DEEPIKA'S CHOICE

Deepika Padukone says India is her home and she doesn't want to shift base to have a global impact

LEISURE



XI TO MEET BIDEN

Chinese President Xi Jinping leaves for the US for a 'meeting of great importance' with Joe Biden Wednesday

INTERNATIONAL P10



INDIA FACE NZ TODAY

India aim for final berth when they take the field against New Zealand in first

semifinal of the ICC WC SPORTS

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BHUBANESWAR | WEDNESDAY NOVEMBER 15 | 2023

No paan, gutkha in **Srimandir from Jan 1**

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Puri, Nov 14: Srimandir authorities have announced a complete ban on consumption of tobacco-related products like 'paan' and 'gutka' on the premises of the 12th century shrine from January 1, 2024.

The decision in this regard was announced by Shree Temple Jagannath Administration (SJTA) chief administrator Ranjan Kumar Das who said the ban will be strictly implemented for devotees, servi tors and temple employees.

"Awareness over non-consumption of paan and gutka on the temple premises will be carried out in November and December. while the prohibition will come into force from January 1. Penalty will be imposed on the offenders," he told reporters Tuesday.

The SJTA has also written to the Chhattisa Nijog (apex body of servitors) over the matter.

Though there is provision of penalty for consumption of such items inside the temple compound, "no one was obeying the rule", it said in a letter to the servitors' body.

Woman ends life after hubby's death

Bhubaneswar: A middle-aged woman died by suicide after her husband was killed in a road accident in Khordha district, police said Tuesday. Anindita Subudhi ended her life by hanging herself at her house in Benagodiapatna village in Bolgarh police station area Monday night, they said. Anindita's husband Gokul Chandra Sahu was critically injured in a road accident when he was returning home on a motorcycle Sunday evening. He was first admitted to the Khurda hospital, and then taken to AIIMS-Bhubaneswar where he died, they added. Unable to bear the trauma, Anindita killed herself after completing the last rights of Gokul, police said. The woman's body was sent for a postmortem examination, they said, noting that an investigation was underway.

IRREGULAR by MANJUL



Meet my son. My party has decided to include him in the fight against dynastic rule

NEATH	IER		
	BHUB	СТК	
MAX	30.0°C	29.8°	
MIN	20.4°C	20.0°	Forecast
umidity	74%	77%	Dry
ainfall	Nil	Nil	weather very likely
MIN	20.4°C 74%	20.0°0 77%	weather

RAIN PAIN: Commuters cross a waterlogged road amid rains, near Marina Beach in Chennai, Tuesday

80-yr-old woman dies after falling into borewell

AGENCIES

Bhubaneswar, Nov 14: An 80year-old woman died after falling into a borewell in Sonepur district, officials said Tuesday.

The woman, identified as Dukhi Negi, was taken out of the 20-feet-deep borewell in a critical condition after a fivehour-long rescue operation and rushed to a hospital where doctors declared her brought dead.

The elderly woman had

slipped and fallen into the abandoned borewell in a forested area near Kainphula village in Sadar block Monday evening, a police officer said, adding her family claimed she was deaf and mute.

Locals searched for the woman the entire night and also informed the police. She was found in the borewell Tuesday morning, following which the Fire Services and Odisha Disaster Rapid Action Force (ODRAF) launched the rescue operation.

The rescue team supplied oxygen into the borewell to help the woman breathe and dug a parallel hole to bring her out.

After being brought out of the borewell in a critical condition, she was taken to Sonepur district hospital, where treating doctors declared her brought dead.

"She had died before being brought to the hospital," Somi Purohit, a doctor at the Sonepur

Min 6-month jail for adulteration

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, Nov 14: A parliamentary panel has recommended a minimum imprisonment of six months for those selling adulterated food or drinks along with a minimum fine of ₹25.000.

In view of the serious health issues that can result from the consumption of adulterated food, the punishment provided for the offenders under this clause is inadequate, the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Home Affairs headed by BJP MP Brijlal

said. "The committee recommends that a minimum punishment of six months be provided for the offence under this clause along with a minimum fine of ₹25,000," it said. At present, the offence of food

adulteration is punishable with a term which may extend to six months, or with fine which may extend to ₹1,000, or with both. Referring to the sale of noxious

food or drinks, the panel said the offence has the potential to affect the public at large and that the punishment provided for the offenders under this clause is also inadequate.

"The committee recommends that a minimum punishment of six months be provided for the offence under this clause along with a minimum fine of ₹10,000, it said. The committee also described as a 'welcome step' the introduction of 'community service' as one of the punishments under the Bharatiya

However, the committee said, the term and nature of community service has not been specified.

Nyaya Sanhita (BNS).

Subrata Roy passes away

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, Nov 14: Sahara Group chief Subrata Roy died of cardiorespiratory arrest Tuesday, according to a company statement. He was 75. According



He was admitted to Kokilaben Dhirubhai Ambani Hospital & Medical Research Institute in Mumbai Sunday after his health deteriorated, it added. "His loss will be deeply felt by the entire Sahara India Pariwar," it said.

PRS 'Biki' Oberoi no more P11



Baramunda, Bhubaneswar, Tel.: 7735730250

Fillip to health infra

POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar, Nov 14: In a major impetus to Odisha's public health infrastructure, the state Cabinet, chaired by Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik, Tuesday approved 'Ama Hospital', an ambitious 5T initiative aimed at strengthening government-run hospitals, with an allocation of Rs 3,388.73 crore for five years: 2023-24 to 2027-28.

healthcare facilities, including CHCs and UPHCs, in the state will have upgraded facilities in a phased manner. "Aahar centres, Mission Shakti cafes,

online registration system, digital display boards, more drug distribution counters and hygienic toilets are among the facilities which **CABINET**

PK Jena said, adding that 149 public health facilities will be developed in the first year.

The proposal is among 12 others which

The Cabinet also cleared the proposal for the construction of 26-kilometre rail infrastructure between Biju Patnaik International Airport (BPIA) and Trisulia Square in Cuttack, under Phase I of the Bhubaneswar Metro Rail Project at a cost of Rs 5,929.38 crore. Jena said the Cabinet also decided that

the project will be constructed by Bhubaneswar Metro Rail Corporation

OTHER KEY APPROVALS ■ 9.40 acres allotted in Gothapatna for XIM

- Society Loyala school
- Construction of barrage across Rushikulya river near Janivilli in Ganjam at Rs 87.56cr
- Amendment of Odisha Civil Services (Combined Competitive Recruitment Examination) Rules, 1991

Limited in collaboration with the Delhi Metro Rail Corporation Limited (DMRCL). The cost included taxes and the fee of DMRCL (turnkey consultant) which is fixed at Rs 326.56 crore, he said. These apart, the Cabinet also approved

proposals for two drinking water projects

in Bolangir. "With an allocation of Rs 307.88 crore, the projects would benefit over 94,000 people of 116 villages in 20 panchayats of Saintala," Jena said, adding that the projects would be completed within two

The Cabinet approved the proposal for Ring Road in Berhampur with an allocation of Rs 156.51 crore. The Ring Road would help develop Berhampur, Chhatrapur and Gopalpur. The project will be completed within 24 months.

In another key decision, the Cabinet decided to amend a law to allow people belonging to ST to sell their land to non-tribals in scheduled areas, with permission from the state government.

Under Ama Hospital, as many as 1858

will be provided under Ama Hospital," Chief Secretary

received Cabinet nod.

'Sex-for-rent' rattles overseas students in Ireland

DECISION

years.

London, Nov 14: International students in Ireland have been targets of an accommodation scam with one in 20 exposed to proposals for a room in ex-

a new report. In addition, they also experience other difficulties with accommodation such as overcrowding, scamming, unaffordable rents, substandard conditions and long commutes, an Irish Council of International Students

change for sex, according to

(ICOS) report found. According to data provided by the Embassy of Ireland, 6,422 student visas were issued to Indians in

The research, which sur-



veyed 819 international students from 73 countries, said that 13 per cent of the students have been the victim of an accommodation scam, with only 11 per cent reporting it to the police.

Eighty-one per cent of English language students and almost a third (31 per cent) of students studying in higher education share a room with at least one other

Some 55 per cent of respondents agreed, or strongly agreed, that their mental health suffered due to the housing crisis in Ireland, according to the report published in the Irish Examiner Tuesday.

One in 10 respondents said that it took them more than 100 days to find accommodation in Ireland, and 10 per cent said they pay more than 1,000 euros in rent per month.

Another 10 per cent of those surveyed said they live more than 15 kms away from their college or school, and some 5 per cent said they had either been directly offered a room in exchange for sex or seen an ad for such an arrangement.

"Among a range of other serious issues, we are particularly concerned about the evidence of predators seeking sex in lieu of rent," ICOS Executive Director Laura Harmon, said. "The housing crisis is

jeopardising Ireland's excellent reputation as a study destination and risks undermining the fantastic work being done in colleges across the country, which goes above and beyond to create a quality student experience in Ireland," Harmon said.

A Brazilian student described looking for a rental property in Ireland as "horrible", adding that one of the properties she came across had 18 residents, the Examiner reported.





leisure



BILLIE EILISH SAYS SHE DOESN'T FEEL FEMININE

Grammy winner Billie Eilish says she doesn't feel 'feminine' and has to train her brain to believe she is a 'pretty girl'. Speaking to Variety, she said: "I identify as 'she/her' and things like that, but I've never really felt like a girl."

DUA LIPA WAS UPSET WHEN FIRST SHE GOT RECOGNITION

Singer Dua Lipa was upset when she first found fame. The 28-year-old pop star put out her self-titled debut album in 2017 but admitted she was left miserable during the promotion period.



accuracy • reliability • trust

Today, the stars put you on high alert... and not for nothing. You will save your self from being swindled. Though you will easily manage to stay ahead of others, you may make a few enemies on your way. It's not a good day if you're looking to buy a house or vehicle, says Ganesha

Your enthusiasm will be as contagious as your smile today, predicts Ganesha People will stand charmed by your high spirits. There will be stressful moments, but things will look up late in the day. Take some time off if things get too hectic for you

GEMINI

Today, you are likely to be mental, says Ganesha. Your love for performing arts may make you take up lessons in classical music or traditional dance. And much to your delight, your sweetheart will treat you to a sur-

CANCER

You are likely start the day in the best of spirits today. Your enthusiasm and cheer fulness will be infectious, and you will be able to lift the mood wherever you go. However, your enthusiasm can be shortlived and pummelled under the weight of some bad news, leaving you distraught

earnest spirit and a frank attitude together, the result would be a Leo; it's like your hallmark. And with qualities like these in your kitty, don't be surprised if you happen to reach tal bliss or career success? No matter what the area is, be assured that you societal standing shall get a heady boost today, assures Ganesha

■ VIRGO The booster rockets of your

ambitions and spirit to work will kick in at the maximum today. Seek recreation after a hard day's work and look to relax at private parties, social-dos and even wed dings, says Ganesha

"Every man has specific nat-This seems to be true for you today. Your natural talents will be edged and documente This might prompt your equals to hold you up above the rest, and for your seniors to positively encourage you to scale greater heights.

SCORPIO

You will find yourself thinking with your heart rather than your head today, says Ganesha. You may not be able to repress your feelings, and you should not even try. But you should be careful about how you express them, particularly in public as people may judge you wrongly on the basis of it, advises Ganesha

SAGITTARIUS

Today, your superiors at work are going to trust you with many complicated assignments. But, after exerting vourself, you are sure to come out with flying colors and have your work appreciated. Do not be surprised if cash incentives come your way.

CAPRICORN

Duping the wisest with your extraordinary power of con-vincing may have been your forte, but you may have to prove yourself all over again, for Ganesha says you will be tested today. This apart, you are likely to find answers to questions lingering in your subconscious mind for long. The outburst of creativity in the second half of the day will draw the attention of your peers, and this will also be the best time to seek their support, advises Ganesha

AQUARIUS

For a moment, it seems that you're swamped with problems. But you are brave enough to deal with any ugly issue that crops up suddenly. Ganesha hints at a romantic evening, which may just be time together in a jacuzzi, or simply preparing a meal together.

PISCES

All the dieting that you have been undergoing will finally begin to show results, with compliments galore coming your way from your friends. Your energy and enthusiasm levels are likely to be high. A bright and beautiful day waits, says Ganesha

Kriti bats for Kareena asks Alia to have another child equitable landscape

Mumbai: In a recent interview with Vogue, Kriti

Sanon highlighted the need for a more eq-

uitable landscape in the Hindi film in-

dustry, especially for talented outsiders

seeking opportunities. Having re-

cently received the National Film

Award for her role in Mimi, Kriti ad-

dressed the ongoing debate on

nepotism, emphasizing the importance of consciously creat-

ing space for aspiring actors out-

The actor stressed the sig-

nificance of providing equal

opportunities to both industry

insiders and talented individ-

uals from diverse backgrounds.

She advocated for a shift to-

wards a system where launches

from within the industry are balanced by opportunities for

those with exceptional talent,

Reflecting on her shared

irrespective of their lineage.

National Film Award mo-

ment with Alia Bhatt, who

also received the prestigious

honor for Gangubai

Kathiawadi, Kriti expressed

admiration for Alia's per-

formance and acknowledged

the significance of both ac-

tors playing titular roles in

She shared her excitement

about the proud moment of

a phone call with Alia, with

Meanwhile, Kriti's re

cent box office appear-

ance in Ganapath

Amitabh

alongside Tiger Shroff

Bachchan faced

commercial

setbacks.

sharing the stage and revealed

their respective films.

mutual enthusiasm

side the industry.

Mumbai: Koffee with Karan 8 episode 4 will feature Kareena Kapoor as a guest alongside her cousin Ranbir Kapoor's wife Alia Bhatt. Amiz buzz around the actors' first joint appearance on *Koffee* with Karan (KWK), Kareena in an upcoming episode advised Alia to have another child. Alia and Ranbir welcomed their daughter Raha last

In the show the Raazi actress opened up about her dynamics with



actor-husband Ranbir Kapoor. Alia said that a playful fight ensues between the two as they compete for quality time with little Raha, who turned one this month. Offering a solution to their tus-

sle, Kareena Kapoor chimed in, saying, "That's the cue to have another one, maybe, so both of you can have one each.

Sisters-in-law, Alia Bhatt and Kareena Kapoor will be back on in the upcoming episode. In the teaser shared recently, host Karan Johar begins by describing Alia as someone 'who feels like his firstborn' and Kareena as his 'spirit soul'

Sharing the promo, Karan wrote on Instagram, "Watch the loveliest queens, Kareena Kapoor Khan and Alia Bhatt on the new episode of Koffee With Karan, streams from 16th November!"

Deepika not keen to shift base for fame

Mumbai: Deepika Padukone's global recognition received a substantial boost with her Hollywood debut in the action film *xXx: Return* of Xander Cage in 2017.

However, unlike Priyanka Chopra, Deepika is really not interested in shifting bases. Speaking with Vogue, Deepika made it clear that India is her home and she does not need

to move with bag and baggage to have global impact. She then recalled her early days in modelling career where she had an offer to move overseas and all of the fashion gurus in India said. You shouldn't be here, you should be in Paris, New York or Milan,' and I was like, 'No, those places are not my home. India is home'.' Reflecting on

her early phases of her career and journey till now, Deepika said that it's an uphill task for any individual trying to

make mark

field or profession that their parents

She mentioned that there was no other option when she was an outsider 15-20 years ago.

Talking about dealing with many things not just professionally but also personally, Deepika said that she would finish late at night, exhausted, then carry her suitcase across town in a cab and sometimes fall asleep on the drive back home. "Today when I look back at that journey, I think, 'Not bad, girl! You did this and you did it on your own," added the Om

Shanti Om actress. Deepika's journey from Bollywood to Hollywood, coupled with her international accolades and contributions to social causes, has cemented her status as a global icon. Her influence extends beyond the entertainment indus-

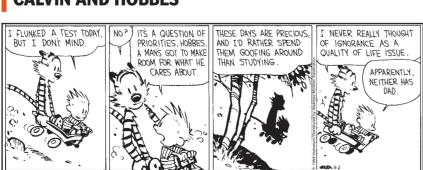
> try, encompassing fashion, mental health advocacy and philanthropy. AGENCIES

> > Kapil Sharma then announces that their comedy show's new season will be streamed on Netflix. While the date of the new season was not announced, the comedian assured that it would be stream-

PEANUTS



CALVIN AND HOBBES



BREVITY



FUN POST

CROSSWORD

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20 Parachute

25 Fantasm

26 Proverbs

Down

material

23 Mechanical man

24 Delta, for one

Across

- 1 Vitality
- 4 Cane material 9 Khan starter
- 10 Sign of life 11 Mom's words
- to the kids at dinner time
- (3,2)12 Provoked
- 13 Antagonises

kingdom

- 15 Hard to find
- 18 King Arthur's
- down

 - 3 Dejected
 - 2 Civet relative

 - 5 Jellied garnish 6 Reinforce
- 1 Hard to pin
- 16 Placed in the
 - middle

7 Like some

Rome

14 South West

13 Treaties

payments

8 Port of ancient

Africa, now

- 17 Hearty entree
- 19 Numbers game
- 21 Fabricator's
- 22 Exigencies

tices the old fridge. He opens it to only find Archana Puran Singh sitting inside awkwardly. Next, he notices Rajiv Thakur dressed as a movers and pack-

ers agent. Sharma tells his assistant that he does not want any old thing in the new house only to discover Kiku Sharda and Krushna Abhishek hiding in different parts of the house. As an exasperated Kapil walks away, his assistant asks if she should throw them out. To this, Kapil responds with a smile, "Ghar badla hai, parivar thodi."

Kapil's show

gets a new

destination

Mumbai: Netflix India dropped the

first promo of Kapil Sharma's com-

edy show. In the video, Kapil can be seen

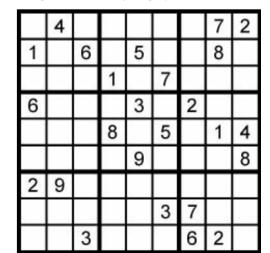
shifting into a new home when he no-

ing soon

Over time, Kapil's shows became the go-to destination for film stars to promote their films. He has been dominating the prime-time comedy space for over a decade now. While his show has been off-air for a couple of months now, the comedian has announced a new season. However, the show will no longer be coming on television but will be streaming on Netflix

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

CROSSWORD SIDECAR RESIST REAMER TALLSTORY

SUDOKU

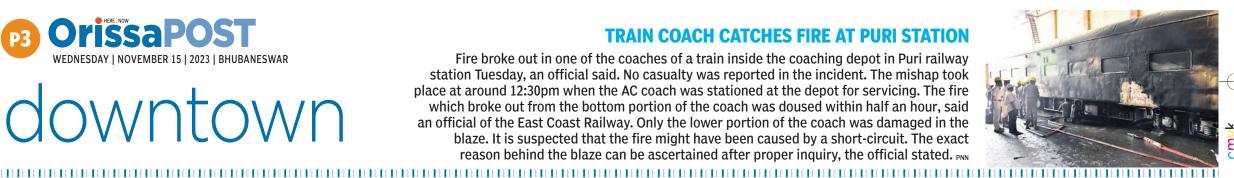
5 1 6 9 8 2 2 6 9 4 3 8 1 2 8 1 3 7 6 5 5 8 4 3 7 2 9 6 6 7 1 9 5 2 3 4 8

CHECK FOR SOLUTIONS OF THE PUZZLES TOMORROW

downtown

TRAIN COACH CATCHES FIRE AT PURI STATION

Fire broke out in one of the coaches of a train inside the coaching depot in Puri railway station Tuesday, an official said. No casualty was reported in the incident. The mishap took place at around 12:30pm when the AC coach was stationed at the depot for servicing. The fire which broke out from the bottom portion of the coach was doused within half an hour, said an official of the East Coast Railway. Only the lower portion of the coach was damaged in the blaze. It is suspected that the fire might have been caused by a short-circuit. The exact reason behind the blaze can be ascertained after proper inquiry, the official stated. PAN



POLITICKLE by MANJUL

VIDEOS OF ONE OF MY MINISTERS' SON ARE GOING VIRAL AND YOU GUYS ARE DOING NOTHING... TO DIVERT PUBLIC ATTENTION

'Ama Kunipila' to boost brain devpt of kids

If children are provided with right education, healthcare and environment from infancy, they can become great citizens, says CM Naveen Patnaik

PNN & AGENCIES

Bhubaneswar, Nov 14: The state government Tuesday launched a scheme for helping brain development of children in the first 1,000 days of their lives through various means including engaging them with toys made by parents.

The programme 'Ama Kunipila' (our kids), launched on Children's Day, was formulated Women and Child

Development (W&CD) depart-

On the occasion, Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik said that children are the strength of the country.

"If children are provided with the right education, healthcare and environment from infancy, they can become great citizens,' Patnaik said.

First 1,000 days of a child are a period of both tremendous potential and enormous vulnerability as it has a profound impact on a kid's ability to grow, learn and thrive, the department said

in a statement. 'Ama Kunipila' is a campaign to institutionalise home-based care of children less than three years of age through parent-led their brain development.

The major components of the programme include sensitising parents and caregivers on the importance of early years, engaging children with low-cost toys made by parents and storytelling, the statement said.

The programme would also facilitate love, talk, touch & play through toys, stories and interactive talk and activity with children by Anganwadi workers. It also envisages effective implementation of parent & care giver friendly social behavior communication programme (SBCC).

Various information and education campaign (IEC) materials such as kids' calendars, booklets and toy kits are developed to support and strengthen the 'Ama Kunipila' programme activities, an official said.

Open drain death: NHRC orders ₹2 lakh aid to kin

POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar, Nov 14: The National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) has asked the state government to provide Rs 2 lakh compensation within six weeks to the next of kin of a nine-year-old boy who died after falling into an open drain in Cuttack in January this year.

The apex rights body gave the direction while hearing a plea filed by rights activist Akhand.

The rights activist had informed the commission that Joseph Sahani, a student of Modern Public School in the Silver City, was flying kite in front of his house near Sai Apartment in Bidanasi area of Cuttack around 4:45pm January 15, 2023 when he fell into the open drain. Although he was rescued and rushed to Sishu Bhawan, doctors at the state-run facility declared him 'brought dead'.

Claiming that the incident happened due to the sheer negligence of Cuttack Municipal Corporation (CMC), Akhand sought justice for the nine-year-old schoolboy.

Taking up the petition, the NHRC asked the Cuttack Collector and CMC Commissioner to file action-taken reports (ATRs) in connection with the unfortunate incident. In its report April 17, the additional district magistrate of Cuttack informed the commission that disciplinary action has been taken against those found responsible and Rs 2,33,000 provided to the bereaved family.

On June 5, the commission observed that the incident happened due to the negligence of the officials as the drain was not properly fenced or covered and adequate safety measures had not been put in place. "This is a clear case in which it has been made out that District Administration has failed utterly in discharge of their professional & moral responsibilities towards protection of human rights and safety of a citizen resulting violation of the Constitutional Right to Life of the child and his avoidable death at a tender age of 9," the NHRC observed.

The commission asked the Chief Secretary to show caus within six weeks as to why Rs 2 lakh should not be recommended by way of compensation for the boy in addition to the amount already facilitated by the state government.

The district administration, however, remained mum on the show-cause notice.

The commission November 13 asked the Chief Secretary to pay Rs 2 lakh compensation to the next of kin of the boy and submit a compliance report along with proof of payment within six weeks.

IMD forecasts rain in coastal Odisha

Bhubaneswar: The India

Meteorological Department (IMD) has forecast heavy rainfall in the coastal areas of Odisha with wind speeds of 45kmph to 65kmph following the formation of a low pressure area in the Bay of Bengal (BoB). IMD scientist US Dash Tuesday said the low-pressure area over Southeast BoB and adjoining Andaman and Nicobar Islands is likely to move west-northwestwards and intensify into a depression over West- Central BoB November 15. "Then, it would move northwestwards and may intensify into a deep depression over West-Central BoB off Andhra Pradesh coast November 16," he said, adding

subsequently the system would re-

curve north-northeastwards and

reach Northwest Bay of Bengal off

Deputy Speaker election Nov 21

Bhubaneswar: Election to the post of Deputy Speaker of Assembly will be held November 21, the day on which the Winter Session of the House commences. an official notification said. The post has been lying vacant after the resignation of Rajanikant Singh November 8. "Speaker has been pleased to fix November 21, 2023 for election of Deputy Speaker, A meeting of the Odisha Legislative Assembly will be held November 21 at 9:30am," the

notification said. Odisha coast November 17.

22nd edition of Anjali kicks off

Bhubaneswar: The 22nd edition of Anjali Children and Youth Festival organised by voluntary organisation Swabhiman kicked off at Kala Bhoomi Odisha Crafts Museum here Tuesday. The seven-day event is aimed at promoting awareness about needs of specially-abled individuals and building an inclusive atmosphere for them. The first day marked an educational trip to the Regional Science Centre here. Later in the day, the students participated in engaging competitions and workshops. During the programme, several children were honoured by the guests for their distinguished performances at various competitions. The evening saw participation of over 600 children, along with a display of cultural performance. The inaugural day marked the presence of Sudhananda Giri, Odisha State Disability Commissioner Bratati Harichandan, actor Sabyasachi Mishra, actress Archita Sahu, Swabhiman governing member Priyadarshi Mohapatra and deputy

inspector general of Forests Eastern India, Padma Mohanty.



Modi Government's Guarantee

Spreading benefits of Welfare Schemes among all entitled



Prime Minister Narendra Modi

flags off

VIKSIT BHARAT SANKALP YATRA

to ensure saturation of flagship govt schemes

from the land of Bhagwan Birsa Munda

An initiative by Government to reach the benefits of all Schemes to every District, every village of the country

Transfer of ₹18,000 crore as 15th instalment of PM Kisan

More than 8 crore farmers to get the 15th instalment ₹ 2.61 lakh crore transferred in the previous 14 instalments

Jharkhand gets a Gift of Development Projects worth ₹ 7,200 crore

Inauguration / Dedication to the Nation

- 100% Electrification of Railways in Jharkhand Faster movement of trains, reduced carbon footprint
- Dual gauging of Hatia-Pakra, Talgaria-Bokaro and Jarangdih-Patratu Sections To enable running of high speed trains like **Vande Bharat**
- Permanent Campus for IIM, Ranchi, New Student Hostels for IIT and IIM, Dhanbad Opportunities for the youth to develop their skills in ultra modern surroundings
- Petroleum, Oil and Lubricant (POL) Depot in Bokaro

Laying of Foundation Stone

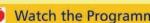
- Four-laning of Mahagama-Hansdeeha Section of NH-133
- Faster movement of minerals and development of tribal areas like Bahul
- Four-laning of Basukinath-Deoghar Section of
- Reaching Basukinath and Baidyanath Dhams will become easier
- KDH Purnadih Coal Handling Plant Increased capacity for coal transportation and coal loading
- New Educational and Administrative Building for IIT, Ranchi



Khunti, Jharkhand, 15 November 11:15 A.M.

#HamaraSankalpViksitBharat

For more information on the Yatra scan the QR code



Watch the Programme live on DD News

CBC 01101/13/0009/2324



MARKING PROTEST: BJP activists dump a truckload of garbage in front of BMC office in Bhubaneswar, Tuesday, holding the civic body responsible for Gadakana dumping vard row

1st computer navigation spine surgery at KIMS



ARINDAM GANGULY, OP

Bhubaneswar, Nov 14: Surgeons from the Kalinga Institute of Medical Sciences (KIMS) have successfully conducted the state's first ever computer navigation

Senior consultant, orthopaedic and spine surgeon Jitendra Kumar Rout, who led the team said, "The computer navigation assisted spinal surgery will help in maintaining accuracy, time management, with the minimally invasive procedure ultimately having lesser complications for the patients.

Describing process behind the computer navigation spine surgery, Rout explained, "The process usually uses an intraoperative computer tomography (CT) scan technology and thus the operating team could monitor every step through a digital monitor and the navigational help ensures a better outcome for the team and ultimately for the patient.

During spinal surgery, surgeons use many pedicle screws to fix the spine. If manually done, the procedure might lead to serious post-surgery compli cations leading to fatality

CLASSIFIED

AFFIDAVIT

By virtue of an affidavit before Executive Magistrate, Bhubaneswar. I. Bikash Das, my daughter is Adyasha Das and her Birthday is on 12.08.2009 and her Mother's name is Itishree Pattanaik as per Aadhaar record instead of this fact Itishree Das in her School Register.

I Niharabala Mahapatra (35), W/o Chittaranjan Mahapatra, resident of Jail Street, Lanjipalli, Berhampur, Ganjam, Odisha declared by this affidavit No-943 / dt.13-11-23 that now on words I shall be known as Niharabala Mahapatra for all future purposes.

BJP launches statewide stir against corruption

Bhubaneswar, Nov 14: The opposition BJP launched a statewide agitation Tuesday accusing the 23-year-old BJD government of large-scale corruption in all spheres

Titled 'Jan Akrosh Andolan', the five-day agitation launched in all the 314 blocks and urban local bodies will continue till November 18.

state president Manmohan Samal, who attended one such programme in front of Cuttack Sadar block office, said. "All schemes of the state government have ended up in scams. There is scam in all spheres, from panchayat level to state secretariat."

Samal said, "During the 23 years of BJD regime, people

Bhubaneswar, Nov 14: Odisha

Police Housing and Welfare

Corporation (OPHWC) signed

an MoU with Home department

for ₹1,000 crore turnover in 2023-

2024 in a ceremony held in the de-

partment's conference hall at

Lok Seva Bhawan here, Tuesday.

Chief Secretary Deoranjan

Kumar Singh and OPHWC CMD

Sanjeeb Panda, signed the MoU.

OPHWC will achieve the

turnover of ₹1.000 crore in the

current financial year 2023-24, the

The Corporation had a

turnover of 370 crore in 2021-22

and 532 crore in 2022-23 with 42

per cent growth. The Corporation

has set up an ambitious target of

almost doubling its turnover in

The Corporation is a profit

the current financial year.

MoU said.

Home Department Additional

ARINDAM GANGULY, OP



have been tortured, youths betrayed, women unsafe and every citizen insecure due to the largescale corruption.'

"The BJP-led NDA government at the Centre during its nine years of tenure has sanctioned ₹18.83 lakh-crore as assistance, but most of the amount has been embezzled by BJD's people and government officials," Samal said, adding that 50 per cent of the funds are being used as bribe.

"As a result, the benefits of

OPHWC signs MoU with Home dept

making silver rated Company

of the state government and its

giving dividend to the govern-

ment every year. The Corporation

undertakes various building

projects of Police, Fire, Prisons

and Judiciary. It is the sole exe-

cuting agency of all the

Universities under Higher

districts and block level bus

stands for Transport depart-

ment under Ama Bus Stand

It had recently undertaken 43

Education department.

different schemes are not reach ing the poor. A poor man is not able to get a house unit under PMAY without giving bribe,' BJP leaders said.

In the state capital, the protesters alleged corruption in implementation of the Smart City project and dumped a truckload of garbage in front of the office of Bhubaneswar Municipal Corporation (BMC).

The protestors held the civic body responsible for the Gadakana dumping yard row. They criticised the BMC over dumping of garbage at the Temporary Transit Centre (TTS) behind Sainik School in the heart of the city.

The City has been turned into a dumping yard with foul smell of garbage everywhere, said Diliup Mohanty, a BJP leader.

scheme. The Corporation has

taken up the construction of

Trainees' Hostel at Gopabandhu

Academy for 120 crore and this

building will be the first IGBC

Platinum rated building in the state. The Corporation is also

constructing the Modern Jail at

Jamujhari Bhubaneswar

up the construction of the pres-

tigious Biswanath Library in

Cuttack for ₹30 crore. The Police

Housing Corporation is also ex-

ecuting projects for other gov-

ernment departments and agen-

cies including excise, commerce

and transport, health, agricul-

ture, handlooms and handicraft,

Sports and Youth Services,

OMFED and OMC. The

Corporation has completely au-

tomated its operation by imple-

menting leading business soft-

ware SAP S4 HANA

The Corporation has taken

Odisha pavilion unveiled at India Int'l Trade Fair Odisha pavilion will showcase local products made by women artisans in line

with Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik's vision to empower rural entrepreneurs

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, Nov 14: Odisha Public Enterprises Minister Ashok Chandra Panda Tuesday inaugurated the state's pavilion at the 42nd edition of the India International Trade Fair (IITF) in the national capital.

The state's pavilion at the IITF features a strong representation from tribal groups and a major highlight of the exhibition is the active participation of women who are at the forefront of the entire production process, the Odisha government said in a statement.

In line with the Mission Shakti initiative, the Odisha pavilion emphasises women empowerment, showcasing the state's commitment to gender equality and the central role of women in driving economic growth, the statement said.

"Embracing the theme, 'Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam: United by Trade', the Odisha pavilion embodies the spirit of 'Unity through Trade'. This underscores the state's commitment to fostering a collaborative environment where trade serves as a bridge between diverse cultures and communities, including the representation of tribal groups at the fair," it

The IITF is one of the biggest trade fairs in the country, at-



tracting thousands of domestic and foreign exhibitors to showcase their unique products, services, and initiatives.

"At IITF-2023, the Odisha pavilion will showcase local products made by rural women artisans, in line with Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik's vision to empower women and rural entrepreneurs," Panda said.

The visitors will also have the opportunity to have a detailed look at brick-coloured terracotta artefact models, reflecting India's rural culture. This year, the state pavilion will showcase stalls, famous handloom outlets and government departments, Panda added.

"Odisha is an attractive destination for tourists, sportspersons, students seeking higher education, people looking for quality healthcare, entrepreneurs, and investors," he said.

Schools craft most brilliant gems: Hans



POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar, Nov 14: Schools gems, said Lalchnd Group founder and chairman Sunjoy Hans at the 63rd Annual Prize Day of Stewart School here Tuesday. Hans was addressing students as the chief guest at the annual event of the school,

which is also his alma mater. Hans said the invitation to speak as the chief guest was not merely an accolade, it took him on a journey back to the hallowed halls of his alma mater, where dreams took root, friendships blossomed, and life's invaluable lessons unfolded.

Transitioning from a diligent student of the 1980 batch to leader of the Lalchnd Group, Hans said it's the school that really laid the foundation for his extraordinary career, acknowledging the institution's influence on his successes

As the chief guest, Hans shared insights and experiences from his career with the current generation of Stewartians. The leader of Lalchnd expressed gratitude to the school and his teachers. He extended heartfelt thanks to the school principal, teachers, and everyone who has played a role in his journey. He urged the students to be ambitious and strive for greatness.

Date extended for film $_$ entry on road safety

ARINDAM GANGULY, OP

Cuttack, Nov 14: The last date for submission of films for the second edition of National Road Safety Short Film Festival is extended from November 17 to November 20.

The decision came after requests from filmmakers and citizens for greater participation in the road safety public awareness initiative.

The festival aims to raise awareness of road safety issues_ and promote increased en-



gagement in road safety cooperation in the state as well as across the nation to reduce road accidents and fatalities related to it. The winners will be selected by a judging panel of film industry professionals, non-industry professionals and luminaries from different walks

Schools celebrate Children's Day with fervour

ARINDAM GANGULY, OP

Bhubaneswar, Nov 14: The schools in Capital city celebrated the National Children's Day Tuesday marking the 134th birthday of India's first Prime Minister Jawaharlal Nehru

BJEM School



BJEM School started the celebration by offering tributes to the portrait of Pandit Nehru. Students participated in vari-

ous fun-filled activities. A talent show was organised for Lower Nursery to Class VI students. 'Fun Fair-Meena Bazaar' was the centre of attraction as students gathered around the food stalls to enjoy various delicacies. Games corners as well as art and craft stall were also put up by the students.

Principal Sandhya Jena highlighted Nehru's achievements and encouraged the children to honour the teacher-student relationship.

SAI International School

SAI International School also celebrated the occasion by organising a patriotic play presented by teachers for the students. School chairperson Silpi Sahoo wished the children a



bright future on the occasion. Prabhujee English Medium School Prabhujee English Medium School felicitated the talents of voung students through a num-

ber of competitions. School Principal Abhaya Kumar Rath gave the welcome address. Institute of Physics Director Karunakar Nanda and They ignited the young minds to dive into the world of science. An exhibition was organised with hundreds of projects in science, mathematics, social science, art and craft to promote scientific research-oriented mind among the children

CSIR-IMMT Chief Scientist &

Head, HRD Danda Srinivas Rao,

attended the function as guests.

ODM Public School

ODM Public School also celebrated the day with several events. ODM Education Group chiarman Satvabrata Minaketan said. "In the canvas of learning, laughter and dreams of young minds add vibrant strokes. Today, we celebrate the spirit of boundless curiosity, unfettered, joy and aspirations that soar

high. May the innocence of childhood continue to inspire and illuminate their educational iourney!'

Blossoms school

Blossoms School celebrated Children's Day to mark the innocence and purity of young students. The teachers made sure that the students enjoyed their special day. The young students of the Foundational Stage dressed up as per the theme for their fancy dress show. A number of activities including art and craft, handwriting were organised on this occasion.

DAV Kalinga Nagar

DAV Kalinga Nagar organised a number of activities including chorus and dance. A skit was also performed by the teachers.

British Deputy High Commissioner visits O-hub

BHUBANESWAR: British Deputy High Commissioner to Kolkata Andrew Fleming Tuesday visited Ohub, a centre for innovation and entrepreneurship meant for state startups, where he discussed avenues for collaboration with Startup Odisha officials. Startup Odisha executive chairman Omkar Rai gave Fleming an overview of the programmes, initiatives and achievements of the organisation. Rai highlighted the agency's commitment towards promoting diversity, especially through empowerment of women entrepreneurs. During Fleming's visit to O-hub, discussions were held concerning collaboration with the UK government. Both parties explored bilateral initiatives, including exchange programmes for startups.

OR CLASSIFIED ADVERTISEMENTS CONTACT OUR BOOKING STATIONS

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

Kendrapara faces acute water crisis

As major river systems dry up, people stare at an uncertain future

Pradip Kumar Pradhan ex-

pressed their concerns over the

water crisis. They laid the blame

on faulty river water manage-

ment. They asserted that the

Odisha and Chhattisgarh gov-

ernments should immediately

resolve the Mahanadi dispute for

greater interests of both the

states. They also blamed mind-

less lifting of water for indus-

trial use and establishment of a

number of irrigation and drink-

ing water projects for the pres-

on the downstream of the

Mahanadi, this water crisis will

only grow, the intellectuals

pointed out. They said that un-

less the water problem is sorted

out it may affect the establish-

ment of the proposed steel plant

and a riverine port project in

the district. The intellectuals

also added that flow of water to

Bhitarkanika will decline after

construction of a barrage on

With Kendrapara district being



POST NEWS NETWORK

Kendrapara, Nov 14: With water drying up in the Mahanadi, Brahmani and Baitarani rivers. its tributaries and distributaries running through Kendrapara district are also in peril. As winter sets in, people are now staring at an acute water crisis in the Animals at Bhitarkanika National Park will also be deprived of fresh water if the situation persists, they added.

Locals pointed out that the agriculture sector will suffer terribly due to the lack of water. People will also not be able to attend to their daily chores as all the seven tributaries flowing under Mahanadi, Brahmani and Baitarani river systems in Kendrapara district will also dry up.

Educationist Bhuban Mohan Jena, social activists Sunil Kumar Gantayat, Pratap Kumar Tripathy, Banambar Sahu and

the Baitarani in Jajpur district. The industrial plants at Kalinganagar in neighbouring Jajpur district also use river water. Over 120 cusecs of water are lifted from Brahmani and Kharasrota river by 10 industrial units in Kalinganagar. IDCO has installed a high-powered pump on the Brahmani river mouth at Pankapal to lift water for the industrial units.

Locals pointed out that in the days to come the dependency of industrial plants on Brahmani for water will only increase. Companies like Mesco Steel, Maithan Ispat and other industrial units will use river water to run their plants. The state government has sanctioned projects on the Brahmani and Kharasrota for supplying clean drinking water to 280 villages in Binjharpur, Jajpur, Korei and Rasulpur blocks. Once these projects are completed, additional supply of water will be required to keep them running. This can also lead to water shortage.

The groundwater level in the district is also at an all-time low, sources informed. A survey by the Central Groundwater Board has indicated that the Brahmani river will require over 3,000 cubic metres of extra water in the next three decades. Otherwise there are chances it will dry up.



TRADITIONAL DANCE: Students of DAV Public School at Burla performed a Sambalpuri dance routine at the 'Sishu Mahotsav' held on the occasion of Children's Day, Tuesday

Man dead, brother hurt in road mishap

POST NEWS NETWORK

Marshaghai, Nov 14: A youth was killed and his elder brother sustained critical injuries Tuesday morning after an iron ore-laden truck hit their bike from the rear near Jadupur Square on Chandikhol-Paradip National Highway-53 under this police limits in Kendrapara district.

The deceased youth was iden-

tified as Chintu Barik, 25 and his injured elder brother as Pintu Barik, both belonging to Karanja village. They were on their way to their offices at the Paradip Industrial Estate when the accident happened.

Chintu, who was riding pillion died on the spot while Pintu sustained critical injuries. Locals rescued Pintu and took him to the district headquarters hospital

where he is undergoing treatment. An eyewitness said that the speeding truck ran over Chintu killing him on the spot. The driver fled with the vehicle after the accident, he added.

On being informed officials from the Marshaghai police station reached the spot and sent the body for post-mortem. A detailed probe has been launched into the mishap, police said.

WITH RAISING OF PLATFORMS FROM LOW LEVEL TO HIGH LEVEL AT 03 STATIONS IN HQ SECTION OF KHURDA ROAD DIVISION [BIR PURUSHOTTAMPUR (BRST) (PF1, 2 AND 3), MOTARI (MWQ) (PF1),

Advertised Value: \$42.14.623.34 FMD: \$

Hrs. of 30.11.2023.

Manual offers are not allowed against this tend any such manual offer received shall be ignored Complete information including e-te

Jumbo herds spread terror in Sundargarh



POST NEWS NETWORK

Rourkela, Nov 14: Two herds comprising more than 80 elephants have created panic among residents living on the outskirts of this town and also at other places in Sundargarh district. Forest department officials are at a loss as to how they will deal with such a large number of pachyderms, sources said Tuesday.

In the last 10 days, a herd comprising 41 elephants has been roaming near Lathikata, an industrial town which is barely 20 kilometres away from here. Couple of days back the herd was roaming freely in the open near Garjan gram panchayat. Monday the herd was again spotted near Birkera village. Forest officials said that the herd has come from Jharkhand, "Such a huge herd was never found in our jurisdiction. The elephants are resting near the Birua hill range during the day and in the evening are moving out in search of food," a Forest official stated.

Locals pointed out that the herd has devoured and destroyed large quantities of standing crops. Neither the officials of the Forest department nor the villagers dare to venture near the herd or undertake a modus operandi to drive it away.

Some villagers alleged that the Forest department does not possess adequate equipment like torches, crackers, fire torches and drums to tackle the elephants.

Sambalpur, Nov 14: Aditya Patnaik

of Sambalpur district will represent

India at the prestigious Rotax Max

Challenge Karting Grand Finals that

will be held in Bahrain next month.

The competition, in which more than

80 countries are participating, will be

held December 2 to 9 at the Bahrain

Aditya, 19, was selected to represent

the country at the event after he

emerged as champion in the Senior

Max category with 408 points at the

International Karting Circuit.

"They are interested in helping us, but do not have the proper equipment," some villagers said. Repeated attempts to reach to DFO Rourkela, Jasobant Sethi failed as he did not respond to calls.

Meanwhile, Forest department officials at Sabdega, under Sundargarh forest division held to tackle the elephant menace. Under Sabdega forest range, another herd consisting of 40 elephants has been running riot for the last four days. "The herd is destroying and eating crops and this is hurting us to a great extent," said an irate resident of Ranpur village. Locals said it seems that the herd has become immune to the various methods to drive it away.

Officials led by assistant DFO of Sundargarh forest division Anil Purohit and ranger of Sabdega range conducted a meeting Monday with local residents. A decision was taken to work as a team to drive away the elephants. Monday evening a squad comprising Forest officials and a special team from Katanjharia entered the forest in an effort to drive away the herd. However, despite their best efforts, the herd just shifted to another forest range in Benaketa.

"We are thankful to the villagers that they have been patient with us and are heeding our suggestions. We will work together to drive away the elephants," Purohit said.

Youth gets 20 yrs RI for raping minor girl

POST NEWS NETWORK

Balasore, Nov 14: A special POCSO court here Tuesday, sentenced a youth to 20 years of rigorous imprisonment after convicting him for the rape of a minor girl and making the video of the act viral. The convict was identified as Sheikh Tahir, 30, of Town police station area here. Judge Ranjan Kumar Sutar also slapped a penalty of ₹5,000 on the convict, apart from the punishment. In default, he has to undergo an additional two years of imprisonment, the iudge observed while delivering the verdict.

The judge passed the order after examining the statements of 16 witnesses, 20 documents and the police chargesheet, special public prosecutor Pranab Kumar Panda said. The judge also directed the district legal services authority (DLSA) to pay ₹4 lakh compensation to the victim, Panda added.

Panda said that Tahir befriended the 15-year old girl and expressed his love. However, the victim turned the proposal down, but the two continued to remain friends. Tahir used to frequently visit the house of the girl. During one such visit, Tahir promised to marry her. During another visit September 22, 2021, he raped the girl. He also threatened to make the video of their intimate act viral which he later did. The girl narrated her ordeal before her mother when she returned home. Later, her mother lodged a complaint at Town police station leading to the arrest of the convict.

Colleague's hubby robs headmaster

Nabarangpur: The headmaster of a residential school in this district was allegedly attacked and robbed of ₹1.4 lakh Tuesday evening by the husband of one of his colleagues, sources said. Victim Dhanurjaya Nayak, the headmaster of a residential school in Jharigaon locality of this district, was immediately rushed to a community health centre (CHC) at Dabugaon in a critical condition. He was later shifted to the district headquarters hospital here after his condition deteriorated, the sources added. Nayak had withdrawn ₹1.4 lakh from two separate bank accounts of the residential school in the morning. Binod Kumar Nayak, the husband of assistant teacher Shubhrangini Mahalik, reportedly urged the headmaster for a lift on his bike while the latter was returning to his home at Dabugaon in the evening. At a secluded place, Binod hit Nayak on the head with a large stone. As a profusely-bleeding Nayak collapsed on the spot, Binod took the money from his bag and fled the spot. He is still absconding.

Notice is hereby given to all concerned that. Nabendu Bhusan Sahu, S/o- Late Hrushikesh Sahu, At.- Rampur Kaithasahi, Po/ PS- Rairakhol, Dist- Sambalpur, Pin-768106 has sworn an affidavit on dt. 09.11.2023 and has reported to OIC, Rairakhol Police Station, on dt.07.11.2023 regarding loss of original link Regd. Sale Deed No. 11641300254 dt.24.05.2013 of Registering Officer, Rairakhol.

Chinmaya Panda, S/o- Bibekananda Panda has applied to the DCB Bank, Redhakhol to avail loan to purchase the above property by mortgaging the said property documents.

All concerned therefore, having any claim over the property purchased under the said document Regd. Sale Deed No 11641300254 dt.24.05.2013 of Registering Officer, Rairakho is required to file his/her claim with the undersigned within 15(Fif teen) days from the date of publication of this notice failing which it will be presumed that, the property having link with the said document/s is/are free from encumbrances and any clain in respect thereof against the applicant as a mortgager and the company as the mortgagee shall be void and ineffective after the lapse of 15(Fifteen) days of publication of this notice.

Dt. 13.11.2023

Sd/- A.K. Debta, Advocate, DCB Bank, At/PO.- Modipara, PS-Town, Dist-Sambalpur, Mobile No. 9437158519

GOVERNMENT OF ODISHA OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER RURAL WORKS DIVISION, ROURKELA

E-Mail- rw_rourkela@yahoo.co.in

:- Road Works

05 (Five) Nos.

TENDER CALL NOTICE **BID IDENTIFICATION NO. ONLINE-SERKL-17 OF 2023-24**

Rs.4.86 Lakhs to 16.20 Lakhs

4. Class of contractor	:- "D" & "C" C	"D" & "C" Class			
5. Period of completion	:- 02 (Two) &	02 (Two) & 03 (Three) Calendar months			
4. Class of contractor5. Period of completion6. Type of Tender		Single Cover			
7. Other details	-				
December Officer	D	Availability of Tender On-line for bidding			
Procurement Officer	Bid Identification				
Procurement Officer	77.00				
Procurement Officer	Identification	for bi	dding		

Name of the Work

2. Total No. of works

Estimated cost

OIPR-25067/11/0024/2324

2023-24 10.00 A.M. 5.00 P.M. Further details can be seen from the website www.tendersodisha.gov.in Sd./- Superintending Engineer,

RW Division, Rourkela

OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER

P.H. DIVISION, KORAPUT Tel/Fax- 06852-250740; e-mail: eephkrp@nic.in; eephkrp@gmail.com

GOVERNMENT OF ODISHA "e" Procurement Notice e-Procurement Notice for 2023-24

Bid Identification No. EE, P.H. KPT-06 of 2023-24 Dt.8.11.2023

	2 Nos.
Estimated Cost	From Rs.17.82 lakh to
	Rs.28.70 lakh (Approx.)
Period of Completion	3 months
Date & Time of availability of bid	From 11.00 A.M. of 16.11.2023
document in the portal	to 05.00 P.M. of 28.11.2023
Last date/time of receipt of bids in the portal	05.00 P.M. of 28.11.2023
Date & time of opening of bids	11.00 A.M. of 29.11.2023
Name and address of the Officer	Executive Engineer,
Inviting Bid	P.H. Division, Koraput
	Date & Time of availability of bid document in the portal Last date/time of receipt of bids in the portal Date & time of opening of bids Name and address of the Officer

"https://www.tendersodisha.gov.in" Sd./- (Chiraniibi Mahali) OIPR-13008/11/0012/2324 Executive Engineer, P.H. Division, Koraput

GOVERNMENT OF ODISHA DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER, EARTH DAM DIVISION, CHITRAKONDA

DISTRICT: MALKANGIRI E-mail ID -executiveengineereddckd@gmail.com e- Procurement Notice No. SE-EDD-CKD-02/2023-24

No. A-834:- The Superintending Engineer, Earth Dam Division, Chitrakonda or behalf of Hon'ble Governor of ODISHA invites On-line Percentage Rate tender in single cover system through e-procurement for execution of the following work. The bid should be submitted by eligible class of contractors On-line in the Govt. website www.tenderorissa.gov.in. The bidders should have necessary portal enrolment with own digital signature certificate. The registered bidders outside of ODISHA car also participate in this on-line tender process after necessary portal enrolment but shall have to subsequently undergo registration with the appropriate authority of the State Govt. before signing of the agreement. The bidders may submit online bids for any or all the following works.

Details as below:-

2. Total No. of Works: 04 Nos.

3. Estimated cost of Works(s): Varies from Rs 31.80 Lakhs to Rs. 14.95 Lakhs

Procurement Officer	Bid Identification No.	Availability and submission of Bids - online		Opening of Tender
		From	То	1
1	2	3	4	5
Superintending Engineer, Earth Dam Division, Chitrakonda	SE-EDD- CKD- 02/2023-24	17.11.2023 10.00 A.M.	28.11.2023 up to 5.00 PM.	29.11.2023 At 10.30 A.M. onwards at O/o S.E., Earth Dam Division, Chitrakonda.

Corrigendum / addendum / Cancelation of tender can also be seen in the aforesaid website Sd./- Superintending Engineer, Earth Dam Division, Chitrakonda, Malkangiri (O)



ODISHA GRAMYA BANK

Regional Office: Khurda, At: Sanapalla, P.O: Pallahat, Dist.: Khurda, Odisha, Ph. No.: 06755-296213

POSSESSION NOTICE [Appendix-IV (Rule 8 (1)] (For Immovable Property

Whereas, the undersigned being the Authorised Officer of the Odisha Gramya Bank under the Securitization and Reconstruction of inancial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 and in exercise of powers conferred under section 13(12) read with Rules 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 issued Demand Notices, calling upon the borrower(s)/guarantor(s)/mortgagor(s) as noted below to repay the amount mentioned in the notice with further interest at contractual rates and rests and charges etc. till date o

realization within 60 days from the date of receipt of the said notice.

1) The borrower(s) having failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to the borrower(s)/guarantor(s)/mortgagor(s) and the public in general that the undersigned has taken POSSESSION of the property as described herein below in exercise of the powers conferred on him/her under section 13(4) of the said Act read with Rule 8 of the said rules on the dates as indicated hereunder.

2) The borrower(s)/guarantor(s)/mortgagor(s) in particular and the public in general are hereby cautioned not to deal with the property and any dealing with the said property will be subject to the charge of the Odisha Gramya Bank for the amount stated below with interest hereon at contractual rates & rests as agreed, charges etc. from the aforesaid date mentioned in the Demand Notice till date of paymen ess repayments, if any, made after issuance of Demand Notice. The dues payable on the date of taking possession is mentioned below which is payable with further interest at contractual rates and rests, charges etc., till the date of payment, 3) The borrower's attention is

invited to provisions of Sub-section (8) of the Section 13 of the Act, in respect of time available to them, to redeem the secured assets.				
BRANCH / Name & Address of the Borrower(s) / Guarantor(s) / Mortgagor(s)	Description of Immovable Properties	Dues payable as on specified date of Demand/ Possession Notice	Date of Demand / Possession Notice	
ODAGAON BRANCH / Borrower: Sri Prafulla Kumar Swain, S/o- Biswanath Swain/ Guarantor & Mortgagor: Sri Biswanath Swain, S/o- Laxman Swain, Both belongs to village At: Dalak, PO: Odagaon, Dist.: Nayagarh, PIN-752081 / Guarantor: Sri Kalu Charan Sahoo, S/o- Trinath Sahoo, belongs to village At/PO: Odagaon, Dist.: Nayagarh, PIN-752081	550/421, Plot No.: 426, Area: Ac.0.040dec., Kissam: Gharabari, Mouza: Dalak, Recorded Owner:	as on 06.01.2022 / ₹4,06,556/- as on 08.11.2023 + further interest at contractual	06.01.2022 / 08.11.2023	
GOPALPUR BRANCH / Borrower & Mortgagor: Sri Abhimanyu Paikaray, S/o- Jay	All that part and parcel of the property consisting of Khata No.:			

Date: 14.11.2023, Place: Khurda

Parida **/ Guarantor & Mortgagor: Sri Krupasindhu Paikaray,** 41, Plot No.: 780, Area: Ac.0.300 S/o- Jaya Parida **/ Guarantors: 1) Sri Hadubandhu Sahoo,** dec., Kissam: Gharabari, S/o- Ranjan Sahoo, 2) Sri Sachindra Kumar Parida, S/o-Upendra Parida, All belongs to village At: Barangagadia, PO: Bridan, Wood and State of State Karadapalli, PO: Narasinghapur, Dist.: Nayagarh, PIN-752025 |Jaya Parida

Mouza: Barangagadia

14.03.2023 ₹31,08,497/- as on 09.11.2023 + further 09.11.2023 interest at contractual

etc. till date of payment Sd/- Authorised Officer, Odisha Gramya Bank





Odisha boy eyes global karting glory

town, Aditya presently lives with his

Mumbai. He is an undergraduate student and regularly trains at the Rayo Racing Charter School in Mumbai. "I am happy that I will get the

opportunity to participate in the global competition. It is a big platform for me. I will try to give my best to bring laurels for the country," Aditya said. He added that he has increased his training duration to prepare for the Barhain meet.

Aditya's ultimate goal is to become a Formula One driver. Subhendu said Aditya is passionate about motorsports. "We are hopeful that he (Aditya) will certainly excel in Bahrain. I am eagerly waiting to find out how he fares," Subhendu said.



When Reason died, then

SRI AUROBINDO



Sunak's Sleight of Hand

hat the sacked UK home secretary Suella Braverman has done is nothing short of madness. For, no other minister of any government in living memory is known to have aired her or his views in a newspaper on the action of an agency of the government she or he is part of. Last week she penned an explosive newspaper article, apparently without Prime Minister Rishi Sunak's approval, accusing police of bias towards Left-wing causes. She blamed the police for stoking tensions ahead of a weekend of protests over Israel's war in Gaza, which were accompanied by violence by Far-right counter-protestors. Her frequent controversial remarks climaxed with statements that exacerbated tensions at massive pro-Palestine demonstrations over the weekend.

Sunak had virtually no other option but to strip her of her portfolio as his popularity has already taken a dip. In fact, he seems to have been caught in a dilemma. If he retained her, he would have been considered to be a weak PM. Yet, by acting against her he has antagonized the most hardcore sections of his own party who look upon Braverman as their true representative with her incendiary Right-wing, racist and anti-migrant speeches. She has apparently been tapping on the sentiments of this segment of the Conservative Party supporters for the past few years with obvious prime ministerial ambition. Even when she was sacked, she boasted she had enjoyed the privilege of being the home secretary and indicated she had many more things to say. She does not seem to have any regrets for ignoring collective cabinet responsibility when she criticised the police action.

But, there could be a method in her seeming madness. Analysts say she is only positioning herself as an active leadership challenger for Sunak. The current PM now faces potential unrest in the Conservative Party around the country where many ordinary members back Braverman's Right-wing views on blocking immigration and tougher

Braverman hogged the limelight in July 2022 when she announced her candidacy to succeed Boris Johnson. She immediately broke convention by refusing to resign as attorney general. This was an early indication of her scant respect for parliamentary convention, which is now so glaringly evident. Her candidacy was not, however, treated seriously and she was quickly eliminated from the contest, but the move launched her rapid elevation with her extreme anti-immigration and pro-law and order statements.

Earlier this year, Braverman attracted widespread criticism when she said floods of people who come to the UK across the Channel in small boats "possess values which are at odds with our country" and there were "heightened levels of criminality."

Her successor, James Cleverly, on the other hand, has risen in prominence as foreign secretary in the past year. He has brought respect and rationality to the role after three predecessors generally regarded as failures - Liz Truss, Dominic Raab and Boris Johnson. That left a vacancy as foreign secretary which gave an opportunity to Sunak to spring a surprise on both his own party and the world. He has made the former somewhat discredited Prime Minister David Cameron his new foreign secretary. Cameron led Britain to its current Brexit existence outside the European Union by calling a referendum in 2016 that he believed would be in favour of remaining in Europe. He resigned in 2016 on the day the Brexit referendum result was announced and has been in the political wilderness since.

Cameron's reputation has been tarnished by the lobbying he carried out for Greensill Capital, a scandal-hit financial services company that collapsed in 2021. His "significant lack of judgment" was criticised by a Treasury Committee. The reason Sunak has given him the job could be Cameron's stature in international politics. He may bring respectability to UK policies in foreign capitals and multi-national or-

For India, the appointment brings good news as Cameron had tried as PM to strengthen two-way trade and investment. He made three visits to India in that role and hosted Narendra Modi in London in 2015.

The entire exercise sounds like Sunak's desperate remedy for an extreme situation. As he faces the electorate soon with his party's popularity rating going down, the cabinet reshuffle is intended to refurbish his image.

WISDOM CORNER

Awakening begins when a man realizes that he is going nowhere and does not know where to go.

Forget mistakes. Forget failure. Forget everything except what you're

going to do now and do it. Today is your lucky day. WILL DURANT

Whenever you find yourself on the side of the majority, it is time to MARK TWAIN

THIS DAY **IN HISTORY**

- 1864: Union General William Tecumseh Sherman began his March to the Sea from Atlanta to Savannah, Georgia, laving waste to the economic resources of the state as he sought to crush white Southern civilians' support of the Confederate cause; his campaign helped end the American Civil War.
- **1904:** American inventor King Camp Gillette was granted a U.S. patent for the first razor with disposable blades.
- **1920:** League of Nations meets for the first time. The general assembly of the international organization got together for the first time after being founded in January 1920. The League was created as a response to World War I and was entrusted by member states to maintain peace in the world.
- 1988: State of Palestine created. The Palestinian Liberation Organization (PLO) declared the creation of the state while in exile in Algiers, Algeria. The declaration designated eastern Jerusalem as the state's capital. Today, almost 70% of all UN members state recognize it as an independent country.

A cold winter night

orenzo Dow, an evangelist of the last century, was on a preaching tour when he came to a small town one cold winter's night.

He entered the local general store to get some warmth, and saw the town's lawyers gathered around the potbellied stove, discussing the town's business. Not one offered to allow Dow into the circle.

Dow told the men who he was, and that he had recently had a vision



where he had been given a tour of Hell, much like the traveller in Dante's

When one of the lawyers asked him what he had seen, he replied, "Very much what I see here: All of the lawyers, gathered in the hottest

FOCUS SOCIETY

POLITICS & DISRUPTION



David Cameron FOR SURE, ABU **DHABI'S PARTNERSHIP** WITH NYU HAS **ATTRACTED ONE** OF THE WORLD'S **GREAT HIGHER EDUCATION BRANDS FOR** THE COUNTRY, **BUT IT HAS BUILT A** UNIVERSITY

FOR THE WORLD

must admit: the 15 students from 10 countries sitting in front of me looked fairly shocked. They had signed up for a course about "Practising Politics and Government in the Age of Disruption" without knowing that their "Professor" was going to be a former UK Prime Minister.

I can't claim to have been equally surprised. After all, I had agreed to this role. But looking at their faces made me ask: why, 34 years after leaving university as a student, had I returned as an (untrained) teacher? Why NYUAD, rather than my old University of Oxford? And why Abu Dhabi, in the UAE, thousands of miles from home?

I first came to know NYUAD a few years ago when speaking at Ideas Abu Dhabi, which took place at the brand new campus. Of course, the scale of the university, the facilities and buildings, all blow you away. That's the Emirates for you – they never do anything by halves. But the real shock was the students. Selected by ability, so that family income or rather lack of it – is no bar to entry, they come from over 100 countries. They are bright, they speak and write English superbly even though for most, it is their second language, and are ambitious and engaged about everything from politics to social and cultural

Emiratis are the single biggest group, but currently, they do not account for more than one fifth of the students. For sure, Abu Dhabi's partnership with NYU has attracted one of the world's great higher education brands for the country, but it has built a university for the world. Every university boasts about the native intelligence of its students, but here one statistic stands out: if these young people were applying to NYU in Manhattan, they would be in the top 10 per cent of the in-

A big attraction for me was



One of the questions in my course about 'Practising Politics in the Age of Disruption' is whether states and governments are capable of long-term thinking and delivering major projects that can transform their nation's prospects. There is little doubt that when it comes to the

UAE, the answer is a solid 'yes'

the concept of "J-Term" (where the J stands for January). In just over three weeks, visiting professors and guest "tutors" from across the world – offering an array of differing expertise and topics to study – work with students to pack in teaching, seminars, tuition and written work that would usually be spread across a four-month term. In my case, it is a series of seminars on some of the issues that have been driving politics in Europe for the past two decades: the financial crash, the migration crisis, the rise of nonulism. Brexit and, of course, the war in Ukraine.

We ask a lot of the students. In an era when young people (and their parents) question whether there is enough teaching, written work and feedback even at some of our best universities, my students have to tolerate my teaching for three hours every day - and then produce written work every two days that is discussed and marked almost as soon as it is handed in.

J-Term works for NYU and the teaching staff too. It means that NYU can attract a range of professors and guest tutors that might otherwise struggle to make the time commitment. I am joined here by former leaders of businesses and NGOs, journalists, writers, professors from other universities, and even one or two other politicians, including former PM Matteo Renzi from Italy.

While the teaching schedule

is hectic, there is plenty of time left to think. I must have travelled to the UAE half a dozen times as a political leader and many more times since. But usually for a day or two, never more. First impressions matter, but not as much as time taken to properly understand what a country is trying to do. It is easy to see - and be bowled over by – the physical transformation. I am writing this in a flat in Mamsha, on Saadiyat Island, a part of the city that didn't exist when I first came here as prime minister just over a decade ago. Next door is Jubail Island, where a whole new part of the city is being built from scratch, together with thousands of acres of new mangroves, as part of Abu Dhabi's target of planting one million trees by 2030.

But it takes longer to grasp the scale of ambition when it comes to human capital. And NYU Abu Dhabi is a part of that. Not so much "build it and they will come," more "build it and see how we grow." The same goes for bringing to Abu Dhabi the Cleveland Clinic and Mayo Clinic to grow the health economy or the first Louvre outside Paris to grow the cul-

Of course, challenges remain. Maintaining stability in an unstable neighbourhood. Managing a hot climate in an overheating world. And building a cohesive society and meeting peoples' natural aspirations in a country that is welcoming people from across the globe. I don't understate any of those.

But one of the questions in my course about "Practising Politics in the Age of Disruption" is whether states and governments are capable of long-term thinking and delivering major projects that can transform their nation's prospects. There is little doubt that when it comes to the UAE, the answer is a solid "yes."

The writer is a former Prime Minister of the UK.

IN JEST THIS

70 hours per week isn't for everyone



Melvin Durai

NO POINT IN BEING AT WORK FROM 7 AM TO 7 PM IF YOU **RUN OUT OF ENERGY AT 4 PM** AND SPEND THE **REST OF YOUR DAY** WATCHING **CRICKET HIGHLIGHTS ON YOUR PHONE**

TO THE EDITOR

are most welcome to contribute letters

postal address/email ID. They may also

and suggestions, preferably by email, to: edit@orissapost.com

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send in their valuable comments, opinion

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(200 words), articles and

requested to send their contact numbers and full

columns (between 750-1250 words). Contributors are

Murthy caused quite a stir recently when he said that young Indians should work 70 hours per week to help the country develop.

"India's work productivity is one of the lowest in the world," he said on a podcast. "Unless we improve our work productivity ... we will not be able to compete with those countries that have made tremendous

He added that his request is that "our youngsters must say, 'This is my country. I'd like to work 70 hours a week.

Seventy hours a week? I just spoke to a few youngsters and they told me they want to work seven hours a week. They won't take any days off – they'll work every single day for one hour.

But seriously, is it realistic to expect youngsters to work 70 hours a week for the benefit of their country? I don't think so. They're more likely to work 70 hours a week for the benefit of their careers

If you work 70 hours a week,

Infosys founder Narayana you'll probably be successful at your job. Does the whole country benefit if you're successful at your job? Yes, it definitely does, especially if you're Virat Kohli.

> Actually, you don't have to be a cricket star for your success to benefit the country. If you're an entrepreneur, you might create a company that employs a lot of people and contributes greatly to the economy.

> Entrepreneurs are known to work around the clock as they get their companies started. They don't count their hours because they're working for themselves. They're investing their labour in their companies, knowing that if the companies are successful, they will be rewarded handsomely. They might even become billionaires like Narayana Murthy, allowing them to sit back and tell others to work 70 hours a week.

> It's not just entrepreneurs who work many hours a week. People work tirelessly in various fields. An aspiring author may spend countless hours

guarantee that it will ever be read by more than just family and friends. An artist may spend hundreds of hours on a single painting, hoping that it will be appreciated while the artist is still alive. A doctor may work from morning to night, helping many people get healthy, while also ensuring a healthy bank balance.

Not everyone is working purely for themselves, of course. Many of us like to believe we are doing something to benefit society at large, whether it's making people healthy, providing them with a product or service, or entertaining them in a movie theater.

Many people do work 70 hours or more per week, but most people would rather not. Seventy hours a week is the equivalent of working from 7 am to 7 pm five days a week, and 7 am to 5 pm on the sixth day. That may not seem like much, but what if you are one of those lucky people who has

working on a book, with no a life outside work? What if you have a hobby, a spouse or even children?

"No time to socialise, no time to talk to family, no time to exercise, no time for recreation.' Dr. Deepak Krishnamurthy, a Bangalore-based cardiologist, wrote on X in response to Murthy's suggestion.

While Murthy wants youngsters in India to work more hours, many people are trying to work fewer hours. Those who are working 50 hours a week want to work 40 hours, and those who are working 40 want to work 32. Indeed, autoworkers in America are campaigning for four-day, 32-hour workweeks. They want to be saying, "Thank God it's Thursday.

Proponents of a shorter workweek say that productivity should not be measured in hours, but in actual output. I agree with this. No point in being at work from 7 am to 7 pm if you run out of energy at 4 pm and spend the rest of your day watching cricket highlights on your phone.

Welcome guidelines

Sir, The Supreme Court has issued welcome guidelines to monitor the speedy disposal of cases against MPs and MLAs, who manage to stay above the law even after committing heinous crimes. Some of the cases pending against the people's representatives involve charges of rape and murder. It is not just the slow pace of justice that has kept the cases pending for years. Politicians have all the resources at their disposal to slow down cases and defeat the ends of justice. The court issued its guidelines with the observation that the "confidence and trust of the constituency in their political representative" is necessary for the effective functioning of a parliamentary democracy. The court will have done a great service to the country if it can enforce its guidelines and ensure that criminal politicians, however high they are, are brought to book. The court should ensure that its guidelines do not go the way of earlier exercises.

N Sadhasiva Reddy, BANGALORE

Growing burden

Sir, Diabetes mellitus is a major growing health problem in India. Its prevalence has been steadily rising and by the year 2025, India would have the world's largest population with diabetics. Diabetes mellitus is a disorder in which the transport of glucose from the bloodstream to the cells does not function properly. This leads to much higher levels of glucose or sugar in the blood than is normal or on a healthy body. The reason for this could be that your pancreas is not producing enough quality or quantity of insulin or the insulin being produced is not being utilised properly by the body. Thus your body cannot properly use the energy from the food you eat resulting in an increase in thirst, more tiredness and lassitude, changes in weight and frequent passing of urine. You will have to live with diabetes and therefore you will have to follow ways and means to control diabetes. Kawasaki herb, an Ayurvedic medicine, controls diabetes to the normal level if taken along with the prescribed medicines by an allopathic physician.

CK Subramaniam, NAVI MUMBAI



TWOSTATES



for other backward classes.

He said this while attending

the felicitation ceremony of the

councilors of Jammu Municipal

Corporation (JMC) whose five-

vear-term ends Tuesday. He com-

mended all the councilors for

selflessly serving people, fight-

ing Covid pandemic and ensur-

ing municipal services in re-

Corporation also completed its

full term on November 5, while

the municipal committees are

also completing their full tenure

this month."The elections for

Urban Local Bodies (ULBs) would

be held after completion of the

delimitation exercise of wards

and reservation of wards for

Other Backward Classes.

Common public and elected rep-

resentatives must work in syn-

ergy and focus on resource gen-

He said despite delayed im-

plementation of 73rd and 74th

amendments in Jammu and

Kashmir, the Union territory

administration has ensured

basic principles of decentral-

ization of decision making and

eration," Sinha said.

Municipal

spective areas.

Srinagar



WEDNESDAY | NOVEMBER 15 | 2023 | BHUBANESWAR

1,175 died in road mishaps till Oct 31

New Delhi, Nov 14: A total of 1,175 people lost their lives in 2023 till October 31 this year in 1,141 accidents that were classified as "fatal," the police said in a statement.

Fatal accidents in the national capital reduced by more than four per cent this year till October 31 and the number of deaths decreased by more than three per cent as compared to the corresponding period in 2022 police said.

According to the data shared by police, a total of 4.646 fatal accidents took place in 2022 till October 31. Out of them, 1,197 were fatal accidents, which took

This year, there were 4,803 reported accidents, with 1,141 classified as fatal and 1,175 people losing their lives in them."In 2023, there was a 4.74 per cent reduc tion in the total number of fatal accidents, accompanied by a 3.27 per cent decrease in the number of persons killed compared to previous year," police said.

A senior officer said that to minimise road accidents, police



According to the data shared by police, a total of 4,646 fatal accidents took place in 2022 till October 31. Out of them 1.197 were fatal accidents.

tatal accidents in the national capital reduced by more than four per cent this year till October 31 and the number of deaths decreased by more than three per cent as compared to the corresponding period in 2022, police said

deter reckless and drunk driving. effective enforcement, conducting real-time data analysis, enhancing driver education and training programmes, and utilising modern technology.

Police are also collaborating with stakeholders to improve road engineering issues, the officer said. In 2019, 1,433 fatal accidents claimed 1,463 lives and led to 5,152 injuries.

Rai flags off water sprinkling campaign

INDO-ASIAN NEWS SERVICE

New Delhi, Nov 14: As air pollution in the national capital has surged especially after Diwali, Environment Minister Gonal Rai Tuesday flagged off a special water sprinkling campaign from Delhi Secretariat.

Implementing water sprinkling as a preventive measure can prove effective in mitigating dust pollution. By dampening the dust particles, water sprinkling helps in settling them down, reducing their suspension in the air.

'We saw that during rain the dust pollution had reduced. Now since the effect of rain is reducing slowly, we are increasing this campaign to sprinkle water across Delhi," the minister said. "From today, 70 mobile anti-smoke guns have been started for 70 assembly constituencies. It will sprinkle water across Delhi to reduce dust pollution.

Also in a post on X, the minister said: "In view of the pollution situation, special water sprinkling campaign has been started in entire Delhi. Under this campaign, anti-smog guns were sent to all 70 assemblies of Delhi todav.'

This simple yet impactful technique will not only improve air quality but also minimise the health risks associated with prolonged exposure to airborne pollutants.

The elections for Urban Local Bodies (ULBs) would be held after completion Jammu, Nov 14: Jammu and of the delimitation exercise of Kashmir Lt Governor Manoj Sinha Tuesday said the election wards and reservation of for Urban Local Bodies (ULB) wards for Other Backward would be held after completion **Classes. Common public and** of the delimitation exercise of elected representatives must wards and reservation of wards work in synergy and focus on

ULB polls in J&K not now: LG

resource generation MANOJ SINHA | J&K LT GOVERNOR

development by transferring more departments and works to elected representatives after Aug 2019, the day when the Centre revoked Article 370 and bifurcated the erstwhile Jammu and Kashmir into two Union territories

He also said ULBs of Jammu and Kashmir are provided with greater financial resources for strong and accountable self-government and to ensure holistic ecosystem for last-mile access to services

According to officials, the housing and urban development department is actively pursuing a communication from the office of the chief electoral officer (CEO), which, among other things, suggested transfer of mandate to conduct the municipal electoral processes to the State Election Commission (SEC) in accordance with constitu-

No.3865

tional provisions.

In Jammu and Kashmir, the chief electoral officer (CEO) is the authority to hold ULB elections in addition to Lok Sabha and assembly polls, while the SEC -- headed by a state election commissioner -- is mandated to conduct elections to Panchayati

Raj institutions. In a letter to the housing and urban development department last month, the CEO's office said consequent to the appointment of a full-time state election commissioner, the mandate to conduct the municipal electoral processes needs to be transferred from the CEO to the SEC.

"For this, the election authority under the municipal acts needs to be changed from chief electoral officer to the state election commissioner. The constitutional provisions also mandate this." the letter read.

have implemented measures to Mehbooba, Omar question bail to Army officer

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Srinagar, Nov 14: Former Chief Ministers Mehbooba Mufti and Omar Abdullah Tuesday questioned bail being granted to an Army officer convicted of killing three civilians in a "staged" encounter in 2020, with the NC leader terming it a reminder from the government that the blood of people of Jammu and Kashmir is "cheap"

The armed forces tribunal in New Delhi has suspended the life sentence of Captain Bhoopendra Singh who was found guilty of killing three men in a "staged" encounter in south Kashmir's Amshipora village in July 2020.

The three men hailing from Rajouri district of Jammu region -- Imtivaz Ahmed, Abrar Ahmed and Mohammed Ibrar -- were killed in a remote hilly village in Shopian district on July 18, 2020 and labelled as

"terrorists" National Conference leader Abdullah said on Tuesday, "We are reminded repeatedly by the Centre that our blood is cheap, that there is no value of our blood. When our people



"I was surprised to see yesterday's news that the Army officer who killed three men from Rajouri in a fake encounter in Shopian, he was sentenced to life imprisonment by army court martial Yesterday, he was released and set free. How unfortunate! Abdullah told party convention in Tangmarg area of Baramulla district.

The former chief minister said people from Jammu and Kashmir who are in jails without any charges were not getting bail.

"How many of our youths are in jails after 2019. Our government employees are dismissed from service without any procedure, bulldozers are run over the houses of people on smallest of charges. But a man who has been convicted and sentenced to life imprisonment for killing three civilians from Rajouri will be free now," he added.

PDP president Mehbooba Mufti said the bail granted to the Army officer raises serious questions on the sanctity of the judicial process.



In 2020, fatal accidents reduced to 1.163, with 267 less lives lost. and a drop in the number of female casualties. The total number of injuries that year declined to 3,662, police said.

In 2021, a total of 1,206 fatal accidents and 1,239 deaths were reported. In 2022, the fatal accidents slightly increased to 1,428 out of 5,652 accidents and 1,461 people were killed, they said.



Former J&K Chief Minister and National Conference vice-president Omar Abdullah interacts with children during a party workers' rally, at Kunzar area of Gulmarg constituency in Baramulla district, Tuesday

Would Kashmiris ever listen to Hatim's tales again?

INDO-ASIAN NEWS SERVICE

Srinagar, Nov 14: The art of storytelling has been an essential element of Kashmir's folklore and a great source of inspiration for researchers and explorers.

Sir Marc Aurel Stein, the Hungarian born British archaeologist and explorer spent six summers in the Himalayan meadow called Mohand Marg in Valley's Ganderbal district to translate Kalhana's epic chronicle, the 'Rajatarangini' (River of Kings) from Sanskrit to English.

During his stay in the Valley, Stein came to know of a great storyteller called Hatim Teli (Hatim oil-seller) who lived in the present Panzin village of Ganderbal which Stein called 'Panzil'. The village is situated at the confluence of the Sindh stream and the waters from the Harmukh glacier.

Harmukh peak is believed to be the abode of Hindu Lord Shiva and his consort, Goddess Parvati. Local Pandits believe that the divine couple went to the Amarnath Cave from their Harmukh abode to give 'Darshan' to the devotees.

With the help of a local scholar, Pandit Govind Kaul, Stein managed to translate Hatim's stories and songs into English which he published in England in the early 20th century. Hatim used to be in great demand during public gatherings and weddings. His list of hosts ran long, especially, during the winter months when his

visits would be long awaited. Families would gather around



Hatim during long winter nights and under the light of an oil lamp, the lanky storyteller would start his narration of 'Mahmud of Ghazni and the fisherman', or the romantic story of 'Prophet Yusuf and Zulaikha' or the adventure of 'Forsyth Sahib to conquer Yarkand'.

The master storyteller, Hatim was the narrator of Kashmir's folklore and storytelling tradition that existed centuries before him and continued for many years after his death. With the advent of cinema, television and mobile phones. the art of storytelling has suffered immensely in Kashmir as the present generation is more interested in science fiction films, crime and family TV serials, adventure and disaster movies etc.

The tradition of storytelling has been and is a very important part of Kashmir's history and culture. Many Kashmiris, mostly in their 60s and above, still vividly recall the magic of the local storyteller. They still believe that despite the popularity and reach of cinema and television, the attraction and thrill of the storyteller remains unmatched.

Ghulam Nabi Sheikh, 86, is a retired school headmaster. He lives in a village in Ganderbal district. His face gets back the long lost glow when he is reminded of the days and nights he spent as a child and youth listening to the storvteller. "Winters used to be tough. There was no electricity and the roads were hardly motorable. "Snow would begin in the afternoon and keep falling till morning. "Everything would be covered with a white blanket in the morning as we looked forward to a hot cup of salt tea gathered around the hearth managed by mother. "Days would mostly be spent indoors as parents cautioned us of frostbite and chilblains if we played in snow. "Once every fortnight, our home would become the centre of attraction for the entire village as the storyteller was coming home that evening. "Dinner would be served early and a large steaming 'Samovar' with 'Kehwa' would

be placed close to the storyteller. "He would begin his narrative with masterly craft matched by the widening of his eyes, raising and lowering of his eyebrows and hands as the prince in the story fought the 'Jinn' to retrieve his beloved. "There was advice and wisdom in every story he told. The triumph of good over evil, crime never pays and despite all our cunning and craft, a straight line is still the shortest distance between two points, etc. "It was a marvellous entertaining system of education the likes of which is not seen today despite audio-visual gadgets at our schools and colleges. "I wish the art never dies and our department of culture does something to revive the tradition. "It is like the dying street theatre. We owe it to posterity to preserve these historical assets". the retired headmaster said

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E-mail: ddtbargarh@gmail.com Date: 14.11.2023

CORRIGENDUM **TENTAGE & ALLIED WORKS FOR NATIONAL** LEVEL HANDLOOM SUMMIT

No.PP-60:- In partial modification of Tender Call Notice No. 3815 date 06.11.2023, the period of National Level Handloom Summit scheduled to be organized on date 13th & 14th December 2023 is now re-scheduled to be organized on date 4th & 5th January 2024. Further the opening of tender paper for evaluation process of Tentage & allied work which has been fixed on 21.11.2023 at 11 A.M. (Technical Bid) and price bid is scheduled to be opened at 3 P.M. is deferred to date 22.11.2023 due to some unavoidable circumstances

All other terms & conditions laid down in the aforesaid order shall remain un-altered

Sd./- I/C-Deputy Director of Textiles

Bargarh OIPR-31032/11/0006/2324

OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER L.I.DIVISION, BERHAMPUR e-mail:eeolicbam@ymail.com e-Procurement Notice

Bid Identification No.08/2023-24 OLIC (BAM)/Dt.13.11.2023

No.CAD-2846: The Executive Engineer, Lift Irrigation Division, Berhampu on behalf of OLIC invites Percentage Rate bids in Single Cover System to be received in online Mode only for the work "Revival and Energisation of LIPs in Ganjam District as detailed in the table below. The Bid should

be submitted by the eligible class of contractors as mentioned below registered with the State Government and Contractors of equivalent grade/ Class registered with Central Government / M.E.S./ Railways/ C.P.W.D. for execution of Civil Works with valid Electrical (H.T.) License issued by ELBO Odisha as a single or having joint venture with proper registration through On-line in the Govt. website www.tendersodisha.gov.in. The bidders should have necessary portal enrolment with own digital signature certificate 1. Numbers of Package 19 Numbers

2. Estimated Cost

Rs.6.44 lakhs to 28.05 lakhs

3. Tender Cost Rs.4000+GST @ 18% or Rs.6000+

GST@18% as per DTCN As per DTCN Dt.15.11.2023 from 11.00 Noon

Sd./- Executive Engineer, R.W. Division, Bargarh

4. Class of Contracto 5. Date & Time of Publication

6. Date & Time of Closing Dt.22.11.2023 at 17.00 Hrs.

7. Date & Time of Opening of Bid: Dt.23.11.2023 at 12.00 Noon Further details can be seen from the website www.tendersorissa.gov in. Addendum/Corrigendum/Cancellation of tender, if any, can be seen in

> Sd./- EXECUTIVE ENGINEER OIPR-32442/11/0012/2324

OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER No.O-1519 **RURAL WORKS DIVISION, BARGARH** Email: rd_bgh@yahoo.co.in, Gmail: rwd.bgh@gmail.com e-Procurement Notice No. ONLINE-BGH- 09 OF 2023-24 Building works during 2023-24 in the district of Bargarh. Name of the Work

EMD Other detai As per DTCN Bid Last Date & Date & Time of Availability of Tender online Procurement Officer Identification for bidding Time of opening of Seeking tender No. tender clarification 01.12.2023 at ONLINE 30.11.2023 upto 29.11.2023 Executive 20.11.2023 BGH-09 Engineer, Rura 5.00 P.M. up to 5.00 PM 11.00 A.M. Works Division OF 2023-24 11.00 A.M. Bargarh Further details can be seen from the website www.tendersorissa.gov.in.



Camel herders arrive ahead of the annual Pushkar Fair, in Pushkar, Rajasthan



Devotees collect 'Prasadam' during Annakut festival at Madan Mohan Temple, in Kolkata, West Bengal



NCC cadets take part in a march past during the Children's Day celebrations, in Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala



BRS president and Telangana Chief Minister K Chandrasekhar Rao during a campaign ahead of the state Assembly election, at Palakurthy in Jangaon district



President Joe Biden, accompanied by (from left), first lady Jill Biden, Office of Management and Budget director Shalanda Young, White House Gender Policy Council director Jen Klein, and Women's Alzheimer's Movement founder Maria Shriver, signs a presidential memorandum that will establish the first-ever White House Initiative on Women's Health Research in the Oval Office of the White House



Devotees carrying milk and sweets walk to the Goverdhan hillock on the occasion of 'Goverdhan puja', near Mathura, Uttar Pradesh



Frecce Tricolori (Tricolor Arrows), the Italian Air Force aerobatic display team, performs during the opening day of the Dubai Air Show, United Arab Emirates



Prime Minister Narendra Modi being felicitated during a poll meeting, in Jhabua district, Madhya Pradesh

AP/PTI PHOTOS

national



BJP is the beneficiary of freedom struggle. Not a single member of the saffron party fought for the freedom of the country and went to jail SIDDARAMAIAH | KARNATAKA CM

SC COMES TO US BOY'S RESCUE

The Supreme Court has come to the rescue of a three-year-old boy, a US citizen in critical need of liver transplant, by permitting his distant Indian cousin to donate the organ, saving it is not an appropriate case to consider the legal requirement in "absolute terms"



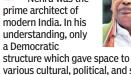
Pandit Nehru loved to spend children and enjoyed their company, treating each of them precious manner with the belief that they are the architects of our future

PREM SINGH TAMANG | SIKKIM CM

They (the central used to tell the world that they have established three-tier democracy in J&K, not one tier is left of it now. It is clear. If the BJP had felt that they would win elections here (Srinagar), they would have held the polls here

OMAR ABDULLAH | NATIONAL CONFERENCE LEADER

Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru was the



various cultural, political, and socioeconomic trends to express themselves could hold India together

MALLIKARJUN KHARGE CONGRESS PRESIDENT

SHORT **TAKES**

T'gana CEO bans 15 ads

Hyderabad: Election authorities in Telangana have withdrawn 15 advertisements of three major parties as their content was distorted and misused on various social media platforms. The Chief Electoral Officer (CEO) Tuesday clarified that advertisements withdrawn relate to content which was distorted and misused on various social media platforms by individuals/political parties.

6 killed in mishap

Muzaffarnagar (UP): Six people were killed when their car collided with a truck at Rampurtiraha on the Delhi-Haridwar national highway early Tuesday. The accident took place at around 4 am when the victims, who hailed from Shahdara in Delhi and Meerut, were on their way to Haridwar for sightseeing.

PM mocks Rahul

Betul: Prime Minister Narendra Modi Tuesday mocked Congress MP Rahul Gandhi, calling him "leader of fools" over his remarks on China-made mobile phones, as he wrapped up his hectic election campaign in Madhya Pradesh after reaching out to tribals and predicting a "storm" in the BJP's favour in the state. The Bharatiya Janata Party's star campaigner addressed three poll rallies in a day -- in Betul, Shajapur and Jhabua -- and capped his whirlwind tour of the state with a roadshow in Indore in the evening on the penultimate day of canvassing for the November 17 assembly polls.

NOTICE TO AAP

The BJP had November 10 approached the Election Commission and demanded action against the AAP for posting "very unacceptable" and "unethical" video clip and remarks on a social media platform targeting Prime Minister Narendra Modi

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, Nov 14: The Election Commission Tuesday issued a show-cause notice to the Aam Aadmi Party for alleged disnaraging remarks made against the Prime Minister on its social media handle and asked it to respond to the charge of poll code violation by November 16.

The AAP Wednesday last had posted a video story on 'X' featuring industrialist Gautam Adani and Prime Minister Modi. The next day, the party posted a picture of Adani and Modi, and alleged that the Prime Minister works for the industrialist and not the people.

In its notice to the AAP, the Election Commission stated, ..The present alleged matter has been found to be posted from the handle of the Aam Aadmi Party itself, which being a national party is expected to exercise caution through verification of facts before publishing and disseminating such content in public domain.

A BJP delegation, comprising Union minister Hardeep Singh Puri, party national media in-charge and Rajya Sabha member Anil Baluni and party leader Om Pathak, approached the poll panel on the issue.

"From its official handle, the

Notice to Priyanka

New Delhi: The Election Commission issued a show-cause notice to Congress leader Priyanka Gandhi Vadra for allegedly making unverified and false statements with regard to Prime Minister Narendra Modi. Acting on a complaint made by the BJP that she had made "false" and "unverified" statements against Prime Minister Modi at an election rally in Madhya Pradesh recently, the poll panel asked her to explain her statement by 8 pm Thursday.



THE NOTICE HAS BEEN ISSUED TO THE NATIONAL CONVENER OF THE AAP

DELHI CHIEF MINISTER ARVIND KEJRIWAL IS THE NATIONAL CONVENER OF THE AAP, WHICH IS IN POWER IN DELHI AND PUNJAB

AAP has posted a video and two tweets (posts on X) in which it has said very unacceptable, reprehensible, mischievous and unethical things about the democratically elected head of the government," Puri told reporters after raising the issue with the EC.

"It is saying in it (these posts) that a democratically elected leader, who happens to be the prime minister, is a paid employee of some individual," the Union Minister said and added this act of the AAP was a new low in politics.

In its notice, the EC stated. "The national convener of the Aam Aadmi Party is hereby called upon to explain the statements/allegations/averments, made in the alleged social media posts under reference, against a star campaigner (PM Modi) of another national party and against the political party and by insinuation and innuendo against the candidates for the state elections and to show cause why appropriate action for violation of model code of conduct read with relevant election and penal laws

should not be taken against you." Assembly polls are underway in five states - Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Telangana and Mizoram.

EC SHOW-CAUSE Rape victim says 'happily married'

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, Nov 14: The Supreme Court has reduced the sentence of a man convicted of raping an 11-year-old girl noting her statement that she is happily married and not interested in pursuing the matter further.

A bench of Justices B R Gavai, P S Narasimha and Aravind Kumar maintained the conviction of the man under Section 376 of the Indian Penal Code.

In this case, the trial court in Khandwa, Madhya Pradesh had acquitted the appellant. However, the state government



filed an appeal and the High Court reversed the acquittal and convicted the man and sentenced him to rigorous imprisonment for life.

The convict had moved the apex court against the Madhya Pradesh High Court judgment. The top court said though the minimum sentence to be awarded was seven years, discretion is vested with the court which may impose a sentence of imprisonment for a term of less than seven years.

The prosecutrix has also appeared in the matter through the counsel. She has stated that she is happily married and is not interested in pursuing the matter further. The appellant has already undergone a sentence of more than five years," the bench said.

The top court said taking into consideration the facts and circumstances of the present case

"we maintain the conviction under Section 376 of the Indian Penal Code. However, we find that the sentence already undergone will be sufficient to subserve the ends of justice.'

The convict had moved the apex court against the Madhya Pradesh High Court judgment which had said that the man had exploited the victim taking advantage of her poverty.

The FIR in the case was lodged October 22, 1996, by the parents of the victim when she had become pregnant and the accused and his wife had offered Rs 10,000 to facilitate her abortion.

ALUVA CHILD RAPE & MURDER

Court sentences convict to death

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Kochi, Nov 14: One hundred and ten days after a minor girl was brutally raped and killed in Kerala's Aluva, a special court here Tuesday sentenced a migrant worker to death in the case that had sent shock waves across the state as cries for justice echoed

Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan said the punishment given on Children's Day should be seen as a strong warning to those who commit violence against children while the parents of the victim thanked the Kerala society for ensuring justice to

their 5 year-old daughter. Judge K Soman, presiding over the Special POCSO (Protection Of Children from Sexual Offences) court, also handed down five life terms to convict Ashwaq Alam, a Bihar native, for various charges including rape and aggravated penetrative sexual assault under the Indian Penal Code and the

of the girl, also from Bihar.

The sentence was pronounced on a day celebrated as Children's Day across the country.

POCSO Act, respectively. In a crowded courtroom, the judge declared that Alam should be hanged to death for the killing

218 at 4 pm.

crackers till late Sunday night led

Air crisis worsens in Delhi

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, Nov 14: Air pollution in Delhi neared the 'severe"category again amid unfavourable meteorological conditions Tuesday and a relief is unlikely soon.

The capital's 24-hour average Air Quality Index (AQI), recorded at 4 pm everyday, stood at 397, worsening from 358 Monday and 218 Sunday.

Air pollution levels hit the severe category (AQI above 400) at many places within the city, including ITO (427), RK Puram (422), Punjabi Bagh (423), Nehru Nagar (450), Anand Vihar (439) and Nehru Nagar (450).

Neighbouring Ghaziabad (356), Gurugram (386), Greater Noida (348), Noida (364) and Faridabad (384) also recorded very poor air quality.

Squandering the relief due to rain, Delhi recorded a jump in pollution levels and a smoky haze returned Monday after people flouted the ban on firecrackers on Diwali night.

According to IQAir, a Swiss company that specialises in air quality monitoring, Delhi was the most polluted city in the world on Tuesday, followed by Dhaka Lahore and Mumbai. Delhi recorded its best

air quality on Diwali day in eight years Sunday, with its 24-hour average AQI settling at

However, the bursting of fire-

ble-burning accounted for 12 per

to a spike in pollution levels amid low temperatures.

An AQI between zero and 50 is considered 'good', 51 and 100 'satisfactory', 101 and 200 'moderate', 201 and 300 'poor', 301 and 400 'very poor', 401 and 450 'severe'and above 450 'severe plus'.

'It's evident that the spike in pollution levels post Diwali is due to two factors -- firecracker bursting and farm fires -- with fireworks being predominant reason in this case," an official of the Commission for Air Quality Management (CAQM), a statutory body responsible for formulation of strategies to reduce pollution in Delhi-NCR, told PTI.

According to a system developed by the Pune-based Indian Institute of Tropical Meteorology to identify the contribution of different pollution sources, stub-

cent of the air pollution in the capital Tuesday. It is likely to be 14 per cent Wednesday and 6 per cent Thursdav.

Delhi recorded an AQI of 312on Diwali last year, 382 in 2021, 414 in 2020, 337 in 2019, 281 in 2018, 319 in 2017 and 431 in 2016, according to CPCB data.

The city's AQI a day after Diwali stood at 360 in 2015, 445 in 2016, 403 in 2017, 390 in 2018, 368 in 2019, 435 in 2020, 462 in 2021 and 303 in 2022.

The CAQM official quoted above said stringent measures,

including a ban on construction work and the entry of polluting trucks in the national capital. under the final stage of the central government's air pollution control plan called the Graded Response Action Plan (GRAP) will continue until further orders.

People take holy dip in River Yamuna on the occasion of 'Bhai Dhooj' or Yam Dwitya festival, in Mathura, Uttar Pradesh

NIA attaches eight properties belonging to LeT operatives

Srinagar: The NIA Tuesday attached properties of two key Lashkar-e-Taiba operatives who allegedly helped Pakistani terrorist Naveed Jatt escape from police custody from a Srinagar hospital in 2018 by attacking a police team.In a statement, the agency said, "Going full throttle against terrorist organisations and operatives operating in Kashmir, the National Investigation Agency (NIA) attached the properties of two key Lashkar-e-Taiba (LeT) operatives in the 2018 case relating to the forcible release of a terrorist through a fatal attack on a police party at a Srinagar hospital.'

SNIPPETS

Kumaraswamy booked for 'electricity theft'



Bangalore: The Bangalore **Electricity Supply Company** Tuesday registered a case against former Chief Minister H D Kumaraswamy after the Congress in Karnataka accused him of drawing power illegally to illuminate his JP Nagar residence here for Deepavali. The case was registered by the

Vigilance Wing of BESCOM at its Vigilance Police Station under section 135 of the Indian Electricity Act (Theft of electricity). Earlier, the ruling Congress posted a video along with a statement on social media platform X, criticising the JD(S) leader and son of former Prime Minister H D Deve Gowda. In his response, Kumaraswamy said it was not his fault but of a private decorator who gave the connection directly from a nearby electricity pole.

Uproar over Adani advisor's role in govt panel

New Delhi: The inclusion of an advisor from Adani Green Energy Limited (AGEL) in an environment ministry panel created a political uproar Tuesday, with Opposition parties slamming the government for a perceived 'conflict of interest'. Janardan



Choudhary, a key advisor to Adani Green Energy Limited (AGEL), was named as one of the seven non-institutional members by the Union Environment Ministry when it reconstituted the Expert Appraisal Committee for hydroelectricity and river valley projects in September.

3 yrs jail for prisoners possessing phone



New Delhi: The draft prison law prepared by the home ministry has suggested a host of steps like three years jail for possessing a phone, segregation of prisoners like drug addicts, first time offenders, high-risk, foreigners and grant of leave on

wearing electronic tracking devices for monitoring their movement and activities. According to the draft law, technology will be used for surveillance, there will be regular frisking of any prisoner in search of prohibited items and the prisoners may be granted prison leave on the condition of their willingness to wear electronic tracking devices for monitoring their movement and activities and any violation by the prisoner shall attract cancellation of prison leave, in addition to disqualification from any prison leave being granted in future.

TUNNEL COLLAPSE Drilling begins to create escape passage

A TEAM OF 160 RESCUERS FROM THE NATIONAL DISASTER RESPONSE FORCE, STATE DISASTER RESPONSE FORCE, INDO-TIBETAN BORDER POLICE, BORDER ROADS ORGANISATION, RAPID ACTION FORCE AND THE HEALTH DEPARTMENT HAVE BEEN ON THE SPOT SINCE SUNDAY, WORKING TO REACH THE TRAPPED WORKERS

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Uttarkashi (U'khand), Nov 14: A fresh landslide Tuesday hampered efforts to insert steel pipes through the rubble of the collapsed tunnel here to bring out the 40 labourers trapped under the debris for two days.

The falling debris injured two rescue workers, who were sent to the makeshift hospital established on the site.

Drilling to insert the pipes to create a passage for the labourers began with the help of an 'auger machine', Uttarkashi District Magistrate Abhishek Ruhela told reporters earlier.

"If everything goes as planned, the trapped labourers will be evacuated by Wednesday," he had said after visiting the tunnel and taking an update on the



operations from officials at the site. Most of the day went into preparing a platform inside the tunnel to position the auger machine for drilling through the rubble. However, the rescue work was affected when the landslide caused fresh rubble to fall from above, causing a stampede-like situation that left two labour-

ers injured.

They were sent to the temporary hospital set up near the tunnel, sources said. Though

the injuries were minor, it affected the rescue work, they added. The drilling machine and the pipes arrived at the site early Tuesday. The plan is to push

through both 800- and 900-mil-

limetre diameter sections of

mild steel pipes -- one after the other -- into the rubble using drilling equipment and create an escape passage for the workers who, officials said earlier, are safe and being provided with oxygen, water, food packets and medicines through tubes.

There are eight 900-millimetre diameter pipes with a length of six metres each and five pipes of 800-millimetre diameter of the same length, the State Emergency Operation Centre said.

"According to the latest update, all 40 labourers trapped inside are safe and sound,' Superintendent of Police (Uttarkashi) Arpan Yaduvanshi told reporters after a visit to the site. Some medicines have been supplied as one of the trapped workers was feeling nauseous, he had said. The son of Gabbar

Singh Negi, one of the trapped labourers, was allowed to speak to his father for a few seconds Tuesday. A local priest was asked to

perform a puja for the early and safe evacuation of the trapped workers. A part of the tunnel being built between Silkyara and Dandalgaon on the Brahmakhal-Yamunotri National Highway caved in on Sunday following a landslide. The 30metre collapsed section is 270 metres from the mouth of the tunnel from the Silkyara side, the State Emergency Operation Centre in Dehradun said.

Disaster Management Secretary Ranjit Kumar Sinha earlier said the authorities had set a target of rescuing the trapped labourers by Tuesday night or Wednesday.















international



Our purpose is nothing less than to make the long-term decisions that are going to change our country for the better. I know that this strong and united team is going to deliver that change for everybody RISHI SUNAK | BRITISH PM

MATTER OF CONCERN

One in three children, worldwide, already live in areas exposed to high or very high water scarcity, with climate change threatening to make this worse, according to a new Unicef report





much the focus of relationship today and India is hopeful of finding a "landing point" in the

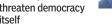
INDIA'S EXTERNAL AFFAIRS MINISTER

An effective way to prevent North Korea from miscalculating is to demonstrate our



joint defence posture YOON SUK YEOL SOUTH KOREAN PRESIDENT





SHORT TAKES

Canadian-born Israeli activist killed

ANTÓNIO GUTERRES UN SECRETARY-GENERAL

Jerusalem: Vivian Silver, a Canadian-born Israeli activist who devoted her life to seeking peace with the Palestinians, was confirmed killed in Hamas' October 7 incursion into southern Israel. For 38 days, Silver, who had moved to Israel in the 1970s and made her home in Kibbutz Be'eri, had been believed to be among the nearly 240 hostages held in the Gaza Strip. But identification of some of the most badly burned remains has gone slowly, and her family was notified of her death on Monday. Silver was a dominant figure in several groups that promoted peace between Israel and the prominent Israeli human rights

Indian skydiver sets new record

Kathmandu: Shital Mahaian, a

well-known Indian skydiver. has achieved a new feat by becoming the first woman in the world to jump off a helicopter from the height of 21.500 ft in front of Mt Everest. Mahajan, 41, a recipient of the fourth highest Indian civilian award Padma Shri and a holder of several skydiving records, completed skydiving in the front side of Mt. Everest. the highest peak in the world. on November 13.

Armed robbers flee with cash

Wellington: Armed robbers raided an Indian restaurant in New Zealand's Auckland city and fled with cash after injuring a worker and threatening others, a media report said. Police reached Mithaiwala, a vegetarian restaurant located on the intersection of Mt Albert and Sandringham roa after reports of an aggravated robbery last week, The New Zealand Herald newspaper reported.

Trump's sister dies

New York: Maryanne Trump Barry, a retired federal judge and former President Donald Trump's oldest sister, has died at age 86 at her home in New York. Until her retirement in 2019, Barry was a senior judge on the 3rd US Circuit Court of Appeals, a level below the Supreme Court, The NYPD confirmed that officers were sent to Barry's Manhattan home just before 4:30 am and discovered a deceased 86year-old woman. The cause of death was not immediately clear. Her death was confirmed by a judicial official who spoke on condition of anonymity because the news hadn't been announced publicly by either the court or Trump's family.

Mass grave being dug at Gaza hosp

HOSTAGES MARCH TO PRESS ISRAELI GOVERNMENT TO SECURE RELEASE

REUTERS

Gaza/Jerusalem, Nov 14: Palestinians trapped inside Gaza's biggest hospital were digging a mass grave Tuesday to bury patients who died under Israeli encirclement, and said no plan was in place to evacuate babies despite Israel announcing an offer to send portable incu-

Israeli forces have surrounded Al Shifa hospital in Gaza City, which they say sits atop an underground headquarters of Hamas militants, Hamas, Gaza's ruling Islamist group, denies fighters are present and says 650 patients and 5,000-7,000 other displaced civilians are trapped inside the hospital grounds, under constant fire from snipers and drones. It says 40 patients have died in recent days, including three premature babies whose incubators were knocked

Five weeks after Israel swore to destroy Hamas in retaliation for a cross-border assault by militants, the fate of the encircled hospital has become a focus of international alarm, including from Israel's closest ally, the United States.

Ashraf Al-Qidra, Gaza's health ministry spokesman, reached by telephone inside the hospital compound, said there were about 100 bodies decomposing inside and no way to get them out."We are planning to bury them today in a mass grave inside the Al Shifa medical complex. It is going to be very dangerous as we don't have any cover or protection from the ICRC, but we have no



Israeli forces have surrounded Al Shifa hospital in Gaza City, which they say sits atop an underground headquarters of

Five weeks after Israel swore to destroy Hamas in retaliation for a cross-border assault by militants, the fate of the encircled hospital has become a focus of international alarm, including from Israel's closest ally, the United States

other options the corpses of the martyrs began to decompose," he told Reuters. "The men are digging right now as we speak.

Thirty-six babies are left from the neo-natal ward after three died. Without fuel for generators to power incubators, the babies were being kept warm as best as possible, lined up eight to a bed. Israel announced Tuesday that it was offering portable, battery-powered incubators so the babies could be moved. But Qidra said that so far no arrangements had been established to carry out any such

'We have no objection to have the babies being moved to any hospital, in Egypt, the West Bank or even to the occupation (Israeli)

about is the wellbeing and the lives of those babies," he said.

"The occupation is still besieging the hospital and they are firing into the yards from time to time. We still can't move around, but sometimes doctors are taking the risk when they need to attend to patients.

Israel denies the hospital is under siege and says its forces allow routes for those inside to exit. Medics and officials inside the hospital say this is not true and those trying to leave have come under fire. Reuters could not verify the situation independently.

Dr Ahmed El Mokhallalati, a surgeon inside Al Shifa hospital, told Reuters by phone that the main risk now was from dead bodies decomposing. "We are sure that all kind of infections will be transmitted from that one. Today we had a little bit of rain ... It was really horrible, nobody could even open a window, or just walk around the corridors with a really bad smell,' he said. "Burying 120 bodies needs a lot of equipment, it can't be by hand efforts and by single person efforts. It will take hours and hours to be able to bury all these bodies.'

Rajapaksa brothers responsible for crisis: Sri Lanka SC

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Colombo, Nov 14: In a landmark judgement, Sri Lanka's top court Tuesday ruled that former President Gotabaya Rajapaksa, ex-prime minister Mahinda Rajapaksa, former finance minister Basil Rajapaksa and other senior officials violated the fundamental rights of the people by mishandling the economy and causing the unprecedented economic crisis.

Sri Lanka declared economic bankruptcy in April 2022 by announcing its first-ever sovereign default.

The island nation was hit by its worst financial crisis in history, with its foreign exchange reserves falling to a critical low and the public coming out on the streets to protest the shortage of fuel, fertilisers and essential commodities

A five-member bench of the Supreme Court was ruling on the petition filed by Transparency International, Sri Lanka and four other activists in 2022.

The bench, in a majority 4-1 ruling, said that the respondents, including the Rajapaksa brothers-former president Gotabaya Rajapaksa, former prime minister Mahinda Rajapaksa, former finance minister Basil Rajapaksa-were responsible for economic mismanagement in the island country between 2019-

Former Central Bank of Sri Lanka (CBSL) governors Ajith Nivard Cabraal and WD Lakshman, and ex-secretaries to the Treasury PB Jayasundera and SR Attygalle, were also found guilty of rights violations.

The petitioners had claimed that tax concessions worth SLR 681 billion granted to businesses in 2019 by Gotabaya Rajapaksa during his tenure as the president were the main reason for the economic slump.

Xi to meet Biden



PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Beijing, Nov 14: Chinese President Xi Jinping left for the US Tuesday for a "meeting of great importance" with his American counterpart Joe Biden Wednesday, amidst frosty ties between the two largest global economies.

The Biden-Xi bilateral will take place on the sidelines of the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) summit, which the US is hosting in San Francisco from November 11 to 17. It will be their second face-toface meeting in a year. Biden and Xi last held an in-person meeting on the margins of the G20 Summit on November 14 in Bali, Indonesia.

China said Xi and Biden will have in-depth communication on issues of strategic, overarching, and fundamental importance in shaping China-US relations and major issues concerning world peace and development.

"It will be a meeting of great importance," Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesperson Mao Ning told a media briefing here on Tuesday. Xi, who is heading a large delegation. will also attend the China-US summit and the 30th APEC Economic Leaders' Meeting in the United States.

The summit is taking place after lengthy preparations by both sides including between US Secretary of State Antony

⁼he Biden-Xi bilateral will take place on the sidelines of the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APFC) summit, which the US is hosting in San Francisco from November 11 to 17

The summit is taking place after lengthy preparations by both sides including between US Secretary of State Antony Blinken and his Chinese counterpart Wang Yi

Blinken and his Chinese counterpart Wang Yi. China views and handles its relations with the US in accordance with the three principles of mutual respect. peaceful coexistence and winwin cooperation, Mao said.

"Major-country competition runs counter to the trend of our times and provides no answer to the problems in the US or the challenges in our world. China does not fear competition, but we do not agree that China-US relations should be defined by competition," she said.

The spokesperson said the US needs to respect China's concerns and legitimate right to development, rather than emphasising its own concerns at the expense of China's interests."To seek to remodel other countries in one's own image is wishful thinking in the first place and typical hegemonism which is going nowhere. China doesn't seek to change the US, nor should the US seek to shape or change China,' she said.

Pak sold weapons worth \$364 mn to Ukraine: Report



PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Islamabad/London, Nov 14: Cash-strapped Pakistan reportedly earned \$364 million in an arms deal with two private US companies last year to supply ammunition to Ukraine in its war with Russia, according to a media report.

A British military cargo plane flew from Pakistan Air Force Base Nur Khan in Rawalpindi to the British military base in Cyprus, Akrotiri, and then to Romania a total of five times to supply arms to the war-torn country, the BBC Urdu reported Monday. Islamabad has, however, consistently denied that it has provided any ammunition to Ukraine, a neighbouring country to Romania.

Citing details of the contract from the American Federal Procurement Data System, the BBC report claimed that Pakistan signed two contracts with American companies named "Global Military" and "Northrop Grumman" for the sale of 155mm shells.

These agreements to provide weapons to Ukraine were signed on August 17, 2022, and were specifically linked to the purchase of 155mm shells. The Foreign Office in Islamabad has denied any sale of arms and ammunition to Ukraine, saying that Pakistan maintained a policy of "strict neutrality" in the dispute between the two countries and did not provide them with any arms or ammunition in that context.

These alleged agreements took place during the rule of the Pakistan Democratic Movement (PDM) - a multi-party coalition that ousted Imran Khan-led government through a no-trust vote in April last year.

Then Pakistan Army chief Gen Qamar Javed Bajwa, who had pledged to take Pakistan-UK relations to a "new height", retired in November 2022. In August 2022, when these alleged contracts were signed, the Ukraine crisis was very much a part of the political discourse in Pakistan, particularly in the wake of the cricketer-turnedpolitician Khan's visit to Russia on February 24, when Russian President Vladimir Putin ordered an invasion of Ukraine.

Months after the visit, Gen Bajwa publicly distanced from Khan and called for the invasion to be stopped immediately.



Activists scuffle with police in Philippines as they try to march towards the US Embassy to show support for the

Lion sleeps it off after Saturday stroll through Italian town

REUTERS

Ladispoli, Italy, Nov 14: A lion that escaped from an Italian circus has been taking well-deserved naps to recover from a Saturday night out in the seaside town of Ladispoli that sparked panic before authorities managed to recapture him.

The adult lion, named "Kimba", escaped from the "Rony Roller" circus Saturday afternoon and was on the loose for around seven hours before he was sedated with an aesthetic dart.

Footage and pictures, some taken by locals, went viral and



showed the lion roaming around the town streets, skirting houses and fences, and standing in front of a carabinieri police car. Local authorities are investigating how the lion managed to get out

The adult lion, named Kimba", escaped from the "Rony Roller" circus Saturday afternoon and was on the loose for around seven hours before he was sedated with an aesthetic dart

Local authorities are investigating how the lion managed to get out of its metal enclosure

of its metal enclosure.

What happened is very strange...All we can say is that a lion does not have the ability to open a latch and break a lock,

Rony Vassallo, the animal supervisor and trainer at the circus told Reuters.

In a Facebook post Monday, local mayor Alessandro Grando wrote that he would ask council experts to check if there were legal grounds to revoke the permits for the "Rony Roller" circus. The travelling circus was scheduled to stay in Ladipsoli between

November 9 and 19. Some locals expressed solidarity with Kimba. "I am sorry, because it is in prison. It should be in its environment, the savannah," said Ladispoli resident Giuseppe Altavilla.

CIPHER CASE

Court orders stay against Imran's trial—

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Islamabad, Nov 14: A Pakistan high court Tuesday issued a stay mer Prime Minister Imran Khan in the cipher case, seeking information about the "circumstances" that prompted the trial to be conducted in a high-security Rawalpindi prison.

The 71-year-old Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) chairman is currently detained in Adiala jail in Rawalpindi on judicial remand. Khan's close aide and former foreign minister Shah Mahmood Qureshi, 67, who was also arrested in the cipher case, is imprisoned in the same jail. Khan and Qureshi have pleaded not guilty to the charges.

A two-member bench of the Islamabad High Court (IHC) comprising Justice Miangul Hassan Aurangzeb and Justice Saman Rafat Imtiaz pronounced the judgement during the hearing of Khan's intra-court appeal against his trial in Adiala jail. The appeal was filed against a single-member bench of the same court which last month upheld the trial of Khan in Adiala Jail.

Justice Aurangzeb said the court would scrutinise the notification, questioning the "extraordinary circumstances' that led to the trial being conducted in its current manner. "We want to know the actual events; you have to inform us,' the judge said.

The court also sought clarification on the reasons behind the federal cabinet's approval of the jail trial. "The most important question lies in determining the status of court proceedings preceding the cabinet's approval," Justice Aurangzeb asked.



business



population is 17 per cent of the world population, while our contribution to carbon dioxide load is only 3.5 per cent

RK SINGH | UNION POWER AND NEW & RENEWABLE ENERGY MINISTER

TATA STEEL TO CUT 800 JOBS IN NETHERLANDS

Tata Steel, which is seeking a financial aid for its Dutch operations, has said it will cut 800 jobs in the Netherlands to ensure structural competitiveness and profitability. In October 2021, Tata Steel completed the process of separating Tata Steel UK and Tata Steel Netherlands as two independent companies from Tata Steel Europe.





@Tesla's state of the art manufacturing facility at Fremont, California. Extremely delighted to see

talented Indian engineers and finance professionals working at Senior positions and contributing to Tesla's remarkable journey to transform mobility.

COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY MINISTER

My own view is that in the near to intermediate term, it (AI) will not reduce agent employment. I don't know the long term impact because the world is



around 300 outlets and planning to go around 600 outlets and increase

presence in 1,000 department stores to 4,000 department stores.

MEGHNA MODI REVLON EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR AND HEAD OF REVION INDIAN SUBCONTINENT

SHORT TAKES

Tata Technologies IPO to open Nov 22

New Delhi: Tata Technologies, which provides engineering and product development digital services, has said its initial public offering (IPO) will open for public subscription November 22. The company, a unit of Tata Motors, filed the RHP (red herring prospectus) November 13, 2023 with the Registrar of Companies, Maharashtra, Tata Motors said in a regulatory filing Monday. The IPO would comprise up to 60,850,278 shares for cash entailing 15 per cent of paidup equity share capital of Tata Technologies, it added. As part of the process, Tata Motors will offload 11.4 per cent stake, private equity firm Alpha TC Holdings will sell a 2.4 per cent stake, and Tata Capital Growth Fund I will do away with 1.2 per cent of shareholding.

Dabur takes Badshah Masala to overseas

New Delhi: Homegrown FMCG major Dabur is taking its spice brand Badshah to overseas markets, expecting the brand it acquired last year to contribute around 4 per cent to international sales this fiscal, its CEO Mohit Malhotra said. The company is eyeing the diaspora markets of the US, UK and the Middle East and is in the process of getting regulatory approvals and upscaling manufacturing. Also, in the domestic market, Dabur has plans to take Badshah Masala to North, East and South besides expanding further in western markets of Maharashtra and Gujarat. "The business (Badshah) is growing and this year it should contribute around 3-4 per cent of our overall international business. We expect a high double-digit growth from here," Malhotra told PTI.

Sebi resolves over 3,500 complaints

New Delhi: Sebi has disposed of 3,533 complaints against companies and market intermediaries through its online grievance redressal system SCORES in October, according to the data released by the capital markets regulator. As many as 16 complaints were pending for more than three months on SCORES as of October-end, involving 12 entities such as SBI Mutual Fund, UTI Mutual Fund, JSW Steel Ltd, Waree Renewable Technologies Ltd. Sundaram Mutual Fund and Tirupati Fincorp Ltd. At the beginning of October, there were 5,259 complaints pending and 3,369 fresh complaints were received, as per data released by Sebi.

Negative WPI inflation for 7th month

Some near-term upside risks to the WPI inflation could emanate from volatile vegetable prices, uptrend in domestic prices of most food items as well as an unfavourable base

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, Nov 14: Wholesale price inflation remained in the negative territory for the seventh month in a row in October at (-) 0.52 per cent on easing prices of food items.

Experts said some near-term upside risks to the WPI inflation could emanate from volatile vegetable prices, uptrend in domestic prices of most food items as well as an unfavourable base.

The wholesale price index (WPI)-based inflation rate has been in the negative zone since April and was at (-) 0.26 per cent in September, 2023. In October last year, WPI was at 8.67 per cent.

"The negative rate of inflation in October, 2023, is primarily due to fall in prices of chemicals and chemical products, electricity, textiles, basic metals, food products, paper and paper products, etc. As compared to the corresponding month of previous year," the commerce and industry ministry said Tuesday.

A negative WPI inflation, technically termed as deflation, means that overall wholesale prices have been falling yearon-year.

As per the data, inflation in food articles eased to 2.53 per cent in October. It was 3.35 per cent in the previous month.



While inflation in vegetables and potatoes cooled to (-) 21.04 per cent and (-) 29.27 per cent respectively, the annual rate of price rise in onion continued to rule high at 62.60 per cent in

Pulses and paddy continued to witness high inflation of 19.43 per cent and 9.39 per cent respec-

ICRA Ltd Chief Economist, Head (Research & Outreach) Aditi Navar said the WPI deflation widened slightly to 0.5 per cent in October 2023, from 0.3 per cent in September 2023, in year-on-year (YoY) terms. This was led by a sharp turnaround in crude petroleum and natural gas print to a deflation, and a softening in the inflation for pri-

mary food articles, mainly vegetables.

The fuel and power basket inflation was at (-) 2.47 per cent in October, against (-) 3.35 per cent in September.

In manufactured products, the inflation rate was at (-) 1.13 per cent, as against (-) 1.34 per cent in September.

Barclays MD & Head of EM Asia Economics, Rahul Bajoria said overall, inflation continues to stay broadly in check, with a stable rupee, manageable energy costs, and a countercyclical tax policy on fuel prices helping keep inflation in a stable range.

"Strong economic growth, coupled with resilient demand. should keep some pressure on inflation, but we see scope for headline inflation, both CPI and WPI, to remain manageable, with some near-term upside risks emanating from volatile vegetable prices," he said.

ICRA estimates the WPI inflation prints to remain below 3 per cent in the remaining months of FY2024, amid expectations that commodity prices will remain at benign levels unless global demand outlook strengthens significantly.

"Looking ahead, while global commodity prices, including crude oil continued to soften in the ongoing month, the uptrend in domestic prices of most food items as well as an unfavourable base is projected to lead to a turnaround in the WPI to a marginal 0.1 per cent inflation in November 2023 (6.1 per cent in November 2022), after a gap of seven months," Nayar said.

The WPI remains materially below retail inflation, which is still close to 5 per cent.

The annual retail or consumer price inflation for October hit a 5-month low of 4.87 per cent. data released Monday showed.

The Reserve Bank's Monetary Policy Committee, in its meeting last month held interest rate steady and projected average retail inflation for the current fiscal at 5.4 per cent, lower than 6.7 per cent recorded in 2022-23.

Govt to invite bids for 20 critical mineral blocks

Lithium and REEs have gained significance keeping in mind the country's commitment towards energy transition and achieving net-zero emission by 2070

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, Nov 14: The government will invite bids for 20 critical mineral blocks in next two weeks, a top official said Tuesday.

The 20 critical blocks include lithium and graphite mines, Mines Secretary VL Kantha Rao told reporters here.

"After making the policy on critical minerals, the next step is the auctioning of critical mineral blocks... Now we are almost ready to issue the auction notice and in two weeks time we will be issuing an auction notice for auctioning about 20 blocks that are related to critical minerals like lithium and graphite," the secretary said.

He was speaking after the inauguration of the Mining Pavilion at India International Trade Fair (IITF)

The secretary said 10-12 players in the country have the technology to produce and process critical minerals.

Post this auction notice, he said, a workshop will be organ-



ised in which all the stakehold ers will be brought together and a national-level strategy on mining and processing of critical minerals will be made.

approved royalty rates of three per cent each for lithium and niobium and one per cent for Rare Earth Elements (REEs). Critical minerals have become

Last month, the Centre had

important for the nation's economic development and national security.

Lithium and REEs have gained significance keeping in mind the country's commitment towards energy transition and achieving net-zero emission by

The Centre had earlier said that it is working to launch the first round of the auction of critical and strategic minerals such as lithium, REE, nickel, platinum group of elements, potash, glauconite, phosphorite, graphite and molybdenum shortly.

Bitcoin miners make money ahead of 'halving'

REUTERS

Tokyo, Nov 14: Bitcoin miners are making hay while the

The business has been yanked out of the doldrums by the cryptocurrency's recent rally - and now mining companies are racing to lock in profits before bitcoin's 'halving', when rewards for producing the tokens are cut

The next halving is expected in April 2024, a process designed to slow the release of bitcoin, whose supply is capped at 21 million - of which 19 million have already been mined.

"You're seeing a lot of urgency to plug rigs in ahead of the halving," said Gregory Lewis, analyst at brokerage BTIG that covers the 13 biggest US-listed bitcoin miners. Bitcoin's hashrate - a measure of the computational power needed to mine a coin - has spiked to an all-time high, according crypto platform Blockchain.com. That means miners are having to use more and more power and speed to crack the complex maths puzzles that earn them a bitcoin. Analysts at J.P. Morgan estimate the hashrate has hit record highs for 11 consecutive months, including a historic surge in



PLAYING THE GAME Bitcoin has risen about 37% in

the past month to around \$37,000 after months of listlessness, a rebound that's encouraged miners to hook up their powerful computers to crack the puzzles and sell newly minted coins. The 30-day average of revenue earned by miners has improved steadily this year to hit a 18-month at \$32.46 million on Nov. 11, blockchain.com data shows.

However, mining - a highly energy-intensive process - is still not as profitable as in its 2021 heyday. A measure of miners' earnings from using 1 petahash per second of computing power in a day has risen to over \$81 from \$70 at the start of November but remains well below a peak of \$127 in early May, according to mining data platform Hashrate Index. With six months to go till miners' share of rewards is slashed, they are looking for ways to keep their margins from shrinking in the highly competitive environment.



PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, Nov 14: Over 60 per cent of businesses surveyed are 'off track' to meet their sustainability goals, according to a report by Bain & Company, which also found that consumers are willing to shell out a pre-

Bain & Company

According to the report, a US and the UK.

The report further said that an

Consumers in fast-growing

'60% of businesses off track to meet green goals'

mium for sustainable products.

large number of people surveyed in India say they have a high level of concern about environment sustainability. This could be driven by the spiking levels of pollution in major cities and the rising incidence of flash floods in different parts of the country. Consumers in fast-growing markets, where Bain found environmental concerns to be highest, including India, were willing to pay a greater premium (between 15 and 20 per cent), compared to markets like the

Indian consumer, however, is still at an early stage of understanding sustainability and a number of related behaviours are influenced by cultural norms and financial realities.

"As extreme weather prompts growing environmental concern across the globe, new research from Bain & Company shows more than 60 per cent of businesses are off track to meet their current sustainability goals," it said. Progress will require a combination of technology, policy, and behaviour change, the report said, adding that an increasingly conscious base of consumers and employees may prove helpful.

To get a broad sense of environmental concerns around the world, Bain surveyed 23,000 consumers, and the results underscored the growing urgency of

sustainability topics. Almost 64 per cent of people reported high levels of concern about sustainability, and most said their worries have intensified over the past two years and that their concern was first prompted by extreme weather.

The report also revealed that a large number of people surveyed in India said they have a high level of concern about environment sustainability.

"They are seemingly driven to live or shop sustainably first and foremost by direct benefits around savings and health rather than environmental concern. Consumers express a greater interest in quality, how a product can be reused. its durability, and how it will minimise waste," it said.

Karan Singh, Partner and head of the Asia Pacific Sustainability practice at Bain & Company, said while Indian consumers show growing in-

noticeable gap between intent and action, mainly due to factors like high prices, limited product information and availability. "This presents a distinct op-

terest in sustainability, there's a

portunity for businesses to take the lead by educating consumers and innovating to offer sustainable products at attractive prices," Singh said. Consumers' willingness to

pay a premium for sustainable products and baby boomers being just as concerned as Gen Z, were the other key takeaways from the report. "As concerns grow consumers are looking to make environmentally sound choices and are willing to pay more for sustainable products. Yet, they often run into barriers," it said.

For instance, consumers in the US are willing to pay an average premium of 11 per cent for products with a minimised environmental impact, even as the average premium for products marketed as sustainable

there is 28 per cent. "Consumers in fast-growing markets, where Bain found environmental concerns to be highest - such as India, Indonesia. Brazil, and China - are willing to pay an even greater premium, between 15 and 20 per cent. Consumers in the UK, Italy, Germany and France, on the other hand, are only willing to pay between 8 and 10 per cent extra," the report said.

Hospitality industry icon PRS Oberoi no more

THE OBEROI BRAND HAS COME TO REPRESENT FINE **LUXURY HOTELS**

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, Nov 14: Prithvi Raj Singh Oberoi, the 94-year-old veteran corporate hotelier who redefined India's hospitality industry, passed away Tuesday.

The Chairman Emeritus of The Oberoi Group, popularly known as 'Biki', built a sprawling chain comprising 32 hotels during his lifetime. EIH owns the eponymous Oberoi and Trident hotel chains.

Son of late Rai Bahadur MS Oberoi, the founder of The Oberoi Group, PRS Oberoi had also been instrumental in developing the Trident chain of hotels. His father, the man who started it all in 1934, passed away in 2002 and Tilak Raj, his older

son, reportedly died prematurely in 1984.

Since then, PRS Oberoi steered the hospitality chain through its ups and downs. A hotel magnate who embodied fine living, his death brings to an end two generations of the family that built the Oberoi empire into an Indian hospitality powerhouse.

"It is with deep sadness that we inform the peaceful passing of PRS Oberoi, Chairman Emeritus of The Oberoi Group, earlier today. A luminary in the hospitality industry, Oberoi's legacy transcends borders, leaving an indelible mark on the global landscape," a statement

as chairman of the company since 1988 until he stepped down in May last year due to ill health. "PRS Oberoi has decided to relinquish his position as chair-

man and director of the EIH

Associated Hotels Ltd effective

PRS Oberoi was born in New

Delhi February 3, 1929. He served



May 2, 2022 due to his deteriorating health," a press release had said that time.

Under his leadership, the company expanded from its first hotel, 'The Trident Chennai', that opened in 1988, to become one of India's most reputable hotel companies.

He is reportedly survived by three children, son Vikramjit Singh Oberoi - Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer of EIH Hotels, and daughters Natasha and Anastasia.

In 2014, it was reported that PRS Oberoi decided not to choose his successor to run EIH Ltd, after years of intense speculation over who he would choose as successor, son Vikramjit or nephew Arjun, who currently serves as Executive Chairman of EIH Ltd. Arjun is the son of PRS Oberoi's late elder brother, Tilak Raj.

A recipient of India's second highest civilian honour -- Padma Vibhushan -- in 2008, PRS Oberoi was also awarded the 'Corporate



Hotelier of the World' by HO-

TELS magazine in 2010. PRS Oberoi was educated in India, the UK and Switzerland. In addition to providing leadership for the management of luxury hotels in several countries. he had been instrumental in pioneering the development of Oberoi Hotels and Resorts.

The Oberoi brand has come to represent fine luxury hotels. Business India magazine adjudged PRS Oberoi the Businessman of the Year 2008.

He received this award for building a world-class premium hospitality brand. In November 2008, he was conferred the Lifetime Achievement Award at the Ernst & Young Entrepreneur of the Year Awards for redefining design standards in luxury hotels.

In October 2005, the Hotel Investment Conference Asia Pacific (HICAP), which is the preeminent gathering of hotel investors, investment bankers and leading industry professionals in the region, honoured him with the Lifetime Achievement Award at its annual

conference in Hong Kong. This award was given in recognition of his contribution to the hospitality industry and his pioneering leadership in making The Oberoi Group a global brand by taking the concept of luxury to a new paradigm.

In February 2013, PRS Oberoi was honoured with the Lifetime Achievement Award for Management by The All India Management Association.







2019 WORLD CUP SEMIFINAL HEARTACHE **COMES TO MIND WHEN INDIA TAKE ON FAMILIAR FOES NEW ZEALAND TODAY** FOR A PLACE IN SUNDAY'S TITLE CLASH

A final before finale

the landmark of 50 ODI

hundreds is waiting

to be reached. He

would like to

marry the mile-

stone with an

Indian victory.

Kohli would also

like to break the

semifinal jinx after

getting dismissed

for one in the 2019

and 2015 edi-

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Mumbai, Nov 14: A relentless India rocketed through their league engagements with nine wins on the bounce but the past record is just a shiny antique in a showcase and the hosts will have to be at their gun-slinging best when they face familiar foes New Zealand in the first World Cup semifinal, here Wednesday.

The 2019 Manchester heartbreak might be lingering in a corner of the hosts' mind as an irritant. The Kiwis also had the measure of India in the ICC WTC Final in 2021, if one needs more attestation of the Kiwis' grip over the latter in global events.

However, this Indian side has shown a propensity to rise above an uncomfortable past, but they will be aware that any slip up at the Wankhede Stadium will be viewed as a national catastrophe, shattering a



STATFACTS

ine matches have been played between the two sides in ODI World Cups, with the Kiwis having the upper hand with 5 wins compared to India's 4

t the Wankhede Stadium, India At the Wankinege State
have played 21 ODIs winning 12 (5 while batting first and 7 while chasing) and losing 9, while the Kiwis have won twice in three

irat Kohli is the leading run getter in the ongoing World Cup with 594 runs at an average of 99.00, while Rachin Ravindra leads the chart for NZ having 565 runs to his name at an average of 70.62

asprit Bumrah is the highest wicket-taker for India in the ongoing competition with 17 wickets, while Mitchell Santner is eading the chart for the Kiwis with 16 victims to his name

So, India will also have to rise above the pressure emanating out of those enormous expectations placed on them, also heightened by their league phase bull

Captain Rohit and coach Rahul Dravid, two individuals who know all about the pitfalls of heavy expectations. will have to keep their outfit

calm, nestled away from the fear of failure in a crunch match. But those are

damage with the new ball. In that context, a lot will depend on the fearless approach of Indian openers – Rohit

bowlers who can

Shubman Gill. The Zealand have Mumbaikar has so far made 503 runs and will inflict severe hope for a continuation, but Gill with a tally of 270 runs from seven matches would like to own the stage with a blistering effort against the Kiwis.

Virat Kohli is now the top run-getter in the tournament with 593 runs, and

WALK DOWN MEMORY LANE

t was quite similar scenario in 2019, with India had cruised into the semifinals where they faced the Black Caps. There are two major differences between 2019 and 2023 - No.1 is India beat the Kiwis in the

this edition, while the league match was abandoned in 2019 due to rain; No.2 India had lost only once in nine games in 2019, while the hosts are undefeated this time. New Zealand



nail-biting classic on that occasion - 2019 semifinal, with Ravindra Jadeja and MS Dhoni's fightback proving not quite enough to deny the Kiwis a spot in the final. The run out of Dhoni is still giving pain to every Indian fan's hearts.

India will also be delighted to see their middle-order batters KL Rahul and Shreyas Iyer hitting top form ahead of the semis though the management will welcome some

runs from Suryakumar Yadav. Jasprit Bumrah and Kuldeep Yaday have been as lethal as they ever have been but the limelight, to a large extent, has been stolen by Mohammed Shami and Mohammed Siraj who have been unplayable when on song. In this World Cup, no other bowling attack has produced a masterclass in bowling on flat wickets than India's.

But that said, writing off Kiwis' pace troika of Trent Boult, Tim Southee, Lockie Ferguson and left-arm spinner Mitchell Santner will be naive. They have enough experience and skill to make an impact even on a shirtfront, and will also hope to prey on any pressure India faces in front of the home crowd. For India, a win is non-negotiable and the Blackcaps can play all-out cricket knowing that they really have not much to lose.

In batting also, New Zealand have enough depth and experience to counter the marauding India bowlers. The young Rachin Ravindra (565 runs) is the find of the tournament, but Devon Conway is short of big scores.

Captain Kane Williamson and Daryl Mitchell are the middle-order lynchpins but New Zealand do not match India's firepower on paper, but they certainly have the ability to dig deep. So, it all boils down to who will manage the pressure moments better and we might

EN ROUTE TO SEMIFINALS

NOT IN FIXTURE ORDER	INDIA		NEW ZEALAND		
OPPOSITION	RESULT	MARGIN	RESULT	MARGIN	
India			Loss	4 wickets	
New Zealand	Win	4 wickets			
South Africa	Win	243 runs	Loss	190 runs	
Australia	Win	6 wickets	Loss	5 runs	
Pakistan	Win	7 wickets	Loss	21 runs (DLS)	
Afghanistan	Win	8 wickets	Win	149 runs	
England	Win	100 runs	Win	9 wickets	
Bangladesh	Win	7 wickets	Win	8 wickets	
Sri Lanka	Win	302 runs	Win	5 wickets	
Netherlands	Win	160 runs	Win	99 runs	

cant matters to take care of on the To start with, the

matters of the mind. There

are just as signifi-

Indian team and their legion of fans will hope and pray that the toss goes in favour of Rohit. The teams batting second at this venue have invariably lost early wickets in clusters under lights with the new ball moving dangerously in the air and off

the deck. Both



The underdog thing — from what you guys write I do not think it has changed too much, but that is fine, and India have been exceptional. India are one of the, if not the best team going around and playing cricket that matches that, but we know as well on our day when we play our best cricket, it certainly gives us the best chance, and anything can happen

KANE WILLIAMSON

Likely playing XIs

INDIA: Rohit Sharma (C), Shubman Gill, Virat Kohli, Shreyas Iyer (wk), KL Rahul, Survakumar Yaday, Rayindra Jadeia. Mohammad Shami, Kuldeep Yaday, Jasprit Bumrah, Mohammed Sirai: (12th man) Ravichandran Ashwin.

NEW ZEALAND: Devon Conway, Rachin Ravindra, Kane Williamson (C), Daryl Mitchell, Tom Latham, Glenn Phillips, Jimmy Neesham, Mitchell Santner, Tim Southee, Trent Boult, Lockie Ferguson: (12th man) Mark Chapman.

Time has come for luck to favour you and fortune favours the brave. I don't

than what we have been doing. Be it a league match or semifinal, the pressure is always there in a World Cup match. The need is to focus on the game and not on the pressure and challenges from the other side

think we need to do anything different

tag to India against Kiwis



GAUTAM GAMBHIR

"m not too much of a fan of slice of pizza, the thin crust type, just to give my daughters company. Therefore, an Italian food joint near Mumbai's Wankhede Stadium had never caught my attention. I am more interested in the signboard right above that eatery. It doesn't belong to the restaurant but whenever I hit the Marine Drive, I eagerly observe what the sign has to say.

Trust me it has some quirky and sometimes comical messages. Recently, it read out in support of same sex marriage. Back in 2011, on the eve of the World Cup finals as entire country waited with a baited breath, signboard read, "Sshhhhhhh..." After we beat Sri Lanka on that night of April it proudly read,

"Roarrrrrrr..."!!! I am reliably informed that at the time of writing this article the signboard has a pretty mundane Diwali wish. But, knowing the track record of the writer, I am confident that this will change by the time India will start their semifinal contest, against New Zealand later today.

At the moment I am in Delhi but by the time you read this, I will be in Mumbai for commentary commitments. I will try to keep you posted what is the latest on the writer's mind. This

team of Rohit Sharma and Rahul Dravid have given enough reasons for their fans to be creative.

India are definitely the favourites. As a team they are not only beating the oppositions but on more than one occasion, they have embarrassed their rivals. For me, it is the bowling unit that has shone through. They have carried the whole campaign on their shoulders. If India goes on to win the World Cup, we might see a bowling revolution taking place in our country.

So far most of the youngsters aspire to be the next Sachin Tendulkar or next Virat Kohli. I will not be surprised that post the World Cup, the cricket academies will have more queries from aspiring bowlers than as-



piring batters. For the sake of Indian cricket, I hope I am true. New Zealand might be able to test India. They are a very wellstructured outfit. They play percentage cricket and don't depend too much on flamboyance. Their planning especially while bowling and fielding is water-

They will come hard at India's top 3 batters as they know that is where they can hurt India. I am a little apprehensive if India bat second, under lights with a sea breeze lurking around. There is a good chance of more bowlerfriendly conditions in that phase of the game.

I hope that the Indian batsmen can counter that time of the day well. If they are able to do that then the writer of the signboard will be a busy man after the game finishes.

Gameplan Dinesh Chopra Media

Gambhir gives 'favourites' IOA warns WFI of action Das 1st Odia cueist for 'illegal' communication

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, Nov 14: The adhoc committee running the sport of wrestling in the country has accused the disbanded WFI of violating the IOA charter by "illegally" communicating with a state association.

The Indian Olympic Association had constituted an ad-hoc committee to run wrestling affairs after the Wrestling Federation of India was suspended following accusations of sexual harassment against its president Brij Bhushan Sharan Singh by leading grapplers of the country, including Olympic medallists Bajrang Punia and Sakshi Malik.

In a letter issued to the disbanded WFI general secretary VN Prasood Sunday, a copy of which is with PTI, ad-hoc committee member Bhupender Singh Bajwa has warned him of "disciplinary measures" and requested him from refraining from activities that "run contrary to the IOA's instructions".

"It has come to our notice that,

Change in format

NEW DELHI: The next year's wrestling Continental Qualifiers offering spots for the Paris Olympics will not have gold or bronze medals bouts and the winners of the two semifinalists will make the cut for the 2024 Games, according to the new format approved by world governing body UWW. Apart from four Continental Qualifiers, the World Qualifier will also not offer gold medal and the two semifinal winners will earn quotas while the winners of the bronze medal bouts will compete for the third quota in each of the six weight categories in three styles. "All five Paris Olympic Qualifiers next year will have four seeds in each of the weight classes and no gold-medal bouts," UWW said on its website.

as the General Secretary of the Wrestling Federation of India, you have been in continued correspondence with the affiliated units of the WFI, contravening the IOA order," Bajwa has said

"Disturbingly, it has been re-

ported that today (Sunday), you issued a circular to the Maharashtra State Wrestling Association, an act deemed unconstitutional and in violation of established laws.

The Ad-hoc Committee is dedicated to working collaboratively with all affiliated units to enhance the Wrestling Federation of India (WFI).

"However, it is imperative to emphasise that any actions taken in defiance of IOA directives may result in disciplinary measures against those who willingly participate in or persist with such illegal activities, ultimately working against the broader interests of wrestling in India," the letter added.

World Before Championships in Belgrade in September the international body, United World Wrestling (UWW), suspended the WFI for failing to hold the elections in the designated time frame. The letter further added that until an "amicable resolution" is found, people should refrain from such



POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar, Nov 14: Ace Odisha cueist Subrat Das will represent India at the International Billiards & Snooker Championships to be played at Doha, November 15 to November 24. Incidentally Subrat is the first cueist from Odisha to represent India in the senior category of the IBSF World Championships. Earlier Ashutosh Padhy had represented India in the junior segment.

Subrat along with Manan Chandra (PSPB), Kamal Chawala (Railways), Anish Parikh (Jharkhand) and Mudit Poddar (West Bengal) will represent India in the 15-Red and 6-Red snooker events. Later on, after the team events are over, Subrat will also participate in the individual category.

Subrat is excited to be a part of the IBSF championships. "I know the competition will be tough, but I am going to participate with a positive frame of mind. This is my first international tournament and I have worked very hard for it. I hope my hard work pays off," Subrat said before leaving for Doha.

Subrat stated that he will play the individual 15-Red snooker event. In the 6-Red event he will team up with Mudit to repre-

Shocking 1st round exit for Satwik-Chirag at Japan Masters

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Kumamoto (Japan), Nov 14: Asian Games gold medallists Satwiksairaj Rankireddy and Chirag Shetty faltered in the opening round to make a shocking exit from the Japan Masters Super 500 badminton tournament here Tuesday. The topseeded Indian combination went down 21-16, 18-21, 16-21 to World No.21 Lu Ching Yao and Yang Po Han of Chinese Taipei.

Satwik and Chirag, ranked



World No.5, had defeated Lu and Yang at the French Open final last year but they couldn't get on top of the Taiwanese pair, who dished out a spirited performance to outwit the Indians.

The Indians erased an initial 0-3 deficit to grab a 11-7 lead. Lu and Yang clawed back at 13-13 but Satwik and Chirag managed to keep their nose ahead before taking the opening game.

In the second game advantage changed hands too frequently with the Taiwanese managing to

hold on to 11-9 lead at the interval. Satwik and Chirag kept breathing down their neck but Lu and Yang broke off at 14-14 to take the match to the decider.

The third game followed the same script. From 6-6, Lu and Yang won four of the next five points to make it 7-10. Satwik and Chirag drew parity but Lu and Yang were relentless as they dominated the rallies and feasted on the weakness of the Indians to seal the issue without much ado in the end.

