

TRAIN MISHAPS CONTINUE: Flames and smoke coming out of the coaches of the New Delhi-Darbhanga Express after fire broke out in the train near Saraibhupati railway station near Etawah in UP. Eight people were injured in the mishap

38 dead in Doda road accident



PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Doda (J&K), Nov 15: At least 38 people were killed and 17 injured when a bus carrying passengers skidded off the road and rolled down into a 300-foot gorge in Jammu and Kashmir's Doda district Wednesday, officials said. The bus with the registration number JK02CN-6555 was reportedly carrying more

5 students held for smuggling ganja

POST NEWS NETWORK

Jeypore, Nov 15: Personnel from the regional office of the Narcotics Control Bureau in Bangalore arrested Wednesday five students from this town on charges of illegal trading of ganja. Jeypore SDPO Harish Bisi informed that the action was taken after a ganja smuggling

case was registered at Siddhipur, A 15-member NCB team picked up Himanshu Sekhar Nayak.

Raja Mandal, Shiva Datta, K Amarnath and Soham from their rented accommodation at Parabeda Sahi locality of this town November 15, sources said. They added that among the five arrested one is pursuing engi-

neering while the others are students of the Vikram Dev University here, sources added. All the arrested students are

within 18 to 22 years of age. On the otherhand, Mandal is working as a samiti member in Anta

ASI superintending archae-

gram panchaya, a source said..

"A team from the NCB regional unit in Karnataka has picked up Satyananda Patra, IIC of Jeypore Town police said.

the families of the five lodged Wednesday complaints at the Jeypore police stating that their

try. Shami's figures at the end of Clive Lloyd's side did so in the the semifinal looks amazing in-1970s and they won the ODI World deed: 5/54 (New Zealand), 4/22 (England), 5/18 (Sri Lanka), 0/41 Cup in 1975 and 1979 remaining (the Netherlands) and 7/57 (New undefeated in both editions of the tournament. Ricky Ponting's Zealand). Figures that any bowler Australia did so in 2003 and they would give an arm away to possess. It couldn't have been a better Rohit's men have now made it place for Kohli to go past his 10 out of 10 and the juggernaut idol's record of 49 ODI centuries as he stroked and ran his way to continues to roll. India completely outplayed New Zealand by his 50th hundred in this format

of the game. Only 48 of his 117 runs came in boundaries and once more emphasised what a supremely fit cricketer he is. However, the revelation was

Iyer. He batted with utter disdain hitting the Kiwi bowlers to all parts of the park and riding on his knock, India got close to the 400-run mark. But can then one forget the

contributions of Rohit Sharma (47, 29b, 4x4, 4x6), Shubman Gill (80 n o, 66b, 8x4, 3x6) and KL Rahul (39 n o, 20b, 5x4, 2x6)? Theirs were as important contributions as that of Kohli and Iyer – the icing on the cake.

Chasing a victory target close to 400 was always going to be difficult. Daryl Mitchell (134, 119b, 9x4, 7x6) and skipper Kane Williamson (69, 73b, 8x4, 1x6) **VIRAT GOES PAST** IDOL TENDULKAR

Mumbai: Virat Kohli went past Sachin Tendulkar scoring his 50th ODI ton in the semifinal encounter against New Zealand at the Wankhade Stadium here Wednesday. He did so in front of Tendulkar who applauded Kohli's feat with glee alongside football legend David Beckham. Kohli (50 ODI centuries) is ahead of Tendulkar (49), Rohit Sharma (31), Ricky Ponting (30) and Sanath Jayasuriya (28). P11

fought hard but was not enough in the city which Kolhi rightly calls 'Yeh Hai Bombay Meri Jaan'.

BRIEF SCORES

India 397 for 4 (Virat Kohli 117, Shreyas Iyer 105, Shubman Gill 80 n o) beat New Zealand 327 in 48.5 overs (Daryl Mitchell 134, Kane Williamson 69, Mohammed Shami 7/51) by 70 runs.

Rainfall expected in $__{-}$ coastal Odisha dists

Bhubaneswar: The IMD predicted Wednesday heavy rainfall in several coastal districts of Odisha as the low pressure area over the Bay of Bengal



Repair Nata Mandap now: HC CROP LOAN KILLS AGAIN

the case to December 4.

POST NEWS NETWORK

Cuttack, Nov 15: The Orissa ologist (Puri Circle) Dibishada High Court directed Wednesday Brajasundar Garnavak subthe Archaeological Survey of India (ASI) to start restoration of Nata Mandap of Srimandir in Puri from Thursday. Hearing a plea filed by Abhishek Das, a Cuttack resident, a division bench of the high court, comprising Acting Chief Justice Bidvut Ranjan Sarangi and Justice Murahari Sri Raman, also asked the agency to work six hours a day and complete the

semifinals in 2019. Virat Kohli (117, 113b, 9x4, 2x6) five students from their rented accommodation here in connecand Shreyas Iyer (105, 70b, 4x4, 8x6) set Indian on the platform tion with illegal ganja trade in the to victory with knocks that siz-zled the packed to capacity night hours of November 13,"

In a separate development, wards have gone missing.

2nd incident of a farmer dying by suicide after crop losses in last 10 days POST NEWS NETWORK

pest attack and went into acute

depression, family members said.

while working in his farmland.

His brothers Jaybharat and

Ashok alleged that for the last few

days Ramesh was very disturbed.

a complaint filed by his broth-

ers and handed over the body to

them after conducting a post-

mortem. Ramesh is survived by

his wife Khirodri and two sons.

Ramesh's brothers alleged

that despite repeated appeals to

the Agriculture department, he

did not get any help. They in-

formed he purchased pesticide

from the open market at high

Police registered a case over

Ramesh consumed pesticide

also went home with the Cup.

70 runs at the Wankhede Stadium

here Wednesday to seal their

spot in the final. Probably it does-

n't matter who their opponents

are, such has been the form of

Rohit's men. India posted 397 for

the loss of four wickets and then

bowled out the Kiwis for 327. It

was sweet revenge as it was New

Zealand who had dashed India's

dreams defeating them in the

And then came the Mohammed

Shami (7/57) sizzler on a pitch

which definitely slowed as the

match progressed. However, it so

appeared that the script had been

Wankhede.

than 50 passengers. The vehicle skidded off the road near Trungal-Assar on the Batote Kishtwar National Highway and fell 300 feet downhill. The toll may rise as many of the injured are critical, officials added.

President Droupadi Murmu and Prime Minister Narendra Modi condoled the loss of lives. "The bus accident in Doda, Jammu and Kashmir is distressing. My condolences to the families who have lost their near and dear ones. I pray that the injured recover at the earliest, Modi said on X. He also announced an ex-gratia amount of ₹2 lakh each would be given to the next of kin of the deceased and ₹50.000 each would be given to the injured from the from the Prime Minister's National Relief Fund (PMNRF).

Meanwhile officials said that a rescue operation has been launched and some bodies have been retrieved.

Due to the fall from a considerable height, the bus has got badly damaged, sources said. Police and State Disaster Response Force (SDRF) personnel, besides locals, are involved in the rescue operation.

restoration within 120 days. "The amicus curiae will monitor the restoration work of the 12th century shrine's Nata Mandap and inform the high court on its progress every 15 days," the bench said.

The Shree Jagannath Temple Administration (SJTA) will extend all support to ASI for smooth completion of the restoration work. This apart, the temple body will also ensure that devotees have a hassle-free darshan of the sibling deities during the period, the state's apex court said, posting the next hearing of

mitted Wednesday a detailed affidavit in the high court on the restoration of Srimandir Nata Mandap and informed the court that the work will be completed

by January 24, 2024. In its affidavit, the agency informed that high court that it is not possible to carry out the Nata Mandap restoration work as the 12th century shrine has been witnessing a huge footfall of devotees owing to holy month of Kartika and ongoing constructions near the Srimandir.

Expressing displeasure, the court directed the ASI to start the restoration work from Thursday without further delay.

According to sources, the high court had November 8 rejected the affidavit of ASI on the Nata Mandap restoration saying it as 'incomplete'. The court asked the agency to file a comprehensive affidavit on the issue by November 15 and had expressed displeasure over the inordinate delay in completion of repairing work.

Bolangir, Nov 15: A farmer

died by suicide late Tuesday night by consuming pesticide on his farmland. The farmer took the drastic step after he suffered crop losses due to pest attack, police said Wednesday. Fearing a huge debt, Ramesh Bhoi, 50, a resident at Bubel village under Puintala block and the same police limits took the drastic step. Family members and villagers rescued him and took him to the Bhima Bhoi Medical College and Hospital (BBMCH) where he succumbed during treatment.

Locals said Bhoi had grown paddy on 10 acres land this season. However, he failed to get a good yield after brown hopper pests attacked the crops grown on seven out of 10 acres of land. He applied pesticide thrice on his crops but it did not work. Villagers added that he had borrowed ₹5 lakh to raise the crops. He suffered huge losses due to the **FAMILY MEMBERS OF THE DECEASE ALLEGED THAT DESPITE REPEATED REQUESTS THEY DID NOT GET ANY HELP** FROM AGRICULTURE DEPARTMENT

■ THE VICTIM HAD TAKEN A LOAN OF ₹5 LAKH AND WAS WORRIED HOW TO REPAY THE AMOUNT

> price and applied it on his crops but failed to undo the damage caused by the pest attack. "It has become a common tragic story of paddy farmers in Odisha who take loans, grow paddy, spray pesticide but lose their crop to pests, then consume poison, die, and the same story continues," alleged one of the brothers of the deceased.

On being informed, Loisingha MLA Mukesh Mahaling and chief district agriculture officer (CDAO) Subhash Chandra Behera met the bereaved family Behera informed that he had inspected the farmland and there was no sign of pest attack.

intensified into a depression. Currently the depression lies centred over Westcentral Bay of Bengal, about 510 km southeast of Visakhapatnam (Andhra Pradesh), 650 km southsoutheast of Paradip (Odisha) and 790 km south of Digha (West Bengal), the IMD said in a bulletin. It issued heavy rainfall warning in the districts of Puri, Kendrapada, Cuttack, Jagatsinghpur, Bhadrak and Balasore, November 16 onwards.

Gang of monkeys kills Gujarat boy

Gandhinagar: A 10-year-old boy was brutally killed by a gang of monkeys who attacked the victim and ripped into his stomach and tore out his intestines. Police said the incident took place in Salki village in Gujarat's Gandhinagar district. Tuesday afternoon. The police identified the victim as Dipak Thakor. The boy was taken to a local hospital but tragically died before doctors could even begin to help him. The brutal attack left bystanders astounded.

Football resurrects the 'Mahatma'

AGENCIES

IRREGULAR by MANJUL



How can they be bad words? I learnt them from the PM

Sao Paulo, Nov 15: Mahatma Gandhi playing football... well this sudden statement may startle all. However, it is true. There is a footballer with the name of Mahatma Gandhi who is creating waves in Brazilian football with his performances. And since 'Mahatma Gandhi' is a part of his full name, the player certainly has attracted Indian attention. In Brazil, footballers are revered and when one has the name of an Indian legend, then there will certainly be added attention.

Brazilian third division club *Trindade*, have a midfielder named Mahatma Gandhi, whose full name is Mahatma Gandhi Heberpio Mattos Pires. At 31 years of age, he has been playing



professional football for 12 years. Prior to his present club, he represented Atletico Club Goianiense and he started his career with them in 2011.

Pires, who plays as an attacking midfielder, has hogged the limelight this year by scoring 12 goals. Prior to his performance this season he did not have much to show. However, once goals started coming, his name attracted attention.

Interestingly, Brazilian football clubs have had many other players with interesting names. One of the players was named 'John Lennon Silva Santos', after the renowned Beatles singer John Lennon. Additionally, there is a player named 'Pikachu' in another Brazilian team. 'Ben-Hur Moreira Peres', 'Marlon Brando' and 'Mosquito' are some of the interesting names of players in the Brazilian football arena, as per a report published in the The Telegraph.

Mohandas Karamchand Gandhi is known as Mahatma Gandhi in India and is one of the most influential and inspiring personalities in the world. He was one of the pioneers of the Indian freedom struggle against the British colonial rule. His unwavering commitment to non-violent resistance, known as 'Satyagraha', and his dedication to truth and justice inspired millions of Indians and continue to shape India's national identity even today.

The question however, is whether Mahatma Gandhi had any connection with football. According to a report by the All India Football Federation (AIFF), the Mahatma was very much associated with the game during his stay in South Africa from 1893 to 1915. He played a pivotal role in establishing three teams for the Passive Resisters Football Club. These teams took part in football tournaments in Johannesburg, Pretoria, and Durban.

Additionally, he played a key role as one of the founding members of the Transvaal Indian Football Association in 1896

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leisure



EXTREME WEIGHT LOSS STAR **BRANDI MALLORY DEAD AT 40**

Reality show Extreme Weight Loss star Brandi Mallory has died at the age of 40. A representative for the Fulton County Medical Examiner's Office confirmed to PEOPLE that the former reality star died on November 9. The cause of death was not disclosed.

I'M MORE RELIGIOUS THAN **MOST PEOPLE GUESS: KIM**

Reality TV star Kim Kardashian claims she and her children pray every day together even if they are not in the same place. "I'm probably more religious than most people guess. That's how I manage life. I look at everything as lessons," she says.



FORTUNE FORECAST **'Not afraid of owning up my mistakes'** GaneshaSpeaks.com

will seem a good idea in the evening. You desire for name and fame will meet with success shortly, maybe even today! Ganesha showers his blessings on you. As a manager, you may able

to outclass your colleagues by a great margin, predicts Ganesha. You will soften your approach with time and move towards a more democratic style of decision-making rather than the arbitrary protocol that you are used to. With this, you will taste success and prove your mettle in adverse situations, feels Ganesha

accuracy • reliability • trust FOR ASTROLOGY DIAL 55181* ARIES

Your work and family will vie with each other for your attention. Merry-making

GEMINI

TAURUS

Your business rivals may compete with you in sales and deals today, warns Ganesha. Care and concern must be the two watchwords in all your dealings. Hostility may come in the way of love. Those spurned in previous romantic liaisons may get a chance to pen a new love story, says Ganesha.

CANCER

Today, you may have to do a lot of multi-tasking at work, predicts Ganesha. And you are likely to do it with the dexterity of a juggler. You will finish your pending tasks with ease.

LEO

Get ready to bask in applause. Well, not literally, but Ganesha does foresee you getting that long due recognition today for all the hard work you've put at your workplace. This goes hand-in-hand with the support of your colleagues and the good wishes of your seniors especially if it is some new project that you are undertaking.

A single-headed mission to be the master of your destiny will drive you ahead. Your management skills will be immaculate, and the fire to succeed will get you up and running. Your skill in the manage rial nost will be accentuated by your quick decision-making and superior ana lytical ability, says Ganesha

LIBRA

Wedding bells are ringing, and you are about to get

Mumbai: Karan Johar's chat show Koffee With Karan's 8th season started with a bang. The controversial couch, which saw Deepika Padukone and Ranveer Singh kickstarting the new edition, became the talk of the town for all the wrong reasons. The Ramleela actress was subjected to incessant trolling and backlash after she spoke about seeing other guys, too, while being in a relationship with her now-husband.

But Deepika, in a recent interview with a reputed magazine, set the record straight by saying she will never shy away from expressing herself, adding that she's not afraid to own up to her mistakes and say

sorry "When I feel really strongly or passionately about something, I don't think twice about expressing myself. I've grown to become a person where I'm not afraid of speaking my

truth or owning up to mistakes. I'm not afraid of saying sorry, and I'm okay to be the only person in the room who has a different point of view," she added.

In the same interview, when she was also asked about the neverending nepotism debate, she asserted that it has and will exist in the industry. Citing herself as an example, Deepika Padukone said that when you are an outsider 15 or 20 years ago, there's no other option for them. She adds that it's an uphill task for any individual trying to make a mark in a field or profession that their parents don't come from. AGENCIES

Sonam to host Beckham in Mumbai

Mumbai: 🐒 Sonam Kapoor and Anand Ahuja are all set to host football legend David Beckham at their home in Mumbai. "David Beckham is in India for his UNICEF commitment as a

Global Ambassador & he will be meeting Sonam & Anand during his trip to Mumbai. The power-couple will be hosting David today when he is in Mumbai and have invited the crème de la crème icons of the city for a dinner at their residence!" informs a source on conditions of anonymity.

"It is a very private affair. We are hearing only 25 people have made the cut for this grand soirée! Sonam & Anand are major entrepreneurs themselves, with Anand being at the top of the heap with business empire. Sonam is Bollywood royalty and a global fashion icon," the source adds.

"Let's look at David now. He is a global icon, his wife too is a fashion icon. Together, they are pop culture shapers of the world. So, there could be more than what meets the eye about this dinner. Let's wait and watch!" it concludes. AGENCIES



Hiddleston, renowned for portraying Loki in the Marvel Cinematic Universe, shared his thoughts on a Bollywood actor playing a variant of Loki.

Recently during an interview, vhen asked who he would like to see in the role, Hiddleston

promptly responded, "Shah Rukh

Ex- Pak cricketer apologises to Ash



Mumbai: Former Pakistani cricketer Abdul Razzaq has been facing massive flak for his objectionable remarks while giving an example of actress Aishwarya Rai Bachchan during a discussion on Pakistan's early exit from the World Cup 2023. He has now apologised for his comment.

"It was a slip of the tongue of the kind that happened while I was giving an example to explain the situation. I wanted to give some other example but accidentally Aishwarya's name came up. I really want to apologise for my mistake and I want to say sorry to Aishwarya," he said in a video statement.

During the press conference, analysing the team's performance,

Earlier,

Hiddleston,

famous for

his charis-

matic por-

trayal of the

Norse god, ex-

pressed admira-

tion for Shah Rukh

Khan during an in-

terview. He recalled

watching Shah

Rukh Khan's

Devdas, and de-

scribed it as an ex-

traordinary expe-

rience. He had said.

"I remember it was

quite a long time ago

now. I re-

mem

film.

iconic

mischievous

Abdul said, "Younis Khan had good intentions as a captain and it gave me confidence to perform better. Everyone over here is talking about the intention and Pakistan's team. Actually, we don't have good intentions to develop and polish players in Pakistan. If you think that by marrying Aishwarya Rai, a good and pious kid would be born, it would never happen.'

His comment didn't go down well with netizens who slammed him left, right and center for disrespecting a global icon like Aishwarya on the stage and in front of the cameras. Not just in India but people in Pakistan also slammed the former cricketers and urged him to not embarrass them in front of the world. AGENCIES

Hiddleston wants SRK to play Loki

> ber going to see Devdas. I mean that's quite an old film. I remember going to see that at my local cinema, and it was such an extraordinary. I would say I have never seen anything like that. So, yeah I remem-

ber that very much." Tom Hiddleston's interest in Shah Rukh Khan playing a variant of Loki adds an intriguing dimension to the crossover possibilities between Hollywood and Bollywood, reflect-

ing the global appeal and recognition of both ctors. Agencies



sees a plethora of marriage proposals coming your way on this day full of special occasions, as you turn up your charisma and sweep the enthralled opposite sex off their feet with your charm.

SCORPIO

Friends in influential positions will be of much help today. You may plunge into a new business venture without much ado. Appreciation for your abilities and efforts will fly in thick and fast. Your reputation is sky-rocketing among the oppo site sex.

SAGITTARIUS

Running helter-skelter and muddling of affairs is on the menu. Expect not to find even a moment's peace. But take a break, says Ganesha. And dive right back in the chaos and make the most of it.

CAPRICORN

Impulsiveness, which is not really your trait, will be very evident in whatever work you do today, say Ganesha. Money mat-

ters will keep you preoccupied for major part of the day, but ironically, your other wise methodical approach to everything will go for a toss. You will splurge in the second half of the day, and it will be more than what your means can afford.

Lady Luck gazes lovingly upon you today! Bosses are pleased, colleagues are happy, and this makes work seem like leisure. You may want to get in touch with old friends who have moved far away. What are you waiting for, asks Ganesha, in this age of communication?

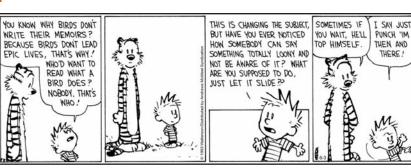
PISCES

A good day for those looking for romantic liaisons, says Ganesha. You will seek the company of your sweetheart to fight feelings of solitude and boredom today. Those who are single ought to strike gold, considering how Lady Luck will be grinning at the efforts you make to win over your love.

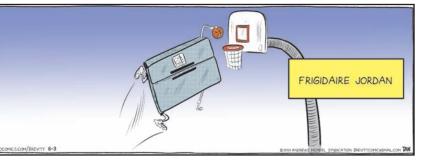
PEANUTS



CALVIN AND HOBBES









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mushroom

19 Words to a pest

2 "I" problem

3 Like a romantic

4 Gnatlike insect

5 Overmodest

6 Swimsuit

12 Eggbeater

13 Golf score

16 Modernise

20 Deviate

21 Docks

25 Carton

26 Contribute

18 General's call

evening, maybe

17 Edible

(3,4)

24 Casbah

22 Blow away

23 Greek liqueur

headgear

residence

27 Religious

28 Salad leaf

1 Scents

Down

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.

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SOLUTIONS VIGOUR BAMBOO

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10 Emulates

feature

15 Something to

14 Painkiller

kick

9 Razor-billed

Xanthippe

11 Canyon or glass

SUDOKU



7 4 9

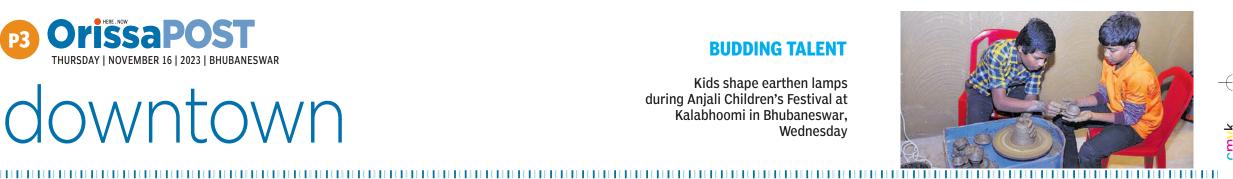
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downtown

BUDDING TALENT

Kids shape earthen lamps during Anjali Children's Festival at Kalabhoomi in Bhubaneswar, Wednesday



MENTAL HEALTH OF COPS

NHRC seeks report from Centre, states

INDO-ASIAN NEWS SERVICE

Bhubaneswar, Nov 15: The National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) has directed the ministries of Health and Family Welfare as well as Home Affairs and chief secretaries of states and Union Territories to submit actiontaken reports (ATRs) within eight weeks on measures taken by them to ensure the physical and mental wellbeing of police personnel.

The NHRC's move came during the hearing of a plea filed by human rights activist and lawyer Radhakanta Tripathy following the assassination of BJD heavyweight and former Health Minister, Naba Kishore Das by ASI Gopal Das.

"Governments across India have failed to ensure the physical and mental wellbeing of police personnel which resulted in suicides, murders and inefficiencies in different forms.' Tripathy alleged in his petition. The petitioner also brought

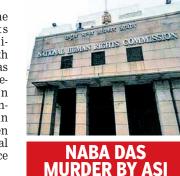
to the notice of the NHRC multiple instances where policemen were found to be underperforming and their incompetence was showing in crime investigations and subsequent convic-

Govt committed to support growth of sports: Naveen

POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar, Nov 15: Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik Wednesday expressed pleasure over the International Association Football Federation (FIFA) choosing Bhubaneswar to set up India's first AIFF-FIFA Talent Academy that would help nurture football talents in the country

Taking to X, Naveen wrote, "Glad to share that FIFA has chosen Bhubaneswar to set up India's first AIFF-FIFA Talent



tions. Neither mental health. nor physical parameters are taken into account while assessing the performance of police officials, Tripathy said.

He asserted that vital parameters, such as physical (Body Mass Index) and mental fitness are not recorded in the service book

These aspects should be considered while giving promotions, increments or taking any departmental action against the police personnel, the petitioner noted.

Bhuba

"Section 21(4) of the Mental Health Care Act, 2017 provides for inclusion of mental illness insurance cover and setting up of a dedicated helpline to counsel

agriculture and transformative health practices.

Vietnamese delegation holds biz discussions

is on a visit to the state to explore potential for business and investment opportuni-

ties held discussion with key government officials here, Wednesday. The delega-

tion's primary focus is on forging collaborative ventures and identifying strategic

investment opportunities and to develop cooperation in areas of higher education,

Welcoming the delegation, Hemant Sharma, Principal Secy, Industry Department,

delivered a comprehensive presentation on the industrial ecosystem in Odisha. He

also highlighted the state's strengths and potential areas for collaboration. Nguyen

Provincial Party Committee's Mass Mobilization Department, Vietnam, delivered a

special address on the goals and aspirations of the Vinh Long province delegation.

Earlier in the day, the delegation met Chief Secretary Pradeep Kumar Jena who dis-

cussed about the rapid strides made by Odisha in the field of disaster management,

health care, training, IT, Tourism apart from promoting trade and investment.

Thi Minh Hanh, member of the Central Standing Committee and head of the

eswar: A 22-member delegation from Vinh Long Province in Vietnam which

the police personnel. The provisions under the Act however, are yet to materialise," Tripathy maintined.

The NHRC has also been urged to issue recommendations to the authorities for conducting a comprehensive physiological, psychometric and mental evaluation of all the police personnel periodically in order to detect suicidal tendencies among the men in khaki.

Tripathy requested the NHRC to constitute a committee for

the assessment of the mental health of all police personnel and ensure measures for rehabilitation of the mentally-disturbed cops.

Earlier, the NHRC intervened in the issues raised by Tripathy regarding the mental health issues of armed and para-military forces

The petition urged the apex rights body to reduce long duty hours and ease the availability of leave to police officers so as to enable them to fulfil their family obligations.

'The steps must be taken by the governments to ensure an adequate workforce so that the duty hours are relaxed and the police officials are granted leave," the rights activist said.

Bhubaneswar/Kolkata, Nov **15:** The India Meteorological Department (IMD) Wednesday forecast heavy rainfall in several coastal districts of Odisha and West Bengal over the next 48 hours as the low-pressure area over the Bay of Bengal intensi-

fied into a depression. Tuesday's low-pressure area over southeast Bay of Bengal and adjoining Andaman and Nicobar Islands moved westnorthwestwards. concentrated into a depression and lay centered over westcentral Bay of Bengal (BoB), about 510 km southeast of Visakhapatnam (Andhra Pradesh), 650 km south-southeast of Paradip (Odisha) and 790 km south of Digha (West Bengal) at 8:30am, the IMD said in a bulletin.

The depression over westcentral Bay of Bengal is likely to intensify into a deep depression and reach north Odisha-West Bengal coasts November 18.

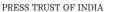
IMD DG Mrutyunjay



AT LORD'S ABODE: Heavy rush of devotees on the Grand Road in Puri during the holy month of Kartika, Wednesday

PIC: YAGNESWAR MOHANT

Heavy rain in coastal dists for 2 days



Depression over west-central Bay of Bengal is likely to intensify into a deep depression and reach north Odisha-West **Bengal coasts** November 18

> Mohapatra said the system is likely to initially move northwestwards, then north-northwestwards and intensify into a deep depression over westcentral Bay of Bengal off Andhra Pradesh coast Thursday morn-

ing. "Thereafter, it would re-curve north-northeastwards and reach over northwest Bay of Bengal off Odisha coast November 17 morning and off north Odisha-West Bengal coasts November 18 morning," he said.

The system will bring light to moderate rain in the coastal districts of West Bengal November 15 and will increase intensity gradually, causing heavy rain November 16 and very heavy rain November 17 in these areas, the Met department said.

It also advised fishermen not to venture into the sea along and off West Bengal coasts from November 16 to 18.

Meanwhile, cloudy sky prevailed in most of the coastal regions in Odisha while some parts of southern districts received light rains

The IMD issued a heavy rainfall warning (7 to 11cm) for one or two places over the districts

of Puri, Kendrapara, Cuttack Jagatsinghpur, Bhadrak and Balasore of Odisha November 16. Orange warning (Be Prepared) of heavy to very heavy rainfall

(7 to 20cm) was issued for rain at one or two places over Balasore and Bhadrak districts November 17. the IMD said.

The system will also bring isolated heavy rainfall in Nagaland, Mizoram, Tripura and Manipur from November 16 to 18 and over south Assam and Meghalaya November 17.

Keeping the IMD forecast in view, Odisha's Special Relief Commissioner (SRC) has requested fishermen not to venture into the sea from November 15 to November 18 as it will remain rough to very rough with a wind speed between 40 kmph and 70 kmph.

The state's Agriculture department has issued an advisory for farmers, suggesting that they harvest matured paddy and other crops. The department also urged vegetable growers to take precautions to protect their ____ standing crops.

Prez to visit state twice this month Rairangpur postal division and

Academy to nurture football talents in the country. Odisha Govt is committed to provide all support for growth of the sport and we are working in close partnership with Indian Football to create the best facilities for our football players.'

Legendary football coach Arsene Wenger will inaugurate the AIFF-FIFA academy that would be launched under the global football body's talent development scheme in Bhubaneswar November 21.

Wenger, who is now the chief of FIFA's global football development programme, will be in India from November 19 to 23 and will meet ISL, I-League clubs besides entities involved with youth development in Indian football.

Voter identity card revision by BMC

POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar, Nov 15: Bhubaneswar Municipal Corporation (BMC) opened centres for revision of errors in voter cards here, Wednesday.

The fresh voter card regis tration and revision process will continue till December 8 at the BMC office. The process will commence from the scheduled timing of 10 am to 5 pm every day.

The exercise will give citizens an opportunity to correct the errors in voter card including name, address, ward number and enrolment centre.

Additionally, it has also opened services for fresh registration of voter cards for individuals above 18 years of age. Those born after October 1, 2006 could participate in the exercise.

The civic body informed that the process is conducted to ensure a hassle-free polling for the upcoming 2024 election.



CULTURAL FETE:

Girls perform at state-level children's festival 'Suravi' organised at Unit IX Bovs' High School in Bhubaneswar, Wednesday ОР РНОТО

Bhubaneswar, Nov 15: President Droupadi Murmu will visit her home state twice this month, officials said Wednesday.

Her first visit this month will be from November 20-22 and the second from November 26-27.

During her first visit, she will embark on a 32-km train journey from Badampahar railway station to Rairangpur, her native place in Mayurbhanj.

On November 20, she will attend the All India Santali Writers' Conference at Baripada. On November 21, the President will flag off three new express trains from Badampahar railway station. The President will also virtually inaugurate the new

physically release a commemorative special cover. She will also virtually inaugurate different projects of the Ministry of Tribal Affairs. Murmu will also attend the 15th annual convocation of the Veer Surendra Sai University of Technology, Burla as the chief guest

On November 22, the President will be the chief guest at the launch of the 'National Education Campaign-Rising India through Spiritual Empowerment' organised by Brahma Kumaris at Sambalpur.

On her second visit, she will arrive in Bhubaneswar November 26 and attend the 'Boita Bandan Ustav' organised by the Paradip Port Authority.

Ukraine evacuee Indian medicos resume studies in Uzbekistan

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Samarkand (Uzbekistan), Nov 15: Evacuated from war-hit Ukraine, hundreds of Indian MBBS students, who thought their academic journey was over, have resumed their studies and started new lives in a leading medical university in Uzbekistan. The Samarkand State Medical

University in Uzbekistan has accommodated over 1,000 Indian medical students from Ukraine after the Indian Embassy in Ukraine reached out to them enquiring if the affected students

can seek a transfer. Amit from Bihar's Begusarai spent one night in a basement in Ukraine when Russia attacked. He was among the students evacuated by the Indian government under the 'Operation Ganga' initiative. 'Operation Ganga' was the initiative launched by the government of India to bring back Indians stranded in Ukraine. A total of 18,282 Indian nationals were evacuated under the initiative.

"I thought I wouldn't make it and would either die or will be stranded in Ukraine. Once I was back home in India, me and my family were relieved but then began the never-ending cycle of uncertainty about what was next. I had finished three years of my MBBS in Ukraine and to start all over again or pursue something else was not an option I wanted to consider. I later decided to move to Uzbekistan,' Amit said.

He said living expenses in Samarkand are higher than that of Ukraine but he is happy to be able to continue his education.

Tanwi Wadhva from Punjab's Ferozepur, who was studying at Bukovinian State Medical University in Ukraine, was apprehensive about joining the university due to the loss of a semester. "I attended online classes for eight months. We were hopeful that the war would end and we would go back. Some students even went back from different routes but I didn't want to take that risk. I evaluated all options



I have only read about war in history books. Never jined that I would witness the situation in person. After it was evident that going to Ukraine was not an option now, I decided to resume my medical journey in Uzbel

DEEPIKA KAIDALA JAYARAMAIAH I STUDENT FROM KARNATAKA

from Georgia to Poland and decided to come to Uzbekistan. The university admitted us a semester back, I was initially apprehensive about the loss of one semester but later I changed my mind and it was worth the decision." she said.

Divyansh from Meerut, who

used to study at the same university as Wadhva, said Uzbekistan's universities offered teaching and learning in English and the curriculum was on the same lines. "Not all countries have universities which offer English as a medium of instruction. So that was a very im-

As many as 18,282 Indian nationals, including students, were evacuated from war-torn Ukraine under 'Operation Ganga'

portant factor. Quality of life is similar in Ukraine and Samarkand but this place feels safer now," he said.

Around 19,000 Indian students were studying in Ukraine when the Russian invasion began in February 2022. According to estimates, approximately 2,000 Indian students have gone back to Ukraine and they are residing mostly in the western part of the East European country.

Several Indian medical students were left with no choice after their evacuation from Ukraine and transferred to universities in other countries to continue their studies. Many have gone to Russia, Serbia and other European countries.

Samarkand State Medical University Vice Chancellor Dr Zafar Aminov said when the war broke out, the Indian Embassy reached out to them enquiring if the affected students could seek a transfer. "We evaluated the requirements of such students and then ultimately decided that enrolling them with a semester back would be a viable option to provide equivalence. We then set up a team to facilitate transfers and also made special arrangements for these students. We hired 30 more Indian teachers to ensure there are no accent issues," he said.

Deepika Kaidala Jayaramaiah, a student from Karnataka, said after seeing the war situation right in front of her, moving to a peaceful country was the priority

"I have only read about war in history books. Never imagined that I would witness the situation in person. After it was evident that going to Ukraine was not an option now, I decided to re-sume my medical journey in Uzbekistan," she said.







Pradhan urges CM to ink MoU for PM SHRI schools

Odisha is yet to respond to proposals for setting up the modern schools under the Centrally-aided scheme that display all the components of the National Education Policy (NEP) 2020 and provide high-quality education

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Bhubaneswar, Nov 15: After getting no response from the state government on the Centre's PM SHRI scheme, Union Education Minister Dharmendra Pradhan Wednesday urged Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik to ask the officers concerned to sign an MoU with the Centre for establishment of such schools in the state Under the PM SHRI scheme, the Centre provides assistance

for establishment of modern schools in different states. Pradhan, in a letter to the

chief minister, said the PM SHRI scheme was launched September 7, 2022, with an aim to establish more than 14,500 schools across the country. These schools will display all the components of the National Education Policy (NEP) 2020 and provide highquality education in an equitable, inclusive and joyful environment.

However, Pradhan said, "Till

POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar, Nov 15: DPS

Kalinga organized a 'Bal Mela'

for its students on the occasion

of Children's Day here, Tuesday,

The programme started with a

tribute to the first Indian Prime

A plethora of events were or-

ganized for students at the Mela.

The students participated in

An exclusive game zone, food

stalls, magic show and activ-

ity stalls added to the fun quo-

ramp walks and dance shows

Minister Jawaharlal Nehru.



now, most of the schools and Union Territories (UT) have signed MoU and the first phase of selection of schools has been completed. The first instalment has also been released to implement the scheme for PM SHRI schools. The second cycle of selection of schools is in process." However, Odisha is yet to sign the Memorandum of

Understanding though many let-

ters have been written by him to the state, Pradhan said attaching his letters in this regard March 13, 2023 and October 9, 2023.

"Therefore, I would request you again to issue necessary directions to the concerned officers to sign MoU for PM SHRI scheme with the Department of School Education & Literacy (DoSEL), Ministry of Education (MoE),' Pradhan said in his letter to the CM.

Pradhan said these schools will not only focus on cognitive development but will also create holistic individuals equipped with key 21st-century skills.

He informed that PM SHRI schools will provide better and excellent science labs, libraries, ICT (information and communication technology) facilities and vocational labs. This apart, PM SHRI schools will be developed as Green Schools which include solar panels, LED lights and water harvesting and water conservation facilities



EMOTIONS AT PLAY: Artistes perform at 5th Lasya Labanya Dance Festival organised by Biswanath Sangeetalay, Cuttack at Guru Kelu Charan Mohapatra Odissi Research Centre in Bhubaneswar, Wednesday

Special Devpt Councils now in 23 districts ECoR safety drive to 'Bal Mela' at **DPS Kalinga**

ARINDAM GANGULY, OP

Bhubaneswar, Nov 15: Our unique tribal culture enriches our state and country. There can be no development if culture is not given due importance, Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik said while speaking on the occasion of Janjatiya Gaurav Diwas, through a video message.

The state level event, celebrating the birth anniversary of Birsa Munda, was organised by the Special Development Council (SDC) under the aegis of the ST & SC Development, Minorities and Backward Classes Welfare Department at the convention hall of Lok Seva Bhawan, Wednesday

The Chief Minister said recog-



nising the importance of this day, we have expanded Special Development Councils to 23 districts from the initial 9. We are laying great emphasis on culture as part of our 'Ama Odisha, Nabin Odisha' initiative.

This year, 9 SDCs have been allocated additional funds of Rs 175.5 crore. I am happy to share those musical instruments and dance costumes will benefit over

sixty thousand tribals. Let's use these resources and work towards the promotion of our culture."

The event focused on the distribution of musical instruments and dance costumes to tribal cultural troupes of 9 districts including Sundargarh, Rayagada, Nabarangpur, Mayurbhanj, Malkangiri, Koraput, Keonjhar, Kandhamal and Gajapati. ST &SC Development,

Minorities & Backward Classes Welfare Minister Jagannath Saraka, in his speech, emphasised the importance of cultural preservation. "The government set up SDCs to protect and promote tribal culture. So far, over 1,800 tribal groups have received musical instruments, and 1,000 dance troupes have been given costumes to preserve their culture.

Musical instruments worth Rs. 7.49 crore were provided to 1,891 tribal cultural troupes, while dance costumes valued at Rs. 11.63 crore will be distributed to 818 troupes across 9 districts. Collectively, 2,709 tribal troupes will benefit, impacting about 67,500 individuals from tribal communities

Geo-Informatics for Devpt workshop held

Bhubaneswar: A one day workshop on Geo-Informatics for Development was organised here by Centre for Environment and Development (CED) Eastern Region Centre, Bhubaneswar Wednesday, DR Babu Ambat Executive Director CED inaugurated the workshop. Among others present on the occasion were Javachandra Kannamedagu Chief GIS Expert CED Hyderabad, PK Das Chief GIS expert CED Bhubaneswar, LP Pattanaik OSD-Chief Town Planner and Priyanka Mishra ,KIIT School of Architecture & Planning joined. Geographic Information system is a technology that has revolutionised the way we understand and analyse our world It provides a platform to store. manage and analyse geospatial data to help make informed decisions in variety of fields

curb cattle run-overs

ARINDAM GANGULY, OP

Bhubaneswar, Nov 15: Emphasising the need for preventive measures to keep cattle away from railway tracks, the East Coast Railway (ECoR) has launched a comprehensive safety drive of railway operations.

The Railway Protection Force (RPF) has taken proactive measures, including engaging with local communities, sensitizing train crews, and identifying vulnerable locations prone to cattle run-over incidents.

To engage local communities, ECoR is conducting safety seminars and propaganda campaigns in villages to educate residents about the dangers of allowing animals to roam near the tracks.

A key aspect of the campaign is discouraging the dumping of food waste along the railway tracks, as it attracts animals and increases the likelihood of them congregating in the vicinity. This measure aims to create an

Since the commencement of the campaign in 2021, ECoR has

infrastructure.

conducted a staggering 2,492 awareness drives, demonstrating a sustained commitment to preventing cattle run-over incidents. Authorities have registered 17 cases and apprehended six individuals in connection with these incidents in the current year itself.

The RPF has begun conducting awareness campaigns in sensitive areas along train routes. urging the residents to ensure that animals are not allowed to roam unattended near the tracks. The RPF has made it clear that negligence on the part of cattle owners could result in legal consequences

ÉCoR's proactive measures and the collaborative efforts of the Railway Protection Force and local communities are essential steps toward ensuring the safety of railway operations and preventing unfortunate incidents involving trains and cattle



tient of the day. Parents and guests had a fun day out with their children. Pro Vice Chairperson Mala Mishra was the chief guest of the day.

Dignitaries present on this occasion included Principal Anuradha Rakshit, Executive Trustee Sunaina Patro, vice principals Sanjay Kumar Jena and Swati Nath.

CLASSIFIED

AFFIDAVIT

I, Priyadarshani Sahu, W/o-Tapas Kumar Sahu, resident of Koelnagar, P.O.- Shaktinagar, P.S.-Jhirpani, Rourkela, Dist. -Sundargarh, Pin-769014, Odisha declare by affidavit No. 628/2023, dtd 15.11.2023, that now onwards I shall be known as Priyadarshani Nayak for all future purposes.

I, SHAIKH MOHAMMAD TARIQUE S/o Sk. Asmat Ali, residence of At-Akatpur Salt Road, PO-Sunhat, PS-Town Balasore, Dist-Balasore, Odisha-756002, declare by this affidavit No-664/2023, dated-13.10.2023 that onwards I shall be known as Sk MD TARIQUE for all future purposes.

HONOURING TALENT: A recent project by BTech CSE students of GNIOT on conversion of sign languages into different regional languages for people with hearing disabilities has garnered accolades and an award for the innovation. The recognition highlights the dedication and caliber of the students in using science for betterment of humanity.

environment that minimizes the attraction of wildlife to railway



SHORT SLEEP, SHIFT WORK MAY RAISE RISK OF HIGH BP

nort sleep lengths, daytime napping, shift work and even long sleep lengths have been linked to an increased risk of elevated blood pressure and cardiovascular disease, according to a new study.

The study, published in Nature Communications, is the first study to demonstrate that independent of other factors including age, sex and Body Mass Index (BMI), circadian rhythmdisrupting behaviours, including shift work, have an adverse effect

on blood pressure regulation. We found that compromised sleep health or night shift work are associated with elevated

blood pressure in both males and females and across all age groups," said lead author Morag Young, Associate Professor from the Baker Heart and Diabetes Institute in Melbourne.

'What we've found is that having circadian rhythms out of sync even slightly has an adverse impact on blood pressure,'

Young added. The study found those permanent night shift workers who slept less than five or six hours were most at risk, but those working mixed shifts also showed elevated blood pressure.

Interestingly, sleeping for too long a period also had a disrup-



tive effect on circadian rhythms, Young said.

"Seven hours of sleep was found to be the optimal length of sleep for maintaining healthy

blood pressure," Young said. 'We found that too little sleep (less than seven hours) and too much sleep (anything more than seven hours) for adults also had

a negative impact."

"Permanent night shift workers showed the greatest elevation in blood pressure, but those people working rotating shifts also showed elevated levels, although not as significant as permanent night shift workers." "Our data also show that short sleep plus shift work has an additive negative effect on blood pressure.'

The body's circadian clock governs almost all processes in the human body, including metabolic function, cognition, heart rate and sleep-wake behaviour. Disruptions to the body's normal biological rhythms can leave the body out of sync, creating circadian strain, and thus nega tive consequences.

"Challenges that disrupt anticipation to daily light-dark cycles, food intake, and activity cues that are induced by nontraditional behavioural and lifestyle factors, like shift work, can adversely impact maintenance of normal biological rhythms at the systemic and cellular level, thereby compromising organ function," Young said.

'Blood pressure follows a wellcharacterised circadian rhythm, so disruption of this rhythm has significant implications for cardiovascular health outcomes," he noted. IANS

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state

Study under tree as school cries for 'transformation'



POST NEWS NETWORK

Damanjodi, Nov 15: Children's studies in Kumbharaguda village under Charangula panchavat and Semiliguda block in Koraput district have been hit hard as the primary school building here is in a dilapidated condition with cracks appearing on the walls and the roof.

This has also put the children's lives at risk. Fearing that the building may collapse at any moment, teachers are taking their classes under a tree in front of the school building.

As per reports, the primarv school has 25 students in five classes. However, only three teachers have been appointed here. As the school building is in a risky condition, the students are studying under a tree out in the open.

During rain, students are seen studying on the verandah of different houses in the village. Many school buildings are being revamped and many are being newly constructed under the 57 initiative of the state government. But it seems that



During rain. students are seen studying on the verandah of different houses in the village

Kumbharaguda school is out of notice of the government.

the school at Gumalguda and merged it with Kumbharguda school. Unfortunately the school building does not even have the basic facilities for the students. The school has no toilet, no water and even no basic facility for playing. Villagers said the administration should intervene and take immediate action in this regard.



LESSEES ARE INCREASINGLY RESORTING TO THE BANNED METHOD MAKING LIFE DIFFICULT FOR PEOPLE LIVING WITHIN 500 METRE RADIUS OF THE OUARRIES

POST NEWS NETWORK

Jajpur, Nov 15: Illegal mining of black stones has picked up again under Dharmasala tehsil of Jajpur district with the leaseholders resorting to wagon blasting methods to extract more stones from the hills in a short period of time.

The state government had decided to crack down on rampant loot of black stones with help of the Mines and Revenue departments. It thought that the two departments can jointly check the loss of precious revenue the state exchequer suffers from the loot of black stones.

Fearing that they may be heavily penalised, the leaseholders, leaving aside the leased area, are allegedly mining black stone from government land through wagon blasting methods. The loot of black stones runs beyond several lakh rupees in a day which is then smuggled to various destinations in and outside the state.

Wagon blasting has made the lives unbearable for people living within 500 metre radius of the quarries

The locals are constantly exposed to dust pollution which

they fear will result in many health hazards. Moreover, the wagon drilling results in mild tremor like occurrences in the area on a daily basis. The houses in the area shudder during wagon blasting while many have already developed cracks.

The use of wagon blasting method has also deprived the residents of their livelihood taking away their jobs. The miscreants are digging up pits up to 200-300 feet depth and filling those with chemicals like ammonia, potash and gun powder which they blast to extract stone from the hills.

Mining of black stone from over 100 acre of government land with the help of wagon blasting method in Baramana and Barada mouzas in neighbouring Dhenkanal district is a case in this point. The government has banned wagon drilling within 500 metre radius of human habitats but the lessees continue to use the method in violation of norms.

Locals have alleged that a public representative's husband is involved in this illegal mining. The accused has engaged more than 10 persons at the site for extracting black stones worth over

₹20 lakh on a daily basis. Locals said that black stone is being extracted without any transit pass and later dumped at various crusher units in the vicinity.

Sources said that the National Green Tribunal (NGT) had directed the state government to collect ₹320 crore as fine in various phases from 22 leaseholders in 2022-23 FY. However, the state government failed to collect the total fine amount as some lessees opposed the order and filed cases in the courts

Meanwhile, tehsil officials have stopped leasing out quarries to the defaulting leaseholders. However, the defaulting leaseholders in connivance with some influential persons continue to plunder the mines with impunity.

It is alleged that the public representative's husband is one of the defaulting leaseholders accused of looting black stone from the quarries. He is continuing with illegal mining without any approval and forest and environment clearance. This is resulting in heavy loss of revenue for the state exchequer.

Residents alleged if the wagon blasting does not stop in their

ILLEGAL BLACK STONE MINING



LOCALS ARE CONSTANTLY EXPOSED TO DUST POLLUTION WHICH THEY FEAR WILL RESULT IN MANY HEALTH HAZARDS

MOREOVER, THE WAGON DRILLING RESULTS IN MILD TREMOR LIKE OCCURRENCES IN THE AREA ON A DAILY BASIS

THE HOUSES IN THE AREA SHUDDER DURING WAGON BLASTING WHILE MANY HAVE ALREADY DEVELOPED CRACKS

area, they will be deprived of their livelihood. Wagon blasting is also creat-

ing many large ponds. However, the pond water becomes unfit for consumption as it gets mixed with chemicals discharged during wagon blasting process. The chemicals discharged not only get mixed with the water on surface but also pollute the groundwater present at depth of 150-250 feet. Villagers apprehended kidney

related ailments may spell disaster for them as they have been using the water for a long time.

When contacted, Dharmasala tehsildar Subhankar Mohanty said squads have been formed under various clusters to check such illegal mining adding that the Jajpur district comes under Bhadrak cluster. He assured that necessary steps will be taken to check such illegal mining by seeking the assistance of the cluster.

Paddy procurement in Koraput to start Dec 3



PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Koraput, Nov 15: The Koraput district administration will open 104 mandis (paddy procurement centres) to procure at least 2,146 lakh quintals of paddy from farmers during the kharif marketing season (KMS) starting December 3.

While 76 mandis will be opened in Jeypore sub-division, the remaining will be in Koraput sub-division. "The mandis will remain open till we achieve our target. We hope to get additional targets during the second phase," Koraput Collector Abdaal M Akhtar said.

Akhtar said steps have been taken to ensure that farmers are not harassed by middle-

2 road accidents claim 5 lives

PNN & AGENCIES

Bhubaneswar, Nov 15: Five persons were killed in two separate road accidents in Koraput and Sundargarh districts Wednesday, police sources said.

The first incident was reported from Koraput district where three persons of a family from Chhattisgarh were killed and another injured as the car in which they were travelling plunged into a 100-metre-deep gorge

The accident took place at Sunki Ghat near Jodimadeli, police said, adding that the injured person has been rushed to the district headquarters hospital in Koraput.

The car was on its way to Visakhapatnam in Andhra Pradesh from Rajnandgaon in Chhattisgarh, they added.

The deceased were identified as Nandalal Thakar, Gaurav Thakar and Naman Thakar. The injured person was identified as Rachana Thakar.

Police suspected that the accident could be due to fog or sleeplessness of the driver.

In Sundargarh district, two cyclists were killed after a speeding car hit them from behind at Jharmunda village.

The car fled the spot after hitting the bicycle. However, local people managed to chase the vehicle and stop it near Jagatgarh. Police have detained the driver.

MARTIN CALLER

COMBATIVE SPORT: A raider fights it out at the East Zone Inter-University Men's Kabaddi tournament held at Maharaja Sriram Chandra Bhanjadeo University in Baripada, Wednesday



have been identified through

satellite surveys. Out of total 21,804 plots, verification of at least 7,000 plots has been completed so far. Registration of at least 451 farmers has been cancelled following identification of 2,000 ghost plots, said Koraput Civil Supplies Officer Pradeep Kumar Panda.

Meanwhile, Jeypore MLA Tara Prasad Bahinipati has strongly opposed the practice of deducting five to seven kg of paddy per quintal from_ farmers on the plea of fair average quality (FAQ) and has urged the administration to procure all the paddy brought to the mandis by farmers.

There has been an illega



POST NEWS NETWORK

Sundargarh, Nov 15: The success story of pointed gourd cultivation at Budabahal village under Meghadega panchavat by the Katra-Budabahal Van Surakhya Samiti (VSS) in Sundargarh district stands as a shining example of how strategic interventions can transform the economic landscape of a community

The villagers' lives have changed for the better as they took up pointed gourd farming on small patches of land on Hele riverbed and reaped success.

Initially, the villagers grew the vegetable on small patches of land in small amounts after the paddy season. However, realising the profits and prospects in taking up pointed gourd farming, they decided to make the vegetable their main crop.

Eventually, cultivation of

pointed gourd proved to be a boon for these villagers with some of them now earning anything between ₹1 lakh to ₹2 lakh annually.

The villagers are now witnessing the fruits of a thriving pointed gourd cultivation initiative in the area, courtesy Odisha Forestry Sector Development Project (OFSDP-II) Phase II. The project's multifaceted approach has not only bolstered the local economy but also fostered unity, showcasing the potential of collaborative efforts in rural development.

The community of Katra-Budabahal VSS has witnessed a remarkable transformation with 102 households at the forefront of a pointed gourd cultivation initiative that has surpassed the ex-

pectations. In a span of five years, OFSDP-II has expanded pointed gourd cultivation in Katra-Budabahal



VSS from 40 to 102 households, covering over 60 acre land and generating an annual income surpassing ₹60 lakh. The success in this context not

only ushers in economic wellbeing to the households involved but also serves as a beacon of inspiration for taking up similar ini-

tiatives elsewhere.

The OFSDP-II has played a pivotal role in this success, providing a comprehensive support package that includes a substantial ₹2.65 lakh revolving fund. market linkages, and hands-on assistance from the partner-NGO SEWAK.

Economic empowerment is at the core of this initiative and the results are evident in the flourishing pointed gourd cultivation. However, the impact goes beyond mere economic gains as OFSDP-II has fostered inter-sectorial convergence, bringing together various elements of the community for a common goal.

This collaborative approach has not only strengthened the social fabric but also created a sustainable model for rural development. A key component of the success story is the focus on infrastructure development.

The introduction of single-line

trellises and the establishment of water facilities through lift irrigation points exemplify a holistic approach to rural development. These infrastructural enhancements not only facilitate pointed gourd cultivation but also lay the foundation for overall agricultural progress in the region.

Digambar Upadhyay, Team Leader of partner-NGO SEWAK. highlighted the transformative impact of OFSDP-II, citing capacitybuilding programmes, exposure visits, and continuous handholding support.

This triumph of Katra-Budabahal VSS is a testament to the potential of collaborative efforts in enhancing livelihoods and promoting sustainability. It underscores the importance of well-planned interventions, financial support, and community engagement in uplifting rural communities.

men and unauthorised agents at the mandis.

Special squads have been formed for supervising the entire process in each mandi. If agents or middlemen are found misguiding farmers at the mandis, action will be taken, the collector said.

Officials said at least 41,736 farmers have been registered for the current KMS and till date, at least 2,000 ghost plots

practice of deducting certain kilograms of paddy citing that it is not of FAQ. If the same thing is repeated this time, it will be strongly opposed, said Bahinipati.

The administration has launched an awareness drive through loudspeakers, leaflets and posters regarding the guidelines to be followed by farmers to sell their produce at the mandis.



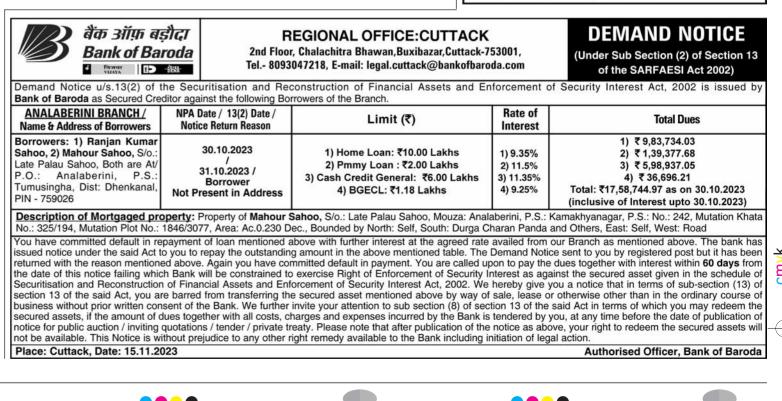
All the tenders issued by CIL and its Subsidiaries for procurement of Goods, Works and Services are available on website of Coal India Ltd www.coalindia.in, respective subsidiary Company, (MCL, www.mahanadicoal.in), CIL e-procurement portal https://coalindiatenders.nic.in and Central Public Procurment Portal https:// eprocure.gov.in In addition, procurement is also done through GeM portal https://gem.gov.in". R-5176

Dalit minor found hanging in hostel

Malkangiri: A Class IX girl student of Madhusudan High School was found hanging inside her hostel room situated at Motu tehsil area under Kalimela block in Malkangiri district. Wednesday. The girl was identified as Puja Kanja, daughter of Dula Kanja from Ginipali village in the district. As per information, the minor was studying in Class IX at Madhusudan High School and was residing in the school hostel. She was found hanging in her room, Wednesday. However, the reason behind her death is not clear and it has not yet been confirmed whether she died by suicide or was murdered. Informed, Motu police reached the spot, seized the body and launched an investigation after sending the body for post-mortem. However, the role of the school management is doubtful. Many students from adjoining areas are studying in the school. Under what circumstances the girl student died is shrouded in mystery. Locals demanded a proper investigation into the matter. On the other hand it was learnt that a scientific team will also be roped in for the investigation.

Youth arrested for raping 4-year-old girl

Deogarh: Police here arrested a youth for allegedly raping a four-year-old girl in Barkote area of this district and forwarded him to court Wednesday. The accused was identified as Toofan Luhura, 21, who hails from the same locality. According to reports, the incident took place while the girl was playing alone in front of her house as her parents had gone to the farm. Taking advantage of the situation, Toofan lured and called the minor to his house and raped her. After committing the crime, Toofan gave her ₹10 and told not to tell anything in this regard before anybody. The accused also threatened her that he will kill her father, mother and grandmother if she disclosed the matter. However, the girl narrated her ordeal before her mother after she returned home in the evening. The minor's mother lodged a written complaint at Barkote police station in this regard. Acting on the complaint, Barkote police arrested Toofan and forwarded him to court. He was sent to jail after the court rejected his bail application.





power post

FOCUS CLIMATE GOALS

LONG ROAD TO 2070

Nothing, not even the darkest falsehood can stop the ultimate triumph of Truth.



Collapsing Order

THE MOTHER

n 2007, I found myself in a car with Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas and then-Israeli President Shimon Peres en route to Turkey's Grand National Assembly. During their historic visit to Ankara, which I had the privilege of hosting, both leaders addressed the Turkish parliament, advocating peace and a two-state solution. This was just two years after Turkey launched its Industry for Peace project, which sought to rehabilitate the Erez industrial park in Gaza. When my Palestinian and Israeli counterparts and I endorsed this initiative, we were all optimistic that developing the Palestinian economy would pave a path toward sustainable peace in the region.

Regrettably, this dream was extinguished by Israel's decision that year to impose a land, sea, and air blockade on Gaza. Sixteen years later, having witnessed the events of October 7 and its aftermath, I am once again overcome by disappointment and sorrow over this lost opportunity for lasting peace.

October 7 marks a major turning point in Israeli-Palestinian relations, with far-reaching domestic, regional, and global implications. At this critical juncture, we must ask ourselves: Are we truly committed to maintaining a rules-based international order rooted in shared values, or are we prepared for a fragmented and po-

larised world where these values are obsolete?

Make no mistake: I unequivocally condemn the loss of civilian lives on both sides. Hamas' killing and abduction of Israeli civilians must not be endorsed under any circumstances. At the same time, the disproportionate response of Israeli Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu's government will not only lead to more violence and suffering across the region but also fuel the spread of hatred and division around the world. Ultimately, it is civilians who suffer the consequences.

The tragic events unfolding in Gaza should not come as a surprise. Neglecting the Israeli-Palestinian conflict has never been sustainable, especially as the plight of Palestinians worsens by the day. Israel's ongoing occupation of Palestinian territories, aggravated by its illegal and pernicious expansion of settlements in the West Bank, contravenes United Nations Security Council resolutions, undermines the foundational principles of international law, and violates established humanrights norms

Moreover, the ongoing blockade of Gaza has segregated and traumatised the en-

clave's 2.3 million inhabitants, depriving them of basic necessities. Making matters worse, the West and even the Arab world have grown accustomed to this grim status quo. This historic miscalculation has stoked Palestinians' anger, setting the stage for the current conflict.

In 1999, as a member of parliament on a fact-finding mission to the Gaza Strip established by the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe, I saw the helplessness in the eyes of Palestinian children and women. Our report highlighted the untenable living conditions and mounting frustration among the Palestinian populace. In my subsequent visits as Turkey's foreign minister and president, it was evident that the situation had worsened, as the political rifts driving this enduring conflict became even more entrenched.

Over the past five decades, the international community has failed to champion the only viable solution: the establishment of two states, Israel and Palestine, living side by side in peace. As opportunities slipped by, conditions on the ground deteriorated rapidly. Today, Palestinian children are reportedly writing farewell letters to their families as they prepare for the possibility of losing their lives in an Israeli bombardment. This state of affairs is bound to breed even more despair and animosity.

Israel's tactics in Gaza obviously violate the laws of war. Depriving Gazans of electricity, water, and food, as well as targeting residential areas, hospitals, mosques, churches, schools, and refugee camps, is incompatible with the Geneva Conventions and their additional protocols. These attacks are nothing short of a war crime, and history will undoubtedly hold those responsible to account. Given its conduct, it is baffling that Israel has managed to retain the steadfast support of Western countries, particularly the United States. Those who blindly support Israel's actions should ask themselves: If we do not uphold the territorial integrity of Palestine, how can we convincingly defend Ukraine's? If you do not respect international law, how will you remain credible? This double standard undermines the rulesbased global order and plays into the hands of authoritarian leaders and extremist movements that thrive on exploiting such inconsistencies. Avoiding this scenario will require adherence to international law and the relevant UN Security Council resolutions. The 2002 Arab Peace Initiative, which has been endorsed by the Organisation of Islamic Cooperation and notably also embraced by Iran, represents a viable path forward and offers a realistic framework for upholding Palestinians' rights and dignity But first, we must stop the bloodshed and demand an immediate and unconditional ceasefire. UN Secretary-General António Guterres' efforts to draw attention to the ongoing humanitarian crisis in Gaza, even amid the "veto wars" at the Security Council, are commendable. Additionally, the contribution of Turkish Foreign Minister Hakan Fidan, known for his deep understanding of Middle East dynamics, will be crucial to achieving a peaceful resolution. To prevent further violence and suffering, an honest and constructive approach to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict is imperative. Effective diplomacy, underpinned by a strong sense of regional responsibility, represents the best way forward. The current war in Gaza is a test of our commitment to a rules-based international order. Now more than ever, we must rely on the moral compass of international law to guide our actions.

Abdullah Gül

October 7 marks a major turning point in Israeli-Palestinian relations, with far-reaching domestic, regional, and global implications

in the UAE, meeting climate goals would be in the forefront. Moreover, as usual, developing countries will pressurise the developed nations to grant more resources to the former to switch to green technologies. But again though per capita emissions of countries such as India, Brazil or even China are much less compared to the Western world, the total emissions of these countries are a cause for concern and would be a bone of contention. The Presidency outlined four

ith the COP28

scheduled to begin

on 30 November

key goals this year, alongside the negotiations process which includes fast-tracking a just, orderly and equitable energy transition, fixing climate finance, putting nature, lives and livelihoods at the heart of climate action and mobilising for the most inclusive COP so far. Speeding up the energy transition is set to be the main issue. as countries remain divided over how to tackle the world's unsustainable use of fossil fuels. Clearly, Western nations would be pushing for a world to first phase out the 'unabated' global use of coal, oil and gas. Other negotiating blocs and countries are likely to push back on this, including major fossil fuel producers like Saudi Arabia and developing countries, which are relying on fossil fuels to grow their economies.

The need for an ambitious agreement will be underscored by the first-ever global stock taking at the very start of the summit. This 'report card' on climate progress will show how far countries are from meeting their commitments under the Paris agreement to limit global warming.

Meanwhile, in spite of the multiple challenges faced by countries, a recently released



Though per capita emissions of countries such as India, Brazil or even China are much less compared to the Western world, the total emissions of these countries are a cause for concern

report of the Climate Vulnerable Forum (CVF) -- an international coalition of 58 countries highly vulnerable to a warming planet revealed that India, Indonesia, the UK and Switzerland are among many economies currently on track to meet the Paris agreement goals based on their pledged targets for 2030. Of the major economies, India, home to almost a fifth of the world's population, produces just 2.9 tonne of CO2 per person compared to the G7 average of 11.7 tonne per capita emission (2022 data). Against the global per capita emission of 6.4 tonne of CO2 in 2021, EU's (27 nations) per capita emission is just 8.1 tonne and the US's per capita emis-

sion stands at 17.5 tonne – six times more than India. As far as New Delhi is concerned, the energy sector needs to adopt new technologies. The country imports around \$160 billion worth of fossil fuel energy and this is likely to double in next 15 years or so. Over 75% requirements are met by oil, gas and coal. Thus, there is need to develop green hydrogen as it will help India to decarbonise sectors such as steel, cement, fertilizer, copper, oil refining; the steep reduction

in solar and wind power rates makes green hydrogen an ideal production route.

At CO26, India pledged to net zero carbon emissions by 2070 with commitments to half its energy from renewables and lower the carbon intensity of the economy by at least 45% from 2006 levels within 2030.

The transformation of the automobile sector will span from primary to component manufacturing as EVs are capital intensive, require batteries but few components. These changes would be aided by information and communication technology and AI. Experts are unanimous in their opinion about green hydrogen being the best option in our quest to reduce carbon intensity. It is believed this will leverage the country's abundant solar and wind resources and substantially reduce energy imports in the long run.

India is estimated to consume 11.7 million tonnes of carbon-intensive grey hydrogen by 2030 primarily in the refinery and fertilizer sectors, two-fold of the 5.5 million tonnes as of present times. This needs to be checked as global warming can't be allowed to aggravate. The new hydrogen capacity must be green that could help bring down pollution to a great extent.

Meanwhile, 15 global health leaders, including three from India, demanded that fossil fuel industry interests be kept out of climate negotiations. "Fossil fuel interests have no place at climate negotiations". health experts stated in an open letter to Sultan Al-Jaber. President designate of COP28 and UAE minister.

India is committed to steadily phase out fossil fuel and has declared the National Green Hydrogen Mission pledging a capital outlay of Rs 19,744 crore targeting 5 million tonnes by 2030 which will be zero carbon. Hydrogen can be utilised for long-duration storage of renewable energy, replacement of fossil fuels in industry, clean transportation and potentially also for decentralised power generation, aviation and marine transport. Experts believe this would bring down the price of hydrogen from the present \$4 per kg to around Rs \$1 by 2030.

The change in mining technology and the vast coal economy of the country are vital challenges in India's quest for a green economy. With steady mechanisation of these plants, employment is steadily getting reduced which is a problem for our country and may be for others too.

The long road to 2070 is quite far off but there is a need to think and evolve right strategies. The public sector must take the lead and develop cooperation with foreign countries for joint ventures and/or technology transfer. If green hydrogen production can be boosted - and already BPCL is collaborating with Bhabha Atomic Research Centre - India would be much ahead in controlling carbon intensity and shifting to green energy.

SPECTRUM PRODUCTIVITY

Dhurjati Mukherjee

THE CHANGE

TECHNOLOGY

AND THE VAST

COAL ECONOMY

CHALLENGES IN

INDIA'S QUEST

FOR A GREEN

ECONOMY

IN MINING

OF THE

COUNTRY

ARE VITAL

Invest in human capital

nfosys co-founder Narayana Murthy recently stirred a debate by urging young Indians to embrace 70-hour work weeks to compete with economies that have made tremendous progress in the past 2-3 decades. His in- a day and 48 hours a week for inhuman statement that manifests an exploitative mentality has received both applause and brickbats Surprisingly, data from the Labour International Organization (ILO) reveals that Indians are already among the hardest workers globally, dedicating an average of 47.7 hours per week per employed individual as of 2023. Only seven countries such as Qatar, Congo, Lesotho, Bhutan, Gambia, and the United Arab Emirates have higher average working hours than India. If one is made to work 12 hours regularly, then the work-life balance will be disturbed leading to anxiety, depression, suicide, destruction of family life, and diseases. Children and aged persons will be neglected. The productivity of future generations will be dampened. The women who bear the disproportionate burden of housekeeping, caregiving, and childrearing will have no choice but to drop out. The ILO's 2018 report on working time and the future of work also recognises that workers with long hours and heavy workloads report reduced job satis-

faction, and motivation, and higher rates of absenteeism and turnover. India was among the first nations to ratify ILO Convention 1 in 1921, setting a standard of eight working hours

Krugman more than 26 years ago. "A country's ability to improve its standard of living over time depends almost entirely on its ability to raise output per worker." India has a gruelling problem with unemployment. underemployment and disguised unemployment that pulls down its labour productivity. Inefficiencies of India's infrastructure, logistics and supply chains, and corrupt practices put a formidable burden on achieving cost efficiencies for businesses operating in India, leading to low productivity and amplified cost of production.

published in Harvard Business Review. Eric Garton savs. there is a virtuous cycle between productivity and people. Higher levels of productivity allow society to reinvest in human capital (most obviously though not ex-



The writer is a former president of the Republic of Turkey. ©PROJECT SYNDICATE

THIS DAY IN HISTORY

- 1940: Warsaw ghetto sealed. The largest Jewish ghetto in Nazi-occupied Poland, the Warsaw ghetto, was created in October 1940 by a German decree. According to the decree, all Jews in the city had to move to the ghetto, which was closed off by a 10 feet wall and had soldiers and police guarding it from the outside 24 hours a day.
- 1945: UNESCO founded. The United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization is a special branch of the United Nations which promotes peace and well-being through education, scientific collaboration and cultural understanding and exchange. It is headquartered in Paris France and has 195 state members.
- **1988:** Estonians declare sovereignty from USSR. Estonians issued the Estonian Sovereignty Declaration as part of the Singing Revolution. The Declaration declared Estonian sovereignty from the Soviet Union and declared Estonian laws paramount over Soviet laws.

Santosh Kumar Mohapatra

INVESTMENTS IN WAGES, TIME, AND **ENERGY COULD REINVIGORATE THE** PRODUCTIVITY CYCLE

etters

Readers of Orissa POST

(200 words), articles and

requested to send their contact numbers and full

B-15, Rasulgarh Industrial Estate, Bhubaneswar-751010

dustrial work. Before the adoption of ILO Convention 1, many countries globally adhered to a standard workweek of 60 hours. We are talking about longer working hours when developed nations are shifting towards the ILO's latest convention, which stipulates a 40-hour workweek.

It is worth noting that an analysis of ILO data alongside corresponding GDP per capita figures reveals an intriguing pattern. There seems to be an inverse correlation between prosperity and weekly working hours, meaning that countries with shorter working hours tend to have higher per capita GDP and vice versa. Take the example of Switzerland. A Swiss worker works an average of 31.6 hours per week, but the Swiss GDP per capita is \$93,421. France has the shortest work-week among top economies at 30.1 hours but brags one of the highest per capita GDP figures at \$55,493, indicating a more productive and prosperous economy. India has lower per capita income despite longer working hours.

"Productivity isn't everything, but in the long run, it is almost everything," wrote Paul

All of this raises a chicken-oregg question: Are we suffering from low productivity because we have underinvested in human capital? Or are we unable to invest in human capital because structural factors are permanently reducing productivity?

Investments in wages, time, and energy could reinvigorate the productivity cycle. New evidence shows we could reinvigorate productivity if we invest more in human capital. Beyond wages, other forms of investment in human capital include education and training, improved healthcare, and other, less obvious investments, such as the time and space to explore new ideas and professional development opportunities

In an article titled "The Case for Investing More in People"

clusively, via higher wages), and smart investments result in higher labour productivity.

Eric Garton and Michael Mankins in their book titled "Time, Talent, Energy," released in March 2017 say how businesses can liberate people's time, talent, and energy and unleash their organisations' productive power. Both found that such investments do indeed pay off.

Perhaps the most transformational thing a company can do for its workforce is to invest in creating jobs and working environments that unleash intrinsic inspiration. This is the gateway to the discretionary energy that multiplies labour productivity. Research shows that companies perform better when leaders empower, encourage, and coach employees instead of delivering orders, micromanaging, and meting out discipline. Failure to acknowledge an employee's mental health can hurt productivity, professional relationships, and the bottom line.

> The writer is an Odisha-based columnist and economist.

Arbitrary powers

Sir, The apex court's ruling that Governors cannot sit on Bills passed by State Legislatures is a whack on the head and a blow to those Governors in non-ruling BJP states. Such acts by Governors undermine federalism and the powers of the elected state governments. Governors, in the non-ruling BJP states, have become dogged impediments and are designed to obstruct the progress and development of these states to 'satisfy' the whims of their masters at the Centre. The Constitution does not provide for any discretionary power for Governors to veto any legislation by a state Assembly. However, since Article 200 doesn't state any precise timeframe for the Governor to decide on the legislation, except the words "as soon as possible," which sits on vagueness. Governors use it to their advantage and sit on the Bills indefinitely to exercise a "pocket veto." It is now up to the SC to give a definitive judgement on what a reasonable timeframe would be for a Governor to take a decision on a Bill passed by a State Legislature. The arbitrary role of the Governors under the Modi government, of disregarding the powers of an elected assembly in the non-ruling BJP states, must be ended in toto.

Ranganathan Sivakumar, CHENNAI

Daily nourishment

Sir, Maharashtra government's decision to introduce eggs in the mid-day meal provided to class 1 to class 8 students in government schools is prudent and is in line with the existent system in 14 states and Union territories. India has the highest number of undernourished children in the world, and it is vital to offer the children wholesome, healthy, nutritious and tasty food. In this regard, eggs to children should be the right and reasonable way to go because they offer essential amino acids, protein and vitamins including the all-important vitamin A and D in right mix apart from minerals like iron and calcium. Strict vegetarians will get banana or seasonal fruit though one has to remember that Vitamin-D is missing in the former. No doubt milk is also a good option but it is always prone to be diluted and contaminated before it reaches the children.

Ganapathi Bhat, AKOLA

TO THE EDITOR are most welcome to contribute letters columns (between 750-1250 words). Contributors are (0) postal address/email ID. They may also send in their valuable comments, opinion and suggestions, preferably by email, to: edit@orissapost.com rissapost





national



The day our government comes to power in Delhi, the first signature will be on the (order directing) caste census RAHUL GANDHI CONGRESS LEADER

Highway, protesting over the

"slow" pace of the operation to

rescue their colleagues trapped

The plan was to use an 'auger

machine' to drill through the

rubble of the tunnel's collapsed

portion and insert 800-mm and

900-mm diameter sections of

mild steel pipes -- one after the

Once this happens, the work-

ers trapped on the other side of

the rubble can crawl out to safety.

But the first drilling machine

turned out to be too slow and

technical issues developed, the

officials said. Also, falling de-

bris inside the tunnel damaged

the equipment and injured two

rescue workers Tuesday. The re-

placement machine came in two

inside for over 72 hours now.

ASSAM: POLICE COMPLAINT AGAINST AJMAL

A police complaint was lodged against Opposition AIUDF chief Badruddin Ajmal Wednesday for allegedly disrespecting 'cheleng', a traditional Vaishnavite scarf. Assam Satra Mahasabha lodged the FIR against Ajmal at Morigaon police station for allegedly throwing away the 'cheleng' from his shoulder when he was presented with it at a meeting in Lahorighat in Morigaon district Tuesday, police said



uote **Navy monitoring** TUNNEL COLLAPSE Rescue mission enters day four movement of Chinese

When the Congress can neither work for development and the welfare of the poor, nor can it respect your faith,

what is the point of carrying the burden of Congress? YOGI ADITYANATH UTTAR PRADESH CM

Do you know Scindia ji? We worked together in Uttar Pradesh... We the people of UP express our complaints or

anger... We vent out everything ... We don't have a habit of addressing (him) Maharaj

PRIYANKA GANDHI VADRA CONGRESS LEADER

The Bemetara district in Chhattisgarh has become a centre of love iihad and that no one would dare do such an act if the BJP is voted to power in the state AMIT SHAH UNION HOME MINISTER

SHORT TAKES

Rijiju to represent India at oath-taking of Muizzu

New Delhi: India Wednesday announced that Union minister Kiren Rijiju will represent it at the oath-taking of Maldivian president-elect Mohamed Muizzu Friday. The Maldives had invited Prime Minister Narendra Modi for the oathtaking of Muizzu. Modi had attended the swearing-in ceremony of incumbent President Ibrahim Mohamed Solih in September 2018. His visit to the Maldives had laid the foundation for strong ties between the two countries.

Sankaraiah passes away

Chennai: Freedom fighter, veteran of the Communist movement and senior CPI(M) leader N Sankaraiah died here Wednesday at the age of 101. He is survived by his two sons and a daughter. A founding member of the CPI (M), 'comrade' Sankaraiah had his la private hospital. Chief Minister M K Stalin showered praise on Sankaraiah recalling his yeoman service for the people.

warships in Pakistan

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, Nov 15: The Indian Navy has been keeping a close watch on the movement of Chinese warships and a submarine which are participating in a mega naval exercise with Pakistan, government sources said Wednesday. The navies of China and

Pakistan on Monday kicked off their largest naval exercises in the Arabian Sea which included their first joint maritime patrol. The China-Pakistan Sea Guardians-3 joint maritime exercise, with the theme of "Joint **Response to Maritime Security**

in Karachi. China's PLA Navy has deployed a number of platforms including frontline warships and a submarine for the exercise from November 11 to 17.

The Indian Navy is monitoring the movements of the Chinese warships and the submarine which are participating in the Sea Guardian exercise with Pakistan from the moment they entered the Indian Ocean through Malacca Strait, the sources said.

As part of our comprehensive maritime domain awareness, the Indian Navy maintains a close watch on all the movements in the Indian Ocean Region in line with national security interests, the sources said.



PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

The new machine, that landed at Chinvalisaur, over 30 kilometres from the tunnel on the Chardham route, is being put into service, amid apprehension by workers at the site on the progress of the multi-agency rescue operations.

Workers chanted slogans at Threats", began at a naval base the mouth of the tunnel on the Brahmakhal-Yamunotri National

AAP to file complaint against BJP

other.

New Delhi: The Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) Wednesday announced that the party will file a complaint with the Election Commission against the BJP for sharing "derogatory" posts on its social media handles against Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Keiriwal. The development comes a day after the EC issued a show-cause notice to Kejriwal for alleged disparaging remarks against the Prime Minister on AAP's social media handle and asked him to respond to the charge of poll code violation by November 16. Addressing a press conference, AAP leader Raghav Chadha said the party's legal team will respond to the notice. "The BJP is running a campaign on social media to slander CM Arvind Kejriwal's image. On November 5, the BJP posted derogatory content on its X, Facebook, and Instagram handles to tarnish CM Keiriwal's image. The AAP also posted content in response to the content shared by the BJP on social media. However, the AAP received a notice from the Election Commission regarding this, but the BJP did not. We hope that after registering a complaint against the BJP, the Election Commission will take strict action." he said.



parts on the Indian Air Force's Hercules aircraft to Chinvalisaur Wednesday afternoon and was being transported by road to the tunnel, about two hours away, Uttarkashi Superintendent of Police Arpan Yaduvanshi said.

'We will start installing it as soon as it arrives and in four-hours hours it will begin the drilling operation. With a capacity to penetrate 4-5 metres of rubble per hour, we can expect it to penetrate 50 metres through the rubble in 10 hours," NHIDCL Director Anshu Manish Khalkho said here.

The 30-metre collapsed section is 270 metres from the mouth of the tunnel from the Silkyara side. Officials said the labourers were safe, and oxygen, electricity, medicines, food items and water were being supplied to them through pipes.

Khalkho, however, said it was not possible to specify a definite timeframe for the evacuation of the trapped labourers but effort was on to make a headway at the earliest and rescue them all safely. Constant communication is being maintained, he added.

Tuesday's landslide and slow performance of the drilling machine deployed earlier hampered efforts to insert steel pipes through the tunnel's debris to create the passage, the NHIDCL director added.

Protest erupts

Workers, family members and others held a protest outside the under-construction tunnel at Silkyara Wednesday over the delay in rescuing labourers trapped inside for the last three days. The protestors vented their anger over the absence of an alternative plan when the machines deployed for drilling the rubble to prepare an escape passage for trapped labourers did not work Tuesday evenina.

OFFICE OF THE NOTIFIED AREA COUNCIL, NUAPADA TENDER CALL NOTICE No.2623 / Date- 10.11.2023

No. C-1826:- Notified Area Council, Nuapada invites Sealed proposal in conformity with documents in Two Bid System (Part-I Technical Bid and Part-II: Financial Bid) in prescribed form from the intending registered Consultancy/Firm having expertise in the field of architectural, construction and structural engineering registered with competent authorities of the State Govt./Central Govt./PSU rganization to quote the rate inclusive of all taxes for preparation of Detailed Project Report (DPR) for following works given bel

SI. No.	Name of work	Cost of Tender Documents	Cost of EMD	Period of completion
1.	Preparation of DPR for Renovation of Gandhi Pramod Udyan, Ward No3	Rs.600.00	Rs.2500.00	30 Days

The intending Consultancy/Firm may visit the site in any working day during Office hours before preparation of DPR. The Bids can be received through Speed Post/ Registered/Courier Post only in the office of the Executive Officer, NAC, Nuapada on or before 3.00 PM of dt.28.11.2023. The authority will not be held responsible for any postal delay. The tender documents will be sold from dt. 13.11.2023 to dt.24.11.2023 up to 5.00 P.M on payment of cash. It can also be downloaded from the district web site www.nuapada.nic.in. In case of downloading the cost of tender document should be deposited in shape of DD to be drawn in favor of Executive Officer, NAC, Nuapada along with the tender paper. The same shall be opened on 29.11.2023 at 11.30 A.M in presence of bidder or their authorized agents in the Office chamber of the Executive Officer of this NAC

The intending bidder is to submit copies of valid Registration certificate on empanelment with competent authorities of the State Govt./Central Govt./PSU organization and PAN Card along with Experience Certificate with their bid, failing which their bid shall not be taken in to consideration

The authority reserves the right to reject any or all the tenders without assigning any reason thereof. OIPR-13158/11/0009/2324 Sd./-Executive Officer, NAC, Nuapada

100

Dated: 13.11.2023

NO RESPITE FOR DELHIIT

Stubble burning incidents crossed the 30,000 mark in two months in Punjab which reported 2,544 fresh farm fires Wednesday



AGENCIES

New Delhi, Nov 15: The poisonous haze blanketing Delhi thickened Wednesday with the air quality turning severe again amid stable atmospheric conditions. The national capital's 24-hour average Air Quality Index (AQI), recorded at 4 pm every day, stood at 401. It was 397 on Tuesday. It was 358 on Monday and 218 on Sunday, 220 on Saturday,

279 on Friday and 437 on Thursday. Neighbouring Ghaziabad (378) Gurugram (297), Greater Noida (338), Noida (360) and Faridabad (390) also recorded very poor air quality. 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'.

Delhi's air quality dropped over the last few days despite the state government implementing stringent measures, including a ban on construction work and the entry of diesel-guzzling trucks into the city, to control pollution. According to IQAir, a Swiss company that specialises in air quality monitoring. Delhi was the most polluted city in the world Tuesday, followed by

Letter No: 8096/NAC **Quotation Call notice**

No. C-1817:- Sealed Quotations are invited in prescribed proforma from intending authorized firms/companies/manufacturers/ suppliers/ agencies/ authorized dealers having up-to-date dealership/ GST Regd. Certificate, PAN Card etc. for supplying fitting and fixing of FRP Odia letter with stand and lighting of "MO SWABHIMAN PURUSHOTTAMPUR". The quotationer shall have to quote the price of the iter and unit-wise of their respective company. The rate quoted documents should be submitted to the undersigned on or before 23-11-2023 during office hours through Regd. Post/ Speed Post or in person and the same will be opened on 24-11-2023 a 11:00 AM in the presence of quotationer or their authorized representatives. Beyon the date, no quotation shall be entertained. The quotation paper along with terms and conditions is available in the ULB website of Purushottampur NAC i.e., www nacpurushottampur.in with effect from 15-11-2023 to 23-11-2023 up to 04:00 PN on submission of non-refundable cost of quotation paper i.e. Rs. 6,000/- (Rupeer Six Thousand) only in shape of Demand Draft in favour of Executive Officer Purushottampur NAC payable at Purushottampur Nationalized Banks. Postal delay shall not be taken into consideration. The undersigned reserves the right to reject whole or part of the quotation without assigning any reason thereof.

OFFICE OF THE NOTIFIED AREA COUNCIL

PURUSHOTTAMPUR, (GANJAM), Pin-761018

Ph No. 06811-295222

DIPR-13187/11/0022/2324	Sd./- Executive Officer NAC, Purushottampur

OFFICE OF THE NOTIFIED AREA COUNCIL CHATRAPUR

Address:-Office of the NAC, Chatrapur, Pin-761020 Letter No.4190 Dt. 13.11.2023

TENDER CALL/ EXPRESSION OF INTEREST

No. C-1822:- EOI invited from Intending firms/ dealers /consultants/ reputed agency having adequate previous experience in preparation of Detail Project Report & quoted rate for procurement, Installation, testing and commissioning of CCTV surveillance system at vital points of Chatrapur town as per the Detail Tender Call Notice on GeM Portal.

The consultants / firm / agency should file their rates Including preparation of DPR, Supervision charges etc. with terms & conditions. The Quotationer should enclose the copy of documents in support of experience, registration, PAN/GST certificate with the quotations

EOI will be received up to Dt. 06.12.2023 by 05.00 PM and the same will be opened at 11.00 AM on Dt. 07.12.2023 in presence of the quotationer or their authorized representatives. The rate should be quoted inclusive of all Tax, GST, Transportation charges, loading, unloading charges, Installation, commissioning etc. The Bidders have to submit the bid documents duly filled up

along with attested photo copies of qualifying documents as indicated in eligibility criteria and the bidders shall have to produce original documents as per eligibility criteria if required for verification and the same will be verified by the Tender Committee constituted for the purpose on the date of the opening of the tender.

The undersigned reserves all the right to reject or cancel all the tender call notice without assigning any reason thereof.

Lahore and Mumbai.

A system developed by the Pune-

based Indian Institute of Tropical Meteorology to identify the contribution of different pollution sources showed stubble-burning accounted for 23 per cent of the air pollution in the capital Wednesday.

AVITALIAA PM Modi launches schemes GAURAV worth ₹24K-cr in J'khand DIWAS

AGENCIES

Khunti (Jharkhand), Nov 15: Prime Minister Narendra Modi addressed the program marking the celebrations of Janjatiya Gaurav Diwas, 2023 in Khunti, Jharkhand. During the programme, the Prime Minister launched 'Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra' and Pradhan Mantri Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Groups Development Mission.

He also released the 15th installment of PM-KISAN. Shri Modi also laid the foundation stone and dedicated to the nation multiple development projects in Jharkhand worth ₹7, 200 crores in multiple sectors like rail, road, Education, Coal, Petroleum and Natural Gas. He also took a walkthrough of the exhibition showcased on the occasion.

A video message from the President of India, Smt Droupadi Murmu was played on the occasion.

Modi also led the Viksit Bharat Sankalp pledge on the occasion. Modi Wednesday promised to work on a 'mission mode' to deliver justice to deprived tribals and said he will repay the debt he owed to them while launching ₹24,000-crore project for vulnerable tribal groups on the birth anniversary of tribal icon Birsa Munda. The PM reiterated, "True secularism comes only when all possibilities of discrimination against any citizen of the country is eliminated," adding that social justice is ensured only when the benefit of all the government schemes reaches everyone in the same measure.



Jharkhand was formed on Munda's birth anniversary in 2000. The visit holds political significance too as the BJP aims to woo tribal voters in Jharkhand ahead of the 2024 Lok Sabha polls and assembly elections in other states having sizeable tribal population.

Jharkhand Chief Minister Hemant Soren, Governor CP Radhakrishnan and Union Ministers Arjun Munda and Annapurna Devi were present on the occasion.

The prime minister underlined that a major foundation of the resolve for a developed India is 'PM Janman' or 'PM Janjati Adivasi Nyaya Maha Abhiyan' and noted that the budget for tribal welfare has been increased by six times.

He said under 'PM Janman', the government will reach out to tribal groups and primitive tribes most of

whom still dwell in the forests. Earlier, governments did the work of connecting the figures, but I want to connect the lives, not the figures. With this goal, 'PM Janman' has started today," the prime minister said.

He said the Centre will spend ₹24,000 crore on this mega scheme. "In this journey, the government will go to every village of the country on mission mode and will make every poor and deprived person a beneficiary of government schemes," the prime minister added.

Modi recalled organising the Gram Swaraj Abhiyan in 2018 where 1,000 government officers were sent to villages to create awareness about seven prime government schemes and expressed confidence that the vatra will become equally successful.

The PM emphasised the need to focus on the four 'Amrit Stambhs of Viksit Bharat' or pillars of a developed India - women power or 'nari shakti', food producers of India, youth of the country and India's middle-class and the poor.

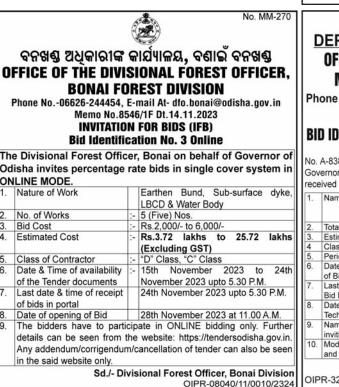
Modi said LPG connections in villages rose from 50-55 per cent to 100 per cent, administration of live-saving vaccines reached 100 per cent children from 55 per cent, tap water connections reached 70 per cent of households from 17 per cent.

He mentioned that many heroes such as Tilka Manjhi, Sidhu Kanhu, Chand Bhairav, Phulo Jhano, Nilambar, Pitambar, Jatra Tana Bhagat and Albert Ekka have made this land proud.



e-Procurement Notice





	NAC,	ta	
	No. 2227 D	t.1	4.11.2023
1	Type of the work	:	CIVIL WORKS
2	No. of works	:	01 (One) Nos.
3	Class of contractor	1	"B"
4	Bid identification No.	:	TRV-NAC-04/2023-24
5	Estimated cost	:	Rs.61,11,682/-
6	Period of completion	:	As per DTCN.
7	Date and time of availability of bid	:	Dt.15.11.2023 at 11.00 AM to
	documents in the portal	1	Dt.28.11.2023 upto 5.30 PM
8	Last date/time for rceipt of bids in the portal	:	Dt.28.11.2023 upto 5.30 PM
9	Date of opening of Bid (Technical)	2	Dt.29.11.2023 at 12.00 Noon Office of the Executive Officer, NAC, Tarbha, At/Po-Tarbha, Dist- Subarnapur-767016
10	Name and Address of the Officer inviting Bid	11	Executive Officer, NAC Tarbha, At/Po: Tarbha, Dist: Subarnapur-7670 Email Id: nactarbha@gmail.com

. MM-270		GOVERNM	/1	ENT OF ODISHA
	D	EPARTMENT O	F	WATER RESOURCES
ାଣ୍ଡ ICER,				ERINTENDING ENGINEER, N DIVISION, RAYAGADA
ov.in	Pho	ne No.(06856)-22208	1(Off.) E-mail: eemirgd@ymail.com
		<u>e-PROCUI</u>	R	EMENT NOTICE
	BID	IDENTIFICATION NO).	ONLINE - 07/MID RGD/2023-24
ernor of stem in	Gover	-838:- The Superintending I mor of Odisha invites perce	En	DRGD // date. 15.11.2023 igineer, M.I. Division, Rayagada on behalf of tage rate bids through e-procurement to be e works as detailed in the table below.
e dyke,	1. 1	Name of work	:	Improvement to Dulaniguda MIP in K.Singhpur Block of Rayagada District under Improvement to Tanks & MIP 2023-24
		Total No. of works	:	1 (One) No. Only
lakhs		Estimated cost	:	Approximately Rs. 15.13 Lakhs
		Class of contractor	:	As mentioned against work
o 24th	6. [Period of completion Date and time of availability of Bid Document in portal	:	As mentioned against work From 10.00 AM on 22.11.2023 and upto 5.30 PM on 05.12.2023
M. 30 P.M.	7. L	ast date / time for receipt of Bid Document in portal	:	Upto 5.30 PM on 05.12.2023
DA.M.	1	Date / Time of opening of Fechnical Bid	÷	From 11.00 AM on 06.12.2023 At O/o S.E., M.I. Division, Rayagada on online
Further a.gov.in.	i	Name and Address of Officer nviting the Bid.		Superintending Engineer, M.I. Division, Rayagada
be seen		Mode of Payment of Bid cost and Bid security.	:	Online
Division 010/2324	OIPR	-32056/11/0008/2324		Sd./- Superintending Engineer, M.I. Division, Rayagada

PHOTO POST

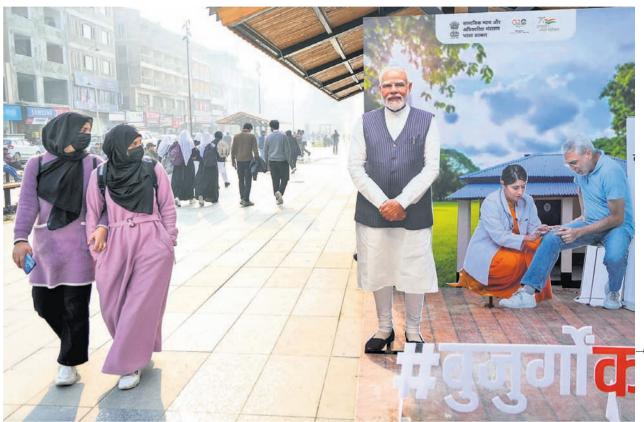








Devotees perform rituals as toxic foam floats on the surface of polluted Yamuna river in New Delhi, Wednesday



Students look at the life-size cutout of Prime Minister Narendra Modi at Lal Chowk in Srinagar, Wednesday



OrissaPOST

THURSDAY | NOVEMBER 16 | 2023 | BHUBANESWAR



P8

An Indian fan during the ICC Men's Cricket World Cup 2023 semi-final match between India and New Zealand, in Mumbai, Wednesday PTI

Elderly people at an old age home celebrate 'Bhai Dooj' festival, in Jammu, Wednesday



Britain's Foreign Secretary David Cameron arrives at the Foreign, Commonwealth PTI and Development Office in London REUTERS



Cricket fans sitting on bean bags watch the WC 2023 cricket semi-final between India and New Zealand on a huge screen at a mall in Noida, Wednesday



An Israeli flag stands on the top of a destroyed building in the Gaza Strip, as seen from southern Israel, Wednesday. The Israeli military says it has taken control of northern Gaza











business



Indian economy is set to emerge as the world's third largest economy by 2027, hopping over Japan and Germany, as its GDP crosses the \$5 trillion level. By 2047. India aspires to be a developed economy NIRMALA SITHARAMAN | FINANCE MINISTER

CHINA UNVEILS WORLD'S FASTEST INTERNET

9 FIRMS ADDED TO MSCI INDIA INDEX

As many as nine firms, including IndusInd Bank, Suzlon Energy and One 97 Communications, were added to the MSCI India Index, according to an update announced by index compiler MSCI. There are nine additions to the MSCI India index, and the changes in constituents will take place on the close of November 30, 2023, it said



INDIA, US, 12 OTHER

SUPPLY CHAIN PACT

New Delhi, Nov 15: India, the

US and 12 other members of the

IPEF grouping have signed a

supply chain resilience agree-

ment that would provide bene-

fits like potential shifting of pro-

duction centres in critical sectors

and mitigating risks of economic

disruptions from supply chain

San Francisco, where Commerce

and Industry Minister Piyush

Goyal is attending the ministe-

The agreement was signed in

IPEF MEMBERS INK

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

shocks.

uote

India has right now over 200 very large startup companies that could go public in future and that's unheard of anywhere else in the world

EDWARD KNIGHT EXECUTIVE VC, NASDAQ

We have invested more than 1.8 billion euros into our three global hubs, demonstrating our commitment to support our customers' growth as they expand globally JOHN PEARSON CEO, DHL EXPRESS

So, on the Colombo port, we expect commissioning and operationalizing of Phase 1 by December of 2024. Now, we have already given our capex guidance KARAN ADANI WHOLE TIME DIRECTOR AND CEO, APSEZ

SHORT TAKES

RBI hit to Bajaj Fin

Mumbai: The Reserve Bank Wednesday directed Bajaj Finance to stop sanction and disbursal of loans under its two lending products eCOM and Insta EMI Card, with immediate effect. "This action is necessitated due to nonadherence of the company to the extant provisions of Digital lending guidelines of the Reserve Bank of India, particularly non-issuance of Key Fact Statements to the borrowers under these two lending products and the deficiencies in the Key Fact Statements issued in respect of other digital loans sanctioned by the company," the central bank said in a statement. These supervisory restrictions will be reviewed after the rectification of said deficiencies to the satisfaction of the RBI, the central bank added.

ONGC to set up 2

New Delhi: India's top oil and

petrochem plants

Govt to exceed full-year direct tax mop-up aim PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

WITH SPEED OF 1.2

INTERNET NETWORK

CAN TRANSMIT 150

Beijing, Nov 15: In a ground-

TERABITS PER

SECOND, THE

MOVIES IN ONE

SECOND

AGENCIES

ond.

New Delhi, Nov 15: The government will exceed the Rs 18.23 lakh crore direct tax collection target set for the current fiscal, CBDT Chairman Nitin Gupta said Wednesday.

We will exceed the Budget target. The economy is doing well, and we will get a better picture of full-year tax collection once the third instalment of advance tax numbers come in by December 15," Gupta told reporters here.

As per government data, the net direct tax collection between April 1 and November 9 this fiscal has swelled 22 per cent to Rs 10.60 lakh crore.

"On a gross basis, the direct tax collection has been growing at 17-18 per cent, while on a net basis, we are growing at 22 per cent. We are also issuing refunds simultaneously. So, we have no doubt about tax collection exceeding estimates,' Gupta said after inaugurating the taxpayers' lounge at the India International Trade Fair

(IITF) Refunds totalling Rs 1.77 lakh crore have been issued between April 1 and November 9.

The 2023-24 Budget has pegged direct tax collection at Rs 18.23 lakh crore, 9.75 per cent higher than Rs 16.61 lakh crore in the last fiscal.



According to the South China Morning Post, this speed is said to be over ten times faster than most current major internet breaking development, Chinese routes. Notably, the project is a companies have unveiled the collaboration between Tsinghua 'world's fastest internet' net-University, China Mobile, Huawei Technologies, and Cernet work, claiming that it can trans-Corporation

mit data at 1.2 terabits per sec-Spanning over 3,000 kilometimes faster than most current major internet routes

The speed is said

to be over ten

ters, the network links Beijing, Wuhan, and Guangzhou through an extensive optical fiber cabling system and has the capacity to transmit data at an astonishing 1.2 terabits (1,200 gigabits) per second.

Most of the world's Internet backbone networks operate at just 100 gigabits per second. Even The United States recently completed the transition to its fifthgeneration Internet2 at 400 gigabits per second.

Notably, the Beijing-Wuhan-Guangzhou connection is part of China's Future Internet Technology Infrastructure, a decade-long initiative and the latest iteration of the national China Education and Research Network (Cernet).

Activated in July and officially launched Monday, the network surpassed all operational tests and performed reliably.

To understand how fast the network really is, Huawei Technologies vice-president Wang Lei explained that it is

"capable of transferring the data equivalent of 150 high-definition films in just one second". Meanwhile, FITI project leader

Wu Jianping from the Chinese Academy of Engineering said the superfast line was "not only a successful operation", but also gives China the "advanced technology to build an even faster internet

Xu Mingwei of Tsinghua University, comparing the new internet backbone to a superfast train track, explained that it replaces the need for 10 regular tracks to carry the same amount of data, resulting in a more cost-effective and manageable system.

Trade deficit balloons

TRADE DEFICIT SHOOTS UP TO ALL-TIME HIGH ON THE BACK OF LARGER IMPORTS IN OCTOBER

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, Nov 15: India's merchandise exports rose 6.21 per cent to \$33.57 billion in October this year, even as the trade deficit touched a record high of \$31.46 billion during the month, government data showed Wednesday. Imports increased by 12.3 per

cent to \$65.03 billion in the month under consideration due to a jump in gold imports. Inbound shipments of gold

rose by 95.5 per cent to \$7.23 billion. Oil imports also increased by 8 per cent to \$17.66 billion during the month.

The country's trade deficit in goods in October last year stood at \$26.31 billion.

TRADE IN THIS FISCAL

Cumulatively, exports during the April-October period this fiscal contracted by 7 per cent to \$244.89 billion, while imports fell 8.95 per cent to \$391.96 billion.

The trade deficit during the seven-month period was \$147.07 billion against \$167.14 billion in the corresponding period last year

Gold imports during the period rose 23 per cent to \$29.5 billion, while crude oil imports dipped by 18.72 per cent to about \$100 billion during April-October this fiscal.

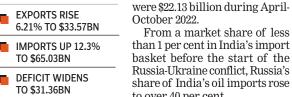


The trade numbers in October reflect green shoots of recovery in outbound shipments. I am hopeful that we will be crossing the last year's figures SUNIL BARTHWAL | COMMERCE SECRETARY

Exports are impacted due to the geopolitical situation and other risks like high inflation and economic slowdown in advanced economies; the Russia-Ukraine war; China-Taiwan and China-US issues; and the Israel-Palestine war.

The country's exports were in a negative zone during February-July. After a revision of numbers by the ministry, the shipments showed 3.88 per cent positive growth in August, but in September it contracted by 2.6 per cent. Imports have turned positive after ten months of negative growth between December 2022 and September 2023.

According to the data, 22 of the 30 key sectors exhibited positive growth in October, and that includes iron ore, meat, dairy and poultry products, pharma, electronic goods, carpet, plastic,



On the other hand, import sectors that recorded high growth in October include pulses (112.2 per cent), fruits and vegetables (53.4 per cent), non-ferrous metals (21.24 per cent) and electronics goods (26 per cent).

(WTO) has forecasted that global trade will grow only by 0.8 per cent in 2023.

IMPORTS FROM NATIONS

India's imports from Russia rose 64 per cent to \$36.27 billion during the April-October period this fiscal on higher shipments of crude oil and fertiliser, according to the commerce ministry data.

With this, Russia has become India's second-largest import source during the first seven months of this fiscal. The imports

rial meeting of the Indo-Pacific Economic Framework For Prosperity (IPEF). The agreement would help member countries like India to reduce its dependence on China.

From a market share of less

The ministry's data showed

that imports from China dipped

marginally to \$60.02 billion dur-

ing the period against \$60.26 bil-

Among all the top 10 import

source nations of India, imports

from Switzerland increased to

\$13.97 billion as against \$10.48

billion in April-October 2022 due

On the export front, India's

exports to six of its top-10 desti-

nations have recorded a nega-

tive growth rate during the period.

of this fiscal, the country's mer-

chandise exports to the US, the

UAE, Singapore, Germany,

Bangladesh, and Saudi Arabia

However, exports to the UK,

Australia and the Netherlands

have recorded positive growth.

During the first seven months

lion in the year-ago period.

invading Ukraine.

to gold imports.

have declined.

The Covid outbreak had severely disrupted the global supply chain, as most countries were dependent on China for various products, like pharma raw materials.

On the social networking platform X, Wednesday, Goyal said: "India joins US and 12 other IPEF partners to ink the IPEF Supply Chain Resilience Agreement, a first-of-its-kind international agreement that will fortify and strengthen global supply chains; and foster adaptability, stability and sustainability"

Members of the bloc concluded the negotiations on this agreement, one of the four pillars of the IPEF, May 27, this year in Detroit.

The other benefits of the pact include supply chain diversification, mobilisation of investments, deeper integration of India in global value chains, support to MSMEs and creation of a seamless regional trade ecosystem, which would facilitate the flow of Indian products.

The agreement was signed by the minister along with the ministers from other IPEF partner countries, the commerce ministry said in a statement.

"The Agreement is expected to make IPEF supply chains more resilient, robust, and wellintegrated, and contribute towards economic development and progress of the region as a ____ whole," it said.

Speaking at the event, Goyal emphasized on enhancing collaboration to realise the collective aims of the IPEF, particularly on the need for mobilising af fordable financing for a clean

economy transition and for en-

hancing technology coopera-

He also urged early imple-

mentation of the envisaged co-

operative work under IPEF, in-

cluding on bio-fuels alliance

suggested by India.

tion.

share of India's oil imports rose to over 40 per cent. India, the world's third-largest crude importer after China and the United States, has been buying Russian oil after some countries in the West shunned it as a means of punishing Moscow for

marine and engineering goods.

The World Trade Organisation

gas producer ONGC plans to invest about Rs 1 lakh crore in setting up two petrochemical plants to convert crude oil directly into high-value chemical products as it prepares for energy transition, top company officials said. Crude oil, which companies like ONGC pump out from below seabed and underground reservoirs, is a primary source of energy. It is processed in oil refineries to produce petrol, diesel and jet fuel. With the world looking to transition away from fossil fuels, companies around the globe are looking at new avenues to use crude oil. At an investor call on the company's second-quarter earnings, Oil and Natural Gas Corporation (ONGC) Director (Finance) Pomila Jaspal said the firm is looking to build separate oil-to-chemical (O2C) projects.

Investors richer by ₹3.29L-cr as indices rally

SENSEX, NIFTY RALLY MORE THAN 1% AS INVESTORS CHEER SOFTER US INFLATION NUMBER

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, Nov 15: Investors' wealth surged Rs 3.29 lakh crore Wednesday, driven by a robust rally in the equity markets.

The 30-share BSE Sensex jumped 742.06 points or 1.14 per cent to settle at 65,675.93. During the day, it zoomed 813.78 points or 1.25 per cent to 65,747.65.

The market capitalisation of BSE-listed firms rallied Rs 3.29,520.27 crore to reach Rs 3,25,40,108.97 crore.

"The market's strong gap-up jump in response to positive

global cues on account of the softer than anticipated US and UK inflation data highlights the optimism for an end to the interest rate cycle, as evidenced by the ease in bond yields. This is likely to draw FII flows into emerging markets, which is good for India considering the current better earnings season and the festive demand pick-up. The drop in the CPI for India also improved the mood," said Vinod Nair, Head of Research at Geojit

Financial Services. Among the Sensex firms, Tech Mahindra, Tata Motors, Infosys,



Wipro, Tata Steel, Tata Consultancy Services, Reliance Industries and Axis Bank were the major gainers.

In contrast, Bajaj Finance, IndusInd Bank and Power Grid were the laggards.

In the broader market, the BSE smallcap gauge jumped 1.13 per cent, and the midcap index climbed 0.91 per cent. All indices ended in the green, with realty zooming by 2.97 per cent, IT rallying 2.29 per cent, teck jumping 2.12 per cent, auto climbing 1.65 per cent, oil & gas (1.55 per cent) and energy (1.41 per cent).

In Asian markets, Seoul, Tokyo, Shanghai and Hong Kong

Roy's death puts focus on ₹25K-cr in Sebi kitty

settled in the positive territory. European markets were trading in the green. The US markets ended with significant gains Tuesday.

Equity markets were closed Tuesday on account of Diwali Balipratipada.

Domestic equities surged higher fuelled by moderation in both India as well as US inflation,' Siddhartha Khemka, Head -Retail Research, Motilal Oswal Financial Services Ltd, said.

As many as 2,215 firms advanced, while 1,538 declined and 131 remained unchanged on BSE.



BIZ BUZZ

Zed Black teams up with Dhoni

Bhubaneswar: In an exciting collaboration yet again, Zed Black Agarbatti, the renowned manufacturer of premium incense products, and former cricketing legend MS Dhoni have come together to celebrate the spirit of collective prayers and the power



of viral prayers during the ongoing ICC Cricket World Cup 2023. The partnership between MS Dhoni and Zed Black incense sticks is truly iconic, symbolizing unity and the spirit of collective goodwill. Zed Black has always churned out quirky, radical, and feel-good campaigns that resonate with the masses, be it the game-changer TVC with MS Dhoni in a retro jersey look or the maiden campaign 'Prarthna Hogi Sweekar' that encouraged individuals to give their all in pursuit of their aspirations. As the World Cup unfolds with India putting forth an exceptional performance, Zed Black has launched a heartwarming TVC campaign that captures the essence of friendship, unity, and collective prayers. Speaking about this partnership, Ankit Agrawal, Director, Mysore Deep Perfumery House, shares, "We are truly honored to have reunited with the legend, MS Dhoni, as a part of the Zed Black family for almost a decade now. His leadership and the values he stands for align perfectly with our brand ethos. Through this dynamic association, we hope to inspire individuals and communities to come together, celebrate moments, and extend their collective blessings".

Sahara supremo faced multiple regulatory and legal battles in connection with his group firms that were accused of circumventing regulations with Ponzi schemes, allegations his group always denied

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, Nov 15: The undistributed funds totalling over Rs 25,000 crore lying with the capital markets regulator Sebi's account have come back into focus after the demise of Sahara Group's chief Subrata Roy. Roy passed away in Mumbai

Tuesday night at the age of 75 after battling a prolonged illness.

In 2011, capital markets regulator Sebi ordered two Sahara Group firms -- Sahara India Real Estate Corporation Ltd (SIREL) and Sahara Housing Investment Corporation Ltd (SHICL) -- to refund the money raised from nearly 3 crore investors through certain bonds known as Optionally Fully Convertible Bonds (OFCDs).

This order came after the regulator ruled that the funds were raised by the two firms in violation of its rules and regulations. After a long process of appeals and cross-appeals, the Supreme Court August 31, 2012 upheld Sebi's directions asking the two

firms to refund the money collected from investors with 15 per cent interest. Sahara was eventually asked to deposit an estimated Rs 24,000 crore with Sebi for further re-

fund to investors, though the group has been maintaining that it had already refunded more than 95 per cent of investors di-

According to the capital markets regulator's latest annual re-

rectly.

port, the Securities and Exchange Board of India (Sebi) issued Rs 138.07 crore in refunds over 11 years to investors of two Sahara Group firms.

Meanwhile, the amount deposited in specially-opened bank accounts for the repayment has risen to more than Rs 25,000 crore.In the absence of claims from a majority of the bondholders of the two Sahara companies, the total amount refunded by Sebi inched up by just about Rs 7 lakh during the last fiscal 2022-23, while the balance in Sebi-Sahara refund accounts rose by Rs 1,087 crore during the year.

Going by the annual report, Sebi received 19,650 applications involving 53,687 accounts as of March 31, 2023. Of these, "refunds have been made concerning 17,526 applications involving 48,326 accounts for an aggregate



amount of Rs 138.07 crore, including the interest amount of Rs 67.98 crore.'

The remaining applications were closed due to their records not being traceable in the data provided by two Sahara Group firms. In its previous update, Sebi

had put the total amount refunded by it as of March 31, 2022, at Rs 138 crore concerning 17,526 applications.

Further, Sebi said under various orders passed by the Supreme Court and the attachment orders passed by the regulator, an aggregate amount of Rs 15,646.68 crore has been recovered by it as of March 31, 2023.

This amount along with the accrued interest after due refunds to the eligible bondholders was deposited in nationalised banks in terms of the judgment dated August 31, 2012, of the Supreme Court.

"As of March 31, 2023, the total amount deposited in nationalised banks is around Rs 25,163 crore, Sebi stated. This amount stood at Rs 24,076 crore, Rs 23,191 crore, and Rs 21,770.70 crore as of March 31, 2022, March 31, 2021, and March 31, 2020, respectively.

Meanwhile, the Centre in August started the process to refund Rs 5,000 crore of depositors whose funds are struck infour cooperative societies of Sahara Group.





international



The world witnessing this killing of women, of children, of babies (in Gaza). This has to stop JUSTIN TRUDEAU | PM,

CANADA

HISTORIC DIWALI MOVE BY NYC

In a historic move, New York State Governor Kathy Hochul signed legislation making Diwali a school holiday for New York City public schools. The legislation requires that all public schools in New York City be closed on the "15th day of the eighth month of the Indian calendar in each year, which is known as Diwali," a press release said



WAR CRIMES France issues arrest

uote

The UN apparatus, especially the Security Council, is crumbling under the weight of 21stcentury geopolitical realities

PRATIK MATHUR COUNSELLOR IN INDIA'S PERMANENT MISSION, UN

The more Russian forces that are destroved near Avdiivka, the worse the overall situation will be for the enemy

and the overall course of this war VOLODYMYR ZELENSKYY PRESIDENT UKRAINE



SHORT TAKES

Budget blow to Scholz's govt

Berlin: Germany's constitutional court ruled Wednesday that the government's re-allocation of 60 billion euros (\$65 billion) of unused debt from the pandemic era to a climate fund was illegal, dealing a blow to Chancellor Olaf Scholz's coalition. This is a key decision as it sets a precedent for fiscal responses in future crises in Europe's biggest economy, while it could also trigger tensions in the coalition in a key week for budget negotiations. The budget manoeuvre agreed in December 2021 by the centre left Social Democrats (SPD), pro-spending Greens and fiscally cautious Free Democrats (FDP) in their coalition deal, allowed the parties to make the most of a temporary, pandemic-related suspension of borrowing

limits in the constitution.

ISRAEL-GAZA CONFLICT Tanks, troops raid hospital **ISRAELI FORCES ENTER GAZA'S BIGGEST HOSPITAL AFTER** WASHINGTON REPORT THAT HAMAS **MILITANTS WERE HIDING AMONG THE PATIENTS** Gaza City, Nov 15: Dozens of Israeli forces with tanks, some wearing facemasks and firing guns into the air, early Wednesday raided part of Gaza's

UNSC's fifth resolution attempt

After four failed attempts, the UN Security Council is trying for a fifth time to come up with a resolution on the Israel-Hamas war, but it remains to be seen whether serious divisions can be overcome to produce a consensus on wording. The current draft under negotiation would demand "immediate extended humanitarian pauses' throughout the Gaza Strip to provide civilians with desperately needed aid. It also would demand that "all parties" comply with international humanitarian law that requires protection for civilians, calls for special protections for children, and bans hostage-taking.

shots as they moved from room to room looking for Hamas, he said.

The Israeli army, in a statement early Wednesday, described it as "a precise and targeted operation against Hamas in a specified area" of the facility.

The army in a separate statement said it had delivered incubators, baby food and medical supplies to the hospital during the operation.

"Our medical teams and

Arabic speaking soldiers are on the ground to ensure that these supplies reach those in need,' it said.

Gaza's Hamas government accused the Israeli army of committing a "war crime and crime against humanity" as the troops pushed on with their search operation.

Over the past few days Israel has encircled Al-Shifa in north Gaza, charging that the faciliHamas blames Biden

Palestinian Territories:

Palestinian group Hamas accused US President Joe Biden Wednesday of being "wholly responsible" for an Israeli army operation at Gaza's largest hospital. "We hold the occupation (Israel) and President Biden wholly responsible for the assault on the Al-Shifa medical complex," Hamas said in a statement. "The adoption by the White House and the Pentagon of the occupation's false claim that the resistance is using the Al-Shifa medical complex for military ends has given the green light to the occupation to commit more massacres against civilians." The White House had said Tuesday that US intelligence sources corroborated Israel's claim that Hamas has buried an operational centre under the hospital. Biden had also urged Israel to take "less intrusive action relative to" Al-Shifa, adding: "The hospital must be protected." Israel has repeatedly claimed that Hamas's military use of the facility "ieopardises its protected status under international law" -- a claim that many international human rights lawyers refute

trol node" under Al-Shifa.

warrants for Syrian president, 3 generals ASSOCIATED PRESS Paris, Nov 15: French judicial authorities Wednesday issued international arrest warrants for Svrian President Bashar

Assad, his brother and two army generals alleging their involvement in war crimes and crimes against humanity including in the chemical attack in 2013 on rebel-held Damascus suburbs. lawyers for Syrian victims said.

In addition to President Assad, the arrest warrants were issued for his brother, Maher Assad, the commander of the 4th Armored Division, and two Syrian army generals, Ghassan Abbas and Bassam al-Hassan.

Jeanne Sulzer and Clemence Witt, lawyers at the Paris Bar who represent the plaintiffs, and NGOs behind the complaint, hailed the decision Wednesday.

"It marks a crucial milestone in the battle against impunity," Sulzer told The Associated Press on the phone. "It signifies a positive evolution in case law recognising the grave nature of the crimes committed."

intelligence sources corroborated Israel's claim that Hamas and another group, Palestinian Islamic Jihad, had buried an operational "command and con-Hamas has denied those charges and stressed the suf-

> The Paris prosecutor's office has not publicly commented on the arrest warrants that remain secret under French law amid ongoing investigation.

> "Legally speaking, this is a procedural act as the investigation into the 2013 attacks in Eastern Ghouta and Douma continues," Sulzer said. The four individuals named in the arrest warrants "can be arrested and brought to France for questioning by the investigative judges,' she said.

More than 1,000 people were___ killed and thousands were injured in the August 2013 attacks on Douma and Eastern Ghouta.

The investigation into the two chemical weapons attacks has been conducted under universal jurisdiction in France by



PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

London, Nov 15: British Prime Minister Rishi Sunak appeared buoyant Wednesday as official statistics revealed that inflation dropped to 4.6 per cent, meeting his end of year target to curb price rises against the backdrop of his sacked home secretary's attack claiming his "plan is not working'

fering inside the besieged clinic ties were being used by Hamas that has been without electricas command centres as well as ity or fuel for generators amid a hideouts for their commanders. weeks-old Israeli siege of the The White House said that US Palestinian territory. Sunak hits inflation aim amid

At

least 2,300 people

-- patients, staff and

displaced civilians -- were

soldier ordered, according to a journalist who took refuge inside the embattled hospital several davs ago and who has been in contact with AFP. The army labelled the raid a "precise and targeted" opera-

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

biggest hospital, packed with

patients and displaced people,

in their battle against

Hamas operatives.

years and above,

raise your

hands," a sol-

dier shouted

in Arabic

through a

loudspeaker.

to those shel-

tering inside Al-

Shifa hospital,

combat for days

which has become

"All men 16

tion against Hamas, the Palestinian group that launched

of the fierce fighting the centre of fierce urban conditions inside the hospital "Exit the building towards as horrific, with medical prothe courtyard and surrender," the

anaesthetic, families with scant food or water living in corridors, and the stench of decomposing corpses filling the air. As Israeli forces raced through

the October 7 attacks that started

the Gaza war and which Israel

clinic.

claims is running a command

centre beneath the

Israeli and

Palestinian offi-

cials both re-

men emerged from different wards, including the maternity section, which was hit in a strike

cedures performed without

the corridors, hundreds of young

Washington: The U.S. House of Representatives

Tuesday passed a temporary spending bill that

protest in London. The 20-year-old was detained

by police October 17 after she and dozens of demonstrators locked arms to obstruct the entrances to a hotel where an oil and gas conference was taking place. Thunberg, wearing a grey T-shirt and black jeans. spoke only to confirm her name and date of birth as the judge at Westminster Magistrates Court set February 1 as the date for her trial

US House passes spending bill







B'desh polls Jan 7

Dhaka: Bangladesh will hold the much-awaited general elections January 7, the country's chief election commissioner announced Wednesday. Chief Election Commissioner Kazi Habibul Awal announced the dates during an address to the nation that was telecast live. The announcement came amid mounting political tensions as Bangladesh Nationalist Party (BNP) and its far-right allies like the Jamaate-Islami have waged a street campaign demanding the resignation of Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina's government to allow a non-party interim government to conduct the general elections

would avert a government shutdown, with broad support from lawmakers in both parties. The legislation, which would extend government funding through mid-January, now heads to the Senate, where Democratic and Republican leaders have voiced support. To prevent a shutdown, the Senate and Republican-controlled House must enact legislation that President Joe Biden can sign into law before current funding for federal agencies expires at midnight on Friday.

Vatican confirms ban on Catholics becoming Freemasons

Vatican City: The Vatican has confirmed a ban on Catholics becoming Freemasons, a centuries-old secretive society that the Catholic Church has long viewed with hostility and has an estimated global membership of up to six million. "Active membership in Freemasonry by a member of the faithful is prohibited, because of the irreconcilability between Catholic doctrine and Freemasonry," the Vatican's doctrinal office said in a letter published by Vatican media Wednesday. The department, known as the Dicastery of the Doctrine of the Faith, issued its opinion, dated November 13 and countersigned by Pope Francis, in response to a bishop from the Philippines alarmed by the growing number of Freemasons in his country.

The target to half inflation from the highs of over 10 per cent when he took charge at 10 Downing Street last year was among Sunak's top five priorities for his government.

The British Indian leader, who undertook a surprise Cabinet reshuffle earlier this week starting by sacking Suella Braverman for repeated insubordination, firmly declared that he will "stay the course" a day after his former Cabinet minister unleashed a scathing attack on his leadership in a very public three-page letter.

It came as there remains disquiet within the ranks of the governing Conservative Party, with murmurings of a leadership challenge gaining some momentum with Braverman accusing Sunak of "betrayal" of the

party's pledges to the British electorate.

As was expected, the Indianorigin minister intends to make life very difficult for her former boss from the backbenches, and with the support of some on the very right of the party, after he sacked her with a Monday morning phone call.

'Someone needs to be honest: your plan is not working, we have endured record election defeats, your resets have failed and we are running out of time. You need to change course urgently," reads her excoriating departure letter.

Accusing him of ignoring her many letters on issues such as illegal migration and clamping down on so-called "hate marchers" protesting against the Israel-Hamas conflict, the controversy courting former minister claimed Sunak had reneged on written promises he had made to her at the time of taking over as Prime Minister in October 2022 – even claiming her support was the "pivotal factor" behind him succeeding Liz Truss.

I can only surmise

because you have

that this is

no appetite for doing

intention of fulfilling

SUELLA BRAVERMAN | FORMER UK

your pledge to the

British people

CABINET MINSTER

therefore no real

what is necessary, and

"You have manifestly and repeatedly failed to deliver on every single one of these key policies. Either your distinctive style of government means you are incapable of doing so. Or, as I must surely conclude now, you never had any intention of keeping your promises," Braverman writes.

"I can only surmise that this is because you have no appetite for doing what is necessary, and therefore no real intention of fulfilling your pledge to the British people," she adds.

investigative judges of the Specialised Unit for Crimes against Humanity and War Crimes of the Paris Judicial Court. The investigation was opened in March 2021 in response to a

criminal complaint by the survivors, and filed by the Syrian Centre for Media and Freedom of Expression (SCM).

Mazen Darwish, the SCM's director, said the issuing of arrest warrants is "a new victory for the victims, their families and survivors" of the 2013 attacks.

Assad's government was widely deemed by the international community to be responsible for the August 21, 2013 sarin gas attack in the then-opposition-held Damascus suburb of eastern Ghouta.

NATO to buy six more UK King celebrates 75th birthday with Indian nurses 'eyes in the sky' planes **INDIANS LEAD THE ESTIMATED 150,000 INTERNATIONAL NURSES AND MIDWIVES CURRENTLY** WORKING IN THE NHS. WHICH IS ALSO CELEBRATING ITS 75TH ANNIVERSARY YEAR

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

London, Nov 15: Britain's King Charles III celebrated his 75th birthday by hosting a special reception at Buckingham Palace in London for Indian nurses and midwives along with other international medics who contribute to the country's statefunded National Health Service (NHS)

Around 400 nurses and midwives representing countries such as India, the Philippines, Sri Lanka. Nepal and Kenya, among others, attended the reception celebrating their contribution to the UK's health and social care sector on Tuesday evening. "It was a wonderful, once in a lifetime experience meeting His Majesty the King. He's an amazing and warm person," said Shreejith Mulaleedharan, an Indian staff nurse working in Scotland.

"It was a massive privilege to meet King Charles, tell him about the contribution that Sikh nurses have made in this country and, of course, wish him a happy birthday. We have a lot of Sikh nurses within the NHS doing lots of philanthropic work within the community as well," said Rohit Sagoo, founder and director of British Sikh Nurses.

The reception formed part of a packed day of royal events as the British monarch chose to work through his birthday and spent time interacting with many of the guests in good humour. He was surprised with a rendition of 'Happy Birthday' by the NHS choir and handed a birthday card from a schoolgirl also cel-



ebrating her birthday November 14.

'What a wonderful event where His Majesty has shown his appreciation and therefore our appreciation for the incredible people that come from all over the world, including India, to work in our NHS. They do so much for us," said Victoria Atkins, the

newly appointed Health Secretary in British Prime Minister Rishi Sunak's Cabinet reshuffle.

"The links between the UK and India are so very close and I look forward to visiting India, with the permission of the Prime Minister," she said.

Earlier, the King was joined by

Queen Camilla on a visit to a food distribution hub in Oxfordshire to kick-start his Coronation Food Project, which aims to support charities feeding the country with unwanted food

"Food need is as real and urgent a problem as food waste and if a way could be found to bridge the gap between them. then it would address two problems in one. It is my great hope that this Coronation Food Project will find practical ways to do iust that – rescuing more surplus food, and distributing it to those who need it most," he wrote in the 'Big Issue' magazine.

Across London, gun salutes were fired and Piccadilly Square was also lit up with a birthday message for the British monarch as he turned 75 Tuesday.

ASSOCIATED PRESS

Brussels, Nov 15: NATO announced Wednesday it has opted to buy six new E-7A Wedgetail surveillance planes built by US aircraft manufacturer Boeing as the 31-nation military alliance looks to update its eyes in the sky

in coming years. NATO's fleet of 14 Airborne Warning and Control System, or AWACS, aircraft are outdated and expensive to maintain. But their large fuselage-mounted radar domes can detect aircraft hundreds of miles away and they remain useful to monitor Russia's war on Ukraine from NATO's eastern flank.

NATO said that production of the six new Wedgetails — a militarised version of the Boeing 737 jetliner — will begin "in coming years," with the first planes



expected to be ready for duty by 2031. No cost was provided for the planes, but based on US and UK contract information the price could hit \$5 billion.

NATO's contract with Boeing one of the military organization's biggest ever purchases — is set to be signed next year.

Apart from the AWACS aircraft and a small fleet of surveillance drones, NATO as an organization does not own any military equipment. The allies themselves provide materiel for its operations. The US, UK and Turkiye — all NATO members — — either fly the Wedgetail separately or plan to operate it.



SEMIFINAL

@imVkohli era. Congratulations

emperor." This was the reaction (in

'X') of Pakistani great and one of

the greatest pacers in the sport

Wasim Akram after Virat Kohli

Wednesday climbed a peak that no

one ever has conquered – 50th hun-

dred in ODIs, and, rest assured, the

Indian superstar will stand alone

on that high point for foreseeable

The day turned out to be even

more special when Mohammed

Shami sealed the fate of the Kiwis

taking 7/57, breaking multiple

records. He became the quickest to

50 wickets at the WC and also be-

came the first bowler to claim four

Virat is widely known as 'King Kohli'

for the aggressive demeanor in his

gameplay on the field. With that cen-

tury against New Zealand in the World

Cup semifinals here, Kohli moved past

idol Sachin

Tendulkar, who had

held the record for

most ODI cen-

turies till now

with 49 of

them

5-wicket hauls at the showpiece.

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

future.

his

Kohli's runs in the ongoing WC, making him the only

batter to score more than 700 runs in the showpiece.

The previous best was Tendulkar's 673 in 2003 edition

5 No. of centuries for Kohli in World Cups, going equal with Sri Lanka's Kumar Sangakkara and Australia's

Ricky Ponting. Rohit leads the list with seven centuries

2003 and Shakib Al Hasan in 2019 had seven 50-plus scores

8 Fifty-plus scores for Kohli in this tournament, the most by any batter in a single edition of the ODI WC. Tendulkar in

51 No. of 6s by Rohit in ODI World Cups, the most for a play er, going past Chris Gayle's 49. Of these, 28 of Rohit's 6s

7 This is the first time 3 players from same team score more

👤 than 500 runs in a World Cup – Kohli, Shreyas Iyer and Rohi

ous best of Adam Gilchrist (72 balls vs Sri Lanka in the 2007 final)

four 5-wicket hauls in World Cups, surpassing Mitchell

Ashish Nehra's 6/19 against England in 2003

Mohammed Shami becomes the first bowler to pick up

Innings taken to reach 50-wicket mark in WCs, fastest

to achieve the feat breaking Starc's record (19 innings)

Bowling figures of Shami, best by an Indian 57 bowler in WCs, surpassing the previous record of

397/4

India's total

gainst NZ, the

highest by any

team in an ODI

dame. The previ-

ous highest was

Zealand against

the quarterfinal

of 2015 edition

West Indies ir

393/6 by New

WC knockout

Balls needed for Iyer to complete his century, the fastest 67 Balls needed for iver to complete his contain, the previ-in an ODI World Cup knockout game, surpassing the previ-

have come in this edition, the most for any batter in a single

edition, surpassing Gayle's 26 in 2015

Starc's three

KOHLI, SHAMI BREAK MULTIPLE RECORDS It's stuff of dreams. I mean, AS INDIA SAIL INTO it's very difficult for me to THE FINAL BEATING explain this, but if I could paint the perfect picture, I would want **NEW ZEALAND BY** this to be the picture. My life partner, the person I love the most, **70 RUNS IN THE** she's (Anushka) sitting there. My hero, he's (Sachin) sitting there. ICC WORLD CUP

And I was able to get the 50th (ton) in front of all of them and all these fans at Wankhede as well, such a historic venue. It was amazing Mumbai, Nov 15: "We live in

VIRAT KOHLI

Tendulkar also might have felt a bit of gratification seeing his successor dethroning him, as the batting maestro himself had asked Kohli not to delay in getting to the mark

After Kohli reached his 49th ODI hundred against South Africa in Kolkata, Tendulkar took to 'X' (formerly Twitter) to wish the Delhi lad. "Well played Virat. It took me 365 days to go from 49 to 50 earlier this year. I hope you go from 49 to 50 and break my record in the next few days," Tendulkar had written then. Kohli did precisely that on this day in Tendulkar's home ground.

Virat also surpassed Sachin for the record of most runs in a single edition of World Cup as the 35-yearold has now 711 runs in the ongoing World Cup compared to the Mumbaikar's 673 in 2 03 ef f

Centuries for Kohli in ODIs, most by any batter in the world, surpassing Sachin's 49. Kohli took 279 innings to achieve the feat while Sachin has 452 innings to his name. Among the active cricketers. Indian skipper Rohit Sharma is second at 31 tons

PRAISES POUR IN

Sachin Tendulkar penned a heartfelt congratulatory message to Virat Kohli, who made a 50th ODI hundred to break his record during the match against New Zealand, Wednesday. Tendulkar had owned the record for the highest number of ODI hundreds till this day with 49 centuries. Tendulkar recalled his first meeting with Kohli in a funny yet nostalgic tone, and how some of the then teammates made the young cricketer touch his feet. Kohli also said going past Tendulkar was a dream come true for him ...

SOURAV GANGULY: It will take a lot of beating to go past this and he's not finished yet. It's a phenomenal achievement

VVS LAXMAN: What a moment! What an occasion for Virat to create history 50th ODI 100, and in a World Cup Semifinal with his batting hero Sachin watching from the stands. Absolute champion

SURESH RAINA: Here's the moment we've all been waiting for! @ImVkohli, the maestro, crafting another magnificent century & achieving the milestone of scoring most centuries in one day cricket! Absolute brilliance, King Kohli!

IAN BISHOP: Virat Kohli with a great sense of occasion befitting a great player moves to ODI century No 50 in

ICC World Cup SemiFinal 2023. Under the gaze of Sachin Tendulkar, Sir Viv Richards, Sunil Gavaskar, David Beckham and several sporting icons Wankede is a special venue

LISA STHALEKAR: Unbelievable ... what a cricketer!! Virat Kohli on the biggest stage gets that magical number... 50. He now stands alone at the top. I reckon he still have one more in him before the end of this tournament

not just a number. It's an extraordinary tale of cricketing greatness. Well done champ

SHIKHAR DHAWAN: Kohli's century - a cricketing blockbuster with a script that deserves all the applause!

BRAD HOGG: That's a World Cup moment to treasure in the history books. 50th ODI hundred and celebrating with utmost respect to the little master. Genius

ROBIN UTHAPPA: Virat Kohli 50th ODI is



Kohli-fying Shami-final



Proteas, Australia have Sinner edges past Djokovic Babar quits as Pakistan ASSOCIATED PRESS

in the Wimbledon final.

five-set loss to Carlos Alcaraz in the Wimbledon final when I lost the second set, it was very hard but together with you



task cut out in 2nd semis

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Kolkata, Nov 15: Lance Klusener on his haunches at Edgbaston and a completely shattered AB de Villiers in Auckland are some of the most poignant pictures of South Africa's World Cup semifinal heartbreaks but come Thursday Temba Bavuma's warriors would be determined to shed their eternal chokers tag against five-time champions Australia.

Any South African cricketer worth his salt hates the 'C' word while Australia as legacy champions of the ODI global meet would like to rub it in, in the best possible manner they can.

When it comes to the 50-over World Cup, Australia evoke a sense of fear and anxiety among their rivals, having won five of the 12 titles so far – of which four have come in the last six editions - as they are known for thriving in big moments.

It's been the opposite story for South Africa who have reached the semi-finals four times from nine editions, but it's always been a tale of being so-near-yet-so-far.

Be it the rain-rule miscalculation on their debut World Cup in 1992 semifinal against England, or the tied result in 1999 that helped Australia made the final on better run-rate, the Proteas for one reason or another have never able to progress beyond the last-four stage.

"As a South African team, we -know we're going to have that chip on our back, or that nar-

rative that we have to get over,' South Africa skipper Bavuma said, often being asked of the narrative. But such has been the fury shown by South Africa this time in the course of making the semifinal that the Proteas look set to overcome it.

Barring their batting collapse against India at the same venue here where they folded for 83 in the group phase and the capitulation against the Netherlands, South Africa have looked omi-

nous in the batting department. If unfit for the fixture against Australia, Bavuma is likely be replaced Reeza Hendricks who will then open with Quinton de Kock. South Africa, who have lost

both their matches while chasing, will hope that they win toss and bat first something they have done with distinction in this tournament

After a slow start that saw them losing to India and South Africa, Australia have started doing what they do best-securing seven wins on the trot and have peaked at the right time.

Glenn Maxwell's logic-defying 201 not out mostly batting on one leg single-handedly chased down 292 after slumping to 91/7 against Afghanistan has given the team a much-needed impetus.

Veteran David Warner, who smashed back-to-back hundreds against Pakistan and the Netherlands, may have slowed down in the business end, but the left-hander will be a threat up front. With 426 runs at 60.85. Mitchell Marsh has been the backbone of their batting as he

and Maxwell would be the key to propel them to a big score. Australia will also hope that veteran Steve Smith returns to form. The former skipper has been phenomenal in ODI World Cup knockouts, with 311 runs from four innings, and averages close to 104 with three fifties and one century.

Turin (Italy), Nov 15: Jannik Sinner recorded his first win over top-ranked Novak Djokovic at the ATP Finals, delighting a raucous home crowd. Sinner triumphed 7-5, 6-7(5-7), 7-6(7-2) in a match spanning more than three hours Tuesday night and into Wednesday morning.

It was the 22-year-old Sinner's first win in their four head-tohead meetings. It also ended Djokovic's 19-match winning streak that stretched back to his

Sinner sealed the result with a smash at the net to send the Turin arena into a frenzy. "There doesn't exist a better place to beat the World No.1. After Wimbledon I said I felt a bit closer but I didn't even win a set," Sinner said on his on-court interview. which was interrupted by the crowd serenading him with "Olé, Olé, Olé Olé, Sin-ner, Sin-ner."

"Here I managed to play the most important points in the best way. There was a bit of tension



(the crowd) we won together.'

very hard, but together with you

The umpire had to tell the fans to be quiet several times during the enthralling encounter as they fervently cheered the Italian player on and also booed Djokovic several times.

The 36-year-old Djokovic, who normally enjoys huge support in Italy, lapped up the boos and even encouraged the fans to up their hostility toward him.

Sinner, who beat Stefanos Tsitsipas 6-4, 6-4 in Sunday's opener; is now on the verge of reaching Saturday's semifinals. He next plays Holger Rune, who has one win after Tsitsipas retired early in their green group match and withdrew from the tournament.

Djokovic, who is bidding to break a tie with Federer and capture a record seventh title at the tour finals, will play first alternate Hubert Hurkacz. Sinner didn't make it out of the group stage in his only other appearance at the ATP Finals, as an alternate in 2021.

But the crowd sensed a huge win was on the cards when Sinner won nine straight points to finish the first set — rallying from 40-0 down to break Djokovic's serve and then holding to love.

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Karachi, Nov 15: Babar Azam Wednesday resigned as Pakistan captain across formats, four days after his team's elimination from the World Cup, where the for-

mer champions finished fifth. Pakistan lost five of their nine games, including a shock defeat against Afghanistan, bringing Babar's leadership under scanner. Experts and critics had called for a change of guard and Babar was summoned for a postmortem of team's performance by PCB's management committee head Zaka Ashraf.

Babar announced his decision on social media. "Today, I am stepping down as captain of Pakistan from all formats. It's a difficult decision but I feel this is right time for this call," Babar wrote in his statement, posted on X.

Babar faced scathing criticism for his team selection and many accused him of creating a coterie with the players of his liking, including Imam-ul-Haq, Mohammed Nawaz, Shadab Khan to name a few. Babar made it clear that he will support the new skipper in every way possible.

"I will continue to represent Pakistan as a player in all three formats. I am here to support the new captain and the team with my experience and dedication. I want to express my sincere thanks to Pakistan Cricket Board for entrusting me with this significant responsibility," he added.

Ashraf, on his part, also copped a lot of flak when he issued a statement in the middle of the tournament that the squad selected for World Cup was done at the behest of erstwhile chairman Inzamam-ul-Haq and skipper Babar. He had mentioned that a decision would be taken at the end of the tournament and it was clear that Babar didn't have PCB's back.

During his tenure, Pakistan became No.1 ranked team in ODIs on the back of some solid performances at home on placid pitches against second string teams from SENA countries and relatively weaker Asian teams.

He was named captain in 2019 and he admitted that he experienced highs and lows after he first got a call from PCB informing of their decision of appointing him the leader of Pakistan.

Wenger to inaugurate AIFF-FIFA academy in Bhub

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, Nov 15: Legendary football coach Arsene Wenger will inaugurate the AIFF-FIFA academy, to be launched under the global football body's talent development scheme, in Bhubaneswar November 21.

Wenger, who is now the chief of FIFA's global football development programme, will be in India from November 19 to 23 and will meet ISL, I-League clubs besides entities involved with youth development in

Indian football.

Wenger was Arsenal's manager from 1996 to 2018, under whose tenure the club won three Premier League titles, seven FA Cups and remained unbeaten in 49 games.

FIFA's talent development scheme aims to collaborate with member associations across the world to increase the competitiveness of their national teams.

"Arsene Wenger will be here in India from November 19 to 23. During this period, he and



his team will meet ISL, I-League clubs and all those who are involved with youth development in Indian football," said AIFF president Kalyan Chaubey in a release Wednesday.

'Our efforts would be to build this academy into a flawless one. We are confident that Wenger's vast experience and keen understanding of things would be of huge help in turning this academy into a world-class facility," he added. AIFF acting secretary general

M. Satyanarayan said, it is a step towards All India Football Federation's (AIFF) "long-term vision" and "investing in youth as young as below 14".

FIFA has recommended Sergi Amezcua Fontrodona as the FIFA-trained coach, who will relocate to India to implement the project and act as the head coach at the FIFA-AIFF academy. Amezcua was previously involved with developing football in China as the project director at the Barca Academy -Pro Haikou.

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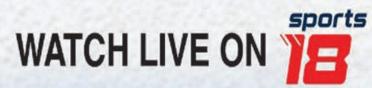












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