

Not in good terms
Actor Taapsee Pannu says she doesn't believe in appeasing paparazzi as they misuse her statements for commercial gains
LEISURE | P2

Return to ruins
Thousands of Palestinians return to their homes in the ruins of Khan Younis after a week-long Israeli incursion which killed hundreds
INTERNATIONAL | P9

'Wilful defaulters'
RBI issues a Master Direction on the Treatment of Wilful Defaulters and Large Defaulters to examine the 'wilful default' aspect in all NPAs
BUSINESS | P10

Dominant show
Indian men's hockey team beat Ireland despite a few defense lapses to more or less secure its passage into the quarterfinals of the Paris Olympics
SPORTS | P12

IPS officer Pandit Rajesh suspended for misconduct

AGENCIES

Bhubaneswar, July 30: The state government Tuesday suspended senior IPS officer Pandit Rajesh Uttamrao for allegedly misusing his position, an official statement said.

Uttamrao, a 2007-batch IPS officer, was serving as DIG, Fire Services & Home Guards.

"A complaint has been received, alleging that Pandit has disgraced the dignity of his position by misusing his power last Saturday (July 27) night," said the statement issued by the chief minister's office (CMO).

It was alleged that Pandit misbehaved with a woman police inspector and her husband July 27. Bhubaneswar DCP Prateek Singh said that police action will be taken if any complaint is lodged over the alleged incident.

Chief Minister Mohan Charan Majhi ordered the department concerned to immediately suspend the errant senior police officer and take appropriate action against him on the basis of a confidential report submitted by the Director General of Police (DGP) on the incident.

123 buried in sleep



MASSIVE TRAGEDY: NDRF personnel conduct rescue operation after landslides in Wayanad district, Kerala, Tuesday

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Wayanad (Kerala), July 30: In one of the worst natural disasters in Kerala, at least 123 persons were killed and 128 injured in massive landslides triggered by torrential rains in Wayanad Tuesday. With hundreds trapped under the debris, sparking fears of mounting fatalities, rescue agencies were racing against

time to pull out any survivors.

Government sources said 123 people have been killed so far in the tragedy.

Heart-wrenching scenes and phone conversations of several people crying and pleading to be rescued, as they were either trapped in their houses or had no way to move out of places where they were stranded, were witnessed after the landslides that

left a trail of death and destruction in the picturesque hamlets of Mundakkai, Chooralmala, Attamala and Noolpuzha.

Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan said: "Due to the intense rainfall, landslides occurred, and an entire region has been destroyed. Ninety-three bodies have been recovered so far." He said 128 people are undergoing treatment at various hospitals.

2 from Odisha missing

Bhubaneswar: Two persons from Odisha are missing in the landslides in Kerala's Wayanad, the chief minister's office (CMO) said. "The state government is in regular communication with the Kerala government in view of the massive landslide where many lives were affected in Wayanad. As per the information received from the Kerala State Disaster Management Authority, two rescued Odia people are under treatment while two others are still missing," the CMO said in a post on X.

The Kerala government has sought further assistance from the nation's defence forces to augment the rescue teams. A 43-member team from the 122 Infantry Battalion (TA) MADRAS has been deployed to aid in the efforts.

PM Narendra Modi expressed concern over the incident. He said he spoke to CM Vijayan and assured all possible help from the Centre to the state. Modi also announced an ex gratia of ₹2 lakh for the next of kin of the deceased and ₹50,000 for the injured.

Meanwhile, Congress sources in New Delhi said that Leader of Opposition in the Lok Sabha Rahul Gandhi and party General Secretary Priyanka Gandhi Vadra will visit landslide-hit Wayanad Wednesday. **P8**

TRAINS DERAIL: TWO FROM ROURKELA DEAD



AGENCIES

Jamshedpur/Bhubaneswar, July 30: Two passengers from Rourkela were killed and 20 others injured after at least 18 coaches of the Howrah-Mumbai Mail derailed near Barabamboo. Rescue operations are on and an NDRF team is rushing to the spot," West Singhbhum Deputy Commissioner Kuldeep Chaudhary said.

He claimed that the "Howrah-Mumbai train hit the stationary goods train". Jharkhand CM Hemant Soren directed officials to expedite relief operations. The Railways made an ex-gratia payment of ₹10 lakh each to the kin of the deceased, the SER said.

Meanwhile, a trolley of an empty goods train derailed at a yard in Sambalpur division Tuesday.

IRREGULAR by MANJUL



I also spat several times on the waterlogged street. The police might come after me too

Manu clinches historic 2nd Olympic medal

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Chateauroux (France), July 30: A calm and composed Manu Bhaker scripted history to become the first Indian athlete in post-independence era to win two Olympic medals in a single edition of the Games as she combined with an equally unruffled Sarabjot Singh to clinch the 10m air pistol mixed team bronze here Tuesday.

The Indian pair defeated the Korean duo of Lee Wonho and Oh Yeh Jin 16-10 to earn the country its second medal at Chateauroux's shooting range.

The 22-year-old Bhaker had earlier snared the women's 10m air pistol bronze medal at the same venue Sunday, wiping off the memories of a horrendous

Olympic debut in Tokyo 2020 where her pistol malfunctioned leaving her in tears.

Before her, British-Indian athlete Norman Pritchard had won two silver medals in 200m sprint and 200m hurdles at the 1900 Olympics, but that achievement had come in the pre-Independence era.

While it is a massive achievement for women's sport in the country, Tuesday's medal is also redemption for Sarabjot, who had failed to make the men's 10m air pistol final, finishing ninth Saturday with a score of 577.

"I'm feeling really proud and there is a lot of gratitude, thanks for all the blessings," said Bhaker after the match, which the two young Indians played with remarkable poise to make it a one-sided contest. **P11**

Special status: Opposition demands CM's statement

Bhubaneswar: The BJD and the Congress Tuesday asked Chief Minister Mohan Charan Majhi to inform the Assembly whether he demanded special category status for the state at the recent NITI Aayog meeting in Delhi. The Opposition parties raised the issue in the House a day after Majhi returned to the state from the national capital. During the Zero Hour, senior BJD MLA and former minister Arun Kumar Sahoo said the chief minister should inform the House whether he demanded the "special category status or the special focus state tag or any special allocation of funds for Odisha" at the Governing Council meeting of the NITI Aayog. **P3**

INDIA bloc demands Kejriwal's release

New Delhi: INDIA bloc leaders gathered at Jantar Mantar here Tuesday to demand the release of Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal amid his declining health and hit out at the BJP-led Centre for "suppressing" the voice of Opposition. They also blamed the Central government for the deaths of three civil services aspirants at a flooded basement of a coaching centre in Old Rajinder Nagar here. Slogans of "Bharat Mata Ki Jai" and "End dictatorship" were raised during the protest. Nationalist Congress Party - Sharadchandra Pawar (NCP-SP) chief Sharad Pawar and Deputy Leader of Congress in Lok Sabha Gaurav Gogoi were also present at the rally. **P7**

MARKET WATCH	
INDEX	VARIATION
SENSEX	81455.40 ↑ 99.56
NIFTY	24857.30 ↑ 21.20
DOLLAR	83.72 ↑ ₹0.00
EURO	90.43 ↓ ₹0.17
GOLD	₹68,054 ↓ ₹214
SILVER	₹81,715 ↑ ₹428

WEATHER		
	BBSR	CTC
Max Temp	29.4°C	29.5°C
Min Temp	25.1°C	24.5°C
Humidity	97%	94%
Rainfall	33.6mm	20.4mm

FORECAST: GENERALLY CLOUDY SKY WITH HEAVY RAIN

Telegram CEO 'father' of over 100 kids

Pavel Durov, the Founder and Chief Executive Officer of Telegram recently revealed that he has over "100 biological kids". He took to the messaging app to share the same with his 5.7 million subscribers. "I was just told that I have over 100 biological kids. How is this possible for a guy who has never been married and prefers to live alone?" he said.

Mr Durov said about 15 years ago, a friend approached him with a "weird request". "He said that he and his wife couldn't have kids due to a fertility issue and asked me to donate sperm at a clinic for them to have a baby. I laughed my ass off before realizing he was dead serious," he added.



He stated that the boss of the clinic told him that "high quality donor material" was in short supply. The doctor went on to say that it is the 39-year-old's "civic duty to donate more sperm to anonymously help more couples."

"This sounded crazy enough to get me to sign up for sperm donation. Fast forward to 2024, my past donating activity has helped over a hundred couples in 12 countries to have kids. Moreover, many years after I stopped being a donor, at least one IVF clinic still has my frozen sperm available for anonymous use by families who

want to have kids," he said.

The entrepreneur stated that he now plans to open-source his DNA so that his biological children can find each other. Discussing the importance of healthy sperm, Durov said that he is proud that he did his duty "Of course, there are risks, but I don't regret having been a donor. The shortage of healthy sperm has become an increasingly serious issue worldwide, and I'm proud that I did my part to help alleviate it. I also want to help destigmatise the whole notion of sperm donation and incentivise more healthy men to do it, so that families struggling to have kids can enjoy more options. Defy convention - redefine the norm," he wrote on Telegram. AGENCIES

OrissaPOST PRESENTS

Show YOUR Brilliance!

Reviving Quizzing

METTLE MEET 2024

A Quiz Extravaganza

Prelims 3rd August | Grand Finale 4th August

SPONSORS:

Ruchi Foodline, 50 Years in 2025, ODISHA (India's Best Kept Secret), IndianOil (The Energy of India), AM/NS INDIA (ArcelorMittal Nippon Steel India), NALCO, MCL (Maharaja Coalfields Limited), JINDAL STEEL & POWER, Paradeep Phosphates Limited, SRI JAGANNATH PROMOTERS & BUILDERS, FALCON REAL ESTATE, imfa, JSL JINDAL STAINLESS, Favo (Absolutely Fabulous), vedanta (transforming for good), CARCINOVA CANCER HOSPITAL (Brightening Star in Cancer Care), VAJIRAO IAS ACADEMY, केनरा बैंक Canara Bank, Ajanta Advertisers, WEFE Internet, samajbadi ociety, धरित्रि, PANDA TRAVEL MART

PARTNERS:

leisure



JLO URGES CITIZENS TO REGISTER FOR VOTING

As the US elections draw closer, several Hollywood personalities have urged people to register to vote. Jennifer Lopez Monday took to Instagram and wrote: "We are officially 100 days away from election day. Let's go!! Register here."

CARDI B'S WARNING TO HER RAP RIVALS

Cardi B has taken to social media to slam her rap rivals, warning that they 'should've left (her) alone'. The 31-year-old star has taken to social media to hit out at her critics promising to 'teach' them some lessons on her new album.



FORTUNE FORECAST

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

ARIES

Now at last you have realised that you have been preoccupied with work at the cost of your family life. Making up to them now is going to take a lot more effort. Ganesh says be ready to open your purse strings for either eating out, going out for a movie or shopping at the best places.

TAURUS

This day has been earmarked for beautification, a makeover, says Ganesh. You are likely to remain preoccupied with ways to enhance your looks and appearance. A new, stylish hair do, face packs and massages, trendy outfits and accessories could be in store.

GEMINI

You will feel lonely and unwanted today. You will feel the need for someone who can calm your troubled mind. Meditation and yoga will help you calm yourself. It is a good day to receive love from that someone special, says Ganesh.

CANCER

You will succeed in a new venture and will brim with radiance and energy. Ganesh says this is the best time for get-together and kindle contact with friends and relatives.

LEO

You will look to give your house a new appearance by decorating it or undertaking some renovation projects. You will make the best out of waste and produce some truly marvellous pieces of art for improving the ambience of your nest. You will be able to save up on some money. Laudable, says Ganesh.

VIRGO

You will excel remarkably in whatever work you prefer to engage yourself in today. Ganesh says your aspiration to start a business endeavour in a foreign country will bear fruit. To considerably enhance your self-image, it is necessary to make required improvements in your personal appearance.

LIBRA

Ganesh says that on the work front you may be in the midst of meetings or negotiations, which will work out favorably for you. This will help ease your tension and you will feel mentally free. Today you will feel more vibrant and active too and hence will be able to get more done.

SCORPIO

According to Ganesh, your new business venture is likely to keep you on toes today. You may even neglect your personal life to meet expectations at work. A feeling of disappointment may surround you as things do not go according to planning and your efforts may go in vain. No pains, no gains reminds Ganesh.

SAGITTARIUS

You are in a dilemma today. You may find yourself standing at crossroads, and your decision power does not seem to help you much, says Ganesh. You are likely to become controversy's favourite child; this may add fuel to the fire. Be wise, and take guidance of experienced people.

CAPRICORN

God helps those who help themselves, likewise, your sincere efforts will be paid off well, today. If you're dealing with shares and stocks, it may be your day, today. Your life partner will proved to be lucky for your success, so give him/her the credit he/she deserves, suggests Ganesh.

AQUARIUS

You always see the larger picture, and desire to channelise all your energies towards making things better. Such positive approach makes you an excellent team player, and enables you to bring novel ideas and effective solutions to the table, says Ganesh. You will be the life of every party you go to today.

PISCES

This day promises to be filled with much romance, laughter, and fine dining, says Ganesh. You will seem irresistible to the opposite sex. You might also find yourself falling for someone. A breathe of fresh air could waft into old relationships, or new ones could be formed.



Radhika talks about industry's beauty standards

Mumbai: Radhika Madan was seen with Akshay Kumar in the recently-released film *Sarfira*. In an interview with a news channel, the actor said she does not judge celebs for getting Botox or fillers as she opened up about the industry's beauty standards. Radhika said she herself was open to them; the actor also recalled 'people used to tell her that her jaw is little uneven'

Radhika doesn't look down on her peers who have gone under the knife, saying, "I don't judge people who get things done because it makes them feel confident and improves their self-image, which is very important... I didn't feel the need at that point. People used to tell me that my jaw is little tedha. Did they expect me to sit with a scale and measure it (laughs)? I was quite surprised because I was Kareena Kapoor in my head. Maybe they couldn't see it. I didn't buy that at that point."

The actor added that if in the future, if she wants to go through with some cosmetic injectable, she'll do so without giving it much thought. Radhika said, "I still don't buy it but maybe I will after a few years. I don't know but I may just get it done. It all depends on the kind of self-image I have at that point. I wish it remains the way it is right now. In my mind, I'm still Kareena Kapoor. And even if it's not, I won't judge myself. So, I'm pretty much okay with all of that." IANS



Taapsee on tiff with paparazzi

Mumbai: Taapsee Pannu admits she has a strained relationship with the paparazzi. In an interview with a radio channel, the actor opened up on why she doesn't believe in appeasing them and how the photographers misuse her statements and videos for their own commercial gain.

"How will you click on the news then? Tell me who clicks on positive news? When was the last time you clicked on a positive news? Now, this kind of news is more sensational. 'She's being nasty and rude to paparazzi' so everyone is like, what happened? Let's see. So that is more exciting for an audience," Taapsee said.

"These things aren't fetching me films. My films speak for themselves. So I don't have to appease a section of so-called media, I don't even call them direct media because they're serving their vested interest that someone just clicks on their portal. I don't call them media. Media is not supposed to desperately put out lines or videos that are clickbait," Taapsee added.

She said the paparazzi know exactly when they come physically too close to her or have shouted at her or have chased her car. She added that she doesn't want to be made apologetic about her privilege. She's a normal woman who wants them to respect her privacy and physical space.

Taapsee will be next seen in *Phir Hasen Dillruha* and *Khel Khel Mein*. IANS

When Sanjay wanted to 'marry' Saira Banu



Mumbai: Actor Sanjay Dutt celebrated his 65th birthday Monday, and veteran actress Saira Banu marked the occasion with a special anecdote from his childhood.

The actress took to her Instagram stories and shared a throwback image of a young Sanjay with her late husband, Dilip Kumar.

Alongside the picture, Saira recounted a charming story from when Sanjay was a child.

The actress penned a note over the picture as she shared a story from the time when a young 'Sanju' expressed his wish to marry her.

Saira wrote: "@duttсанжай has always been like a family to me. My entire family, starting from Ammaji to Aapaji, to Sahib, and to me, we've watched him grow from a tiny toddler into the remarkable person he is today. I still remember when Nargis Aapa would come to our house for functions, and he would accompany her; this cute, good-looking kid."

The actress continued, "Nargis Ji would then shake his hands and say, 'Chalo, Saira Ji ko bolo tum kya bolte ho mujhe?' And then Sanju would look at me and say, 'Main Shaila Banu se shaadi karunga' in a cute little voice. Hahahah, so adorable! I believe Sharmila Tagore and I were the top favourites of Sanju. 'Many hands make light work', and we've all cherished being part of his journey."

Saira expressed that Sanjay holds a special place in her heart, concluding with, "With all my love and blessings, I wish him a very happy birthday." IANS

Jaya rejects being identified by hubby's name

Mumbai: Jaya Bachchan, an actor-politician, chastised Deputy Chairman of the Rajya Sabha Harivansh Narayan Singh today in parliament for adopting Amitabh Bachchan's name as her middle name. She took a moment to remind everyone that she had her own identity as well.

Harivansh called her to speak in a parliament session on Monday, saying, "Shrimati Jaya Amitabh Bachchan ji, please." Jaya responded: "Sir, sirf Jaya Bachchan bolte to kaafi hota (It would've been enough to call me Jaya Bachchan)." But it was pointed out that what her name is officially registered as.

She said, "Some new method has emerged that women have to be known by their husband's name. Women have no identity. They have no achievements, no identity of their own. This new thing..."

Fans responded to the video, with some calling her 'brave'. One questioned, "No but why Amitabh got added? If she did not add, who did? Or is it occurring to everyone?" Another person replied, "She's not wrong in any sense btw."

One admirer responded to misogynistic remarks that did not see her point, commenting, "People today are so selective. Had there been any other woman in her place, the comments would have supported her. She is not wrong though."

Before she became a 'Bachchan' she was a successful actress herself. Indeed, how far we have come." IANS

PEANUTS



CALVIN AND HOBBS

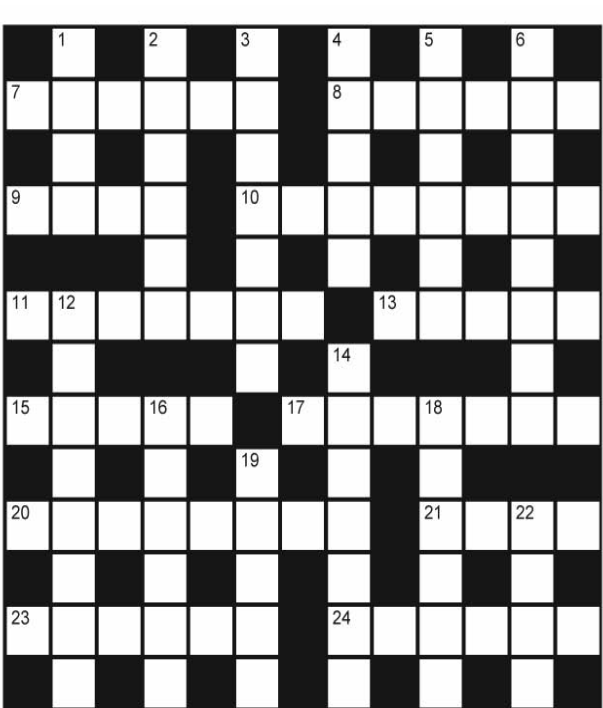


BREVITY



FUN post

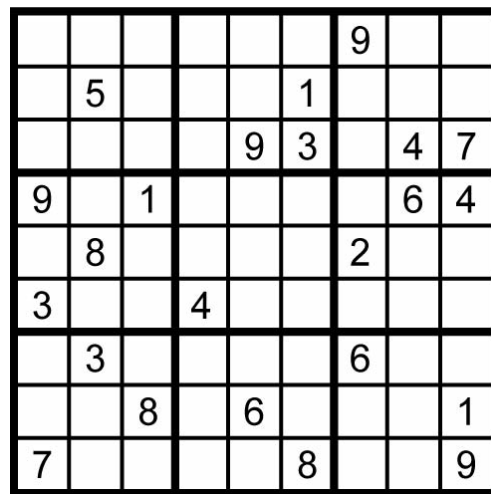
CROSSWORD



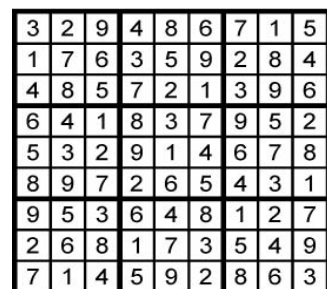
- Across**
- 7 Cause for glasses
 - 8 Health facility
 - 9 Elusive creature
 - 10 Outsider
 - 11 After suicide or combat
 - 13 Fore-and-aft-rigged vessel
 - 15 Modern letters (1-4)
 - 17 Hazelnut
 - 20 Eternal
 - 21 Musical composition
 - 23 Snare
 - 24 Carmaker's woe
 - 4 Cake topper
 - 5 Aeneid poet
 - 6 Swine (4,4)
 - 12 Close at hand
 - 14 It falls between Canada and the USA
 - 16 Brush aside
 - 18 Wild horse
 - 19 Afr.
 - heavyweight
 - 22 Hideous
- Down**
- 1 Orpheus's instrument
 - 2 Booty
 - 3 Nationalist

SUDOKU

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



SOLUTIONS



CHECK FOR SOLUTIONS OF THE PUZZLES TOMORROW

Twin city police commissioner Sanjeeb Panda and City DCP Prateek Singh during the closing ceremony of 'Summer Cyber Internship 2024' at Police Seva Bhawan in Bhubaneswar Tuesday



DEMAND FOR SPL CATEGORY STATUS AT NITI MEET

OPPN WANTS CM'S HOUSE STATEMENT

PNN & AGENCIES

Bhubaneswar, July 30: Opposition BJD and Congress Tuesday asked Chief Minister Mohan Charan Majhi to inform the Assembly whether he demanded special category status for the state at the recent NITI Aayog meeting in Delhi. The Opposition parties raised the issue in the House a day after Majhi returned to the state from the national capital. During the Zero Hour in the Assembly, senior BJD MLA and former minister Arun Kumar Sahoo said the Chief Minister should inform the House whether he demanded the 'special category status or the special focus state tag or any special allocation of funds for Odisha' at the Governing Council meeting of the NITI Aayog. Majhi, along with Chief Secretary Manoj Ahuja, had attended the NITI Aayog meeting in New Delhi July 27.

Noting that the BJP in its election manifesto in 2014, had promised the special category status for Odisha, Sahoo said, "The Chief Minister should inform the House whether he made the same demand during the NITI Aayog meeting."

The BJD leader said though the Centre had earlier rejected the state's demand for the special category status based on a committee report, it recently provided special allocations of funds to Andhra Pradesh and Bihar. "Odisha has sent 20 BJP MPs

to Lok Sabha, and the state should be reciprocated with special attention. The 20 MPs helped the BJP form government at the Centre. The people have also changed the government in Odisha by voting in favour of the saffron party. Therefore, the state should get the attention of the Centre," Sahoo said.

Congress Legislature Party (CLP) leader Rama Chandra Kadam also said the BJP-led NDA government at the Centre should provide special category status to the state since it formed the 'double engine sarkar' in Odisha.

The term 'double engine' is used by BJP leaders to refer to the party being in power at the Centre as well as in a state.

While justifying Odisha's demand, Kadam said there are two factors - tribals, Dalits, and OBCs are a majority in the state and the coastal state faces natural disasters frequently. "Therefore, the state should get the special category status. Odisha should not be deprived of its rights," he said.

Congress member CS Razan Ekka said the Chief Minister should inform the House on the demand for the special category status for Odisha.

The coastal state should get a special allocation of funds as it witnesses frequent floods and cyclones, the legislator said.

The Congress MLA also raised the issue of Mahanadi water dispute with the neighbouring Chhattisgarh.



SEASONS FIRST: First floodwaters pass through Mundali barrage in Cuttack Tuesday

PICTURE: RAJESHORE MOHANTY

No flood threat in Mahanadi river system

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Bhubaneswar, July 30: There is no fear of flood in the Mahanadi river system, though water was released from Hirakud dam raising the level at Mundali barrage in Cuttack district, a state government official said Tuesday.

The authorities of Hirakud dam in Sambalpur district last Sunday released the season's first floodwater downstream of the river Mahanadi river through 20 gates. The water will pass through Mundali barrage in

Cuttack district Tuesday night, they said.

"However, there is no threat of flood in the Mahanadi river system following the release of water from Hirakud dam," Bhakta Ranjan Mohanty, engineer-in-chief (EIC), Water Resources department, said.

"As per estimation, a maximum of about 5.10 lakh cusec water will pass through Mahanadi river through Mundali barrage and it will flow on the riverbed only," Mohanty said.

However, the government is on full alert and a nodal officer has

been deputed to Cuttack to monitor the situation, he said.

The water level of Hirakud stood at 614.47 feet against its full reservoir capacity of 630 feet, Tuesday morning, the official said.

While the inflow of water into the reservoir has reduced to 1.90 lakh cusec, the outflow was 3.50 lakh cusec. The water level of the dam is on a declining trend.

The authorities are now planning to close down some gates.

Due to heavy rainfall in north Odisha, the water level of Jalaka river has increased. The river

was flowing at a level of 6.34 metre at Mathani in Balasore district above the warning level of 6 metre.

However, it was below the danger level of 6.50 metre and started a falling trend, the official said.

Chief Secretary Manoj Ahuja held a virtual meeting with the Collectors of districts concerned and took stock of the situation of different rivers in their jurisdictions.

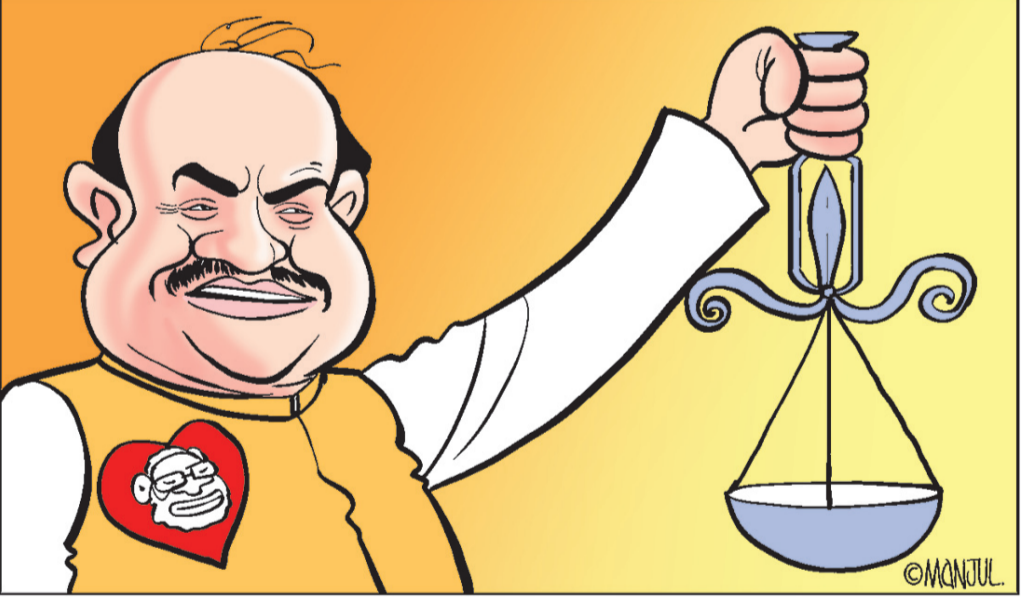
Collectors of Sonepur, Balasore, Mayurbhanj, Jajpur, Jagatsinghpur, Nayagarh, Cuttack

and Puri attended the meeting.

The district Collectors have kept ready the multipurpose cyclone shelters and emergency response teams.

The IMD forecast heavy to very heavy rainfall in the districts of Keonjhar, Deogarh, Angul, Dhenkanal, Sambalpur, Balasore, Bhadrak, Jajpur, Kendrapara, Cuttack, Jagatsinghpur, Mayurbhanj, Sundargarh, Bargarh, Nabarangpur, Kalahandi, Koraput, Kandhamal, Sonepur, Boudh, and Jharsuguda Wednesday.

POLITICKLE by MANJUL



Min objects to Naveen's letter

Bhubaneswar: Food Supplies and Consumer Welfare Minister Krushna Chandra Patra Tuesday raised an objection to BJD president and Leader of Opposition in the Assembly, Naveen Patnaik, writing a letter to West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee over the potato crisis in Odisha. The minister was replying during a debate on the admissibility of an adjournment motion over the price rise of essential commodities. He rejected allegations of Opposition BJD and Congress that the state's BJP government has failed to check the price rise of essential commodities, including vegetables, potatoes and onions.

POTATO CRISIS

In his reply, the minister said he had come to know that the Leader of Opposition had written a letter to Banerjee over the issue. "This is kind of cheap politics and the drama should stop. Our CM has met Mamata Banerjee and spoken to her over her decision to stop the supply of potatoes, following which its transportation has normalised," the minister said.



CM takes exception to 'name changer' jibe

PNN & AGENCIES

Bhubaneswar, July 30: Chief Minister Mohan Charan Majhi Tuesday took exception to BJD supreme Naveen Patnaik calling the current BJP government as 'name changer' and 'jumla sarkar'.

Majhi, while speaking during a debate on the general discussion on the 2024-25 Budget in the Assembly, instead asserted that the Budget would lay the foundation for the establishment of 'Viksit Odisha' by 2036. Sri Rama Chandra Mishra, Joint Commissioner of Excise and his spouse U/s 13(2) r/w 13(1)(b)/12 P.C. Amendment Act, 2018. Mishra was taken into custody after he failed to give satisfactory account of such possession."

Amid a walkout by both Opposition BJD and the Congress members, Majhi said that the Patnaik government was actually 'jumla sarkar' as it had formulated schemes to benefit the party's vote bank, while this year's Budget is a

'people's Budget' which signifies Odia Asmita.

The CM asserted that the Budget, which was presented July 25, was in fact, 'game changer' and not 'jumla' as alleged by Patnaik.

"The Budget will lay the foundation for the establishment of 'Viksit Odisha' by 2036, the year the state completes 100 years of its formation," he said.

Referring to the BJD president's father and former CM Biju Patnaik, after whom most of the schemes of the previous government were named, Majhi asked what was wrong if the BJP dispensation renamed some schemes after some other legendary figures of the state.

"If all schemes are named after one person, then it will be an injustice to other leg-

endary figures and will hurt Odisha's pride as well," Majhi said.

Citing an instance, the CM said that his government renamed the Chief Minister's Power Development Programme as 'Mukhya Mantri Shakti Bikas Yojana'.

"What is wrong in changing the name of such a scheme?" he questioned, adding his government has only renamed the scheme from English to Odia.

He said that many sons of the soil have contributed significantly to Odia language, history, culture, freedom struggle and creation of a separate state.

"So, to remember the contribution of these great sons, why is it wrong to name some schemes after them?" he asked.

689 illegal apartments in City to face music

DEBADURULLAV HARICHANDAN, OP

Bhubaneswar, July 30: In blatant violation of civic body norms, as many as 719 apartments, including 689 here, have been constructed illegally in various towns and cities of Odisha, Housing and Urban Development Minister (H&UD) Krushna Chandra Mohapatra told the Assembly Tuesday.

Stating that a majority of the apartments are based in the City here, the minister said 689 apartments have already been served notices by Bhubaneswar Development Authority (BDA). The minister was replying to a question posed by Jeypore MLA Taraprasad Bahinipati.

According to reports, the number of illegally-built apartments in the City has seen a sharp rise as it has crossed 200 in the past three years. On March 2021, replying to a question of MLA Taraprasad Bahinipati, then H&UD Minister Pratap Jena said Bhubaneswar has 487 illegally constructed high-rises of the total 1,643 approved ones.

Taking note of the discrepancies, BMC Commissioner Rajesh Pravakar Patil said a joint action by BMC and BDA would be undertaken after a thorough review of illegal constructions. However, he did not specify clearly whether the civic body would move in for demolishing buildings which have not adhered with government norms.

Excise officer with 172% DA held

POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar, July 30: Vigilance sleuths Tuesday arrested Joint Excise Commissioner (Bhubaneswar) Rama Chandra Mishra after finding him in possession of assets 172 per cent more than his known sources of income.

Acting on complaints that the officer possessed property exceeding his known sources of income, a team of Vigilance officers, including 10 DSPs, 15 inspectors, and other staff, carried

out searches at 10 locations associated with Mishra, Monday.

During searches, the sleuths found six multi-storey buildings, 52 plots, approximately 230 gram of gold, and other items in Mishra's and his family's possession, an official said.

"After thorough search, inventory and further enquiry, the income, expenditure and assets of Rama Chandra Mishra, Joint Commissioner of Excise, Bhubaneswar were calculated and he was found in possession of dispropor-

tionate assets (DA) which were 172 per cent in excess of his known sources of income," Vigilance sources said.

They added, "In this connection, Bhubaneswar Vigilance PS Case No.15 dated 30.07.2024 was registered against Sri Rama Chandra Mishra, Joint Commissioner of Excise and his spouse U/s 13(2) r/w 13(1)(b)/12 P.C. Amendment Act, 2018. Mishra was taken into custody after he failed to give satisfactory account of such possession."

₹275.01cr for safety fencing along tracks

PNN & AGENCIES

Bhubaneswar, July 30: In a significant move to enhance railway safety and increase train speeds, the Ministry of Railways has sanctioned ₹275.01 crore for safety fencing along tracks in the Bhadrak-Palasa and Khurda Road-Puri Railway Sections of the Khurda Road Division under East Coast Railway (ECoR), officials sources said, Tuesday. ECoR sources said the project will facilitate the safe operation

of trains at speeds up to 130kmph and beyond.

The Ministry of Railways has decided to construct boundary walls nearer to the tracks. The current plan involves installing fencing at the boundary of railway land, with the actual distance to be determined by the zonal railway authorities based on site conditions, maintenance requirements, multi-tracking works, the level of trespassing and the overall effectiveness of the proposed fencing.



The initiative also aims to seal the entry to track at level crossings, ROBs (flyovers), RUBs (underpasses), bridges and other critical locations requiring access control.

Apart from this, cattle grazing near rail will get restricted to the railway line. This will also provide for smooth traffic movement and prevent loss of livestock and wildlife.

Railway Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw has recently informed in Lok Sabha that safety fencing would be strategically implemented at vulnerable locations to support plying of Vande Bharat trains at speeds between 110kmph and 130kmph.

40-year-old man kills self in City

POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar, July 30: A 40-year-old man died by jumping in front of a moving train in Vani Vihar area here, Tuesday.

GRP (Bhubaneswar) inspector in-charge (IC) Ashok Gochhayat identified the deceased as Rajesh Mohanty, a native of Ersama in Jagatsinghpur district.

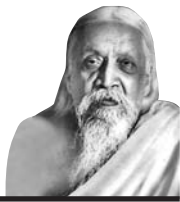
"The body has been sent for autopsy to Capital Hospital. The post-mortem report will help ascertain the exact cause of death. A case of unnatural death has



been registered in this connection," the IIC said, adding, "We are yet to establish as to what forced Mohanty to resort to the extreme step."

Mohanty had been working with a private company in the City, sources said.

Vain indeed is all overweening pride in the conquest even of the entire universe if one has not conquered one's own passions. SRI AUROBINDO



Abuse of Power

Misuse of power and authority seems to be the birth right of many in high positions in our country. Especially Indian bureaucrats, after passing one single exam in their lives, consider themselves a separate and superior race to mere mortals like us.



Dennis J. Snower

SOLIDARITY WITHOUT AGENCY IS TYRANNY; AGENCY WITHOUT SOLIDARITY IS CHAOS

Let us check some of the superficial facts involved. The suspension of senior IPS officer, Pandit Rajesh Uttamrao for allegedly misusing his position, is a case in point.

The disciplinary measures were announced three days after the IPS officer physically assaulted the spouse of a woman police inspector of the Economic Offences Wing of the Crime Branch in Bhubaneswar with whom he reportedly had an extramarital affair.

Pandit's case is definitely not an isolated incident. Orissa happens to take the cake in such matters and these bureaucrats manage to eat that cake too. It is not intended to trivialise this issue by blaming the current political lot occupying seats of power.

This Pandit Rajesh incident coming close on the heels of the reported physical assault on an Assistant Section Officer (ASO) of the Raj Bhawan, allegedly by the son of Orissa Governor Raghuraj Das, speaks volumes about the prevailing law and order situation in the state.

The frequency of such instances of abuse of power points to the existing rot in the system that needs to be stemmed immediately.

WISDOM CORNER

Time and space always change, but there is something which is eternal and changeless. For example, the world and time, past or future, nothing exists for us in sleep. But we exist. Let us try to find out that which is changeless and which always exists. RAMANA MAHARSHI

The discovery of truth is prevented more effectively, not by the false appearance things present and which mislead into error, not directly by weakness of the reasoning powers, but by preconceived opinion, by prejudice. ARTHUR SCHOPENHAUER

All that is gold does not glitter, not all those who wander are lost; the old that is strong does not wither, deep roots are not reached by the frost. JRR TOLKIEN

THIS DAY IN HISTORY

- 1667: The Treaty of Breda ended the Second Anglo-Dutch War and transferred New Netherland (now New York and New Jersey) to England.
1917: Third Battle of Ypres begins. Also known as the Battle of Passchendaele, the battle was part of World War I and took place between July 31 and November 6 for control of the Belgian city of Ypres.
1921: Whitney M. Young, Jr., who spearheaded the drive for equal opportunity for African Americans in industry and U.S. government service while he was head of the National Urban League (1961-71), was born in Lincoln Ridge, Kentucky.
1971: Lunar Roving Vehicle first used on the Moon. On this day in 1971, Apollo 15 astronauts James B. Irwin and David Scott first used the four-wheeled battery-powered Lunar Roving Vehicle to extensively explore the Moon's surface, in particular the Hadley-Apennine site.
1991: The US and the USSR sign Strategic Arms Reduction Treaty. The treaty, also known as START I, limited the number of nuclear weapons and missiles the signatories could deploy. It came into force in December 1994, and expired 15 years later in 2009.

LOL Knitting & driving

A policeman spots a woman driving and knitting at the same time. Driving up beside her, he shouts out the window... "Pull over!" "No," she shouts back, "a pair of socks!"

FOCUS SOCIETY

A NEW WORLDVIEW



Most people abhor social discord, abject poverty, and environmental destruction. But they find themselves trapped in systems that induce them to behave in destructive ways

Not only is climate change moving faster than global efforts to stop it, but our capacities for dealing with such large problems of our own making seem to be diminishing.

The problem is not that humans are predominantly ignorant or evil. Most people abhor social discord, abject poverty and environmental destruction.

But this assumption is false. While businesses are expected - in fact, required - to focus on financial performance, politicians are supposed to act in the national interest, and consumers naturally seek to satisfy their wants at minimum cost.

As a result, aggregate economic prosperity has become increasingly decoupled from social and environmental prosperity. Unless there is a recoupling, we will destroy the basis of our livelihoods.

The last time a radically new worldview emerged was during the seventeenth- and eighteenth-century Enlightenment, which elevated the values of individual autonomy, humanism, reason, and the social contract.

The democracies that emerged during this era were meant to serve the goals of autonomous citizens, while capitalist economies catered to the preferences of autonomous consumers.

came to be viewed as a resource to be exploited to satisfy human needs and wants. The Enlightenment worldview set the stage for the past 225 years of unprecedented economic growth, rising living standards and life expectancy, and the spread of the rule of law.

But while Enlightenment values remain vital for protecting human well-being, we must recognise that they also have contributed to the brokenness of our current world. Too much emphasis on individual autonomy blinds us to the broader societal forces that are driving political fragmentation and social distrust.

A new worldview would stress the fact that our very existence as autonomous individuals depends on a much larger, immensely complex human order - one that spans our physical neighborhoods, our web of social connections, our place in the landscape of power relations, our network of economic relations, and the natural world.

our collective goals. We flourish when we live in solidarity with our families, friends, and communities; when we exercise agency by shaping our surroundings and innovating; when we enjoy sufficient economic gain to satisfy our basic material needs; and when we live sustainably in our environment.

These drivers are all measurable annually. Katharina Lima de Miranda and I have done so for nearly 150 countries over the past decade and a half. Low solidarity and agency are associated with the wave of populist discontent that led to the Brexit referendum in the United Kingdom and Donald Trump's election in the United States.

Though markets can promote economic efficiency under the right conditions, there is no "invisible hand" that can deliver solidarity, agency, material gain for all, and environmental sustainability. While the traditional political debates between right- and left-wing parties have been about the size of GDP growth versus its distribution, the SAGE framework reminds us that peo-

ple do not live by bread alone. Politicians ignore solidarity and agency at their own peril.

While the Enlightenment worldview led to unprecedented economic growth and appreciation of individual liberties, the SAGE worldview focuses on how to align our individual goals with our collective goals. It seeks to promote harmonious orders of interdependence for people and the planet.

The first principle is shared purpose. For example, as climate change is a global problem, it must be addressed through solidarity at a global level, enabling countries to have shared climate goals.

The second principle is agency-based governance. Applied to climate policies, this involves international agreements committing governments to binding decarbonization pathways, and giving those countries the means to hit their targets and a voice in global negotiations.

The third principle concerns the redirection of material gain. Business incentives and operating conditions will need to be reformed to ensure that profit cannot be earned at the expense of environmental sustainability or social cohesion.

The fourth principle is about pervasive environmental responsibility. All our economic activities must become environmentally sustainable. Those who contribute to the Earth's bounty should be rewarded, and those who plunder it should be penalised.

The writer is a visiting professor at University College London. PROJECT SYNDICATE

IN JEST THIS

Kamala Harris battles two evils



Melvin Durai

THE UNITED STATES IS ALMOST 250 YEARS OLD AND HAS HAD 45 PRESIDENTS. NOT A SINGLE ONE OF THEM HAS WORN A DRESS -- AT LEAST NOT IN PUBLIC

Democrats in America are bursting with joy as they embrace a new candidate who has injected excitement into the presidential race. While endorsing Kamala Harris, Nancy Pelosi and other Democratic leaders have expressed their deep gratitude to Joe Biden for stepping aside, sending him touching messages such as, "Thank you so much, Joe. Let us help you with the door."

Harris is seeking to make history as America's first female president, first Indian-American president, and first African-American president with a Jewish husband.

Those are just a few of the firsts she would achieve. Her father is from Jamaica, so she would become the first Jamaican-American president. Her late mother was Tamil (from Chennai), so she would become the first president who knows the proper way to eat a dosa.

Many Tamil Brahmins, remembering that her mother was a Tamil Brahmin, would consider Harris the first TamBram president, though her Caribbean

connection would make her the first TamBramJam president.

To win the White House, Harris will need to overcome a pair of evils - and I don't mean Donald Trump and JD Vance. I'm talking about racism and sexism.

Is there enough racism in America to keep her out of the White House? I don't think so. I believe that the majority of Americans do not really care what race a political candidate is, as long as the candidate is not trying to marry their daughter.

Yes, one of the true tests of whether you are prejudiced or not is how willing you are to accept a son-in-law of a different race, especially if he isn't a doctor. Unfortunately, most people around the world would fail this test.

Race is an important factor in marriage for the vast majority of people, and doubly so for some. Just ask Olympic athlete Crystal Emmanuel of Canada. She didn't just marry a fellow athlete of the same race, she married an athlete of the same two races: 100 meters and 200 meters. She competed against her

wife, Michelle-Lee Ahye of Trinidad and Tobago, at the last two Olympics. I wouldn't accuse them of racism, of course, unless they looked down on the marathoners.

Thankfully for Harris, Barack Obama paved the way. America's first Black president is considered one of its greatest presidents by historians. He is arguably the most popular living ex-president and the second-most popular Obama in America, trailing his wife, Michelle.

With his prodigious charm and charisma, Obama coasted to the White House in 2008, even winning a traditionally Republican state like Indiana. He undoubtedly got millions of votes from people who would otherwise be prejudiced.

Middle-aged dad: "No, you can't date Jordan. Find yourself a white boyfriend."

Teenage daughter: "But dad, you voted for Obama."

Dad: "Yes, but I heard his speeches. He filled me with hope about the future."

Daughter: "Okay, dad, I'm

going to drop Jordan and date Robert instead."

Dad: "Is Robert white?" Daughter: "No, but he gives great speeches. He's in the debate club."

Racism isn't as big a hurdle for Harris to surmount as sexism. The United States is almost 250 years old and has had 45 presidents. Not a single one of them has worn a dress -- at least not in public.

Meanwhile, about 60 countries around the world have had female leaders. Fourteen of them have had multiple female leaders, and three -- Finland, Moldova, New Zealand, and the UK -- have had three female leaders. India had its first female leader in 1966, not long after Harris was born.

It's worth remembering that Hillary Clinton won the popular vote, and it was only the outdated Electoral College that kept her from becoming America's first female president. Now it's Harris' turn, and American voters need to realise that this is the 21st century, and it's time to catch up with the rest of the world.

Alienating moderates

Sir, Donald Trump's recent campaign strategy has taken a concerning turn, resorting to misogynistic and racist attacks against Kamala Harris. While this approach may resonate with Trump's core supporters, it risks alienating moderate voters, independents, and undecided individuals who value civility and inclusivity in politics.

Deprived of platform

Sir, The boycott of the NITI Aayog's ninth Governing Council meeting by a host of Chief Ministers from non-ruling BJP states over "Budget bias" has reignited the debate on the true functioning of this policy think-tank. Unlike the Planning Commission, NITI Aayog doesn't have statutory powers, as it merely operates as an advisory body, which limits its ability to enforce policy decisions.

Letters

TO THE EDITOR

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

OrissaPOST B-15, Rasulgarh Industrial Estate, Bhubaneswar-751010

national



The people who said 400 pair did not get a majority. In Uttar Pradesh, where they said they will get 80 seats, the people not only defeated them but also restricted them from gaining majority by giving a mandate in favour of SP and INDIA bloc

AKHILESH YADAV | SAMAJWADI PARTY CHIEF

RAILWAY BOARD DENIES LIGHT DUTY REQUEST FOR FEMALE LOCO PILOTS

The Railway Board has referred to the provisions of several leave facilities for expectant female loco pilots in response to their demand for light duties during pregnancy. In a written communication sent to all zones July 25, 2024, the board said, "It is observed that several provisions of leave are already provided in rules for pregnant female employees which can be availed by the expectant female employees"



of the day quote

There is no doubt that terrorism is increasing... May Allah save us from it. We will pray that they (Pakistanis) also become wiser. Issues cannot be solved like this, they can only get complicated. We will pray that they work towards peace and we live to see the day

FAROOQ ABDULLAH | PRESIDENT NATIONAL CONFERENCE

There is no hesitation in saying that in cases of crimes against women, people associated with the Samajwadi Party are found to be directly or indirectly involved

YOGI ADITYANATH | UTTAR PRADESH CM

After coming to power, our government will take strict action against officials, be it the commissioner or others, as the work was done under their supervision as civic elections are not held (in the state)

AADITYA THACKERAY | SHIV SENA (UBT) LEADER

XPOST OF THE DAY



Satellite Pics show Chinese army vehicles crossing over newly built Pangong Lake Bridge — closer to conflict zones. This is because — Modi has capitulated to China, with no resistance & — allows no discussion in parliament + suspends MPs who demand.

SHORT TAKES

SC grants bail to Anubrata Mondal

New Delhi: The Supreme Court Tuesday granted bail to Trinamool Congress (TMC) leader Anubrata Mondal, who was arrested by the CBI in a cattle smuggling case. A bench of Justices Bela M Trivedi and Satish Chandra Sharma granted the relief to Mondal after noting that the trial in the matter would take time and he has been in jail for two years. The TMC leader will, however, remain in jail as he was also arrested by the Enforcement Directorate (ED) in the same case in November 2022.

Gadkari attends oath ceremony of Iran Prez

New Delhi: Road Transport and Highways Minister Nitin Gadkari Tuesday attended the inauguration ceremony of Iran's reformist President Masoud Pezeshkian in Tehran in reflection of close ties between the two countries. Pezeshkian was sworn-in as Iran's ninth President. The presidential poll was necessitated following the death of headline President Ebrahim Raisi.

SC grants bail to Nawab Malik

New Delhi: The Supreme Court Tuesday granted bail to NCP leader Nawab Malik on medical grounds in a money laundering case. A bench of justices Bela M Trivedi and Satish Chandra Sharma took note of the submissions of a counsel, appearing for the former Maharashtra minister, that he was suffering from various ailments. The top court said medical bail to Malik will be valid till disposal of the regular bail plea pending before the Bombay High Court. Additional Solicitor General SV Raju, appearing for the ED, did not oppose grant of bail, and said the interim medical bail may be made permanent.

LANDSLIDES WREAK HAVOC IN KERALA

'Urgent need for prediction mechanism, safe structures'

AGENCIES

New Delhi, July 30: Scientists and experts Tuesday called for a landslide prediction mechanism and construction of safe structures for the vulnerable population after more than 100 people were killed in a series of landslides in Kerala.

Extremely heavy rain triggered a series of landslides in the hilly areas of Kerala's Wayanad district early Tuesday, leaving at least 123 people dead and 128 injured. Many were feared trapped under the debris. Madhavan Rajeevan, former secretary of the Union Earth Sciences Ministry, said weather agencies can predict extremely heavy rainfall events, but whether that would trigger a landslide cannot be said with certainty. "Heavy rainfall does not lead to landslides every time. We need a separate mechanism for landslide prediction. It is difficult but doable," Rajeevan told PTI.

The conditions that lead to landslides, including soil texture, soil moisture and slope are known, and it is important to put all this knowledge into an operational system, he said. "Unfortunately, we have not done that yet."

"When a river is in spate, we shift people to safer places. We can do the same thing if there is heavy and continuous rainfall. We have good science and good capability; we just have to convert that into practice," Rajeevan said in a statement. Sreekkumar, a disaster risk management expert at the Kerala Institute of Local Administration, told PTI that rainfall above 120 mm for two to three days is enough to trigger landslides in the fragile terrain of the southern coastal state. "There are many landslide-prone areas in Wayanad. The only thing we can do is move people to safer areas," Sreekkumar said. Significant landslides have occurred in and around this area in the last three decades. In August 2019, 17 people died after



Heavy engineering equipment and rescue dog teams are being airlifted and disaster relief teams have been dispatched by the Indian Coast Guard to provide aid and succour to people

Tamil Nadu Chief Minister M.K. Stalin Tuesday announced an aid of Rs 5 crore from the CM's Public Relief Fund to the Kerala government

According to the Kerala government, one-sixth of the state's total population was directly affected by the deluge and related incidents.

a landslide hit Puthumala in Wayanad, around 10 km from the areas currently affected. Chembramala, the highest peak in the Wayanad hills, and Kartikulam, a small town in the district, saw multiple landslides in 2012 and 1992, respectively.

Roxy Mathew Koll, a climate scientist at the Indian Institute of Tropical Meteorology, said around half of Kerala comprises hills and mountainous regions where the slope is more than 20 degrees, making these places prone to landslides when heavy rains occur. "Landslide-prone areas are mapped and available for Kerala. Panchayats with hazardous areas should be identified and sensitised. We need to monitor rainfall data in these hotspots and prepare early warning systems targeted at hazard-prone areas," he said. Often, landslides and flash floods occur in regions where the impact of both climate change and direct human intervention in terms of land use changes are evident. At the same time, there have been many severe landslides in regions with minimal land use changes as well, he said.

Warming of Arabian Sea linked to landslides: Scientist

New Delhi: Warming of the Arabian Sea is allowing the formation of deep cloud systems, leading to extremely heavy rainfall in Kerala in a shorter period and increasing the possibility of landslides, a senior climate scientist said Tuesday. Extremely heavy rain triggered a series of landslides in the hilly areas of Kerala's Wayanad district early Tuesday. Many were feared trapped under the debris. S Abhilash, the director of the Advanced Centre for Atmospheric Radar Research at Cochin University of Science and Technology (CUSAT) said Kasargod, Kannur, Wayanad, Calicut, and Malappuram districts have been receiving copious rainfall due to the active monsoon offshore trough affecting the entire Konkan region for the last two weeks. The soil was saturated after two weeks of rainfall. A deep mesoscale cloud system formed off the coast in the Arabian Sea on Monday and led to extremely heavy rain in Wayanad, Calicut, Malappuram, and Kannur, resulting in localised landslides, he told PTI. "The clouds were very deep, similar to those seen during the 2019 Kerala floods," Abhilash said.

SNIPPETS

Cloudburst in Himachal's Kullu

SHIMLA: A footbridge and three makeshift sheds, including a liquor shop, were washed away following a flash flood triggered by a cloudburst in Tosh Nallah in Himachal Pradesh's Kullu district, officials said Tuesday. The incident took place in the Tosh area of Manikaran early in the morning and no loss of life was reported, Deputy Commissioner Kullu Torul S Raveesh said, adding that a team has been sent to the spot to assess the situation. "Our appeal to people is to stay away from rivers and rivulets and not make temporary structures near nallahs," she said.

Jharkhand: Seven killed in lightning strikes

RANCHI: At least seven people, including two children, were killed, while four others were injured in separate incidents of lightning strikes in Jharkhand Tuesday, officials said. Four people were killed in Ranchi district, and three in Chatra. In Ranchi, three deaths were reported in Mandar block, and one in Chanho. Mandar Circle Officer Rajendra Das said that one death each was reported in three villages -- Cambo, Tilta and Baski -- in Mandar police station area, around 30 km from Ranchi.

Extortion Case: Court acquits all accused

JAIPUR: A special court in Ajmer Tuesday acquitted all 15 people, including 11 SHO's and an IPS officer, accused in a decade-old case involving an alleged extortion racket. The court acquitted them giving them benefit of doubt. The 15, one of them a Rajasthan Police Service officer, were made accused under various sections of Prevention of Corruption Act and IPC.

Anurag's 'caste' remark sparks uproar

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, July 30: BJP leader Anurag Thakur's apparent reference to Leader of Opposition Rahul Gandhi's caste during a discussion on the Union Budget in the Lok Sabha Tuesday triggered an ugly spat between the Opposition and treasury benches.

Rahul accused Thakur of insulting and abusing him during the debate but asserted that he would not seek any apology from the former Union Minister. Questioning the Congress' stand on caste census, the BJP leader made certain remarks on Gandhi's caste that triggered an uproar and had Congress members trooping into the Well of the Lok Sabha. "Anurag Thakur insulted me and I don't want any apology from him. Abuse or insult me as hard as you can but don't forget we will pass the



previous Congress governments. The BJP MP from Himachal Pradesh's Hamirpur claimed that Rahul had already made his remarks but sought permission to speak again after someone passed a chit to him. "Udhar ki buddhi se rajniti nahi chalti (You can't indulge in politics on borrowed wisdom)," Thakur said. The former Union minister said one of the synonyms for lotus is Rajiv, the name of Rahul Gandhi's father and former Prime Minister. "You linked lotus with violence. Does that mean you also link Rajiv with violence?" the BJP MP asked. Thakur alleged that the definition of OBCs for Congress is "Only Brother-in-law Commission" and not Other Backward Classes. He also referred to former Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi's Opposition to reservation for OBCs.

SAD expels 8 rebel leaders

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Chandigarh, July 30: Adopting a tough stand against rebels, the Shiromani Akali Dal Tuesday expelled eight leaders, including former MP Prem Singh Chandumajra and ex-Shiromani Gurdwara Parbandhak Committee chief Bibi Jagir Kaur, for revolting against party chief Sukhbir Singh Badal. Taking serious note of "anti-party activities" by some senior leaders "under a conspiracy", the Shiromani Akali Dal's disciplinary committee expelled Chandumajra, Kaur and former MLA Gurpartap Singh Wadala, from primary membership of the party, it said. The party also expelled Parminder Singh Dhindsa, Sikandar Singh Maluka, Surjit Singh Rakhra, Surinder Singh Thekedar and Charanjit Singh Brar. The disciplinary committee is led by senior leader Balwinder Singh Bhundar and also includes Maheshinder Singh Grewal and Gulzar Singh Ranike.

A section of senior leaders last month revolted against Badal, demanding that he step down as party chief following the Shiromani Akali Dal's performance in the Lok Sabha elections in Punjab. Among the prominent faces who revolted against Badal were Chandumajra, Kaur and Wadala, former ministers Maluka, Dhindsa, Rakhra and Sarwan Singh Phillaur; and party leader Sucha Singh Chhotepur. After a long discussion, the disciplinary committee concluded that these leaders were tarnishing the image of the party with their actions, the Shiromani Akali Dal said.

LOVE JIHAD UP proposes life imprisonment for accused

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Lucknow, July 30: The Uttar Pradesh Assembly Tuesday passed the UP Prohibition of Unlawful Conversion of Religion (Amendment) Bill, 2024 that provides for a maximum punishment of life imprisonment, making the law stricter in cases of fraudulent or forced conversion. Parliamentary Affairs Minister Suresh Khanna introduced the Uttar Pradesh Prohibition of Unlawful Conversion of Religion (Amendment) Bill, 2024 in the House Monday. It has been proposed that if a person threatens, attacks, mar-

ries or promises to marry or conspires for it, or trafficks a woman, minor or anyone with the intention of conversion, then his crime will be placed in the most serious category. In such cases, there is a provision of 20



years imprisonment or life imprisonment. Under the amended provisions, now any person can register an FIR in conversion cases. Earlier, to give information or

complaint about the case, the presence of the victim, her parents, or siblings was necessary. It has been proposed that such cases will not be heard by any court below the Sessions Court

and along with this, the bail plea will not be considered without giving an opportunity to the public prosecutor. Also, all the crimes under the amended Act have been made non-bailable. Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath had taken this initiative with the intention of curbing 'love jihad', a term coined by some Hindu outfits for alleged forcible conversion. An ordinance was issued for curbing forced conversion in November 2020 and later, after the bill was passed by both the houses of the Uttar Pradesh Legislature, the Uttar Pradesh Prohibition of Unlawful Conversion of Religion Act-2021 came into force.

business

of the day quote

India has a large population of tech-savvy young consumers that inspire us to innovate. I am proud that many young, enterprising engineers who are playing an important role in the development of AI are working at our R&D centres in India



JIONG-HEE (H) HAN CEO DX DIVISION | SAMSUNG ELECTRONICS

There is no rethinking at present to support Chinese investments in the country



PIYUSH GOYAL | COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY MINISTER

We are hiring over 500 youth at the company in the next 3-6 months as interns. We have recently opened a big office in Gurugram. With the new (proposed) scheme from the government, it is relatively easier for us to hire now and financially workable also



NISHANT PITTI | EASEMYTRIP CEO

Q1 RESULTS CORNER

IOC net profit drops 81%

New Delhi: Indian Oil Corporation (IOC), the nation's largest oil firm, Tuesday reported a 81 per cent drop in June quarter net profit, as refinery and marketing margins fell and the firm booked under-recovery on the sale of domestic cooking gas LPG at government-controlled rates.

GAIL net jumps 77%

New Delhi: GAIL (India) Ltd, the nation's largest gas transportation and distribution firm, Tuesday reported a 77.5 per cent jump in its June quarter net profit after earnings from the gas marketing business doubled.

TCPL net profit down 14.3%

New Delhi: Tata Consumer Products Ltd (TCPL) Tuesday reported a 14.34 per cent decline in consolidated net profit to ₹289.25 crore in the first quarter ended in June 2024 on account of exceptional items and lower share of profits from its associates and joint ventures.



The digital economy of India today contributes about 11 per cent of the country's GDP, underlining the commitment from various stakeholders, including the private sector, in ensuring that India achieves its vision of a USD 1 trillion digital economy at an exponential pace

SUNIL MITTAL | BHARTI AIRTEL CHAIRMAN

GOLD DEMAND DIPS ON HIGH PRICES

India's gold demand declined 5 per cent to 149.7 tonnes during the June quarter, due to record high prices, the World Gold Council (WGC) said in a report Tuesday.



Check for 'wilful default' in NPA accounts: RBI to banks

'WILFUL DEFAULTER' MEANS A BORROWER OR A GUARANTOR WHO HAS COMMITTED WILFUL DEFAULT, AND THE OUTSTANDING AMOUNT IS ₹25 LAKH AND ABOVE



PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Mumbai, July 30: The RBI Tuesday issued a Master Direction on the Treatment of Wilful Defaulters and Large Defaulters under which banks and NBFCs will have to examine the 'wilful default' aspect in all non-performing asset accounts with outstanding amounts of ₹25 lakh and above.

months of the account being classified as NPA. The Master Direction further said the lenders should formulate a non-discriminatory board-approved policy that clearly sets out the criteria based on which the photographs of persons classified and declared as wilful defaulters shall be published.

Sebi returns IPO papers of 4 firms

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, July 30: Sebi has returned the IPO draft documents of four firms, including supermart major Vishal Mega Mart, education-focused NBFC Avanse Financial Services and private equity major TPG Capital-backed Sai Life Sciences, an update with the regulator showed Tuesday.

BIZ BUZZ Canara Bank opens branch at NIST University



BHUBANESWAR: Canara Bank has opened a new branch at NIST University, Institute Park, Pallur Hills, Berhampur. Canara Bank General Manager & State Head Jagdish Chander and Vice Chancellor of NIST University Dr. P Rajesh Kumar inaugurated the branch.

district July 25. It is opening another eight branches in Odisha within the next few months. On this occasion, the GM said that Canara Bank is providing social banking and digital banking services to enable customers to make cashless transactions in tune with the Govt. of India initiatives viz. BHIM, QR Code, POS Machines etc.

About 6cr ITRs filed for FY24; 70% under new tax regime

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, July 30: About 6 crore income tax returns have been filed for income earned in 2023-24, of which 70 per cent were filed under the new simplified tax regime which offers lower rate of tax, Revenue Secretary Sanjay Malhotra said Tuesday.

Addressing the post-budget session of PHD Chamber of Commerce and Industry, Malhotra said there were apprehensions as to whether people would shift to the simplified tax regime. "About 6 crore filed for last year and 70 per cent is under the new income tax regime.

No state denied money in FY25 Budget: FM

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, July 30: Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman Tuesday termed misleading claims by opposition leaders that if any state is not named in the Budget speech, then it does not get any budgetary allocation.



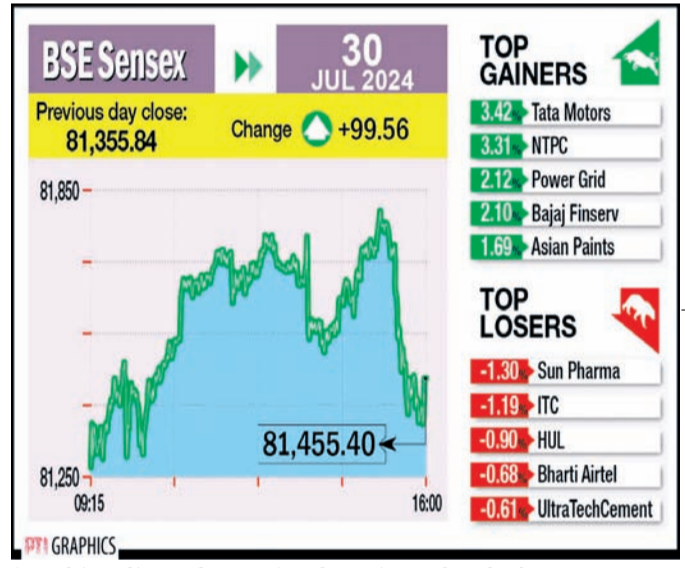
Replying to a Budget discussion in the Lok Sabha, Sitharaman asserted that no state was being denied money. She recalled that in the past Budgets by the UPA government also did not mention names of all states in their Budget speech.

"From the land of Bengal, which gave us 'Vande Mataram', today we have Professor Saugata Roy, who remarked that I'm 'beref' of new ideas because I'm from JNU and not Harvard or Oxford...

Sensex, Nifty rise for 3rd day

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Mumbai, July 30: Benchmark equity indices Sensex and Nifty eked out gains in volatile trade to settle at record high levels Tuesday, extending their gaining streak to the third day on the back of buying in Tata Motors and HDFC Bank.



Suzuki India and Tata Steel were among the biggest gainers.

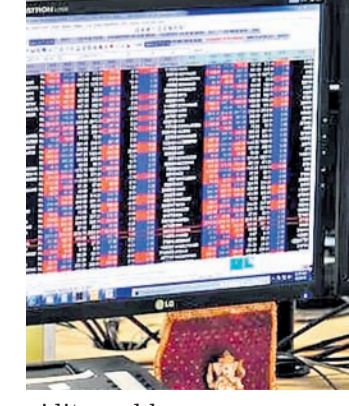
piece ahead of June quarter results that are scheduled to be released this Friday.

Households losing ₹60,000cr a year on F&O bets: Sebi chief

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Mumbai, July 30: Sebi chairperson Madhabi Puri Buch Tuesday said households are losing up to ₹60,000 crore a year in the problematic futures and options segment.

pointed to 90 per cent of the trades resulting in losses. The capital markets regulator also came up with a consultation paper Tuesday proposing ways to limit the activity.



uidity and leverage are very different.

Responding to a question on the impact of such attempts to curb the fee-yielding trades, NSE's chief executive and managing director Ashish Kumar Chauhan said it will abide by the regulations.

Meanwhile, to a question on whether a bank customer can use the same KYC (know your customer) validation for investing in mutual funds, Buch

Buch said while there is a short-term trade-off for exchanges by way of fees impact, in the long term it will be beneficial to all the stakeholders.

tal factor and will soon be rationalising it.

will now get reclassified as broker fees instead of exchange fees.

She said that there are false claims being peddled by such platforms, and added that an entity from the NSE Group has showcased a performance validation mechanism and hinted that it will soon be implemented.

The Sebi chairperson also went public with her 'frustration' at the mutual fund industry for not coming up with suggestions for making it easier for the diaspora to invest in schemes.

Buch said the Sebi management will also soon be taking a proposal to its board to make ASBA or application supported by blocked amount mandatory and added that to begin with, it can start with at least the qualified brokers.

Buch also pitched for the need to have broader, principle-based regulations on artificial intelligence and hinted that the regulator will look at it.

There is a 'misunderstanding' in the market about the investors not paying the broker to carry out transactions, she said, adding that brokers are getting ₹2,800 crore from trades

Replying to a question, Buch also said that it is wrong to equate stock exchanges with crypto exchanges, and gave a stern statement on the same drawing from the ongoing Wazirx challenges. "USD 250 million cannot vanish (in the exchanges) and be called as an Act of God," she said.

Nation lauds ace shooters

INDIA WON ITS SECOND MEDAL AT THE PARIS OLYMPICS 2024 WITH MANU BHAKER AND SARABJOT SINGH CLINCHING BRONZE IN THE 10M AIR PISTOL MIXED TEAM EVENT

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, July 30: Manu Bhaker's consistency and composure drew effusive praise as President Draupadi Murmu, Prime Minister Narendra Modi and the country's sporting fraternity hailed the young shooter for becoming the first Indian athlete in post-independence era to win two medals in a single Olympic Games.

Bhaker combined with Sarabjot Singh win the 10m air pistol mixed team bronze medal at the ongoing Games.

The two 22-year-olds were calmness personified as they won the team bronze defeating South Korea's Lee Wonho and Oh Yeh Jin 16-10 at Chateauroux's shooting range. Bhaker had earlier bagged the bronze medal in the women's 10m air pistol event at the same venue Sunday.

"Our shooters continue to make us proud! Congratulations to @realmanubhaker and Sarabjot Singh for winning the Bronze medal in the 10m Air Pistol Mixed Team event at the #Olympics. Both of them have shown great skills and teamwork. India is incredibly delighted," PM Modi wrote on 'X'.

"For Manu, this is her second consecutive Olympic medal, showcasing her consistent excellence and dedication. #Cheer4Bharat."

President Murmu also shared



a post on social media, congratulating the Indian shooters. "Congratulations to Manu

Bhaker and Sarabjot Singh for winning bronze medal for India in the mixed team 10 metre air

pistol event for shooting!," Murmu wrote.

"Manu Bhaker has created history, becoming the first woman shooter from India to win two medals in the same Olympic games. She has done us immensely proud. I wish her and Sarabjot Singh many more laurels in the future."

Bhaker and Sarabjot's medal was the country's second in the ongoing edition.

"Manu & Sarabjot: You've done what no Indian shooting pair has done before. India's first Olympic shooting team medal. Savour this moment, you've earned it! Proud," wrote India's first-ever Olympic gold medalist

ONE MORE OPPORTUNITY FOR MANU: Manu Bhaker not only joined shuttler PV Sindhu and wrestler Sushil Kumar as the third Indian to win two medals but she also achieved the unique feat of attaining it in the same edition of an Olympics. She will have a chance to win another medal in this edition when she competes in the women's 25m air pistol event whose qualification round will be held August 2

in individual event, shooter Abhinav Bindra.

While wrestler Sushil Kumar and shuttler PV Sindhu have won two Olympic medals but Bhaker is the only Indian after independence to win two medals in a single edition.

"Congratulations Manu Bhaker, you have created his-

tory by becoming the first Indian to win 2 medals in the same edition of the #OlympicGames!," Sports Minister Dr Mansukh Mandaviya wrote on 'X'.

"Huge congratulations to @realmanubhaker and Sarabjot Singh for winning the historic BRONZE medal in the 10m Air Pistol Mixed Team event for Bharat! Your incredible teamwork has made the nation proud."

The cricket fraternity, including new T20 skipper Suryakumar Yadav and new head coach Gautam Gambhir, also joined in to congratulate the duo. "Superb performance @realmanubhaker and #SarabjotSingh! India's second medal!," Gambhir wrote.

Suryakumar, who was appointed the captain of the T20 side ahead of the ongoing Sri Lanka series, shared on his Instagram page: "Congratulations, Sarbjot Singh, Manu Bhaker- congratulations on your 2nd consecutive medal."

Calling Bhaker "history maker", Beijing Olympics bronze-medallist boxer Vijender Singh wrote: "History maker Manu Bhaker! You've amazed us once again. The entire nation is proud of you. Keep shining bright!"

Former sports ministers Kiren Rijiju and Rajyavardhan Singh Rathore also showered praise on the two for their achievement.



MANIKA'S milestone

First TT player to reach Olympics pre-quarterfinals

strategy she had devised before the match.

"I had planned to play to her forehand as discussed with my coach but I was getting the points on her backhand, so I did not change the tactics. I did play a few shot on her forehand too, I did not want her to think that I am playing only on her backhand. It was a tough match," she said.

Prithika's parents are originally from Pudukcherry but the family shifted to France in 2003. She was born in a Paris suburb a year later.

The 19-year-old Prithika had competed in the Tokyo Olympics, making a first-round exit but has improved considerably since then as she is currently ranked 18th in the world as against 28th rank of Manika.

Left-handed Prithika came into the Olympics on the back of a splendid run where she made the WTT final for the first time in her career in June but could not find a way to go past Manika, who dished out a commanding show.

There was no stopping the seasoned Indian, who got a healthy 3-0 cushion in game three as Prithika struggled with her returns.

Staying relaxed helps me both on and off the court. I do breathing exercises that help me during the match. I will give my best whoever I play against in the next round

MANIKA BATRA

Shuttler duo on course to script history

ALREADY QUALIFIED FOR QUARTERFINALS, SATWIK-CHIRAG PAIR TOPS GROUP AFTER BEATING INDONESIAN DUO

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Paris: Medal contenders Satwiksairaj Rankireddy and Chirag Shetty notched up a dominating straight-game win against Indonesian duo of Muhammad Rian Ardianto and Fajar Alfian to top Group C in men's doubles badminton competition at the Paris Games here Tuesday.

The third-seeded Indian duo beat their opponents 21-13 21-13 in the final Group C match that lasted just 38 minutes.

The reigning Asian Games champion Indian pair had qualified for the quarterfinals Monday after the withdrawal of one pair and the loss suffered by another. Tuesday's match was meant to decide group winner.

The Indonesian pair also qualified for the quarterfinals after finishing second in the group.

The draw for the quarterfinals will be held Wednesday.

Satwik and Chirag were scheduled to meet the German duo of Mark Lamfuss and Marvin Seidel on Monday in what was supposed to be their second



Group C match. But the match was cancelled following the withdrawal of Lamfuss due to injury.

As a result, the Group C was considered as a three-pair affair; with the duo of Lucas Corvee and Ronan Labar of France being the third one. The Frenchmen lost both their matches and were eliminated.

Only two teams from each of the four groups qualify for the quarterfinals.

My last Olympics, says sobbing Ponnappa

Indian badminton stalwart Ashwini Ponnappa Tuesday broke down in tears, announcing she has played her last Olympics after she and her partner Tanisha Crasto suffered their third straight loss in the women's doubles competition of the Paris Games. Ashwini and Tanisha lost to Australia's Setyana Mapasa and Angela Yu 15-21 10-21 in their final Group C game Tuesday. They ended their campaign after losing all their three group matches. "This will be my last, but Tanisha has a long way to go," said 34-year-old Ashwini, who was playing in her third Olympics, when asked whether she hopes to play in the 2028 Los Angeles Games. "It takes a toll emotionally and mentally, I can't go through this again. It is not easy, you can take all these if you are a little younger. Having played for so long, I can't take it anymore," she said while trying to hold back tears.

IN A FIRST FOR SUMMER GAMES

Medallists celebrate in front of fans

ASSOCIATED PRESS

Paris, July 30: With medals around their necks and the Eiffel Tower in the background, Paris Olympics athletes chanted, danced and even cried.

In a first for the Summer Games, organisers gave athletes a place to celebrate their victories and be closer to fans — and they made the most of it.

Champions Park launched Monday at the Trocadero, the site of the opening ceremony of the Paris Games, where Olympic winners can share their experience with family members and thousands of fans who this time didn't need to buy tickets or make reservations to be part of Games.

Players from the French men's rugby team, which beat Fiji over



the weekend to win gold, were the first to be welcomed at the park, dancing and running around the stage as the crowd chanted. They posed at the end of the

stage for a photo with the Eiffel Tower in the background, then led the crowd to chant with them.

"The whole location was the coolest thing," French rugby

player Aaron Grandier Nkanang said. "We're just in front of the Eiffel Tower, and there's thousands of people out to come and cheer us on. I feel as if this year, they've done a really good job of treating after winning athletes with memories that we're going to cherish forever."

American Haley Batten, a silver-medalist in mountain biking, called it a "crazy experience."

"The Olympics in Paris is just something special. I was soaking all that up and it's crazy to actually achieve a medal and to be able to enjoy this," she said.

French mountain biker Pauline Ferrand-Prévot, the gold medalist, couldn't hold back tears as fans chanted her name.

Others at Champions Park included athletes who won medals

in fencing, judo and skateboarding. Each celebration will hold a ceremony for the medal winners of the previous days. Athletes can bring up to four family members to watch them.

Serena Williams and Nadia Comaneci are among the former Olympians scheduled to participate in the celebrations that will take place nearly every day and that include music, entertainers and live broadcast of the Games.

Up to 13,000 fans will be allowed at the venue each day, and organisers expect some 130,000 visitors through the end of the Olympics. More than 1,000 athletes are expected to celebrate their victories with fans at the Champions Park, according to organisers.

PROBLEMS AT PARIS

Athletes struggling for food at Games Village

Ever since the Paris Olympics began, the organising committee has received severe criticism from foreign athletes and team members over the lack of basic facilities at the venues and Games Village. One athlete on condition of anonymity alleged to IANS that there is "no food" available in Games Village when they return after participating in their events. "And when we asked officials of the Organising Committee or volunteers, they had no answers. These basics need to be addressed by the OC (organising committee) urgently," the athlete told IANS. Another athlete said, "We are finding it difficult to explain our requirements. Even a star international tennis player — can't name him — also didn't get the food, which was shocking for all of us." Earlier, the head of the Great Britain delegation raised this issue ahead of the first day of competitions. Many GBR athletes had to spend the night without food, forcing the delegation chief to urgently summon a chef from home to take care of their culinary needs for the rest of the Games.



Surfing events postponed due to bad weather

Surfing competition at the Paris Olympics, scheduled for Tuesday, has also been called off due to bad weather conditions, the organisers said. "The competition is OFF, 30/07/2024 7:00am GMT-10 with a color code of RED Technical delegates decision on color code tendencies for the next session is expected on 30/07/2024 at 17:45 GMT-10," it said. The organisers also said an update for the next session will be made at 17:45 local time (Tahiti) Tuesday. "No competition on Tuesday July 30 in Tahiti due to poor weather conditions: 4m+ wave and very strong onshore wind," French Surfing Federation said in a statement.

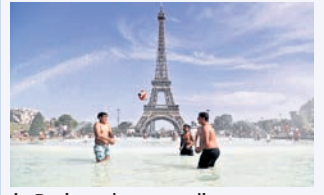
Seine water woes: Triathlon set to take the dip

Concerns about water quality in the Seine River led Paris Olympics organizers to postpone the men's triathlon Tuesday, with officials hoping the swimming portion of the race will be able to go forward in the long-polluted waterway in the coming days following an expensive cleanup effort. Organisers said they will try to hold the men's triathlon Wednesday instead. The women's competition also is scheduled that day, but both will only go forward if water tests show acceptable levels of E coli and other bacteria in the river. Friday is also planned as a backup date. However, storms or rain are forecast Tuesday night through Thursday, which could complicate efforts to reschedule the events because rain generally causes bacteria levels in the Seine to rise.



Paris braces for heatwave following soggy start

The 2024 Olympics famously launched with a rain-soaked opening ceremony that drenched athletes and spectators alike. Now, they're facing the opposite experience Tuesday: a heatwave. Most of France is under a heat wave warning Tuesday, with temperatures in Paris and surrounding areas expected to climb to 35 degrees C or higher, the national weather agency said. Air conditioning is far less common in homes, shops and restaurants than in places like the United States. The heat was expected to be even worse in the south, including the region around the Mediterranean city of Marseille that is hosting Olympic competitions like soccer and sailing.



CAMPAIGN ENDS

Pugilists crash out

Amit Panghal's campaign at the Paris Olympics mirrored his experience at the Tokyo Games as the seasoned boxer once again made a pre-quarterfinals exit while debutant Jaismine Lamboria was also ousted here Tuesday. The 28-year-old Panghal suffered a shock 1-4 split verdict to Zambia's Patrick Chinymba, an opponent he had defeated en-route his Commonwealth Games title in 2022, in the 51kg Round of 16 bout. Commonwealth Games bronze medalist Lamboria's maiden Olympic campaign also went up in smoke as she went down by a 0-5 unanimous verdict to Tokyo silver medalist Nesthy Petecio of Philippines in the 57kg Round of 32 bout.

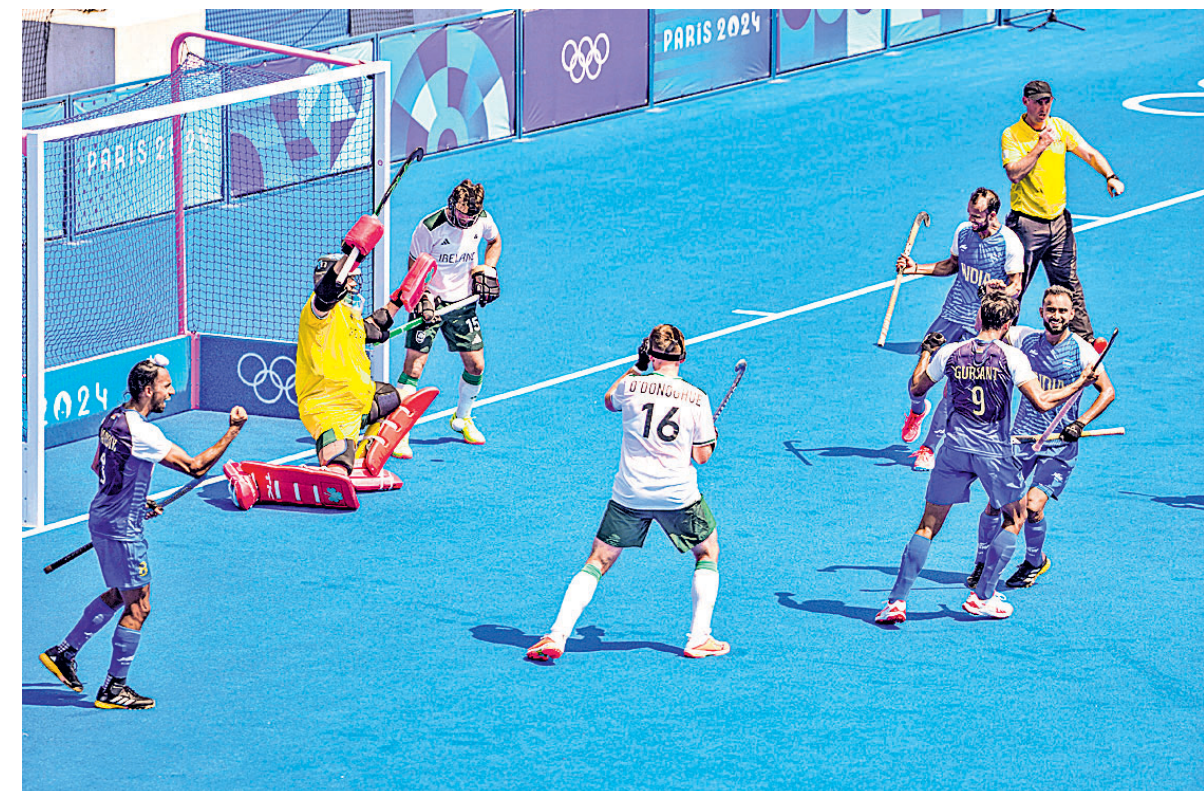
Panwar out of medal contention in rowing

India's sole rowing athlete at the Olympics, Balraj Panwar eliminated from medal contention after finishing fifth in the men's single scull fourth quarterfinal Tuesday at the Vaires-sur-Marne Nautical Stadium. The 25-year-old finished fifth with a timing of 7:05.10 which was insufficient to make him qualify for the medal rounds of the competition. He will now take part in the CD semifinals of the event, which will see him fight for a final ranking between 13th-24th place.



India cruises ahead

Harmanpreet & Co qualify for quarterfinals in men's hockey with 2-0 win over Ireland



Indian players celebrate after scoring a goal during the Pool B hockey match between India and Ireland at the 2024 Summer Olympics, in Paris, France
PTI PHOTO

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Paris, July 30: The Indian men's hockey team expectedly beat Ireland despite a few defense lapses to qualify for the quarterfinals of the Paris Olympics, with skipper Harmanpreet scoring a brace in a 2-0 win in a Pool B match, here Tuesday.

Unlike the previous two matches, India penetrated the rival circle consistently and dictated play in the first half. It was expected, considering that Ireland were the easiest of the opponents in this pool.

India were, however, far from convincing in the second half, but the win has taken them to seven points from three matches while the defeat has ousted Ireland from the quarter-final race.

Belgium and Australia, both unbeaten, have six points each and they play against each other later in the day.

India just about managed to edge New Zealand 3-2 before holding Argentina to a 1-1 draw in their previous two outings.

Most likely, Argentina and New Zealand will fight for the fourth spot in this Pool. The top four teams from each of the two pools qualify for the quarterfinals.

Harmanpreet (13th and 19th minutes) struck once each in the first two quarters, while the second half re-

mained goal-less despite both teams earning plenty of penalty corners. Ireland were profligate, squandering 10 chances.

"We should not have conceded that many PCs in the second half. We have to work on that. But at the same time, we did not concede a goal and that tells our PC defence. But yes, we can't afford so many PCs," defender Jarmanpreet Singh told PTI.

Sukhjeet said the team struggled to control the ball in the latter half.

"We could not control the ball in the third quarter and they made full use of that. They are a good team, we expected a comeback. Yet, we did better in the final quarter," he said.

India earned their first penalty corner as early as the second minute of the match when Abhishek made a move from the left and passed the ball to Sukhjeet Singh.

However, the Harmanpreet strike was blocked by an Ireland on-rusher. Even on rebound, there was a chance, but Mandeep Singh lost possession.

Harmanpreet created another chance by passing the ball to Sumit on the left flank but his reverse strike hit the post.

India did not have to wait long for their first goal. It came from a penalty stroke awarded to India in the 13th minute of the match. Gurjant intercepted the ball in between two Irish

players and sent it towards Mandeep Singh.

A tackle by Shane O'Donoghue in front of the goalpost resulted in the umpire awarding a penalty stroke, which was converted by Harmanpreet.

The India captain doubled his side's lead by converting the fourth penalty corner in the second quarter. This was after Ireland defenders blocked two consecutive attempts.

Clearly, India were dictating the play on the pitch but since the team stayed aggressive throughout, many balls were not cleared properly.

Ireland got their first penalty corner of the match on a debatable call by the umpire. A ball from Kyle Marshall touched Manpreet's body but he was standing outside the striking circle. The Indians, who did not have a referral left, protested but the PC remained. India custodian PR Sreejesh blocked the shot to keep India's 2-0 lead intact.

Ireland played much better in the third quarter, earning as many as eight penalty corners but converted none. There were a few defensive lapses from the Indian side but they escaped without any damage. A better opponent could have punished India for the mistakes. Ireland earned two more penalty corners in the final quarter but they lacked finishing.

SHORT TAKES

T20I rankings: Smriti, Thakur move up

Dubai: India's Smriti Mandhana moved up to fourth place in the list of batters, while seamer Renuka Singh Thakur was ranked fifth among bowlers, in the latest ICC T20I rankings issued Tuesday. India opener and vice-captain Mandhana, who scored a vital 60 in the Women's T20 Asia Cup final against Sri Lanka, moved up one place to fourth with 743 rating points. Among bowlers, Renuka, who snapped seven wickets in the tournament, is ranked fifth with 722 rating points as she moved up four places. Renuka follows England's Sophie Ecclestone (772) and Sarah Glenn (760) at the first two spots respectively, compatriot Deepthi Sharma (755) at third and Pakistan's Sadiya Iqbal (743), who moved up one place to be ranked fourth. Radha Yadav, who was Asia Cup's fifth highest wicket-taker with six scalps, reached 13th after moving up seven places.

Arsenal buys Calafiori

London: Arsenal signed Italy defender Riccardo Calafiori from Bologna Monday. The English Premier League club did not confirm the fee for 22-year-old Calafiori or the length of contract, but media reports said he agreed on a five-year deal, and Arsenal paid 42 million pounds (\$54 million). "He is a great signing and gives us huge strength to reinforce our defense," Arsenal manager Mikel Arteta said. "Riccardo is a big personality and character, with specific skills, which will make us stronger as we push to win major trophies." Calafiori is a versatile defender who can play as center back or left back. He was part of Italy's squad at the European Championship this summer.

PCB chairman Naqvi to become next ACC prez

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Lahore, July 30: Pakistan Cricket Board's incumbent chairman Mohsin Naqvi is set to become the next president of the Asian Cricket Council (ACC) later this year as per its rotation policy.

The matter of the president's post was discussed at a recent ACC meeting with Naqvi in line to become the next head.

"When the ACC meets later this year, it will confirm that Naqvi will be the next president for a two-year term," a source said.

BCCI secretary Jay Shah is the incumbent ACC president, having got one-year extension in January this year for a third consecutive term.



"When Shah steps down the PCB chief will take over," the source added.

The ACC has recently awarded the hosting rights of the Asia Cup 2025 to India as the tournament will be held in T20 format and the 2027 edition in ODI format to Bangladesh.

This implies that two major events are scheduled in 2025 — the Champions Trophy in Pakistan in February-March followed by the Asia Cup — which will serve as a precursor to the T20 World Cup 2026.

India beat SL in Super Over

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Pallekele (Sri Lanka), July 30: India defeated Sri Lanka via the Super Over in the inconsequential third and final T20I at Pallekele here Tuesday to sweep the series 3-0.

Kusal Perera (46, 34b) and Kusal Mendis (43, 41b) guided Lanka's chase of 138 before their innings fell apart in the familiar fashion at the business end. SL ended up at 137/8 after stipulated 20 overs, taking the match to Super Over.

For India, Washington Sundar, Ravi Bishnoi, Rinku Singh and skipper Suryakumar Yadav took two wickets apiece. India needed just three runs to win in Super Over. Earlier, SL bowlers produced a tidy effort to restrict India to a modest 137/9.

Once the match started an hour after the scheduled 7 PM be-



ginning because of wet outfield, the Lankans strangled Indian batters with impeccable line and length on a slow pitch.

Spinners Wanindu Hasaranga and Maheesh Theekshana led the hosts' bowling, sharing five wickets between them, as only Shubman Gill showed some spunk with a 39 in the company of Riyan Parag (26).

Brief scores:

India: 137/9 in 20 overs (Shubman Gill 39, Riyan Parag 26, Washington Sundar 25; Wanindu Hasaranga 2/29, Maheesh Theekshana 3/28) lost to **Sri Lanka:** 137/8 in 20 overs (Kusal Perera 46, Kusal Mendis 43; Washington Sundar 2/23, Rinku Singh 2/3, Suryakumar Yadav 1/5)

OLYMPICS: INDIA SCHEDULE - DAY 5

- Shooting:** 50m rifle 3 Positions Men's Qualification: Aishwary Pratap Singh Tomar and Swapnil Kusale-- 12:30pm
Women's Trap Qualification: Shreyasi Singh and Rajeshwari Kumari -- 12:30pm
- Badminton:** Women's singles (Group stage): PV Sindhu vs Kristin Kuuba (Estonia) -- 12:50pm
Men's singles (Group stage): Lakshya Sen vs Jonatan Christie (Indonesia) -- 1:40pm
Men's singles (Group stage): HS Prannoy vs Duc Phat Le (Vietnam) -- 11pm
- Table Tennis:** Women's singles Round of 32: Sreeja Akula vs Jian Zeng (Singapore) -- 2:20pm
- Boxing:** Women's 75kg round of 16: Lovlina Borgohain vs Sunniva Hofstad (Norway) -- 3:50pm
Men's 71kg round of 16: Nishant Dev vs Jose Gabriel Rodriguez Tenorio (Ecuador) -- 12:18 am (Aug 1)
- Archery:** Women's Individual 1/32 Elimination round: Deepika Kumari vs Reena Parnat (Estonia) -- 3:56pm
Men's Individual 1/32 Elimination round: Tarundeep Rai vs Tom Hall (Great Britain) -- 9:15pm
- Equestrian:** Dressage Individual Grand Prix Day 2: Anush Agarwalla -- 1:30pm

YOUNGEST, FASTEST 16-yr-old para swimmer crosses English Channel

THE 16-YEAR-OLD SWAM THROUGH IN TIME OF 17 HOURS AND 25 MINUTES FROM JULY 28 TO 29 AND COVERED A DISTANCE OF 34 KILOMETRES EN ROUTE TO HER FEAT

AGENCIES

New Delhi, July 30: At just the age of 16, Jiya Rai became the youngest para swimmer to cross an English Channel. The teenager is not just the youngest, but also the fastest para swim-

mer in the world to achieve this feat July 28-29.

Jiya swam through the English Channel from the Abbot's Cliff in England to Pointe de la Courte-Dune in France in a time of 17 hours and 25 minutes from July 28 to 29. She covered a distance of 34 kilometres en route to her feat.

Jiya, who hails from Mumbai with Autism Spectrum Disorder, is the daughter of Madan Rai, the MC-at-Arms serving in Mumbai.

The Western Naval Command (WNC) congratulated the young para swimmer on her momentous achievement. "All personnel of WNC convey their heartiest congratulations to Jiya Rai for becoming the world's youngest and fastest female para swimmer to successfully swim solo



across the English Channel," the Western Naval Command (WNC) wrote on X.

"Jiya, a 16-year-old girl with Autism Spectrum disorder, is the daughter of Madan Rai, MC-at-Arms, serving at Mumbai. She has many inspiring achievements to her credit, including swimming across the Palk Bay earlier," the WNC added.

Despite all her disabilities, Jiya is on a mission to become the world's first and youngest para swimmer to swim seven oceans. Autism Spectrum Disorder is a neurological and developmental condition which has an impact on how people interact with others, communicate, learn and behave.

However, she has achieved much more at such a young age,

like in December 2022, she swam 1,100 kilometres. This was done as a part of a six-member relay team from Mumbai to Goa and back to Vasai Fort in 11 days, 22 hours and 13 minutes. She was the youngest and only female participant of the team.

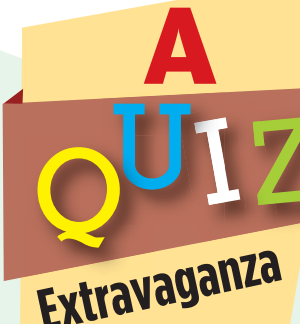
As per the Western Naval Command, Jiya has swum across the Palk Strait from Talaimannar, which is in Sri Lanka, to Dhanuskodi, which is in India. She managed to cover a distance of 29 kilometres within 13 hours and 10 minutes and created a world record on March 20, 2022. Hence, she became the world's youngest and fastest female to swim across the Palk Strait. Jiya has also won medals in the national and state open-water swimming championships.

A CHANCE TO BE PART OF METTLE MEET 2024

OrissaPOST

QUIZ Extravaganza

It's time for **METTLE MEET**—an initiative by the state's only homegrown English daily to revive quizzing in Odisha. This year, the **Preliminaries** will take place **August 3** and the **Grand Finale August 4**. Like in previous years, most of the top educational institutions of Odisha — both schools and colleges will be competing for the **Grand Prize of ₹1,00,000** in the Junior and Senior segments.



RULES & REGULATIONS

- Everyone will have to mail their answers to mettlemeet@orissapost.com
- Answers to the questions will follow the next day. The names of the winners will also be announced along with their pictures.
- Answers mailed between 8.00am to 6.00pm each day will be considered valid.
- Orissa POST's decision on all entries will be final. No complaints will be entertained.
- Participants must send their entries with a **passport size photograph, mobile numbers and residential address**. Otherwise the entries will be rejected.
- There can be only one winner from one family.
- Invitation cards to the winners will only be issued on presentation of **Valid ID proof – Voter Card, Aadhaar Card, Driving License, Passport, School ID card** (In case of students till Class XI)
- No employee of **Orissa POST** or their family members can be part of the competition


TODAY'S QUESTION

This is the list of Olympic Gold medalists in which men's team sport going back a few editions? 1988 – Soviet Union, 1992 to 2020 – USA except 2004 – Argentina. And women's medals in the same team sport: USA from 1996 – 2020.


ANSWER TO TUESDAY'S QUESTION

Students Day

THE TWO LUCKY WINNERS



SUBHAM JENA



ABHA PRIYADARSHINI

Others who answered correctly are
Alok Ranjan Sahoo, Omm Swarup Das, Sibananda Dash, Debasis Parida, Jaba Dasgupta, Rajendra Das, Asit Kumar Satpathy, Arghyashree Jena, Abinash Prusty, Sandeep Rout, Shoumik Jena, Debadatta Tripathy, R Sekhar Rao, Sunil Kumar Nayak, Subhashree Jena

CARMEL ENGLISH MEDIUM SCHOOL & ASHA INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL

Carmel Campus, Bodotata 752050, Phone: 9717 313 314, 0674 - 2492206
www.carmel-khordha.com | www.ais-khordha.com

