creating job opportunities as well as helping in realization of the state's vision and capability to transform into an ideal semiconductor hub."

Cong sees protocol breach in Governor meeting CM

Bhubaneswar, Nov 10: Opposition Congress Friday accused Governor Raghubar Das of breaching protocol by visiting Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik's residence and meeting him without having any justified reasons. The allegation was levelled by former minister and senior Congress leader Panchanan Kanungo here a day after the newly-appointed Governor met Patnaik at Naveen Niwas, the official residence of the Chief Minister. "The Governor has violated protocol by meeting the Chief Minister at his house. After meeting the Prime Minister in New Delhi, the Governor returned to Odisha and went to the Chief Minister's residence. A Governor should not pay visit to a Chief Minister unless there is urgency like CM's health issues," Kanungo, who is also chairman of Odisha Pradesh Congress Committee's (OPCC) manifesto committee, told reporters here. Seeking a reply from Raj



Bhavan, the Congress leader wanted to know as to what business the Governor had had at Naveen Niwas. "Whether he went to the CM's residence to deliver any urgent message from the Prime Minister or the Chief Minister is very sick or to give a Diwali gift? The Raj Bhavan or his Secretariat need to clarify," Kanungo said. Governor Odisha, the official X handle of Das, wrote, "Hon'ble Governor Shri @dasraghubarJi. Discussed on various topics concerning Odisha and looking forward to working with him for the welfare of the state and its people." Reacting to the statement of the Congress leader, BJP chief in the Assembly, Mohan Majhi, said the Congress is playing politics by making such a statement. "As the Governor has paid a courtesy call, there should not be much talk on this. The Congress is playing politics," Majhi said. Senior BJD leader and minister Atanu Sabyasachi Nayak said, "Where is the problem in greeting the head of the state on Diwali?"

Patnaik also wrote on X, "Glad to meet Hon'ble Governor of #Odisha, Shri @dasraghubarJi. Discussed on various topics concerning Odisha and looking forward to working with him for the welfare of the state and its people." Reacting to the statement of the Congress leader, BJP chief in the Assembly, Mohan Majhi, said the Congress is playing politics by making such a statement. "As the Governor has paid a courtesy call, there should not be much talk on this. The Congress is playing politics," Majhi said. Senior BJD leader and minister Atanu Sabyasachi Nayak said, "Where is the problem in greeting the head of the state on Diwali?"

POLAVARAM DISPUTE Centre files status report in SC

New Delhi, Nov 10: The Union Ministry of Water Resources has recently filed a status report in the Supreme Court apprising the apex court about the steps taken by it for resolution of Polavaram dispute among Odisha, Andhra Pradesh, Telangana and Chhattisgarh. The ministry has sought directions from the Supreme Court to resolve the dispute, official sources said. Earlier, the Centre had requested the apex court to allow it three months' time to file a status report with respect to the meetings convened by it to resolve the dispute related to Polavaram project through talks. Significantly, the Supreme Court had asked the Union gov-

ernment to play a pioneering role to resolve the dispute and if required convene a meeting of Chief Ministers. Three suits each by Odisha, Chhattisgarh and Telangana have been filed against the Polavaram project in the apex court raising environmental concerns. In 2018, Odisha had also filed an interim application against the Centre for keeping the "stop work order" dated February 2011 in abeyance year-on-year and seeking directions that the project be stopped until a fresh environment impact assessment (EIA) is carried out, including public hearing as mandated by various EIA notifications. Meanwhile, Andhra Pradesh has decided to commission Polavaram irrigation project in 2025.

MLA DEMANDS FOB AT PALASUNI
ARINDAM GANGULY, OP
Bhubaneswar, Nov 10: In view of frequent mishaps at Palasuni Square here that have claimed several lives of pedestrians crossing NH-16, Bhubaneswar-North MLA Susant Kumar Rout Friday wrote a letter to the regional office of National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) demanding construction of a foot overbridge (FOB) at the mishap-prone spot. In the letter, Rout said, "I wish to bring to your attention the critical situation at Palasuni Square. This bustling square lacks essential pedestrian infrastructure such as an overbridge or underground passage to facilitate safe crossing of NH 16 from one side to the other." He said, "Palasuni Square serves as a central hub for state-run buses and passenger vehicles, which frequently lift passengers from there. The square hosts the Palasuni vegetable market twice a week, attracting a considerable influx of people. Lack of alternative pedestrian routes has intensified the need for a foot overbridge in this area." Rout requested the NHAI to take necessary steps in this regard.



FOR WEALTH & PROSPERITY: People purchase gold on the occasion of Dhanteras at a jewellery shop in Cuttack, Friday

Monitor services under BSKY: Pandit

Bhubaneswar, Nov 10: Health and Family Welfare secretary Shalini Pandit directed officials of the State Health Assurance Society (SHAS) Friday to monitor services and facilities available to patients at the private hospitals empanelled under the Biju Swasthya Kalyan Yojana (BSKY). Altogether 765 super-speciality private hospitals have partnered with the government to deliver clinical services under BSKY, a scheme that aims to make healthcare accessible for all, said Pandit after a review Friday. Looking into the progress made in extension of cashless treatment to people at private hospitals inside and outside the state, Pandit directed the nodal officers to scrutinize on a daily basis claims raised at these hospitals against the treatment provided



for payment clearance within scheduled time. The review showed that 155 super speciality hospitals from 16 states—Andhra Pradesh, Assam, Telangana, Karnataka, Delhi, Gujarat, Maharashtra, West Bengal, Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand, Punjab, Haryana, Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu, Uttar Pradesh, Uttarakhand—have partnered with the state for implementation of BSKY. Similarly, 610 hospitals from different dis-

tricts of the state have now been included in the scheme. Major empanelled hospitals in other states include the Christian Medical College, Vellore; Sri Shankara cancer foundation, Bangalore; Tata medical centre, Kolkata; Homi Bhabha (HB) cancer hospital, Vizag and Sangur; Bhubaneswar Borooh cancer Institute (BBCI), Guwahati; HB cancer hospital, Varanasi; Mahamana Pandit Madan Mohan Malaviya cancer

centre, Varanasi; Advanced centre for treatment, research and education in cancer, Mumbai; and Tata Memorial, Mumbai. "At district level, 54 coordinators are visiting the empanelled hospitals regularly to keep watch over patient-centric services. At the hospital level, 773 Swasthya Mitras are engaged to provide necessary assistance to patients. Some 140 doctors are looking into treatment provided to patients on daily basis and scrutinizing the claims raised by private hospitals," informed a department official.

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Another tusker electrocuted

BASTA ASSEMBLY SEGMENT

PORT IN FOCUS AS PARLEYS ON FOR TICKETS



POST NEWS NETWORK

Balasure, Nov 10: With the 2024 elections drawing near, hectic parleys have begun in various political parties for the nomination of candidates to Basta Assembly segment situated on the coast of Bay of Bengal in Balasure district. Aspirants in various political parties have started knocking the doors of their leaders to get the party tickets for the Assembly segment. Several hopefuls from the ruling Biju Janata Dal (BJD) are vying for ticket from this seat which has remained a non-Congress stronghold for the last 35 years. However, amidst the hullabaloo, all eyes are on the Subarnarekha port which is under construction at Choumukh panchayat under Baliapal block of the Assembly segment. The

POST NEWS NETWORK

port is being built at a brisk pace after the Centre and the state government gave their approvals. In view of the possibility that a township may come up after the construction of the port, leaders of various political parties have started exercising their influence in the Assembly segment. Basta Assembly constituency, comprising 45 panchayats of Basta and adjoining Baliapal blocks, has remained a non-Congress bastion for the last 35 years. The erstwhile Janata Dal was the first to win from this constituency, which later went to the kitty of the ruling BJD. Former minister Raghunath Mohanty was elected for five times from this segment while Nityananda Sahu won twice by defeating their nearest Congress rivals each time. Chatters are abuzz that the incumbent MLA Nityananda

of entrepreneur Rabinranath Andia is also doing the rounds. He has been with the ruling party for long and helped build the party organisation from the grassroots level. He has stood with people during natural calamities and extended them all help.

Subasini Jena, wife of former Balasure MP Rabinra Jena and the state executive committee president of Biju Mahila Janata Dal (BMJD), has also thrown her weight for the party ticket. She is aspiring for the ticket by claiming herself as the daughter of Baliapal and daughter-in-law of Basta block.

Senior party leaders Mahadev Das and Lakshmidhar Das are also vying for the ticket on the basis of their successful performance while working in various posts of the party for long years. Notably, former MLA Raghunath Mohanty, a senior politician and experienced leader, has remained silent all along these years. He joined Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) after he was sacked from the ruling party before the 2014 elections. He contested on a BJP ticket in 2019 polls and lost the seat to ruling BJD. Thereafter, he has been absent in BJP programmes or meetings in an apparent sign that he has distanced himself from the saffron party. Speculations are also rife that he may make a comeback to BJD and get the party candidate. The opposition party Congress has also taken up various programmes in the constituency with an eye on the elections. Congress leader and Balasure MP candidate Navajyoti Patnaik is frequently visiting the constituency and attending various programmes in his effort to strengthen the party unit with the help of Basta's MLA candidate from Congress Bijan Nayak. The party workers, having united under the leadership of Bijan Nayak, are working to strengthen the party organisation. Congress leaders are trying to connect with the people by organising protests, strikes and meetings on a plethora of issues such as communication facilities, healthcare services, electrification, drinking water facilities, and farmers' problem. Bijan is the only face in the crowd being seen as the Congress candidate. Similarly, the saffron party is yet to make it clear whether it will field Raghunath or a new face as its Basta candidate in the elections. However, BJP leader Rabinra Jain is the leading aspirant for the saffron ticket.

Sahu may not get the party ticket this time owing to old age and related health complications. As a result, the BJD state leadership is looking for a successor in this constituency. Sources said Nityananda has launched all-out preparations to get the party ticket for his son Anjan and field him from this constituency. On the other hand, the name



Possibility that a township may come up after the construction of the Subarnarekha port has excited the leaders of various political parties to exercise their influence in the constituency



SPORTS FOR YOUTH: A basketball match underway as 'Vrididhi 2023', the three-day annual sports festival of NIT, Rourkela, commenced Friday. Around 700 students from 11 colleges of Odisha and Jharkhand are participating in this event organised by the Games and Sports Society under the Student Activity Centre, NIT Rourkela

Man awarded life term for murder

POST NEWS NETWORK

Berhampur, Nov 10: Berhampur Additional District and Sessions Court Judge Indu Sharma sentenced Lokanath Pradhan, 52, to life imprisonment after convicting him for murder of R Sunil Reddy, February 6, 2016. The judge also slapped a fine of ₹16,000 on the convict. Failure to pay the fine will lead to an additional 14 months in prison for the convict. According to the case diary, Lokanath, a resident of Kurundi village under Town police limits in Angul district. He along with one of his accomplice met R Sunil Reddy of Digapahandi area, owner-cum-driver of a pick-up van, on the pretext of shifting household things. The rent for the trip was finalised at ₹2,400. Later, Sunil started his journey along with the duo at the same night. However, Loknath along with his accomplice killed Sunil on the

way and decamped with the vehicle to Jajpur.

There the accused sold the vehicle for ₹20,000. When Sunil did not return home that night, his family members tried to contact him in vain. Ganjam police recovered a body near Nuagaon bridge February 7, 2016 and registered a case of unnatural death. Informed, family members of Sunil reached the spot, identified the body and lodged a complaint at Digapahandi PS. The post-mortem report revealed that Sunil had been murdered and a murder case was subsequently registered. Acting on the complaint, Digapahandi police arrested Lokanath from Angul and during interrogation he confessed to his crime. During the trial, Lokanath was lodged in the Berhampur Circle Jail. The judge pronounced the verdict after hearing 18 witnesses and going through the chargesheet.

12-hr Kandhamal bandh over rly stn demand

POST NEWS NETWORK

Phulbani, Nov 10: A dawn-to-dusk bandh in Kandhamal district demanding a railway station in Phulbani town affected normal life Friday. Denizens of the district and various local outfits unanimously supported the bandh call. Vehicles remained off the roads while educational, business and commercial establishments were closed following the bandh call given by Kandhamal Vikash Parishad (KVP) and supported by the District Railway Action Committee. However, commuters suffered a lot as there was no vehicular movement on the roads and all



the shops and hotels were also closed due to bandh. Even the Collectorate was also defunct due to the effect of the bandh. The agitators alleged that Phulbani was delinked in the revised detailed project report (DPR)

of the 241-km railway line between Gopalpur in Ganjam district and Rairakhole in Sambalpur proposed by East Coast Railways (ECoR). In the initial DPR, however, there was a station in Phulbani town, the KVP claimed. However, during the final leg of survey, Odisha Rail Infrastructure Development Ltd (ORIDL), which is under the state government, changed the DPR, the KVP claimed. Letters were issued to the state government as well as ORIDL in this regard. The bandh was called by KVP after no answer came from the higher ups. The bandh from 6am to 6pm was complete in Phulbani, G. Udayagiri, Tikabali, Chakapada, Balliguda, Raikia, Daringbadi, Kotagarh, Tumudibandha blocks. No untoward incident was reported from any part of the district, Kandhamal DSP Prabhat Kumar Sethi said.

Flower demand rockets in Rourkela

POST NEWS NETWORK

Rourkela, Nov 10: Flower merchants here are a happy lot as the flower business is buoyant this year with Steel City Rourkela and its adjoining areas bracing up for the festival of lights. Preparations are over to cash in on the high demand and the sales are likely to go beyond ₹2 crore in just two days. In view of the demand, some merchants had stored flowers in big cold storages in Kolkata and the goods arrived Friday evening. Others had kept their product in local cold storages in the industrial estate area here. Prakash Ray, a flower merchant here, said, "I had kept my flowers in Kolkata and the goods have arrived. It will be convenient for me to bring the flowers in the morning of Diwali as the flowers will remain fresh." Another merchant Manohar Samal said, "I procure flowers from Bangalore and Kolkata. The market is always very volatile. Only the quantity and price of procurement give you the actual price for the day." Adding to Samal, another seller Viki Kumar said, "Don't forget to add ₹6 per kg as storage charge." On a normal day, the city generally requires four trucks of flowers. However, to meet the demand during the festival, more than fifty truckloads of flowers will be put into the market, they said. The demand is met by importing flowers from Bangalore and Kolkata apart from what is produced locally. "The tribals have become aware of the demand during this season and they are also producing marigolds in good quantity," said Samal. "This year, marigold garlands' prices will definitely go up during these two days. We can smell that looking at the query from the retailers," said Bijaya Samant, another merchant. Meanwhile, special arrangements have been made like every year, for the fire cracker sales. Shops have been erected in open grounds, at Melana Padia and other areas like at Plant Site and Power House Road. "This is being done as per the order of the administration," said K Ramesh Rao, a cracker seller. This arrangement is being made because of the fire tragedy that struck Rajgangpur a couple of years back. "We have asked for stationing a fire tender at every selling point," said another seller.

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FOCUS SUSTAINABILITY

CLEAN ENERGY SOLUTIONS



Rules that promote the use of cutting-edge technologies can foster innovation, enhance competitiveness, and help countries position themselves as climate leaders, benefiting their people and the planet

BEE to launch its star labeling programme rapidly. The agency then collaborated with another NGO, The Energy and Resources Institute (TERI), to develop an efficiency programme tailored for small businesses. By facilitating cooperation with business leaders, TERI played a pivotal role in creating robust and cost-effective efficiency rules.

Since its launch, India's appliance-labeling programme has offset 400 million tonnes of GHG emissions—roughly equivalent to the annual emissions from India's transportation sector—and is projected to account for 30% of the country's emissions reduction by 2030. In addition, India has established itself as a leading manufacturer of energy-efficient air conditioners, owing to the growing demand for sustainable cooling solutions amid rising global temperatures. With efficiency programmes cutting corporate emissions by 105 million tonnes annually, Indian industry now ranks among the world's most energy-efficient.

Although such activities rarely attract significant attention, unbiased research provides regulators with the data they need to devise transparent and effective environmental policies. Technical assistance from independent NGOs can lay the groundwork for the policy successes needed to overcome the climate crisis.

As developing and developed economies enhance their state capacities, they will grow more confident in setting ambitious targets, creating a virtuous cycle. Given the right support, we can ensure that the world's next climate-action report card features grades that make future generations proud.

Christopher Grundler is Senior Adviser to the Crux Alliance, while Ajay Mathur is Director General of the International Solar Alliance.

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The Paris climate agreement, concluded in 2015, has been instrumental in rallying countries around the world to commit to reducing greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions. But setting ambitious climate targets has not always resulted in meaningful action. The United Nations' recent "global stock take" report shows that we are falling short of the drastic cuts needed to achieve climate stability, underscoring the urgent need for governments to act swiftly and decisively to keep global warming within safe limits.

As former regulators, we are confident that developing effective solutions is still feasible. While four economic sectors—industry, transportation, electricity, and buildings—account for 75% of global GHG emissions, well-designed public policies could effectively reduce pollution from these sectors, promote consumer savings, safeguard public health, and stimulate sustainable economic growth.

But crafting effective policies to transform our fossil-fuel-based economies in time to avert climate catastrophe and meet humanity's energy needs is a daunting task. Tackling it head-on requires a combination of technical, economic, and political expertise, along with significant financial resources and labour, but the agencies charged with devising and implementing these critical policies are understaffed and underfunded. Too often, regulators have no choice but to rely on the information provided to them by the very industries they are charged with overseeing. This dynamic can result in weak regulation and missed policy objectives.

Crucially, independent NGOs can diminish this power imbalance by providing policymakers with the information and technical know-how they need to design robust regulations that reduce harmful emissions effectively.

The US Environmental Protection Agency's efforts to reduce truck pollution are a case in point. In 2016, when the EPA was drafting rules to limit GHG emissions from heavy-duty vehicles, like commercial trucks, various industry bodies provided policymakers with contradictory data. The International Council on Clean Transportation (ICCT), an independent think tank, undertook its own comprehensive study, which included detailed cost projections for the proposed regulations.

The ICCT's impartial analysis provided the EPA with data demonstrating the cost-effectiveness of a stringent pollution standard. Consequently, these regulations are expected to result in emission cuts equivalent to 294 coal plants, save truck owners \$170 billion in fuel costs, and prevent up to \$209 billion in damages over the next 30 years, positioning the United States as a world leader in truck efficiency.

Since then, the ICCT has assisted several governments in crafting regulations to improve commercial-truck efficiency. Using the organization's research, the European Commission drafted its first-ever rule targeting pollution

from commercial trucks, which is projected to reduce truck emissions by 150 million tonnes by 2035.

Specialized NGOs can also assist emerging economies, particularly those with fewer resources, in kickstarting transformative climate programmes. By facilitating the rapid adoption of clean-energy solutions, such organizations can increase access to affordable, pollution-free electricity. Moreover, rules that promote the use of cutting-edge technologies can foster innovation, enhance competitiveness, and help countries position themselves as climate leaders, benefiting their people and the planet.

In 2006, for example, India launched a nationwide appliance-efficiency programme. Through a dedicated division of the Bureau of Energy Efficiency (BEE), officials collaborated with NGOs such as CLASP (formerly known as the Collaborative Labeling and Appliance Standards Programme) to adapt key features from successful efficiency-labeling programmes to the Indian market. CLASP's in-depth analysis also helped the BEE identify which appliances it should focus on.

These insights enabled the



By Christopher Grundler and Ajay Mathur

GIVEN THE RIGHT SUPPORT, WE CAN ENSURE THAT THE WORLD'S NEXT CLIMATE-ACTION REPORT CARD FEATURES GRADES THAT MAKE FUTURE GENERATIONS PROUD

SPECTRUM DEVELOPMENT

Constraints need attention

It is understood that the Vision@2047 document, likely to be released by the government by year-end, will outline the structural changes and reforms needed to reach the objective of becoming a \$30 trillion developed economy by that year, Niti Aayog CEO, BVR Subrahmanyam, stated recently. The talk of India emerging big has been in the air for the last five-six years or perhaps more, but the specific target of reaching \$30 trillion has gained momentum, especially after the pandemic.

Reports indicate that India's nominal GDP will rise from \$3.4 trillion in 2022 to \$7.3 trillion by 2030. Going by the preliminary figures of the Niti Aayog, estimates show that India will need to post an annual average economic growth of around 9 per cent between 2030 and 2047. Meanwhile, consultations with top corporates are slated to take place this month as also with secretaries of the government so that the document could be finalised by December end.

The question that strikes our mind is what would be the contribution of say the lower 40 per cent of the population in the phenomenal growth of the

GDP that is being contemplated?

It is not known what the planners and economists, who advise the government, are thinking about the bottom tiers of the population. What plans are being contemplated by the government to increase their earnings?

Meanwhile, it may be pertinent to point out here that the savings growth rate in the country declined to a 47-year low, and indiscriminate personal loans given by banks have left the industry starved of funds. This was reflected in the September bulletin of the Reserve Bank of India, which showed a "23 percent spike in gold loans and a 29 percent spike in personal loans". In this connection, it is also pertinent to refer to the fact that the financial liabilities have risen from 4.1 percent to 5.8 percent.

As a consequence, the net financial assets of households in 2022-23 were 5.1 percent of GDP, considerably lower than the historical average of 7.5 percent. These are quotes reflective of the inability of people to save as their earnings have not kept pace with market trends while borrowings have increased, not just from banks but also from private money

lending organisations, which have increased in recent years.

Another aspect of the economic scenario is a recent report indicating that unemployment in the country crossed 10 per cent in October, as per figures released by the Centre for Monitoring Indian Economy (CMIE). In such a scenario, with the present supplementary grant of ₹28,000 crore, the allocation for the NREGA programmes is the lowest in the last four years.

The problems facing the country as also the external scenario are not at all congenial to high growth. Though entrepreneurship has grown, this is mainly concentrated in cities.

The potential of agriculture has not been explored fully and though value addition has taken place, to some extent, this could have increased several times more.

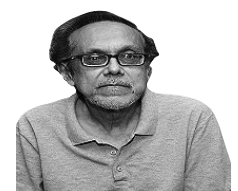
The labour-intensive sectors have not been given the push and subsidies are not forthcoming. There is no government plan to identify these sectors and promote India's handloom and handicrafts in a big way globally. It is only the big businesses, the big agricultural farmers, and the organised sector employees who have benefited from the policies

of the present government during the last few years.

The policy focus in the coming years has rightly been on physical infrastructure development, but the same priority must be given to social infrastructure, i.e., the education and health sectors. Each sub-division should have at least two higher secondary schools and one or two colleges, while at the block and sub-divisional levels, health centres should be upgraded. In the process of making these a reality, the panchayats have to be given more responsibility, and the 16th Finance Commission, which is to be set up shortly, should, if possible, make provisions for the states to allocate Central funds directly to the municipalities and panchayat bodies.

These must be incorporated in the vision document as without a grass-roots approach, India cannot prosper. Only by measuring the per cent growth of GDP, without taking into account the growth in income of the rural populace, no inclusive development can take place. The needs and aspirations of the masses must be given a serious thought and prioritised.

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Dhurjati Mukherjee

IT IS NOT KNOWN WHAT THE PLANNERS AND ECONOMISTS, WHO ADVISE THE GOVERNMENT, ARE THINKING ABOUT THE BOTTOM TIERS OF THE POPULATION



In concentration and silence we must gather strength for the right action

THE MOTHER



Puzzling U-turn

In a startling reversal, the Modi sarkar has disavowed its own 360-degree appraisal system for senior civil servants, specifically for those at the level of joint secretary and above. This abrupt change in stance, now asserting that "no such system exists in the Government of India", raises some troubling questions about the Modi sarkar's accountability and its commitment to a transparent and merit-based selection process.

At the time it was introduced in 2015, the government had gone to great lengths to extol the virtues of the 360-degree appraisal system. It stated that the new system was a comprehensive response to the shortcomings of the previous process, which fell short of capturing the "essential" qualities of integrity and capability during the evaluation. In fact, the Delhi High Court upheld the new system in 2017, underscoring its legitimacy.

So, why this volte-face? The government's new-found denial of the system is a puzzling and concerning development and will be seen as signifying a lack of consistency and a willingness to change fundamental procedures without clear rationale. Why would the Department of Personnel and Training (DoPT) file such an affidavit before the Central Administrative Tribunal (CAT) circuit bench?

Sources have informed DKB that this was done in response to a petition filed by Indian Forest Service (IFS) officer Sanjiv Chaturvedi of the Uttarakhnad cadre who approached the tribunal claiming that he was not being empanelled as a joint secretary at the Union level. To junk an entire system to snub an individual officer, even if he has been a bugbear for the government due to his whistleblower image, definitely sounds like overkill!

UPSC overhauls DGP appointment criteria

The Union Public Service Commission (UPSC) has updated its guidelines for the selection of state director-general of police (DGPs). According to these amendments issued last month, only police officers with at least six months left before retirement will be eligible for consideration for the position. Moreover, IPS officers on Central deputation will not be assessed for a state DGP's role if the Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) informs the state government that they cannot be relieved.

These changes were made to clarify existing unwritten norms and discourage states from appointing DGPs on the brink of retirement or using acting DGPs to bypass the UPSC process and extend their tenure, as some states, including BJP-ruled states, have done. Sources say that states such as Uttar Pradesh, Punjab, Andhra Pradesh and Telangana have all appointed "in-charge" DGPs or DGPs with "full additional charge". For instance, Uttar Pradesh has not had a full-time DGP since 2022.

Notably, former Punjab DGP V.K. Bhawra has gone to court against the appointment of Gaurav Yadav as acting DGP by the Aam Aadmi Party government of Bhagwant Mann. Bhawra's transfer in the middle of his term, despite UPSC rules stipulating a fixed two-year tenure for a state DGP, prompted this challenge. Earlier this year in June, Punjab passed legislation to independently appoint the state DGP. However, the Punjab Police (Amendment) Bill, 2023, is still pending the Governor's assent to become law.

Interestingly, in 2021, the Centre had proposed to amend the IAS cadre rules to depute IAS, IPS and IFS officers to the Centre without necessarily taking the state government's nod. At the time there were massive protests from the states, and the proposal was shelved. Wonder how the states will take to these new guidelines.



BABUDOM BYTES

Dilip Cherian

Railways' shake-up raises eyebrows

The upper echelons of the Railways underwent a transformative rearrangement. Ten senior railway officers from the Indian Railway Management Service (IRMS) have been cleared for appointment as General Manager.

What's particularly intriguing is the reshuffling of two general managers, who held pivotal positions, into relatively low-key roles. This unexpected development has set tongues wagging within the close-knit railway circles. Rumours suggest that the roots of these decisions may perhaps be traced back to certain significant developments last month.

In a noteworthy departure from the established guidelines, S.K. Jha, previously the general manager of Northeast Frontier Railways' Construction division, was laterally appointed as the Director General of the Indian Railway Institute of Civil Engineering in Pune, displacing Ram Karan Yadav, who assumed Jha's role. A similar deviation from the norm occurred as C.V. Raman, the general manager of North Eastern Railway, was transferred to the Office of the Secretary to the Divisional Personnel Officer (Railway Stores), Railway Board. This move involved a temporary upgrade of the Level 15 post to Level 16, set to last until September 30, 2025.

Sources who are close to the situation have informed DKB that the decisions might be influenced by feedback from investigative agencies and undisclosed information. These undercurrents have, therefore, cast an enigmatic veil over the possible motives behind these lateral shifts.

Share a babu experience! Follow dilipthecherian@twitter.com. Let's multiply the effect

WISDOM CORNER

My success will not depend on what A or B thinks of me. My success will be what I make of my work.

HOMI J. BHABHA

Two things are infinite: the universe and human stupidity; and I'm not sure about the universe.

ALBERT EINSTEIN

Quiet people have the loudest minds.

STEPHEN HAWKING

THIS DAY IN HISTORY

1872: American actress Maude Adams—who was best known for her portrayals of James Barrie's heroines and who also played Joan of Arc, as well as the Shakespearean roles of Juliet, Viola, and Rosalind—was born.

1918: At 5:00 am on this day in 1918, the Allied powers and Germany signed an armistice document in the railway carriage of Ferdinand Foch, the commander of the Allied armies, and six hours later World War I came to an end.

1921: Armistice Day, the anniversary of the end of World War I, was marked with the burial of unknown soldiers in tombs in Paris and London, and a similar ceremony was held at Arlington National Cemetery, Virginia, in 1921.

1966: Gemini 12, the last spacecraft in the Gemini series and the first to make an automatically controlled reentry into Earth's atmosphere, was launched.

Life isn't hopeless

Sir, People who commit suicide lack discernment, fearing that they have hit a dead end and that there is no other alternative before them. But we should understand that human life is a gift of God; we have no right to end it midway. Almighty God wants us to live life in abundance, and to his glory. We ought to strengthen our mental outlook by inculcating a sense of positivity, which helps in dealing with the challenges life throws at us. Suicide is not a solution to challenges and problems. Those suffering from suicidal tendencies should be open to their near and dear ones and seek counsel from doctors. Love, care, attention, and God's grace can help a person fight off suicidal thoughts. Of late, we have come across many suicides in college hostels due to failures and the more recent quota suicides, which rock the nation very much. This is like Mandal Committee recommendations in 1979, which saw nearly 200 students commit self-immolations. Anxiety and depression are the root causes of most of the suicides in India. So one should adapt to lifestyle changes such as spending time with supportive friends and family, regular exercise, getting enough sleep, maintaining a healthy diet, and cutting down on alcohol and other drugs that can help one overcome other mental health conditions also.

CK Subramaniam, NAVI MUMBAI

Stop bursting crackers

Sir, The festival of Diwali, which is being celebrated tomorrow, is incomplete without bursting firecrackers. But, as we all know, the firecrackers pose grave health hazards. When lighted, the combination of chemicals from firecrackers generates poisonous oxides. Exposure to chemicals is a threat even while storing or carrying firecrackers. Also, the noise of firecrackers, well beyond the threshold of human tolerance, traumatises the young, old, sick, and pets alike. One can no longer buy the argument that children cherish firecrackers, as the current younger generation has greater awareness of the serious hazards the crackers pose. Bursting firecrackers is certainly not advisable, given the significant relationship between air pollution and respiratory infections. The fireworks that light up the night sky during Diwali may be a feast to our eyes, but they poison the environment and the ecosystem. Therefore, it is time we stopped bursting crackers and observed Green Diwali as per the recent order of the Supreme Court.

Ranganathan Sivakumar, CHENNAI

Letters

TO THE EDITOR

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

OrissaPOST
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Maha to get anti-narcotics task force to combat drug menace

The police is taking the "up and down" approach to drug enforcement, under which the probe concentrates on the suppliers as well as at the end of the peddling chain

Mumbai, Nov 10: Asserting that Maharashtra police has a "zero tolerance" policy towards drugs, top officials Thursday said the state will soon have an Anti Narcotics Task Force (ANTF) headed by an Inspector-General rank officer to curb the menace.

ence, Maharashtra Anti Terrorism Squad chief Sadanand Date and Additional Director General of Police (ADG) Sanjay Saxena pointed out that drug possession cases had gone up from 1,823 in 2022 to 2,491 till October this year. The figure till October last year was 1,530.

2023 so far was 3,277. Consumption cases stood at 11,824 in 2022 and was 10,536 till October this year. The corresponding figure till October last year was 9,530, the officials said.



police in Mumbai busted a major drug manufacturing racket, resulting in seizure of 151 kilograms of mephedrone worth Rs 300 crore and arrest of 16 persons.

Last month, police from Mira-Bhayander in neighbouring Thane district seized 18.453 kilograms of mephedrone worth Rs 36.90 crore.

71 grams of charas were allegedly found in his possession. This year, till October, a total of 5,224 kilograms of ganja has been disposed of along with 173 kilograms of mephedrone and 2 kilograms of heroin, the officials informed at the press conference.

STUDENTS SET UP A LIBRARY OF TREES



Latur, Nov 10: A "library" of around 100 indigenous and rare trees has been set up at a college in Maharashtra's Latur city with an aim to encourage students to know more about these plants and preserve them, officials said.

Under the initiative, medicinal as well as some of the popular trees, including bibwa, ghatbor, bahava, bamboo, mango and peepal, have been planted by students on the campus of the Rajarshi Shahu College, they said. Latur Collector Varsha Thakur-Ghughe inaugurated the tree 'library' Tuesday in the presence of the college principal, local administration officials, teachers and students.

'GREEN STATE' GOAL OF HIMACHAL

\$200 million project for power sector reforms



The state currently meets more than 80 per cent of its energy demands from hydropower

The World Bank's Himachal Pradesh Power Sector Development Programme will help the state enhance the utilisation of its existing RE resources, including hydropower, and help diversify its RE resources further

Himachal aims to become a 'Green State' by meeting 100 per cent of its energy needs through renewable and green energy by 2030

Shimla, Nov 10: The government of India, the Himachal Pradesh government and the World Bank have signed a deal for a \$200 million project that will facilitate power sector reforms in Himachal and increase the share of renewable energy (RE) in the state's electricity generation.

more than 80 per cent of its energy demands from hydropower. The World Bank's Himachal Pradesh Power Sector Development Programme will help the state enhance the utilisation of its existing RE resources, including hydropower, and help diversify its RE resources further.

where challenges in maintaining uninterrupted power supply are higher -- and restoration in case of a breakdown may take longer than elsewhere -- the programme will help achieve a strengthened transmission and distribution grid. It will introduce advanced technologies such as a demand response management system and seamless access to RE. This is critical during peak load periods when the state must otherwise rely on expensive fossil-fuel based power.



Smoke rises from a forest fire at Raison village area, in Manali district, Himachal Pradesh

Petty quarrels don't amount to cruelty: HC

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Mumbai, Nov 10: Petty quarrels do not amount to cruelty, the Bombay High Court said Thursday while quashing an FIR lodged against a senior citizen couple accused of harassing the estranged wife of their adopted son.



inals by the police during the investigation by freezing their bank accounts and FDs too. The court said such action was "manifestly arbitrary and against the mandate of law".

partial, the HC said. The court said the investigating officer does not have unfettered discretion to brand an innocent person as an accused, to file chargesheet and send him or her for trial.

1,000 tankers to spray water on Mumbai roads

INDO-ASIAN NEWS SERVICE

Mumbai, Nov 10: Concerned over the poor Air Quality Index (AQI) in Mumbai and other parts of the state, Maharashtra Chief Minister Eknath Shinde Thursday ordered 1,000 tankers to spray water on all city roads to curb dust pollution in the country's commercial capital, while considering the feasibility of artificial rain through cloud seeding.

HRTC amends freight charges for carrying goods

As per the notification, one passenger fare would be charged for each bag without a passenger while two pieces of luggage or 30 kg would be free with the passenger and after that luggage weighing over 15 kg would be charged one-fourth of the passenger ticket



Shimla, Nov 10: Himachal Road Transport Corporation (HRTC) recently amended the freight charges for carrying luggage, vegetables, fruits, flower boxes and other goods with and without passengers in HRTC buses.

Mukesh Agnihotri who also holds the portfolio of the transport department stated that there would be no increase in the bus fare but people using buses as a courier to transport luggage without travelling would be charged.

Wheelchairs and children's trolleys will be free with passengers and would be charged one-fourth ticket without them while children's bicycles would be charged half ticket with a passenger and a full ticket if transported as goods.

'TOURIST VILLAGE' TO BE ESTABLISHED IN KANGRA

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Shimla, Nov 10: A 'tourist village' will be established in Kangra to promote local art and culture and create employment opportunities for the youth, according to an official statement issued.

HP police traces 140 missing persons

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Shimla, Nov 10: As many as 140 missing persons, including 118 women and 22 children, were traced by the Himachal Pradesh Police during a special campaign in October, police said.



visit new places shown in social media posts and attraction towards online friends, broken family relations, drug addiction, study stress and failure in examinations, and tense family environment were among the reasons they leaving their homes.



ITBP personnel show their skills during the 62nd Foundation Day Parade ceremony in Dehradun



A Naval vessel during the 4th edition of bilateral exercise 'BONGOSAGAR' between Indian and Bangladesh Navy and the 5th edition of Coordinated Patrol (CORPAT) in the Bay of Bengal



Farm workers pluck marigold flowers from a field for selling them during festive season, at Digner village in Agra district



Hindustani Awami Morcha (Secular) members burn an effigy during a protest over Bihar CM Nitish Kumar's remarks on Jitan Ram Manjhi, in Patna



Firefighters attempt to douse a blaze that broke out at a garment godown in Howrah



Tourists at the ski resort of Gulmarg amid fresh snowfall, in Baramulla district of north Kashmir. The higher reaches of Kashmir Friday received fresh spell of snowfall, while the plains received rains



A member of United Forum of National Integrity participates in a rally in Kolkata to express his solidarity with Palestinians amid Israel-Hamas conflict

national

of the day quote

Prime Minister Narendra Modi has introduced the concept of vibrant villages to provide best facilities to people living in the border villages so that their population is not just sustained but also increased

AMIT SHAH | UNION HOME MINISTER

I urge all our MPs, 66 BJP MLAs and 19 JD(S) MLAs, who H D Kumaraswamy claims are in alliance with the BJP and are part of NDA -- let them do politics, we don't have objection -- but, if they have concern for the state, let them ensure that the state gets funds from the Centre, and also see to it that man-days under MNREGA is increased to 150

D K SHIVAKUMAR | KARNATAKA DEPUTY CM

The prime minister is welcome in Jharkhand... We have already sent all the papers (related to demands for a separate Sarna religious code for tribals) to him... Now, he has to take a decision on it

HEMANT SOREN | JHARKHAND CM

SHORT TAKES

Three arrested

New Delhi: The CBI Friday arrested three members of an interstate fake job syndicate that allegedly collected crores of rupees from aspirants over the last two years by promising them government jobs, officials said.

Raids conducted

Srinagar: The Jammu and Kashmir Police's State Investigation Agency Friday conducted raids in three districts in a terror-funding case involving laundering of Rs 85 crore through covert channels, officials said.

Kejriwal seeks probe report

New Delhi: Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal has sought a probe report from the vigilance minister on a complaint alleging Chief Secretary Naresh Kumar's son was employed by a relative of a landowner who received an enhanced compensation for land acquired for a road project, official sources said on Friday.



The Bharatiya Janata Party brought down the Kamal Nath government in Madhya Pradesh using money power

RAHUL GANDHI | CONGRESS LEADER

Won't issue direction on odd-even scheme: SC

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, Nov 10: The Supreme Court Friday made it clear that the decision on introducing the odd-even car rationing scheme in the national capital has to be taken by the city government and pulled it up for shifting the burden onto the court.

After the day's proceedings in the apex court, which is hearing a matter on the worsening air quality in the Delhi-National Capital Region, Environment Minister Gopal Rai said the Delhi government has postponed the implementation of the odd-even car rationing scheme as there has been a notable improvement in the air quality due to rain.

Addressing a press conference here, Rai said the government will review the air quality situation after Diwali and a call on the odd-even scheme may be taken if there's a sharp increase in pollution levels. The Delhi government had earlier announced it will implement the odd-even scheme a day after Diwali from November 13 to 20, when air pollution is likely to peak.

During the hearing in the top court on Friday, a bench headed by Justice Sanjay Kishan Kaul said the court had nothing to do with the odd-even scheme and it had never said that it should also apply to taxis entering Delhi from the adjoining states.



While hearing the matter on November 7, the apex court had questioned the effectiveness of the scheme following which the city's environment minister had said it will be implemented only after the top court has heard the matter on Friday and issued an order.

The top court is seized of a plea filed in 1985 by environmentalist M C Mehta on air pollution. Several issues concerning pollution have arisen during the hearing of the matter. On Friday, the apex court said it had flagged the odd-even issue at the last hearing after an advocate, assisting it as an amicus curiae, said the odd-even plan does not actually help reduce air pollution.

The counsel representing the Delhi government said taxis from adjoining states were required to be allowed into Delhi as commuting will become a major problem otherwise. Lakhs of people working in Delhi live in cities like Noida and

Gurugram in Uttar Pradesh and Haryana.

"I am agreeing with you. We never said that. Don't try to non-perform and shift the burden onto the court. This is what is happening," Justice Kaul observed. "All we flagged was an issue that the amicus was saying that really this odd-even does not help. It has not proved to help. But you say now, we will implement odd-even and also implement odd-even on taxis. Did we ask you to implement odd-even on taxis? We did not ask you to implement it," the bench said.

The counsel argued that the odd-even plan may not have very large mitigating effect on pollution, but even if it has a small impact, it will count.

The lawyer said one of the major causes of pollution, as observed in studies, was traffic congestion on roads and odd-even helps decongest them. "What you have to do, you have to do. We are not here to tell you what to do," the bench told the lawyer.

Vijayendra appointed Karnataka BJP chief

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, Nov 10: The BJP Friday appointed Vijayendra Yediyurappa, the son of former Karnataka chief minister B S Yediyurappa, its state unit president, a decision that underscores the party leadership's acknowledgement of the veteran Lingayat leader's enduring influence on its fortunes despite its avowed stand against promoting family politics.

Vijayendra, a first-time MLA, is seen as a deft organisational leader and has impressed the party leadership with his abilities in various roles assigned to him, party sources said. He replaces Nalinkumar Kateel, who belongs to an OBC caste.

The appointment of the 47-year-old leader, seen as the political heir to Yediyurappa, ends months of speculation as a change of guard in the state was widely expected since the BJP suffered a big defeat to the Congress in the assembly polls held in May this year. Though it was always a strong probability that the BJP will pick a Lingayat leader but its choice of Vijayendra ignoring the dynastic plank, something it has used to target rivals, is as much an acknowledgement to his potential as to the political importance his father continues to wield despite being eased out of electoral politics by the party.

Yediyurappa is also a member of the BJP's apex organisational body, Parliamentary Board. His elder son B Y Raghavendra is a Lok Sabha MP and the BJP has often tried to ensure that it is not seen encouraging more than one member of a family in politics.

The party is now expected to appoint a Leader of Opposition in the state assembly, a post which is likely to go to a non-Lingayat MLA, and thereby ruling out Basavaraj Bommai, a fellow Lingayat who had replaced Yediyurappa in July 2021 as Chief Minister.

India, US decide to expand strategic ties

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, Nov 10: India and the US Friday vowed to deepen their strategic partnership by shoring defence and security ties and boosting cooperation in the Indo-Pacific in the face of China's increasing military muscle-flexing even as they rolled out plans to jointly manufacture an armoured infantry vehicle.

In the fifth annual 2+2 ministerial dialogue, Defence Minister Rajnath Singh, External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar and their American counterparts Lloyd Austin and Antony Blinken explored ways to support India's goal of becoming a global hub of defence manufacturing and develop cutting-edge technology to address critical security needs.

The situation in the Middle-

East in view of the Hamas-Israel conflict, the Russia-Ukraine war, China's aggressive behaviour in the Indo-Pacific and the overall regional security challenges figured prominently at the talks.

At a media briefing, Austin said both sides talked about the increasing security challenges posed by China and that India and the US have a common goal of a free and open Indo-Pacific. "Today, we agreed to move forward with the co-production of armoured infantry vehicles. We also discussed steps that we can take to strengthen our supply chain security and integrate the provision of goods and services from US and Indian firms," he said. The US Defence Secretary said efforts are underway to ensure that India gets 31 MQ-9B drones from the US as quickly as possible.

GOVERNMENT OF ODISHA OFFICE OF THE DIVISIONAL FOREST OFFICER ANGUL DIVISION, ANGUL e-Procurement Notice, ANGUL FOREST DIVISION Bid Identification No.- 07 of 2023-24 e-mail ID: dfoangul@gmail.com

ଓଡ଼ିଶା ସରକାରଙ୍କ କାର୍ଯ୍ୟାଳୟ, ପିପିଲି OFFICE OF THE PANCHAYAT SAMITI, PIPILI Tender Notice No. i-461:- Tenders are invited for the following works through online process.

OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER (AGRI.), BALASORE DIVISION, BALASORE Govt. of Odisha "e" procurement Notice Bid Identification No. : E.E. (A), Balasore Division-03/2023-24



Damaged cars are seen at the Bandra-Worli Sea Link toll plaza after a speeding vehicle hit multiple vehicles, in Mumbai, Friday. At least three people were killed and six were injured in the accident

EAST COAST RAILWAY Tender Notice No. ST-OT-AMC-EI-ANSALDO-351, Dt : 06.11.2023

SC refuses to stay Krishna Janmabhoomi-Iidgah suits

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, Nov 10: The Supreme Court Friday refused to stay the proceedings before the Allahabad High Court on suits related to the Sri Krishna Janmabhoomi-Shahi Idgah dispute, saying it will not be fair to interfere with the high court order without hearing both the sides.

The apex court was hearing a petition challenging an order of the high court which had transferred to itself all matters related to the dispute pending before a Mathura court. The plea filed by the Committee of Management Trust Shahi Masjid Idgah challenging the May 26 order of the high court came up for hearing before a bench headed by Justice Sanjay Kishan Kaul.

The counsel appearing for the petitioner urged the bench, also comprising Justices Sudhanshu Dhulia and Ahsanuddin Amanullah, to stay the ongoing proceedings before the high court. "Without hearing both the sides, it will not be fair to interfere with the high court order," the bench said, adding, "Last time, we did not stay it. Now, you say there is something more to be said. That does not mean there has to be a stay."

The apex court noted altogether 18 petitions were pending before the high court in the matter. The petitioner's counsel said they do not have the financial wherewithal to go to Allahabad to contest the suits as the distance from Mathura to there is about more than 600 km.

The counsel said hearing the suits in Delhi will be convenient to them as it takes two to three hours to reach the national capital from Mathura. The bench said this submission was very difficult to accept as the court in the Delhi was already overburdened.

EAST COAST RAILWAY Tender Notice No. 50/ET/SBP/ENGG/2023-24 Dated: 06.11.2023

OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER P.H. DIVISION, ANGUL Ph. (06764)296431, Email- eephangul@yahoo.in

GOVERNMENT OF ODISHA OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER RURAL WORKS DIVISION, RAIRANGPUR (MAYURBHANJ)

international



Israel abides by international humanitarian law at all times. Terrorists don't
VOLKER TURK | UN HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR HUMAN RIGHTS

COVID-19: WHO UPDATES GUIDANCE

The World Health Organisation has updated its guidance on treatments for patients with COVID-19, providing latest, trustworthy advice on the management of the disease to help doctors make better decisions



of the day quote

The country wants to strengthen cooperation with the United States to combat climate change
HUANG RUNQIU | CHINA'S ENVIRONMENT MINISTER

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

We will have to pay 2.5 billion rupees as loans and interest next year. So we have set aside a considerable proportion from the budget for repayment of loans
RANIL WICKREMESINGHE | SRI LANKA PRESIDENT

Sunak under pressure

AGENCIES

London, Nov 10: British Prime Minister Rishi Sunak is under pressure to sack his Home Secretary, Suella Braverman, as the row surrounding her controversial newspaper article attacking the Metropolitan Police over its handling of Israel-Hamas protests in London continues to gain momentum Friday.

While Sunak's official spokesperson at 10 Downing Street has said that he has "full confidence" in the Home Secretary, they did confirm that the contents of 'The Times' Op-Ed did not have the full clearance of her boss.

The harshly worded piece on Wednesday attacked the Met Police for having "double standards" and "playing favourites" by not taking tougher action against pro-Palestinian protesters when they turned aggressive. "The words that she used are not words that I myself would have used," UK Chancellor Jeremy Hunt told broadcasters when asked about

the row. While clearly distancing himself from her stance, the senior Cabinet minister stressed that he has a "productive relationship with her as a colleague" and reiterated that Sunak "has full confidence in her".

It comes as the Opposition Labour Party and the Liberal Democrats and even some sections of Braverman's own Conservative Party are calling for her removal from office over her actions, which could be a breach of the ministerial code for ignoring prime ministerial approval before publication of an article.

"Suella Braverman... is entitled to her views but she should make them privately within the Cabinet meeting and the government should come to a clear position," said Darren Jones.

The Labour MP said the position she put forward in her Times article is "fundamentally in breach of her responsibility of being the Home Secretary" because it is for the police to decide "operationally how to maintain order on our streets".



Palestinians carry the bodies of militants killed in clashes during an Israeli military raid, Jenin, in the West Bank

AP/PTI PHOTO

SHORT TAKES

Internet collapses in war-torn Yemen

London: Dubai: Internet access across the war-torn nation of Yemen collapsed Friday and stayed down for hours, with officials later blaming unannounced "maintenance work" for an outage that followed attacks by the country's Houthi rebels on both Israel and the US. The outage began early Friday and halted all traffic at YemenNet, the country's main provider for about 10 million users which is now controlled by Yemen's Iranian-backed Houthis. The two did not offer a cause for the outage.

WB approves \$150mn to Lanka

Colombo: The World Bank has approved USD 150 million to strengthen Sri Lanka's financial and institutional sectors, the Central Bank of the debt-trapped island nation said here Friday. "Sri Lanka's economic crisis highlights the need for strong safety nets to support the financial sector. Stable and reliable banking sector is essential for the economy, businesses and individuals, small businesses and poor households," Faris Hadad-Zervos, World Bank Country Director for Maldives, Nepal, and Sri Lanka was quoted.

Tesla faces strikes

Stockholm: Pressure is growing on Tesla in Sweden, where a trade union is demanding that the Texas-based automaker sign a collective bargaining agreement, which most employees in the Scandinavian country have. Tesla has no manufacturing plant in Sweden, but 130 members of the powerful metalworkers' union IF Metall walked out October 27 at seven workshops across the country where its popular electric cars are serviced.

Palestinians flee north Gaza

More than 1,400 people have been killed in Israel, mainly in the initial Hamas attack, and 41 Israeli soldiers have been killed in Gaza since the ground offensive began



AGENCIES

Khan Younis, Nov 10: Thousands of Palestinians streamed onto Gaza's only highway on Friday, fleeing the combat zone in the north after Israel announced a window for safe passage, as officials in the enclave said the Palestinian death toll surpassed 11,000 people.

Amid an intensifying campaign of airstrikes and ground battles in Gaza City, the search for safety in the besieged enclave has grown increasingly desperate.

Tens of thousands have walked south, where they face the prospect of ongoing bombardment and dire conditions. Others have crowded into and around hospitals, sleeping in operating rooms and wards.

Gaza medical officials accused Israel of striking near hospitals Friday, though Israel said at least one was the result of a misfired Palestinian rocket. Gaza's largest city is the focus of Israel's campaign to crush Hamas following its deadly October 7 surprise incursion.

Early Friday, Israel struck the courtyard and the obstetrics department of Shifa Hospital,

US SECRETARY OF STATE ANTONY BLINKEN SAID FRIDAY THAT "FAR TOO MANY" PALESTINIANS HAVE DIED AND SUFFERED AND THAT WHILE RECENT ISRAELI STEPS TO TRY TO MINIMIZE CIVILIAN HARM ARE POSITIVE, THEY ARE NOT ENOUGH

US PRESIDENT JOE BIDEN AND OTHERS HAVE CHALLENGED THE FIGURES FROM THE GAZA HEALTH MINISTRY AS EXAGGERATED, ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF STATE BARBARA LEAF TOLD AMERICAN LAWMAKERS THIS WEEK THAT IT WAS "VERY POSSIBLE" THE NUMBERS WERE EVEN HIGHER THAN REPORTED

where tens of thousands of people are sheltering, according to Ashraf al-Qidra, spokesperson at the Health Ministry in Hamas-run Gaza. A video at the scene recorded the sound of incoming fire waking people up in their makeshift shelters in the courtyard, followed by screams for an ambulance.

The Israeli army has alleged that Hamas hides in and under hospitals and that it has set up a command center under Shifa — claims the militant group and hospital staff deny.

The director of Shifa said

Israel demanded the facility be evacuated, but he said there was nowhere for such a large number of patients to go.

"Where are we going to evacuate them?" Director Mohammed Abu Selmia asked in an interview on the television network Al Jazeera.

The Health Ministry later said one person had been killed at Shifa and several were wounded. Another strike near the Al-Nasr Medical Center, which includes two hospitals for children, killed two people, according to the ministry. In all, Gaza health officials said strikes were carried out near four hospitals overnight and early Friday.

A senior Israeli security official said that initial findings indicated that one strike at Shifa was the result of a misfire by militants. The military is conducting a review. The official spoke on condition of anonymity because the investigation is ongoing.

At Shifa, families are sleeping in hospital rooms, emergency rooms, surgical theaters and the maternity ward — or on the streets outside, according to Wafaa Abu Hajjaj, a Palestinian journalist at the hospital, as well as several people who recently left.

Daily food distributions has helped a tiny number for a time, but there has been no bread in recent days, they said. Water is scarce and usually polluted, and few people can bathe.

World Health Organisation spokesperson Margaret Harris said 20 of Gaza's 36 hospitals are no longer functioning, including a pediatric hospital where children had been receiving care such as dialysis and life support — "things that you cannot possibly evacuate them safely with."

US conducts airstrike in eastern Syria

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Washington, Nov 10: The United States has conducted a self-defense airstrike in eastern Syria against a facility used by the Iran Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps and affiliated groups, the White House said Thursday.

The precision strike was conducted in response to the recent attacks directed by the IRGC and affiliated groups against US and Coalition bases in Iraq and Syria, White House Deputy Press Secretary Olivia Dalton told reporters aboard the Air Force One.

"Yesterday, President (Joe) Biden directed the US Military to carry out a self-defense airstrike in eastern Syria against a facility used by the Iran Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps and affiliated groups," Dalton said.

She said the US conducted the strike to disrupt and degrade the freedom of action and capabilities of these groups directly responsible for attacking US forces who are in Iraq and Syria as part of the mission to defeat the ISIS.

"We are making it clear that these attacks are unacceptable and cannot continue. President Biden and the United States government are fully prepared to take further necessary measures to protect our people and our facilities. And we want to be clear that we continue to urge against any escalation," Dalton said.



Biden, Xi to meet Nov 15



ASSOCIATED PRESS

Washington, Nov 10: President Joe Biden and Chinese President Xi Jinping will meet Wednesday in California for talks on trade, Taiwan and managing fraught US-China relations in the first engagement between the leaders of the world's two biggest economies in nearly a year.

The White House has said for weeks that it anticipated Biden and Xi would

White House press secretary Karine Jean-Pierre said in a statement the leaders would discuss the "continued importance of maintaining open lines of communication" and how the they "can continue to responsibly manage competition and work together where our interests align, particularly on transnational challenges that affect the international community."

Two senior Biden administration officials, who earlier briefed reporters on the condition of anonymity under ground rules set by the White House, said that the leaders would meet in the San Francisco Bay area but declined to offer further details because of security concerns. Thousands of protesters are expected to descend on San Francisco during the summit. Treasury Secretary Janet

Yellen and Chinese Vice Premier He Lifeng met on Thursday in the San Francisco, the latest in a string of senior level engagements between the nations in recent months aimed at easing tensions. Yellen and He are set to continue talks on Friday.

The Biden-Xi meeting is not expected to lead to many, if any, major announcements, and differences between the two powers certainly won't be resolved. Instead, one official said, Biden is looking toward "managing the

Meet on the sidelines of the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation summit in San Francisco, but negotiations went down to the eve of the gathering, which kicks off Saturday

China's Foreign Ministry said in a statement Friday that Xi would attend APEC from Tuesday to November 17 at Biden's invitation and would take part in the US-China summit

competition, preventing the downside risk of conflict and ensuring channels of communication are open." The officials said they believed it would be Xi's first visit to San Francisco since he was a young Communist Party leader.

The agenda includes no shortage of difficult issues. Differences in the already complicated US-China relationship have only sharpened in the last

year, with Beijing bristling over new US export controls on advanced technology; Biden ordering the shooting down of a Chinese spy balloon after it traversed the continental United States; and Chinese anger over a stopover in the US by Taiwanese President Tsai Ing-wen earlier this year, among other issues. China claims the island as its territory.

China says Dalai Lama's successor needs its approval

All "reincarnated Tibetan living Buddhas, including Dalai Lamas and Panchen Rinpoches, must be looked for within the country, decided through the practice of lot-drawing from the golden urn, and receive approval from the central government," a white paper unveiled here by the Chinese government said

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Beijing, Nov 10: China Friday asserted that any successor to 88-year-old Dalai Lama should be from within the country and his heir needs to have its approval, as it projected the strategically-located Tibet region as the gateway to South Asia by highlighting the infrastructure development close to the Indian border.

China, which refers to Tibet as Xizang, is increasingly anxious as the octogenarian Dalai Lama, who lives in exile in Dharamsala

in India, will take the lead in appointing his successor, which could have a profound spiritual impact in the Himalayan region as his legacy is ingrained in the minds of Tibetan masses.

Though Beijing asserts the Dalai Lama's successor needs its approval, observers say it remains concerned as the present Panchen Lama, the number two spiritual leader who was appointed by it after unseating the boy nominated by the Dalai Lama, has not gained much traction in Tibet.



The white paper titled "Communist Party of China (CPC) Policies on the Governance of Xizang (Tibet) in the New Era: Approach and

Achievements" also highlighted the crackdown to combat separatism in Tibet.

"The fight against infiltration, subversion and secession

continues... Xizang, adopts a proactive approach to combat secessionism," it said.

"The reactionary nature of the Dalai Group has been exposed and denounced, and the regional government relies closely on the people of all ethnicities to resist all forms.

"It is now deeply rooted in the people's minds across the region that unity and stability are a blessing, while division and unrest lead to disaster. They are ever more determined to safeguard the country's unity, national sovereignty, and ethnic solidarity," it said.

China has also expressed its strong opposition to the United States appointing a "Special Coordinator for Tibet Issues" and criticised Washington's assertion that Beijing should not interfere in the selection of the

Dalai Lama's successor.

On the present Dalai Lama, who is 14th in the long line of succession, China reiterated he is "by no means just a religious figure, but rather a political exile, who has long been engaging in anti-China separatist activities, and attempting to split Tibet from China." The white paper denies any crackdown on Tibetan Buddhism in Tibet, saying China fully guarantees the freedom of religious belief and promotes Tibetan language along with Mandarin.

It also highlighted infrastructure in Tibet and the border areas in Arunachal Pradesh, which it claims as part of Southern Tibet. China has built high-speed trains in Tibet near the Indian border areas, which enables it to speedily move troops.

Poland's Oppn parties sign coalition pact

Warsaw: The leaders of the Polish opposition parties that together won the most votes in last month's election signed a coalition agreement Friday that vows to restore the nation's legal order and strengthen its international position and security in light of Russian aggression against neighbouring Ukraine. The parties collectively won the Oct. 15 vote, but still will not have an immediate chance to try to form a government. The current governing Law and Justice party received more votes than any other single party but fell far short of a majority. Still, it will get the first chance to form the next government — something widely viewed as doomed to fail. The opposition groups called themselves the "democratic opposition" as they ran on separate party lists but vowed to cooperate to restore democracy after eight years of rule by Law and Justice, which has been accused by the EU of eroding the rule of law.

of the day quote

We are excited to introduce these new connecting flights to Australia, in partnership with Qantas, connecting on IndiGo's flights from India to Singapore

The country's battle with unhealthy diets, predominantly rich in ultra-processed foods, fats, and sugars, is a key contributor to these hidden costs

Microsoft is partnering with OpenAI to introduce the next generation of language and multi-modal models using generative language like GPT-4 and ChatGPT

SHERLA SRIPRADA | BUSINESS FUNDAMENTALS ANALYST, GLOBALDATA

Q2 RESULTS

SAIL back to black

New Delhi: Steel giant SAIL Friday returned to black, posting a consolidated net profit of ₹1,305.59 crore for September quarter 2023-24, as higher sales volumes led to increased income. It had incurred ₹329.36 crore net loss during July-September period a year ago, Steel Authority of India Ltd (SAIL) said in a regulatory filing. Total income rose to ₹29,858.19 crore from ₹26,642.02 crore in the year-ago quarter.

LIC profit halves

New Delhi: State-owned insurer LIC Friday reported a 50 per cent fall in net profit at ₹7,925 crore for the quarter ended September 30, on lower income. The country's biggest insurer had a net profit of ₹15,952 crore in the year-ago period, LIC said in a regulatory filing. LIC's total income declined to ₹2,01,587 crore in the latest September quarter, compared to ₹2,22,215 crore in the year-ago period, it said.

Mahindra PAT rises

Mumbai: Mahindra & Mahindra (M&M) Friday said its consolidated profit after tax grew 6 per cent to ₹2,348 crore in September quarter 2023-24. The Mumbai-headquartered company had posted a PAT of ₹2,209 crore in the July-September period of last fiscal, M&M said in a statement. Revenue grew 15 per cent year-on-year to ₹34,436 crore in the second quarter this fiscal, it added.

Hindalco stays flat

New Delhi: Aditya Birla Group's metal flagship Hindalco Industries said its consolidated profit stayed almost flat at ₹2,196 crore in the quarter ended September 2023. The company had posted a consolidated profit of ₹2,205 crore in the July-September period of the previous fiscal, Hindalco Industries said in a filing to BSE. The consolidated total income of the company during the July-September period dropped to ₹54,632 crore from ₹56,504 crore in the year-ago period, Hindalco Industries said.

CIL net profit rises

New Delhi: State-run Coal India Friday reported a 12.5 per cent rise in consolidated net profit to ₹6,799.77 crore for the September quarter on account of higher sales. The company's net profit stood at ₹6,043.55 crore in the year-ago period, it said in a regulatory filing. Its consolidated sales increased to ₹29,978.01 crore in the July-September period from ₹27,538.59 crore last year.



We have ordered 470 aircraft to serve the Indian economy and we are set to receive a new aircraft every six days over the next 18 months

CAMPBELL WILSON | CEO AND MD, AIR INDIA

NO FESTIVE RUSH: AIRLINES CUT PRICES

Airlines have slashed fares up to 8% in the run-up to Diwali, seeking to fill seats as they have not found enough takers for the tickets which they had priced higher in the hope of cashing in on the festive rush



Gold sales brisk on pre-Diwali Dhanteras

GOLD PRICES HAVE FALLEN BY ₹800-1,500 PER 10 GRAM (24 CARAT) FROM THE PEAK ₹63K-LEVEL OCT 28

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, Nov 10: Pre-Diwali Dhanteras buying of gold and silver in India, the world's largest gold consumer, kick-started on a positive note Friday on recovery of consumer demand with the softening of gold prices. Gold prices have fallen by ₹800-1,500 per 10 gram (24 carat) from the peak ₹63,000-level October 28 and this has evoked buying on Dhanteras, considered the most auspicious day in Hindu calendar for buying items ranging from precious metals to utensils, with traders expecting gold sales to surpass last year's level.



On Thursday, Gold prices plunged ₹400 to ₹60,950 per 10 grams in the national capital. Gold prices in Delhi were ruling at ₹50,139 per ten grams, excluding taxes, on 2022 Dhanteras day. In normal years, about 20-30 tonnes of gold are sold on a Dhanteras day.

Gold prices are in favour of business. We are positive about good sales today. We are receiving positive response from consumers and footfalls are gradually increasing. With diamond prices fallen, the younger generation is buying light-weight jewellery and some are buying gold and silver coins

DINESH JAIN | DIRECTOR, GJC

Traders said footfalls are expected to pick up after 12 noon and will continue till late at night.

The best muhurat to buy silver and gold on Dhanteras will start at 12.35 pm Friday and end at 1.57 pm November 11, as per Drikpanchang.

All India Gems & Jewellery Trade Federation ex-chairman Manish Jain said, "Rates have softened and consumer demand

has picked up. We are seeing good footfalls."

Consumers are buying gold and silver coins, and even silver utensils for puja purposes, he added.

Since Dhanteras last year, gold has given a mind-boggling return of almost 20 per cent, easily beating the returns of the Nifty 50, added Deveya Gaglani, Research Analyst (Commodities) at Axis Securities.

Equities rebound on fag-end buying

ON A WEEKLY BASIS, BSE BENCHMARK ADVANCED 540.9 POINTS OR 0.84%, AND NIFTY ROSE 194.75 POINTS OR 1%



PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

DIWALI MUHURAT TRADING

Stock exchanges will conduct a one-hour special the muhurat trading session on the occasion of Diwali November 12. The symbolic trading session will be held between 6 pm and 7.15 pm. This includes a 15-minute pre-market session.

Mumbai, Nov 10: Equity benchmark indices Sensex and Nifty rebounded Friday to close with marginal gains due to fag-end buying in power, utility and metal stocks amid weak global trends.

After remaining in the negative territory for most part of the session, the 30-share BSE Sensex climbed 72.48 points or 0.11 per cent to settle at 64,904.68. During the day, it fell 251.25 points

or 0.38 per cent to 64,580.95. The Nifty went up by 30.05 points or 0.15 per cent to 19,425.35.

During the Samvat year 2079 ended Friday, the BSE Sensex jumped 5,073.02 points or 8.47 per cent, while the Nifty climbed 1,694.6 points or 9.55 per cent.

During this period, the market capitalisation of BSE-listed surged over ₹43.81 lakh crore to reach ₹3,20,29,232.24 crore.

Among the Sensex firms, NTPC, Tech Mahindra, UltraTech Cement, Bajaj Finance, ITC, Bajaj Finserv, Axis Bank and Power Grid were the major gainers.

On the other hand, Mahindra & Mahindra, HCL Technologies, Titan and IndusInd Bank were

among the laggards.

In the broader market, the BSE small-cap gauge climbed 0.38 per cent, and the midcap index advanced 0.33 per cent.

Among the indices, utilities jumped 0.95 per cent, power climbed 0.92 per cent, metal (0.67 per cent), commodities (0.35 per cent) and capital goods (0.37 per cent).

Consumer Discretionary, IT, telecommunication, auto and tech were among the losers.

The rupee retreated from high levels Friday to close with a modest gain of 1 paisa at 83.28 against the US dollar amid a weak American currency overseas and positive domestic equity markets.

Foreign Institutional Investors (FIIs) offloaded equities worth ₹1,712.33 crore Thursday.

IIP growth slips

FACTORY GROWTH DECELERATES TO 5.8% IN SEPT FROM 10.3% IN AUG

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, Nov 10: India's industrial production growth decelerated to 5.8 per cent in September from 10.3 per cent in August, though on an annual basis, the output of manufacturing and mining sectors showed an improvement, according to the official data released Friday.

The factory output growth measured in terms of the Index of Industrial Production (IIP) had grown by 3.3 per cent in September 2022.

During April-September 2023-24, the IIP growth works out to be 6 per cent, down from 7.1 per cent in the corresponding period a year ago.

The growth in the index of industrial production or IIP fell during September, after two months of expansion.

While the growth in August was at a 14-month high, factory output rose by 6.03% in July.

"The growth rates over the corresponding period of the previous year are to be interpreted, considering the unusual circumstances on account of the Covid-19 pandemic since March 2020," an official statement said.

As per the IIP data released by the National Statistical Office (NSO), the manufacturing sector's output grew 4.5 per cent in September 2023 against a two per cent growth a year ago.

Power generation rose 9.9 per cent in September 2023 compared to 11.6 per cent year-ago period.

Mining output rose by 11.5 per cent in the month under review against a 5.2 per cent contraction a year ago.

As per use-based classification, the capital goods segment grew 7.4 per cent in September this year compared to 11.4 per cent growth in the year-ago month.

Consumer durables output during the month grew by one



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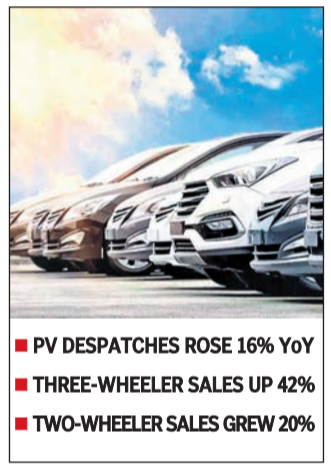
The concerning aspect is the sharp sequential deceleration in the manufacturing and electricity sectors. Within the use-based classification, the production of consumer goods decelerated sharply, with modest growth seen in the consumer durables component

RAJANI SINHA | CHIEF ECONOMIST, CAREEDGE

per cent against a contraction of 5.5 per cent.

Consumer non-durable goods output increased by 2.7 per cent compared to a contraction of 5.7 per cent a year earlier.

Infrastructure/construction goods posted a growth of 7.5 per cent against an 8.2 per cent expansion a year ago.



PV DESPATCHES ROSE 16% YOY
THREE-WHEELER SALES UP 42%
TWO-WHEELER SALES GREW 20%

PV sales reached record levels after the sports utility vehicles (SUVs) segment posted historic-high monthly volumes of over two lakh units in October. SUVs accounted for 60 per cent of the total PV industry volumes last month.

Similarly, the three-wheeler segment also witnessed the highest ever monthly dispatches in October at 76,940 units, a growth of 42 per cent over 54,154 units in the year-ago period.

Total two-wheeler sales rose to 18,95,799 units in October, a 20 per cent increase from 15,78,383 units in the same month last year.

"Both passenger vehicles and three-wheelers have posted the highest ever sales of October, while the two-wheeler segment has also posted good sales in the month of October 2023," Society of Indian Automobile Manufacturers (SIAM) President Vinod Aggarwal said.

All the three segments have posted double-digit growth and this growth momentum is encouraging for the industry which has been enabled by sustained conducive policies of the government and the ongoing festive season, he added.

58% OF BUDGET TARGET

Tax mop-up grows 22% to ₹10.60L-cr so far in FY'24

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, Nov 10: Net direct tax collection swelled 22 per cent so far this fiscal year to ₹10.60 lakh crore, crossing 58 per cent of the Budget target for the full year, the Income Tax department said Friday.

The net corporate tax collection grew 12.48 per cent and personal income tax mop up rose 31.77 per cent.

"Direct Tax collection, net of refunds, stands at ₹10.60 lakh crore which is 21.82 per

cent higher than the net collection for the corresponding period of last year. This collection is 58.15 per cent of the total Budget Estimates of Direct Taxes for FY. 2023-24," the I-T department said in a statement.

Refunds totalling ₹1.77 lakh crore have been issued between April 1 to November 9, 2023.

On a gross basis, collection from direct tax, which includes corporate and Personal Income Tax (PIT), rose 17.59 per cent to ₹12.37 lakh crore.

BIZ BUZZ

OMC BEGINS EFQM IMPLEMENTATION

Bhubaneswar: Odisha Mining Corporation (OMC) has embarked on implementing the international acclaimed European Foundation for Quality Management (EFQM) framework to further strengthen its transformational journey and achieve business and operational goals which will place the corporation at global stage and amongst the world's renowned companies. In an official ceremony, Deoranjana Kumar Singh, IAS, Additional Chief Secretary, Department of Steel & Mines and Chairman, OMC inaugurated the EFQM implementation in OMC at the IDCOL auditorium November 8 in the presence of Balwant Singh, IAS, Managing Director, OMC, Functional Directors, employees of the Corporation along with senior officers of the implementation partner Grant Thornton. In the three years of EFQM journey, the corporation will adopt the international best practices for sustaining its high growth trajectory and establishing excellence in areas of operations, business strategies, leadership and culture, employee and community engagement, environment and sustainability, innovation and adaptability, customer value creation, technology driven performance leading to its transformation. Speaking on the occasion, DK Singh, IAS Chairman, OMC, said, "Human journey is a journey of evolution and of continuous improvement which equally apply to society as well as organisations. As an organisation, OMC has achieved many feats since its inception, becoming one of the largest mining companies in India, increasing its revenue manifold. Now it's the time for strengthening the systems and striving for excellence." He congratulated OMC for adopting EFQM, a global business excellence framework as the guiding principle for becoming a world class company.



A NEW TWIST IN RELIGARE TAKEOVER TUSSLE

DABUR'S BURMAN FAMILY SEEKS PROBE IN SALE OF SHARE BY RELIGARE CHAIRPERSON, RELIGARE DENIES CHARGES

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, Nov 10: Burman family - the promoters of Dabur - has filed a complaint with regulatory authorities seeking a probe into sale of shares by Religare Enterprises Ltd's Chairman Rashmi Saluja.

As per the complaint, Saluja sold her share in Religare Enterprises Ltd (REL) immediately after the Burman family disclosed to her that they intend to make an open offer for the financial services firm.

Entities controlled by the Burman family - promoters of FMCG major Dabur - have written to the Securities and Exchange Board of India (Sebi) and stock exchanges that Saluja sold a portion of her personal holdings in Religare Enterprises Ltd a day after meeting a representative of the Burmans

September 20.

Saluja at the meeting was informed about the intentions of Burmans, who held a 20.15 per cent stake in REL and had bought another 5 per cent, to make an open offer to buy another 26 per cent stake from open market to take a controlling stake in the financial services firm, Dabur India Chairman Mohit Burman told PTI in an interview.

REL management September 25 welcomed the open offer but later said the offer price of ₹235 per share is undervalued. REL shares were trading at ₹221.85 on the BSE Friday.

Burman family head Mohit Burman told PTI he was surprised at the change of stance. "Maybe some of the people do not want to let go of the control," he said.

Religare, however, refuted the



allegation of Saluja selling shares after being made aware of the open offer, saying the chairperson had sold ESOPs after a long process that was triggered several days prior to the September 20 meeting.

The process for ESOP exercise through financing and sales by Saluja and other 12 employees was set in motion several days earlier, a spokesperson of REL said.

Four entities of the Burman family - MB Finmart, Pura Associates, VIC Enterprises and Milky Investment and Trading Co - have written an e-mail to Sebi, a copy of which was seen by PTI, in which they have alleged serious lapses on sale of personal share by REL Chairperson Rashmi Saluja.

Their representatives in a 45-minute meeting September 20

had informed about their intention to bring an open offer and this was communicated to the chairperson in her professional capacity.

However, much to their "surprise", the chairperson sold 12.93 lakh shares September 21 and 22, representing 0.4 per cent share capital of REL.

Burman family entities, which collectively hold 21.24 per cent in REL, wrote this to the board of the company and approached Sebi and also to the NSE and the BSE, informing them about this sale after they failed to get any response from the company.

"Rashmi Saluja categorically denies the fact that the representative of the Burman family informed her of the proposed open offer during the meeting... As per standard corporate governance, exercising of listed stock options by employees re-

quires requisite approvals which span across several months before the actual sale... In the said allegation, the approvals for the sale were already in place months before the said meeting," REL spokesperson said while replying to a query.

Burman family, a promoter of Dabur India and other entities such as Eveready Industries, through its entities, had in September announced a ₹2,116 crore open offer to the shareholders of REL to acquire up to 26 per cent stake in the company.

However, the independent directors of the REL have raised red flags alleging fraud and other breaches by Burman family entities and had regulators including Sebi, the Reserve Bank of India and the Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority

SA edge past spirited Afghans

Pak, England face off in clash for great gain

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Ahmedabad, Nov 10: Calmness of Rassie van der Dussen and the fire of Gerald Coetzee helped experienced South Africa overcome a spirited resistance from Afghanistan to carve out a five-wicket win in their last league game of the World Cup here Friday.

Set a target of 245, South Africa, who are already assured of a place in semifinals, completed the task with Van der Dussen remaining unbeaten (76 n o, 95b, 6x4, 1x6). Andile Phehlukwayo was unbeaten on a 37-ball 39 (1x4, 3x6) after a match-winning partnership of 65 runs with Van der Dussen.

Earlier, pacer Gerald Coetzee (4/44) was excellent with the ball as Afghanistan were limited to 244 despite Azmatullah Omarzai's impressive unbeaten 97 (107b, 7x4, 3x6). Omarzai's knock, however, helped the Afghans to recover from 116/6.

The defeat notwithstanding, Afghanistan, who shocked defending champions England and Pakistan during a very promising campaign, would go home with their heads held high.

Despite continuing his good run in the tournament, Omarzai unfortunately could not record his maiden ODI hundred after failing to score off the last three balls of the final over.

On a pitch without any demons, South Africa started their chase confidently. But, as the match progressed, things didn't pan out the way South Africa would have liked them to. In the end, they achieved it



GERALD COETZEE



RASSIE VAN DER DUSSEN

with 15 balls remaining after a mighty scrap.

Quinton de Kock (41) made his intentions clear quite as the dashing left-handed batter went past New Zealand's Rachin Ravindra to become the leading scorer of this tournament. However, he couldn't convert his start.

Meanwhile, skipper Temba Bavuma's (23) poor run continued. Aiden Markram (25) and

David Miller (24) also gave their wickets away after getting starts while Heinrich Klaasen failed to make a mark.

Earlier, Afghanistan were off to a steady start after their skipper Hashmatullah Shahidi opted to bat first, but South Africa meant business as they snared three wickets for four runs to leave their opponents in a spot of bother at 45/3 in the 11th over.

But even before the Proteas could celebrate the first breakthrough they faced an anxious moment when pacer Lungi Ngidi went off the field after suffering what looked like an ankle or achilles issue. Ngidi, however, returned to pick the wickets of Rahmat Shah and Mohammad Nabi leaving his team at 116/6 in the 28th over. Omarzai, however, continued to fight it out to help the team post a competitive total on the board.

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BRIEF SCORES

Afghanistan 244 (Azmatullah Omarzai 97 n o, Noor Ahmad 26, Rahmat Shah 26, Rahmanullah Gurbaz 25; Gerald Coetzee 4/44, Keshav Maharaj 2/25, Lungi Ngidi 2/69) **lost to South Africa 247/5** (Rassie van der Dussen 76 n o, Quinton de Kock 41, Andile Phehlukwayo 39 n o; Mohammad Nabi 2/35, Rashid Khan 2/37) by 5 wickets.

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Kolkata, Nov 10: Nothing less than a miracle will help Pakistan as they face a near-impossible task of making the semifinals by winning with an unthinkable margin, while a charged-up England will look to qualify for the Champions Trophy when the two sides clash in the World Cup here Saturday.

New Zealand's net run-rate boosting five-wicket win over Sri Lanka has virtually shattered Pakistan's semifinal hopes. The 1992 champions now have to beat England by an improbable margin.

New Zealand's NRR is +0.743 while Pakistan's is +0.036, and for the Babar Azzam-led side to eclipse the former to qualify as the fourth side, it has to win by around 287 runs batting first. While chasing, Pakistan need to win with 284 balls to spare. That is an impractical task.

For defending champions England, the World Cup title defence dream may have been over for quite a sometime now but the Jos Buttler-led side will aim to finish inside top-8 to make the cut for the 2025 Champions Trophy.

As things stand, it's a four-way race with Bangladesh, Sri Lanka and the Netherlands also in the mix with England. Their 160-run win over the Netherlands in the last match has given the down-and-out England the much-needed late charge as they have climbed up to the seventh spot and face the easiest equation among the four teams.



A win against Pakistan should seal the spot, considering that both Bangladesh and the Netherlands face tough opponents in Australia and India respectively, and also have inferior NRRs than England.

Pakistan have failed to live up to the expectations in this World Cup but have shown some late surge in the last two matches to stay alive. Having played two matches already at the Eden Gardens, Pakistan have better knowledge about the conditions which has been slow and spin-friendly during the middle overs.

But they would still need their top-five to fire, which has not been the case so far. Explosive opener Fakhar Zaman, who put on a spectacular show of power-hitting against New Zealand, missing five matches has been a mystery.

About a month separated England from their first and last win in the global showpiece. In between, they lost five matches in a row to see their World Cup campaign go up in smoke. England has been a white-ball champion side and it is simply beyond logic why it failed to recreate the magic in this World Cup.

We don't fear Germany: Savita Reds stunned at Toulouse in Europa League



PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, Nov 10: The Indian women's hockey team might have been pitted against World No.5 Germany in the FIH Olympic Qualifiers but an unperturbed skipper Savita Punia said her side has the wherewithal to overcome the challenge.

At No.6, the hosts are the second-best side in the India-leg of the Olympic Qualifiers to be held in Ranchi from January 13 to 19, and the other teams are: New Zealand (9th), Japan (11th), Chile (14th), United States (15th), Italy (19th) and the Czech

Republic (25th)

The other eight teams that will fight for the Olympic spots in Valencia, Spain, include Belgium, Great Britain, Spain, South Korea, Ireland, Canada, Malaysia and Ukraine. The top three teams from each of the qualifiers will secure their places in the Paris Olympics next year.

"We are confident in our abilities, and the rankings of opposing teams don't faze us as we are ready to face all the tough teams that will be coming to India for the FIH Hockey Olympic Qualifier," said Savita. "We played Germany in July, so we know

what we're up against," she added.

India's chief coach Janneke Schopman echoed Savita's confidence, saying that there was a lot to learn from their title triumph at the recent Asian Champions Trophy in Ranchi.

"A lot of things went well for us, but there are always areas where we can improve. We need to avoid unnecessary cards and make better use of our referrals," the coach said.

"Similarly, with our attacking style of play, we have to face a lot of teams that play with 11 players behind their 25-yard line and we have to get better at creating opportunities playing against a closed defence.

"This tournament (ACT) showed we are a tough team. So, we will continue to focus on ourselves, look for ways to improve and leave no stone unturned in our preparation for the Olympic Qualifier," Schopman said.

"We are familiar with New Zealand, we played against the US as well in the FIH Pro League last year, but most importantly I am happy to take on these tough teams at home," she added.

ASSOCIATED PRESS

Toulouse (France), Nov 10: Liverpool's comeback fell short in a 2-3 loss at Toulouse in the Europa League Thursday but it was still a victorious day for striker Luis Diaz.

Diaz's father was released hours before the match, 12 days after his kidnapping in northern Colombia by members of the guerrilla group National Liberation Army, or ELN. Diaz had appealed for his father's release after scoring Sunday in a Premier League match, revealing a T-shirt saying "Freedom for Papa" in Spanish.

Thursday, Diaz didn't score but still tested Toulouse goalkeeper Guillaume Restes with a low right-footed shot from outside the area in the first half.

Aron Donnum scored in the first half and Thijs Dallinga doubled the advantage just before the hour mark for the hosts, who lost 5-1 at Anfield two weeks ago. An own goal from Cristian Casseres made it 2-1 in the 74th minute but Frank Magri quickly restored the two-goal lead.



Diogo Jota came on for Diaz in the 81st minute and scored eight minutes later. Liverpool thought they've equalised in stoppage time but Jarell Quansah's goal was disallowed by VAR. The game was Jurgen Klopp's 450th as manager for Liverpool.

Before it, Klopp told TNT Sports the Colombia striker was "really happy" with the news that his father was freed. After the game, he was not that happy with his team's performance.

The Reds lead Group E with nine points from four games, while Toulouse trail by two in second.

Leverkusen remained the last team with a perfect record after four games with a 1-0 victory at Qarabag in Group H. The Bundesliga leaders reached the round of 16 after Victor Boniface scored the winner from the penalty spot in stoppage time.

Brighton scored early in each half to beat Ajax in Amsterdam 2-0 for their second straight win after defeating the struggling Dutch powerhouse by the same score two weeks ago.

Forward Ansu Fati gave the Seagulls the lead before Simon Adingra doubled it to lift Brighton to second place in Group B with seven points.

Marseille lead with eight after Chancel Mbemba and Ismaila Sarr scored in a 2-0 win at AEK Athens, which remains on four points in third.

ICC SUSPENDS SLC FOR GOVT INTERFERENCE

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Dubai, Nov 10: The International Cricket Council (ICC) Friday suspended Sri Lanka Cricket (SLC) due to government interference. The Sri Lanka government had sacked the SLC following the team's disastrous show at the World Cup, where they lost seven of the nine games.

SLC was reinstated by the court of appeal, thus further deepening the crisis in the country's cricket governing body. A joint government and opposition resolution in parliament demanded the resignation of the SLC's management, Thursday.

"International Cricket Council Board has suspended Sri Lanka Cricket's membership of the ICC with immediate effect," ICC said in a statement.

"The ICC Board met today and determined that Sri Lanka Cricket is in serious breach of its obligations as a Member, in particular, the requirement to manage its affairs autonomously and ensure that there is no government interference in the governance, regulation and/or administration of cricket in Sri Lanka," the statement said. "The conditions of the suspension will be decided by the ICC Board in due course," it added.

The government, which is split over the minister's decision to sack the SLC board of management, came out with a report, recommending a brand new constitution for the governing body with a new voting structure to appoint office bearers.

Osaka all set to make comeback

BISBANE: Four-time Grand Slam singles champion Naomi Osaka will make her comeback to tennis at the Brisbane International warm-up tournament ahead of the Australian Open. Tournament officials Friday confirmed Osaka will contest the December 31-January 7 event to start her 2024 season. A two-time Australian and US Open winner, Osaka was a surprise withdrawal from last year's Australian Open before later revealing she was pregnant. The former tennis No.1 announced the birth of her daughter Shai in July.

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