Actor Kangana Ranaut criticises the superficial use of alpha male, urging true alpha males to embody virtues like respect and righteousness

LEISURE | P2



Back to normal

With the metro resuming services, buses and taxis plying regularly, life seems to be returning to normal in Dhaka after deadly protests

INTERNATIONAL | P10



Debt market shines

Foreign investors infuse ₹11,366 crore in the Indian debt market so far this month, pushing the net inflow tally in the debt segment to over the ₹1 lakh crore mark

BUSINESS | P11



📻 Paralympic team depart

India's largest-ever Paralympic contingent with 85 athletes and 95 officials leave for Paris to take part in the Games starting August 28

SPORTS | P12

OLUME 14, ISSUE 146 | www.orissapost.com

Odisha shuttler Tanvi wins Asian U-15 championship



Such was Patri's domination throughout the tournament that she didn't drop a single game across five matches that she had played

AGENCIES

New Delhi, August 25: Odisha's Tanvi Patri clinched the under-15 girls' singles title at the Badminton Asia U-17 & U-15 junior championships after she defeated Thi Thu Huyen Nguyen of Vietnam in straight games in the final in Chengdu, China Sunday.

The 13-year-old Patri, seeded No 1, wrapped up the proceedings in just 34 minutes as she cruised to a 22-20 21-11 victory over her second-seeded opponent in the summit clash.

With the feat, Patri joins the

likes of Samiya Imad Farooqui and Tasnim Mir, who had won the U-15 girls singles crown in 2017 and 2019 respectively.

Such was Patri's domination throughout the tournament that she didn't drop a single game across five matches that she had played. In the final, Patri was trailing 11-17 but kept her calm as Nguyen made a series of unforced errors. The Indian grabbed $\,$ the opportunity with both hands to claim the first game.

Patri continued the winning momentum, dominating the second game from the start to eventually seal the match and clinch the gold medal.

Tanvi Patri's title-winning run at the Badminton Asia Championships, along with Gnana Dattu's bronze medal in the U-17 men's singles category, once again underlines the strong talent pool India possesses, said BAI secretary general Sanjay Mishra in a release.

'The robust and extremely competitive domestic circuit has been playing an important role in preparing our top players for such major international events. I am confident that we will see many more title triumphs from not just Tanvi and Gnana, but other Indian juniors in the com-



FESTIVE ATTIRE: Children dressed as Lord Krishna take part in Janmashtami festival celebrations, in Bangalore, Sunday

SHORT TAKES chickens culled

houses in the area and attacked Bhubaneswar: More than five the family members inside. Meanwhile, police reached the spot and drove them away but that failed to diffuse tension. On being informed, Khurda Collector Chanchal Rana and SP Avinash Kumar reached the spot and placated the irate people. Over five platoons of armed police force have been deployed in about 20,000 birds," Additional the area to manage law and order

Sethi imposed prohibitory order under Section 163 of Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita (BNSS) in ward no-1, 2, 3, 21 and 22. All business establishments ex-

cept medicine stores and provision stores have been directed to shut down for an indefinite period.

while Sub-Collector Deeptiranjan

Later, DGP YB Khurania, ADG (headquarters) RK Sharma, ADG (intelliegnce) Soumendra Priyadarshi, IG (central) Sanjay Kumar and DIG Jugal Kishore reached the spot and took stock of the situation. They also urged people to maintain peace.

Sources said the development is a fallout of simmering tension between two groups of youths over cattle trafficking

Bird flu: Over 5K

thousand chickens were culled after a positive test for the highly pathogenic H5N1 strain of avian influenza, widely known as bird flu, a state government official said Sunday. The epicentre of the outbreak was in Pipli area of Puri district and follows the recent death of 1,800 birds at a poultry farm, "The work is ongoing. We are going to cull Director of Disease Control Dr Jagannath Nanda said.

France arrests **Telegram CEO**

Paris: Pavel Durov, the billionaire founder and CEO of the Telegram messaging app, was arrested at the Bourget airport outside Paris Saturday evening, French local media said, citing unnamed sources. They said the investigation was focused on a lack of moderators on Telegram, and that police considered that this situation allowed criminal activity to go on undeterred on the messaging app. Telegram did not immediately respond to a request for comment. The French Interior Ministry and police had no comment.

Middle East on the boil Youth hacked to death section 163 OF They also barged inside the house in the own and etterlied

Major Israel-Hezbollah missile exchange as region watches for escalation

As per sources, cheetahs brought from Namibia

and South Africa have once again developed

thick winter coats during monsoon which led to

multiple deaths last year

Jerusalem/Beirut, August 25: Hezbollah launched hundreds of rockets and drones at Israel early Sunday, as Israel's military said it struck Lebanon with around 100 jets to thwart a larger attack, in one of the biggest clashes in more than 10 months of border warfare Missiles were visible curling

up through the dawn sky, dark vapour trails behind them, as an air raid siren sounded in Israel and a distant blast lit the horizon, while smoke rose over houses in Khiam in southern Lebanon.

Any major spillover in the fighting, which began in parallel with the war in Gaza, risks morphing into a regional conflagration drawing in Hezbollah's backer Iran and Israel's main ally the United States.

With three deaths confirmed in Lebanon and one in Israel, both sides indicated they were



happy to avoid further escalation

for now, but warned that there

could be more strikes to come.

Hassan Nasrallah said the

Iranian-backed group's barrage,

a reprisal for the assassination

of senior commander Fuad

Shukr last month, had been com-

However, the group would as-

sess the impact of its strikes

and "if the result is not enough,

then we retain the right to re-

pleted "as planned".

Hezbollah leader Sayyed

hundreds of missiles at northern Israel

Attack follows assassination of Hezbollah commander in Beirut

strikes in Lebanon stopped bigger attack

■ Hezbollah says attack

over, denies plans thwarted by Israeli strikes

scale war, but Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu warned, 'This is not the end of the story.' Earlier, Netanyahu had said, "We are determined to do everything we can to defend our coun-

spond another time" he said

Israel's foreign minister said

the country did not seek a full-

harm him." The two sides have exchanged messages that neither wants to escalate further, with the main

try ... whoever harms us - we

gist being that the exchange ■ Hezbollah launches was "done", two diplomats told Reuters.

Hezbollah said the strikes killed two of its fighters in al-Tiri. The Hezbollah-allied Shi'ite Muslim group Amal said a strike on Khiam killed one of its fighters.

Israel's military said a naval soldier was killed and two wounded

Expectations of an escalation had risen since a missile strike in the Israeli-occupied Golan Heights last month killed 12 voungsters and the Israeli military assassinated Shukr in Beirut in response

Hezbollah had delayed its retaliation to give time for ceasefire talks, and had calibrated its attack to avoid triggering a full-scale

war, a Hezbollah official said. US Defense Secretary Lloyd Austin ordered the presence of two aircraft carrier strike groups in the Middle East, bolstering the US military presence.

Cheetah relocation hit by biorhythm barrier



Thanks! But, I can join only after a year. I need time to clean up my Twitter timeline

WEATHER CTC 30.0°C 31.6°(**Max Temp** 23.5°C **Min Temp Humidity** 2.0 Rainfall

GENERALLY **CLOUDY SKY WITH HEAVY RAIN**

to the equator or in the Northern Hemisphere to avoid biorhythm complications observed in big cats brought from Southern Hemisphere countries like South Africa and Namibia, according to official records. Due to the differences in circadian rhythms between the Northern and Southern Hemispheres, some cheetahs developed thick winter coats dur-

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, August 25: India con-

sidered sourcing new cheetahs

from Somalia, Tanzania, Sudan

and other range countries closer

ing the Indian summer and mon-

soon last year, anticipating the

African winter (June to

September). Three of these chee-

tahs - a Namibian female and two

South African males -- died after

wounds beneath their winter

coats, on their backs and necks, became infested with maggots and led to blood infections.

In a concerning development, PTI has learnt from sources that the cheetahs from Namibia and South Africa have once again developed thick winter coats. Despite these concerns, discussions are ongoing with Southern Hemisphere countries to bring new cheetahs.

'Talks are ongoing with all countries, including South Africa and Namibia, but we have not formally approached anyone. Currently, our focus is on addressing immediate issues, such as augmenting the prey base, managing the leopard population and readying

the Gandhi Sagar Wildlife Sanctuary," a source told PTI.

Documents obtained by PTI through an RTI application revealed that during a steering committee meeting August 10 last year, Chairman Rajesh Gopal said the time it takes for cheetahs from Southern Hemisphere countries to adjust their biorhythms to the local environment, climate, and conditions in Madhya Pradesh's Kuno National

Park might be a significant factor in their deaths.

BNSS CLAMPED

Khurda, August 25: Tension ran

high as miscreants chased and

hacked a youth to death in broad

daylight at Chachra Sabar Sahi

Square near Jatni by-pass road

A separate group also assaulted

nother youth and rendered him

critical at Mukundaprasad Square

before absconding. The deceased

was identified as Md. Sajid alias

Saju of Mukundaprasad, Malisahi

area and the critically injured

youth as Zahir Ahmed of Taraboi.

A grievously injured Sajid

was rushed to a hospital in

Khurda. While being shifted to

a hospital in Bhubaneswar, Sajid

tension in the area as family

members put the body at

Mukundaprasad Square and

staged a road blockade by burn-

ing tyres. An irate mob also van-

dalised over 20 bikes in Poda

Sahi and Dadhibaman Sahi in

Mukundaprasad and assaulted

two cows in a nearby Goshala.

Murder of the youth sparked

succumbed on the way.

POST NEWS NETWORK

in Khurda, Sunday.

For want of biorhythmic adjustment, some cheetahs have succumbed to ectoparasitic infections during their pelage change, which was synced with the climate conditions of their earlier habitat. The third filial generation from surviving cheetahs would be more resistant and better adapted to Kuno conditions, Gopal said in the meeting.

He acknowledged the possibility of further mortality due to this issue and recommended that future cheetahs for reintroduction should be sourced from Northern Hemisphere countries like Kenya or Somalia to avoid biorhythmic complications.

Some of the 20 cheetahs brought to India so far -- eight from Namibia in September 2022 and 12 from South Africa last February -- were initially released into the wild but were brought back to their enclosures by August 13 last year after three cheetahs died due to septicemia.

PM to launch Subhadra Yojana Sept 17: Pradhan

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Bhubaneswar, August 25: Prime Minister Narendra Modi is likely to visit the state September 17 to launch the 'Subhadra Yojana', an ambitious scheme of the BJP government in the state for women, Union Minister Dharmendra

Pradhan said Sunday. Speaking to mediapersons after visiting Srimandir in Puri, the Union Education minister said Chief Minister Mohan Charan Majhi and two Deputy CMs had invited Prime Minister to launch the Subhadra Yojana in Odisha September 17 and the PM had agreed to it.

"During election, for the empowerment of women, we had promised to provide ₹50,000 to each woman and the Odia people have imposed their faith on us. In the meanwhile, the Mohan Majhi-led BJP government in Odisha has published the SOP for the rollout of the scheme, Pradhan said.

'Crimes against women unpardonable sin'

Jalgaon (Maha): Prime Minister Narendra Modi Sunday termed crimes against women an unpardonable sin, adding the guilty should not be spared. Modi's strong remarks follow protests against the brutal rape and murder of a 31-year-old trainee doctor at Kolkata's RG Kar Hospita and the sexual abuse of two fouryear-old school girls in Badlapur nea Mumbai. Speaking at the 'Lakhpati Didi Sammelan' in north Maharashtra's Jalgaon, Modi said the safety of women should be a priority Modi said that he would tell every political party and state government that crime against women is an unpardonable sin. Whoever is guilty should not be spared, he added.

He said that more than one crore eligible women of 21-60 years age group, under BPL category would get ₹10,000 in a year for five years under the scheme.



leisure



JENNA ORTEGA: I HATE

Actress Jenna Ortega said that she was sent disgusting images of herself as a teenager and revealed the reason why she hates AI. In an interview, she said, "I hate artificial intelligence (AI). I was terrified by seeing

CHRIS HEMSWORTH SURPRISES AUDIENCE AT SHEERAN'S CONCERT

Actor Chris Hemsworth made a surprise appearance at Ed Sheeran's concert in Bucharest, Romania, and played the drums in front of an estimated 70,000 attendees. He was at Romania's National Arena to record an upcoming episode of season 2 of his Disney+ original series Limitless with Chris Hemsworth.



Sam's health

sparks concern

Mumbai: Samantha Ruth Prabhu, who is

gearing up for Citadel: Honey Bunny, made

heads turn when she attended the event in

her stunning black crop top outfit. However,

the actress sparked concern among her fans

with her noticeable 'transformation,' as

some users pointed out her recent 'weight

A Redditor shared a clip of Samantha

posing for photographers at the event, com-

menting, 'Is Samantha okay? This trans-

formation doesn't seem healthy.' Several

fans expressed their concerns in the comment

section about Samantha's health. One fan re-

marked that the actress looked entirely unrecognisable, while others speculated that

she had lost a significant amount of weight.

'What happened to her? She's not looking the

same,' one fan noted. Another added, 'I did-

loss' in a video from the event.

n't recognise her until I

read the caption; her

face has changed so much!' A third com-

ment observed, 'She

looks extremely

lean, and her face is

almost unrecognis-

For the untold,

back in 2022, the

Family Man 2 ac-

tress disclosed

that she had

been diagnosed

with an au-

toimmune con-

dition called

myositis. She

took time off

from her ca-

reer to focus

health, re-

ceiving

ment for

the au-

toim-

mune

disease

myositis

treat-

her



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If you are involved in mone tary matters, today you will find yourself weighing the benefits. A loan that you have applied for may be sanctioned. Look at a range of choices, says Ganesha, and you will end

TAURUS

Today you are going to focus on enhancing your looks and appearances, says Ganesha. Instead of trying to seek satisfaction from within yourself you will be flaunting your fine clothes, your hairstyles. A visit to a beauty parlour cannot be ruled out. Your new looks will make you tremendously confident and impressive and will make others see you in a now light.

GEMINI

The day promises sensitivity and compassion for you, predicts Ganesha. You may plan a trip with your family members. You may also invest your money in various financial companies, as securing the future of your family will be foremost on your mind. Moreover, you will also save some hefty amount to meet future needs.

CANCER

It is high time that you dedicated yourself to your work. If you are looking to try new things, today may not be a very good day to do so. Stick to doing things the way you have been doing them so far, advises Ganesha, Al

LEO

A challenging day awaits you. You will face some tensions and problems, however this doesn't mean you will not be able Your personal life will proceed as usual however expectations from you at the

VIRGO

Children will be a source of a lot of appreciation today, in and out of the classroom. Your logical abilities will become stronger. Ganesha advises you to stay peaceful, flow with the tide and enjoy yourself, regardless of what happens in the day.

Ganesha says today is a fortunate day for starting new work. You will win the hearts of everyone with your amazing decoration will impress people

Do your deeds and don't expect returns is what

SCORPIO

Indian mythology has taught us since time immemorial. Now, it's time to implement it, especially at work. You may have to wait a little longer in terms of your business and joint ven ture. However, don't lose hope as the fruits of patience are sweet.

SAGITTARIUS

Good Samaritans around you may give unsolicited. but valuable advise. Take it as a hint, and consider it for your better ment. Take your decision after following the advise, and this may definitely yield benefits, says Ganesha.

CAPRICORN

Not everyday is the same day. And, today is one of those days when you fee extremely confused, feels Ganesha. While you won't be able to get rid off negative emotions, your hard work will be paid off and lay a strong foundation for future. You'll not understand whether to feel good about your achievements or experi ence sadness of confusion.

AQUARIUS

There are no short-cuts to success. You know this very well and work you socks off to get what you want. Colleagues friends and family - all of them will acknowledge and appreciate your efforts and achievements. Though you will be apprehensive about it, you will have to take some risks to bring the desired change in your life, says Ganesha

PISCES

Interactions with those of the opposite sex will mark your day. It is also a good day to strike up friendship with those of the opposite sex. For those in love, today is a good day to spend time with your partner. For those looking for love, now is the best time to pop the question to that special someone you've secretly admired for long, says Ganesha.



ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE

dirty edited content of me as a child."



Kangana's view on alpha males

Mumbai: Actress Kangana Ranaut has responded to a question on how she feels about the term 'alpha male', which is being widely used after the box office success of the 2023 film Animal.

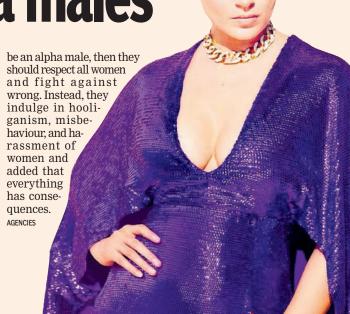
In an interview, the Queen actress said that the term 'sounds like a great idea'. However, she said that people don't know what is in it, it's entirely and simply use it on a superficial level

She also said Lord Ram, Lord Krishna, Arjun, Bhishma Pitamaha, and Karna are all 'alpha males'. However, she added that people don't want to study their character, understand how they sac-

mercy and austerity. the actress further said, "People resort to becoming alpha males to fool others with their wrong deeds. Such actions might make people enjoy themselves for some time, but they will fall face down. When you don't have understanding of something, you want to exploit that... If you are alpha male, then why

rificed, or even their

are you being Raavan? Be Ram. She added that if a person wants to



Dua Lipa excited over India concert

> New Delhi: Pop star Dua Lipa, who is set to headline the second edition of the Zomato Feeding India Concert in November,

year was a beautiful reminder

of how much I love this place. The warmth and energy I felt from everyone I met there was amazing, and I can't wait to see you again to perform in November!!!!" Lipa wrote, alongside a series of pictures from her previous India visit_ and the announcement poster of the concert.

Last December, the 29-year-old was on vacation with her family in India, where they visited Jodhpur, Rajasthan, and New Delhi, Lipa will hold the concert on November 30 at BKC, Mumbai. Her Mumbai gig will also feature artists like Jonita Gandhi,

says she is looking forward to

The Grammy winner, known for songs such as Levitating, Houdini, and Dance the Night, shared a post on Instagram expressing her excitement for the upcoming show. "India, I'm coming back!" My trip at the start of this

returning to the country after

she rang in the New Year here.

Talwiinder, and others.

PEANUTS

Katrina on working with Salman, Akki

Mumbai: Actress Katrina Kaif has been lucky

enough to star with the industry's top stars,

from Akshay Kumar to Salman Khan, Shah

Rukh Khan, and Aamir Khan, among others. In

a recent chat, the actress recently opened up about

her experience working with Akki and Salman.

ing. She noted that Akshay prefers early

mornings, whereas Salman

tends to start his day later.

When working with Akki, she

has to often request later

The *Tiger 3* actress

call times, but with Salman,

the schedule naturally be

added that she often has

to ask Salman, "Please

come early, no?" Despite

their differences, she highlighted that while Salman

may seem laid-back, he's al-

provisation during scenes.

ways focused on the larger

story of a film rather than just

the scene at hand. On the other

hand, Akshay is more inclined towards im-

Nevertheless, Katrina emphasised that she

doesn't focus on what her co-actors are doing. She arrives on set fully prepared, concen-

trating on her own work. She then integrates

her preparation with the director's vision

and collaborates with her co-actors

On the work front, Kaif was last

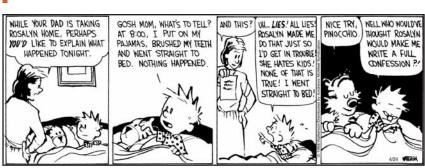
seen in Merry Christmas and will be

seen next in Jee Le Zara.

One of the major differences was the shoot tim-

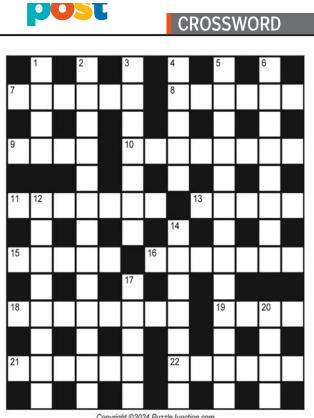


CALVIN AND HOBBES



BREVITY





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CHECK FOR SOLUTIONS OF THE PUZZLES TOMORROW

SUDOKU

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

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3			4	7	(2)			
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100	8		3			5		
7								9
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	5						9	
	9		8	3				6

SOLUTIONS



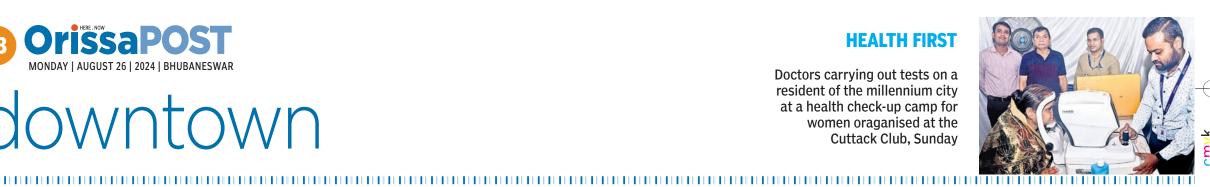
3 7 4 5 1 2 6 9 8 7 3 4 8 3 7 5 6 4 2 1 9 4 3 8 6 9 4 6 1 8 2 3 5 7

SUDOKU

downtown

HEALTH FIRST

Doctors carrying out tests on a resident of the millennium city at a health check-up camp for women oraganised at the Cuttack Club, Sunday



Mystery shrouds death of top ILS scientist

Bhubaneswar, August 25: Mystery shrouds the death of 57-year-old Institute of Life Sciences (ILS) scientist Sandip Kumar Mishra after the acclaimed cancer researcher passed away under suspicious circumstances at Capital Hospital, late

Mishra lived in Satyanagar area of the City along with his family, said a source at ILS.

The Kharavel Nagar police Sunday lodged a case of unnatural death, and officials at the police station said further investigations are on.

Mishra's sudden death snowballed into a controversy after his family members dismissed reports indicating that the top scientist had committed suicide due to severe stress. "Mishra was admitted to the Capital hospital after he complained of nausea and acute breathing issues,' said Mishra's sister-in-law, adding that he was declared dead several minutes after his admission.

Alleging foul play by hospital authorities that led to Mishra's untimely death, she said, "He ate KFC chicken and cold drinks

Friday which probably caused acidity or food poisoning in his stomach. On Saturday, he was rushed to Capital Hospital for treatment. Following the treatment, his condition became stable. Though the doctors recommended another day's rest, he refused and was adamant to go home. Accordingly, we bought him home. However, after a few hours, his health deteriorated and he started vomiting with severe diarrhea,

Meanwhile, speaking on the conditions of anonymity, an official at ILS said Mishra had been accused of sexual harassment by a female colleague in May this year. Later, the institute set up an Internal Complaints the charges. It absolved Mishra of all charges due to his 'influential position', he alleged.

Mishra's colleagues said the scientist was 'acclaimed' worldwide for his exceptional research works, such as discovery of tumour suppressor gene in breast cancer. He had developed a drug called 'Artemisinin' from Estrogen Related Receptor beta (ERR) molecule and leaves and flowers of sweet wormwood plant (Artemisia annua), claiming it to be successful in curing breast cancer patients. He proved that the cancer cells migration and invasion can be restricted and controlled by Artemisinin in estrogen receptor positive (ER-positive) breast cancer cells. The study was accepted for publication in international journals by Biomed Central, BMC Cancer.

Before joining Bhubaneswar as a scientist in July 2018, Mishra worked as an instructor with the Department of Neurosurgery at MD Anderson Cancer Center in Houston at United States.

Mishra is survived by his wife and a son.



GREEN WARRIORS: Dharitri and OrissaPOST Editor Tathagata Satpathy, and Chief Executive Adyasha Satpathy with young environmentalists who participated in an interactive session, at the Press Club of Odisha, in Bhubaneswar, Sunday, The event is a precursor to the Dharitri Youth Conclave scheduled to be held in the Capital city

'Use legislative devices to hold govt accountable'

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Bhubaneswar, August 25: Leader of Opposition in Odisha Assembly Naveen Patnaik Sunday asked Biju Janata Dal (BJD) MLAs not to leave any stone unturned to use legislative devices for holding the government accountable.

Patnaik said this while addressing an orientation and training programme for newly elected BJD MLAs, which was also attended by senior lawmakers of the regional outfit.

The Odisha Assembly had organised the two-day orientation programme for MLAs July 17 and 18. Union Parliamentary Affairs Minister Kiren Rijiju inaugurated the programme while Rajya Sabha Deputy Chairman Harivansh Narayan Singh was the chief guest of the valedictory

Opposition parties - BJD and Congress – boycotted the programme, citing "breach of protocol". Therefore, the BJD organised a separate training programme for its newly elected MLAs at the party headquarters here.

The training programme organised by the Assembly had political connotations and did not give adequate respect and dignity to the chief minister in his own state. So, the BJD withdrew from the training programme organised by the assembly." Patnaik said.

While highlighting the importance of Opposition in the legislative assembly, Patnaik said, "BJD with 51 MLAs constitute a formidable Opposition. So, we must not leave any stone unturned to use those (legislative) devices for holding the government to account.

"Government in a democracy is of 'we the people' and Opposition also owes its mandate to 'we the people'. Therefore, Opposition is as important as the government. To make the Opposition more effective for holding the government to account we need to be always vigilant and active. In fact, a vibrant Opposition is the best protector of democracy," he told party MLAs.

Patnaik advised the newly elected BJD MLAs to be wellversed with rules, procedures,

The Odisha Assembly had organised the two-day orientation programme for MLAs July 17 and 18. BJD and Congress boycotted the programme citing 'breach of protocol'

parliamentary conventions, traditions, to discharge their duties as a legislator properly.

Quoting B R Ambedkar, the BJD president said that in a parliamentary democracy, government is accountable to the legislature while the presidential form of government is based on the stability of the executive without making it answerable to the legislature

That accountability of the government to the legislature is exercised by asking questions, moving several motions such as adjournment and no-confidence motion, calling attention notice,

special, etc, he pointed out. "These are part of the several other legislative devices which should be used effectively by all of you to hold the government to account. Besides, you should make full use of zero hour in raising various issues of public interest," Patnaik told the new elected MLAs.

All the MLAs need to understand how to function within several committees of the legislature which are called miniassemblies. All members need to play a very crucial role in fine tuning the scrutiny of several bills which are referred to those committees. Patnaik stated

5K chickens culled in Pipili

POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar, August 25: As many as 5,000 chickens were culled in Pipili in the last two days amid the bird flu scare in Odisha.

According to sources, a 13member team has been constituted to carry out the mass killing of the infected birds in the area to prevent the spread of the viral infection to other parts of the state. As many as 20,000 chickens from 54 farms in Pipili will be culled in the next 15 days, officials said,

A decision in this regard was taken after the livestock inspector visited the spot and detected avian influenza virus in the area.

Meanwhile, resentment is brewing among poultry farmers as they demand adequate compensation before carrying out the mass culling of chickens.

The irate farmers threatened that not a single chicken would be allowed to be killed if they did-



n't get the compensation.

"I have borrowed money from different sources and invested Rs 3 lakh for poultry farming. If my chickens will be culled, who will give me the compensation.' asked Sushant Kumar Das,

On the other hand, the Fisheries and Animal Resources Development Department has assured that the farmers will be compensated as per the existing guidelines issued by the Central and State governments.

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Bhubaneswar, August 25: A senior leader of the Odisha Congress Sunday reminded Chief Minister Mohan Charan Majhi that the BJP had forged an alliance with Jammu and Kashmir's People's Democratic Party (PDP) in 2015 and his attack on the Congress is "hilarious'

Biswaranjan Mohanty's assertion came a day after Majhi slammed the party for joining hands with the National Conference (NC) ahead of the Jammu and Kashmir Assembly polls, alleging that the grand old party is "hungry for power".

"Teleprompter Chief Minister of Odisha who is running to Delhi to take orders on how to govern Odisha has found time to criticise the Congress Party

on the Kashmir issue," Mohanty said in a state-

Cong reminds CM of BJP-PDP ties

Demanding that the Congress explain its stand on Jammu and Kashmir. Majhi in a video message Saturday sought clarification from party leader Rahul Gandhi if his party would promote separatists by talking to Pakistan, instead of establishing peace by holding discussions with the people

of the northern state. Mohanty said, "I am not questioning him (Majhi) on his experience to speak on national issues but I would like to ask him: Has he forgotten the history of his own party?... Has he forgotten the BJP's alliance with PDP?"

After the 2014 Assembly elections in Jammu and Kashmir delivered a fractured mandate, the BJP and PDP stitched an alliance and Mehbooba Mufti became the chief minister in March next

"Who visited Pakistan and started friendship bus which was followed by Kargil?" the Odisha Congress leader

He was referring to former prime minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee, during whose tenure Delhi-Lahore bus service began in 1999. Mohanty, however, did not mention the late BJP leader by name.

Mohanty said, "The truth is the chief minister is trying to divert public perception at a time when the Congress raised the issue of reservation and caste census in the Assembly. Instead of public posturing on issues like Kashmir, the Odisha CM should focus on the emergent issues of the state."

BJP discusses roadmap for Odisha in core committee meet

BHUBANESWAR: Senior leaders of the BJP met in Bhubaneswar Sunday and held discussions on a roadmap for the party in Odisha where it stormed to power around two and a half months back, routing the Naveen Patnaik government of 24 years. The core committee meeting was presided over by state BJP president Manmohan Samal, and attended by Chief Minister Mohan Charan Maihi, Deputy CMs KV Singh Deo and Prayati Parida, Union Minister Dharmendra Pradhan, MPs Baijayant Panda, Sambit Patra and Pratap Sarangi, besides the party's in-charges Viay Pal Singh Tomar and Lata Usendi. Tomar said a political roadmap ahead of the membership drive, which would start September 1, was discussed at the meeting. The state BJP was targetting 1 crore memberships during the drive, party leaders said. Besides detailed discussions on the drive, the meeting also discussed the state government's flagship Subhadra Yojana under which Rs 50,000 would be given to each woman over a period of five years, they said. Discussions were also held on how to strengthen the



Duo held for chain snatching

BHUBANESWAR: The Lingaraj Police Sunday arrested two miscreants on charges of snatching a gold chain from a woman near Lingaraj Temple premises Friday. IIC Lingaraj Purna Chandra Pradhan identified the duo as Rakesh Kumar Swain and Jagannath Tripathy, both 28. Rakesh is a native of jajpur district, while Jagannath hails from Puri. Pradhan said the victim was returning home from her classes around 8 pm Friday night when two-bike borne miscreants appeared suddenly and snatched her gold chain. Locals who came to her rescue were unable to intercept the duo as they sped off. The police have booked the duo under Sections 309 (4) and 3

(5) of BNS, and produced them

before a local court Sunday.

Mere facts may not be enough to beat misinformation

cording to a study.

efutational approaches are more effective in combating

science misinformation rather than just stating facts, ac-Researchers found that among

152 college students exposed to misinformation, those who read an article purely carrying facts retained more misconceptions than those who read an article with a

The findings are published in the Journal of Research in Science

"Refutational approaches seem to work really well. While it's always best to get out in front as a teacher or communicator, students have smartphones. They're going to run into misinformation quickly. If we take this refutational approach, we're more likely to overcome misinformation," lead author Robert Danielson, a Washington State University educational psychology researcher, said.

For the study, the researchers first tested what the student participants knew about putting fluoride in water.

The students then read two articles: one with false information saying that fluoridation is harmful and another presenting the scientific consensus that has found fluoridation is safe and

prevents dental disease. The participants all read the same misinformation text, but different groups read an article with the correct information either in a traditional stating-thefacts style or one that first refuted the misinformation, before presenting the facts. The researchers also tested the effects of having the participants read the correct article before, or after. the misinformation.

The results revealed that the students learned in all four situations. However, the group that saw the misinformation first, followed by mere facts, performed the worst, the researchers found.

Those who had read the refutation article either before, or after, the misinformation had fewer misconceptions. They also had more positive emotions toward the subject, the authors found.



students exposed to misinformation, those who read an article purely carrying facts retained more misconceptions than those who read an article with a refutation

Researchers found that

among 152 college

"Our findings indicate that reading refutation texts led to significantly fewer misconceptions and reduced negative emotions." the authors wrote.

With a profusion of information easily available on the internet, it can be hard for many people to sort fact from falsehood. This can cause a problem which the researchers call "conceptual contamination" - when learning incorrect information interferes with learning the correct information.

"Your mind doesn't discriminate for content. Whether it's a correct conception or a misconception, it just kind of absorbs it all," Danielson said.

"People can learn misconceptions pretty easily, and there's no shortage of that online." Danielson said. In a meta-analysis of 76 educational studies, Danielson and his team found that the refutational approach works well for a wide range of topics - from noncontroversial issues in physics and chemistry to highly controversial ones, including climate change and evolution as well as genetically modified foods and vaccines. The analysis was recently published in the journal Educational Psychologist.

SuVahak INITIATIVE

More training centres to augment road safety: Jena



Berhampur/Bhubaneswar, **August 25:** The state government has planned to expand the driving training centres for improving road safety, Commerce and Transport Minister Bibhuti Bhushan Jena said while addressing an event organised by Institute of Driving Training and Research, Palur, Berhampur to mark its first anniversary,

Jena emphasised the department's commitment to curb road accidents and highlighted the crucial role played by SuVahak training programmes in ensur-

ing safe driving. "I congratulate the staff as well as trainees on institute's first anniversary. I appreciate you all for your endeavours," he

He advised the institute officials to increase the programme's outreach to involve more drivers

in the training process. Jena said that so far 5,000 new drivers and over 22,000 existing drivers have completed the refresher course from four training centres at Chhatia in Jajpur, Bonai in Sundargarh, Keonjhar and Palur.

"Not only men but also women have shown great interest in the training. Many trainees have secured jobs with prestigious companies across the country and abroad, with 30 skilled drivers being selected for employment in Japan, he said.

Notably, thirty-day training is provided to the trainee drivers with free accommodation and food. After successful completion, trainees receive a driving license and they become eligible for a monthly stipend of

The centre provides modern training facilities, including daily yoga and exercise sessions to ensure trainees' physical and mental well-being. A library is also available.

The Palur facility spans 20 acres and includes an administration block, air-conditioned classrooms, model rooms, and an AC canteen. The hostel offers 14 dormitories with a capacity for 140 trainees at a time. The institute can train 1,200 heavy vehicle drivers and refresh 4,000 drivers annually," an official

"A two-kilometre-long driving track with road signs is available for practical training. So far, 823 heavy vehicle drivers have been trained at the centre, with around 166 securing jobs in various government and private organisations," he further said.

The Transport department covers all costs except for the machinery and trainer facilities, which are provided by Ashok Leyland. The programme also includes a monthly three-day refresher course for licensed drivers to enhance their skills," he

In the event, the minister planted a tree as a memento. A cultural programme was also organised on the occasion.

The event was attended by Transport Additional Commissioner Dipti Ranjan Patra, Joint Transport Commissioner Pradeep Kumar Mohanty, Bikas Chaudhary, Transport Department Officer Bhramar Mahapatra, Ganjam RTO, and officials from Ashok



CULTURAL FEST: Artistes performs Odissi dance on the inaugural day of 47th Barsha Utsav, organised by Chinta O Chetana at Rabindra Mandap in Bhubaneswar, Sunday. Chief guest on the occasion Governor Raghubar Das lighted the ceremonial lamp Chief Ministers Nandini Satpathy, Biju Patnaik and Harekrushna Mahtab. Guests on the occasion included, Assembly Speaker Surama Padhy, Odissi exponent Guru Ratikant Mohapatra, Swami Ramnarayan Baba, Chinta o Chetana president Sahadeba Sahu and secretary Surendra Das. On the occasion, Bhartruhari organisation. The festival will continue till August 27

ODM organises LEAP series in City

POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar, August 25: A series of programme on LEAP (Learn-Engage-Aspire-Prosper), designed to inspire and empower students in their academic and personal growth, organised by **ODM** Educational Group (ODMEG) concluded here, re

Distinguished guests including Directorate of NCC director Col Sagar Kumar Mohanty, Krupajal Engineering College's Mechanical Engineering professor Rajesh Kumar Behera, AIIMS-Bhubaneswar

Endocrinology department assistant professor Kishore Kumar Behera, CSIR-IMMT principal



scientist Umakanta Subudhi and noted actor and entrepreneur Soumya Ranjan Mishra joined the event.

The guests shared their invaluable insights and life experiences with the students and motivated them to excel in academics, focus on physical and mental development and gain technical knowledge.

The LEAP series will significantly contribute to the allaround development of our students," said ODMEG founder Satyabrata Minaketan.

Five workshops held as part of the series, led by mentors, including scientist Satya Tapas, and retired army officer Brigadier Khirod Kumar Nayak. The workshops offered students hands-on learning experiences and insights into various professional fields.

ODMEG director Artatran Mishra delivered the welcome address and emphasised the importance of setting life goals and proceeding in the right path to achieve them. The event saw the active participation of students and faculty members in the workshops

The LEAP series is a testament to ODM's commitment to fostering holistic development in students, preparing them to excel

ECoR invites tenders for construction of Rayagada division

POST NEWS NERTWORK

Bhubaneswar, August 25: The East Coast Railway (ECoR) has issued a tender notice for the construction of the Rayagada Railway Division, marking a crucial development in regional infrastructure. This project follows the recent announcement by the Railway Minister, who allocated ₹70 crore to establish the new division.

Railway Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw July 26, 2024 revealed the budgetary provision. The project is set to commence shortly.

The scope of the tender includes the construction of the Divisional Railway Manager's (DRM) office, staff quarters, and various ancillary facilities. The new division will be situated on about 125.78 acre across six strategic locations near the Rayagada railway station along NH-326. The DRM office itself will occupy 14.30 acre and will feature state-of-the-art amenities including water bodies, a walking track, a parking area and a driver's rest room.

This significant investment aims to improve connectivity and support regional development, reflecting the government's commitment to upgrading infrastructure and delivering enhanced services to the public.

I, Duryodhan Mishra, S/o Late Gobinda Chandra Mishra, resident of Village/P.O. -Pathuripada, P.S.- Banki, Dist. -Cuttack, Pin-754008, Odisha declare by this affidavit No. 1134, dtd.02.04.2003 that I shall be known as ANIL KUMAR MISHRA for all future purposes.

KIMS holds workshop on hip replacement

POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar, August 25: The Kalinga Institute of Medical Sciences (KIMS) hosted a cadaveric workshop on 'Direct Anterior Approach for Hip Arthroplasty' here, recently.

'KIMS is all set to offer advanced hip replacement surgery by introducing the direct anterior approach (DAA). The cuttingedge technique will ensure faster recovery and less post-operative pain for patients," an institute

The workshop, organised by the department of Orthopaedics, provided a crucial platform for participants to explore and engage with the DAA, which is rapidly gaining recognition as a suc-



cessful alternative to the traditional hip replacement methods.

Unlike the conventional posterior or lateral approaches, which often require cutting-through or detaching muscles and tendons, the DAA allows surgeons to access the hip joint through a natural space between muscles, preserving

"The benefits of this musclesparing technique are significant, including reduced postoperative pain, shorter hospital stays, faster rehabilitation, and a lower risk of complications such as hip dislocation," department officials said.

"The DAA is a complex procedure with a steep learning curve. Surgeons must master precise patient positioning, surgical planning, and use of specialised instruments within a limited surgical field, they said.

'To address these challenges, the cadaveric workshop provided participants with handson experience under expert guidance, helping them to hone their skills in this advanced technique," they added

Several healthcare professionals, researchers and medical students participated in the workshop which was held under the guidance of the KIMS Orthopaedics department head Debasish Mishra, while Sujit Kumar Tripathy from AIIMS-Bhubaneswar attended as guest

'K Se Kulcha' opens at Esplanade



POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar, August 25: 'K Se Kulcha' opened its outlet at the Esplanade mall here, recently. Odia film actress Sheetal Patra joined the occasion as guest of honour and inaugurated the outlet. Directors Avdesh Tiwari and Arta Padhy were present in the opening ceremony.

The visitors can experience the authentic flavours of north

range of veg and non-veg food options, featuring some of the famous dishes like Ghee Roast Kulche, Chole Kulche, Kulhad Biriyani, Butter chicken and different types of sayouring chaat options are available at the restaurant," Tiwari said. "At 'K Se Kulcha', we prioritise hygiene and safety, ensuring a worry-free dining experience,'

Fixing cloud computing fragilities through 'chaos engineering'

IN ORDER TO ENSURE ROBUST. RELIABLE AND CAPABLE DIGITAL INFRASTRUCTURE. RESEARCHERS ARE USING CHAOS ENGINEERING WITH ADAPTIVE STRATEGIES THAT COULD COUNTER REAL-TIME VULNERABILITIES LIKE SYSTEM FAILURES AND CYBERATTACKS

loud computing has emerged as a crucial element in today's technology, serving as the backbone for global connectivity. It empowers businesses, governments, and individuals to employ and construct cloud-based services and forms the foundation for a huge range of systems we use every day including telecommunications, transportation, healthcare, banking, and even streaming services.

Such systems, like any hardware or software, are susceptible to failures and cyberattacks that can occur unpredictably. Cybercriminals are becoming even more determined, and their attacks increasingly sophisticated and frequent.

One of the tactics these groups frequently employ are distributed denial of service (DDoS) attacks. which flood companies' systems with more requests and traffic than their IT systems can han-

This issue can cause major difficulties for companies like Google and Amazon, which offer cloud computing services to host consumers' data, systems, and services.

In the most recent quarterly analysis of cybersecurity threats. cloud computing security company Cloudflare reported a 65 per cent increase in DDoS attacks in the third quarter of 2023 compared to the previous quarter. According to Cloudflare's report for the second quarter of 2024, there were four million DDoS attacks.

Besides DDoS and other deliberate attacks, companies using cloud-based software are also vulnerable to outages caused by issues ranging from connection problems to physical server failures - some of which can also result from cyber-attacks.

Unpicking fragility

Resolving major outages like these presents significant challenges due to the cloud's com-



plexity and its many dependencies on other systems - including for cybersecurity. Implementing reliable fixes can take from hours to several days or, in some cases such as CrowdStrike's, even longer.

Such incidents demonstrate the fragility of tech infrastructure in general, but particularly cloud-based systems. Solutions are currently focused on managing the effects of these incidents rather than addressing the root problems by creating more reliable and resilient cloud

Researchers have been using a technique called chaos engineering – deliberately attacking and experimenting with these cloud-based software applications - to look at how the system responds to such attacks.

One of the most recent papers found that this technique can be used more accurately to predict how a system will react

to an attack. Chaos engineering involves deliberately introducing faults into a system and then measuring the results. This technique helps to identify and address potential vulnerabilities and weaknesses in a system's design, architecture, and operational practices.

Methods can include shutting down a service, injecting latency (a time lag in the way a system responds to a command) and errors, simulating cyberattacks, terminating processes or tasks, or simulating a change in the environment in which the system is working and in the way it's configured.

In recent experiments, researchers introduced faults into live cloud-based systems to understand how they behave under stressful scenarios, such as attacks or faults. By gradually increasing the intensity of these "fault injections", they determined the system's maximum

Learning from chaos

Chaos engineering is a great tool for enhancing the performance of software systems. However, to achieve "antifragility", one is required to integrate chaos testing with other tools that transform systems to become stronger under attack.

In the latest experiment, researchers presented an adaptive framework "Unfragile which employs chaos engineering to introduce failures incrementally and assess the system's response under these stresses.

They then introduced new, adaptive strategies to eliminate the vulnerabilities found through chaos engineering.

By introducing metrics on the performance of the system in real-time, the system can become adaptive, as potential problems are picked up early and re-

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HORSESHOE CRABS REMAIN UNPROTECTED



Mahakalpara, August 25: With the population of horseshoe crabs, a marine creature, fast dwindling, the authorities are yet to implement measures to save the species, sources stated here Sunday. The horseshoe crabs are available in large numbers at the Gahirmatha marine sanctuary in Kendrapara district.

The Zoological Survey of India (ZSI) and the Forest department have jointly launched geo-tagging of horseshoe crabs in Balasore district but they are yet to take up similar measures in Kendrapara district. Geo-tagging is necessary to track the population and habitat of the marine creatures and will also help in increasing their numbers, sources stated.

The horseshoe crab species is available in only a few select

places. It is found in Balasore district and the Gahirmatha marine sanctuary. The crabs are mostly seen in Hukitola, Shola sea mouth, Launch Ghola, Tanda, Agarnasi, Barunei sea mouth and in the Mahanadi river basin

The mating of this creature starts from January and lasts till March. However, during the season thousands of the species die after getting entangled in fishing nets. Sources informed that steps should be taken immediately to preserve this particular species of crabs.

In the month of January male and female crabs can be seen mating in large numbers in Gahirmatha and in the Mahanadi river basin. Male and female crabs can be seen submerged in mud during the mating process. Their mating mainly starts during a full moon night as it plays a significant role in

maintaining the biological diversity of the sea.

A distinctive feature of the horseshoe crab is that its blood turns blue when exposed to air. This is because the blood contains a copper-based respiratory pigment called 'hemocyanin'. This pigment is highly in demand in most countries because of its research value and other medicinal purposes.

Sources informed that a litre of horseshoe crab blood costs close to ₹11 lakh. A number of medicines for treatment of diseases like cancer are produced using horseshoe crab blood.

Environmentalist Samarendra Mahali said that the population of horseshoe crab started declining after the cyclones in 1971 and 1982 and the Super Cyclone in 1999. He said the Forest department should immediately launch efforts for geo-tagging of the marine creature. The Forest department has completed the geo-tagging of 70 crabs in Balasore district and a similar process should be implemented in Gahirmatha, Mahali added.

When contacted, divisional forest officer Sudarshan Gopinath Yadav of Rajnagar wildlife division said that they are yet to receive any orders regarding the geo-tagging of horseshoe crabs. "Once we get it, we certainly will implement it." Yadav added.



KABADDI TOURNEY: Contestants try to hold a player during a kabaddi match at the state-level men's and women's kabaddi tournament which was inaugurated at the Peoples' High School mini stadium in Buguda of Ganjam district, Sunday

Jails in Nayagarh raided, tobacco products seized

POST NEWS NETWORK

Nayagarh, August 25: Police seized a huge cache of tobacco products, razor blades, match boxes and cash during surprise raids in several jails in this dis-

trict in the wee hours of Sunday. Sources said the raids were simultaneously conducted in Nayagarh circle jail and Ranpur, Khandapada and Daspalla subjails in the presence of magistrates and senior police officials.

According to sources, the raids were conducted following allegations of illegal narcotics consumption and trade within the jails. The seizure of such substances from the jails has now raised suspicion about the se-

curity measures and the role of

prison officials.

During the raids, police seized 292 packets of khaini, 84 pouches of gutkha, 15 packets of bidi, two packets of cigarettes, two nail cutters, two spoons and ₹1,473 in cash from the district jail here. Similarly 24 packets of khaini, 11 pouches of gutkha, 26 packets of bidi, two packets of cigarettes,

four needles and ₹422 in cash were seized during the raid at Daspalla sub-jail. One packet of khaini, six packets of gutkha, 10 packets of bidi and four packets of zarda were seized during the raid at Khandapada sub-jail. Likewise, 19 packets of khaini, four packets of gutkha, four packets of bidi, and one razor were seized during the

Four held for

tonsuring lady

raid at Ranapur sub-jail.

PNN & AGENCIES

been arrested.

Minor girl killed as wall collapses

POST NEWS NETWORK

Rayagada, August 25: In a tragic incident, a minor girl was killed and four others suffered serious injuries after the mud wall of their house collapsed on them at Kulumuhi village under Kalyansinghpur block in this district, following heavy rains late Saturday night. The deceased was identified as Samanti Wadka, 13, and the critically injured are her father Burja Wadka, 50, mother Kudunji Wadka, 40,

younger sister Sanjana Wadka, five, and brother, Sanju Wadka,

three.
According to reports, the tragedy occurred when the family was asleep.

The mud wall besides which all the five were sleeping collapsed on them killing Samanti on the spot.

Howing the agenizing samans

Hearing the agonizing screams of the injured, locals rushed to their help. The surviving members were pulled out from the heap of mud and were rushed to the Kalyansinghpur CHC. Later all the four were shifted to the district headquarters hospital here after their conditions deteriorated.

As per instructions from Rayagada Collector Parul Patawari, sub-collector Kalyani Sanghamitra Devi met the victims undergoing treatment and provided assistance of ₹10,000 from Red Cross Fund and ₹30,000 from the Chief Minister's Relief Fund. District Emergency Officer, Lalit Mandal and district project officer (DPO) for disaster management, Jyotirmaya Patra were present during the meeting.

RSP plans sports infra upgrade



POST NEWS NETWORK

Rourkela, August 25: Rourkela Steel Plant (RSP) is planning to carry out a major overhaul and modernisation of sports facilities in this town. This was stated by Atanu Bhowmick, Director Incharge of RSP during his Independence Day speech. He announced that modernisation of sports facilities will be undertaken at a cost of ₹11 crore. He informed that once the facilities are upgraded they will provide a huge boost to the promising sportspersons in this city as well as in Sundargarh district.

The key projects include the renovation of Ispat Stadium in Sector-VI, where four multistorey changing rooms for players with comprehensive facilities will be developed. Additional enhancements at the stadium include full lighting, a sprinkler system with water connection and storage, repairs of the bound-

ary walls and VIP area shades.

The football ground and cycling tracks will also undergo renovations. At the Ispat Basketball Complex, a new shed will be constructed for the benefit of the players. The new volleyball ground inside the Biju Patnaik hockey stadium complex is also going to be fenced. New lights will be installed and a seating area will be developed for the players to rest.

Simultaneously, the Biju Patnaik hockey stadium will also be upgraded. New floodlights will be installed at the stadium at a cost of ₹3 crore. It should be stated here that RSP had given a complete transformation to the stadium with the installation of a new state-of-the-art synthetic turf, sprinklers and other facilities in 2023 at an expenditure of about ₹12 crore. The modernisation of the stadium will certainly be a huge boost for hockey, locals said

Bad weather prevents Guv's plane from landing in Rourkela



POST NEWS NETWORK

Rourkela, August 25: Bad weather forced Odisha Governor Raghubar Das to abandon his trip Sunday to this city and he had to return back to Bhubaneswar. The eight-seater aircraft carrying Das could not land at the airport here due to inclement weather.

As per his schedule, the governor was scheduled to meet Union Minister Jual Oram's family Sunday. Oram's wife Jhingia had breathed her last a few days

back due to dengue. Das wanted to meet Oram and console him. However, bad weather acted as an impediment.

The aircraft remained airborne for more than 20 minutes close to the airport. Plans to take the aircraft to Jharsuguda and land it there were also discussed. However, in the end the pilot thought it would be better to take back the aircraft to Bhubaneswar and not take any undue risks as the visibility was very poor.

"This incident has again ex-

posed the situation at the Rourkela airport. Had there been an instrument landing system (ILS) the aircraft could have easily landed. This is a huge embarrassment to the city," said Bimal Bisi, president of Sachetan Nagarik Manch (SNM). Bisi asserted that all-weather air connectivity to Rourkela remains elusive. "This is happening despite there being a double engine government,"

It should be stated here that prior to the Lok Sabha and Assembly polls in the state, BJP leader Manmohan Samal while campaigning and interacting with the media here had blamed the Naveen Patnaik-led government for failing to install the ILS at the airport and for its failure to acquire land from SAIL for the same purpose. "But what is preventing the present government now from installing the ILS," asked a BJP local leader on condition anonymity.

Bisi stated.

According to the police, the woman had a bitter argument with her husband over some issues August 9, during which she hit him.

Jharsuguda, August 25: A

woman was allegedly ostracised

and tonsured following an order

issued by a 'kangaroo' court in this district, police informed

Sunday. The incident was re-

ported from Routbahal village

under Laikera police station. So

far four people including the

husband of the woman have

Later, her husband informed the villagers about the incident and a kangaroo court was convened for a 'trial'. The court allegedly ordered that the woman should be ostracised and tonsured. It also imposed a penalty of ₹5,000 on the woman and directed her to give a mutton feast

to residents of the village.

After she was tonsured and ostracised, the woman and her son approached the police and lodged a complaint. "During investigation, we found that the husband of the woman and three other senior persons of the village were involved in the act. We have arrested them," said Dillip Kumar Behera, officer in charge of Laikera police station.

CHECK DAM TO BENEFIT 3K FARMERS IN KESINGA

POST NEWS NETWORK

Kesinga, August 25: Construction of a check dam on the Tel river at Sukunabhata village in Kasrupada panchayat in this block of Kalahandi district will help over 3,000 farmers in irrigating their farmlands, locals said Sunday. They also stated that the check dam will prevent floodwaters from entering the farmlands during monsoons in Sukunabhata, Kasrupada, Binekela and

Kinerkela villages.

Earlier, on most occasions, the farmlands got submerged in floodwaters. Due to the deposition of sand and silt on the farmlands more than 3,000 farmers were losing their paddy cultivations on a regular basis. Farmers had been demanding for construction of a check dam to save their crops and had submitted memorandum to the authorities in this regard.

Finally, the state government decided to construct a check

dam and directed the Irrigation department to work out the modalities and float a tender in this regard. The tender was floated and the contract was awarded to an engineering firm for construction of the one-kilometre long check dam on

the Tel river.
Stone packing has been completed on one side of the check dam while grass is being planted on the other side. When contacted, engineer Prakash Kumar Behera said the con-



struction work has slowed due to the rains, but will pick up after the monsoons. The check dam after its completion will prevent submergence and sand silt deposition on farmlands during floods and rainy season, he added.



FINAL TOUCHES: Artisans applying colours to Khudurukuni idols to meet orders as the month long festival started, Sunday

ОР РНОТО

WOMAN DIES OF SNAKEBITE

POST NEWS NETWORK

Jaleswar, August 25: A woman died after being bitten by a poisonous snake at Khudia Majhi Sahi village under Raibania police limits

in Balasore district, Sunday.

The deceased was identified as Kanchan Gandhi, 40, wife of Hemant Gandhi of Kantabada-Balabhadrapur village. Family members rushed her to the Hatigarh hospital but she succumbed on way before reaching the health

The incident occurred when Kanchan after finishing her work on her farmland was cutting grass for her livestock. A poisonous snake slithering around bit her. The deceased is survived by her husband and two children.

OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE OFFICER THE MUNICIPAL COUNCIL, DHENKANAL DHENKANAL (ODISHA), PIN-759001

E-mail:- dhenkanalm.h No. 3351

Date. 22.08.202
QUOTATION CALL NOTICE

No. C-477:- Sealed quotations are invited from intending Decorators for decorating Mini Stadium to celebrate Local Self Govt, Day-2024. The quotationer should quote their cost including installation, conveyance, delivery charges with all taxes etc. The quotation will be received by hand upto Dt.27.08.2024 before 12.30 PM. The quotation will be opened on same day at 1 PM in the office of the undersigned in presence of the quotationer or their authorized agent. In absence of the quotationers the quotation will be opened without complying any reason to the quotationers. The authority reserves the right to accept or reject any or all quotations without assigning any reason thereof.

SI.No.	Particulars of Items	Units	Rate
1	Road cross gate	1 No.	
2	Box gate	1 No.	
3	Hanger tent	1 sqft	
4	Stage Decoration	1 sqft	
5	Plastic Chair	1 No.	
6	VIP Chair	1 No.	ė.
7	Sofa	1 No.	Ş
8	Tea poye and addressing table	1 No.	
9	Floor matting	1 sqft	
10	Light, Sound, DG Set & Back LED display	Per Day	
11	Baricketing	Running	

Sd./- Executive Officer
OIPR-13146/11/0013/2425 Dhenkanal Municipality



Our life should be governed by the ove for the Truth and the thirst

THE MOTHER



Problem of Neutrality

rime Minister Narendra Modi's visit to war-ravaged Ukraine, about six weeks after his visit to Russia came under severe flak from some quarters in the US-led West, seen as it is by many as a balancing act. The nine-hour tour to Ukraine, the first by an Indian Prime Minister since 1991 when the country became independent, came at a time as its war against Russian aggression has reached a 30-month milestone and the tide seems to be turning in favour of Kyiv at this juncture.

Both the visits, to Moscow and Kyiv, couldn't have been more illtimed. While PM Modi's visit to Russia had coincided with a horrific Russian strike on a children's hospital in Kyiv that killed many, his Ukraine tour concurred with Ukraine's surprise offensive in the Kursk region of Russia. This particular incursion is seen by many military specialists as a turning point in that war.

The visit is also perceived by some quarters as a damage control exercise given that ever since the war began, India has sided with Russia, be it in the form of the country's abstention on the UN resolutions condemning the Russian aggression or the buying of Russian oil and weapons despite Western embargoes.

Modi's remarks at Kyiv, "I have come with a message of peace...I want to assure you and the entire global community that India is committed to respecting the sovereignty and territorial integrity (of states) and it is of utmost importance to us," seemed to be diplomatic hyperbole. Moreover, the comments were a reiteration of the PM's advice to Russian President Vladimir Putin that "now is not the time for war." The comments anyways went unheeded by Putin as is evident from Russia's continued aggression on the war

If at all there is a peace deal between the warring countries in future, it is almost certain that India would have no role to play in it. This was made amply clear by Ukraine President Volodymyr Zelenskyy when he said: "I told Prime Minister Modi that we could have the Global Peace Summit in India. It's a big country, it's a great democracy - the largest one," but added that it would not be possible to host the summit in a country that has not joined the communiqué of the last peace summit. India had attended the previous edition of the summit held in June at Lucerne, Switzerland, but refrained from associating itself with the communiqué that emerged from the

India's policy of non-alignment had been continuing since the era of Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru. Then it was considered an appropriate policy as the newly independent nation had to take care of its own interests rather than getting itself mired in the conflicts involving the two superpowers of that time – the US and the Soviet

However, times have changed. In the present times, staying neutral means one can be sure of not getting the support of either side. As they say, someone trying to be everyone's friend is no one's friend. In another context, no one knows whether India will get help from the US or Russia in the event of a conflict with China. Geopolitics aside, there is an ethical dimension to the problem of neutrality. As aptly put by anti-apartheid and rights activist Desmond Tutu: "If you are neutral in situations of injustice, you have chosen the side of the oppressor.'

FOCUS INDIA & POLAND

TIME TO FOSTER TIES



Małgorzata Bonikowska

INDIA AND POLAND HAVE UNDERGONE CRITICAL CHANGES IN THEIR POLITICAL **AND ECONOMIC SYSTEMS OVER THE LAST 45 YEARS**

024 marks the 70th anniversary of establishing diplomatic relations between Poland and India. The last few years have seen the growth of the importance of both countries in their regions and the strengthening of their position in the world. However, when opening up to Asia, Poland has so far looked mainly to China, while India, for historical reasons, has identified Europe with the capitals of strategic partners such as France, Germany, and the UK.

Today, on the wave of the India-EU new opening after Brexit, the pandemic and in the context of Sino-American rivalry, Warsaw and New Delhi have a chance to strengthen bilateral relations by establishing a strategic partnership. It was announced during the visit of Prime Minister Narendra Modi to Poland last week. The Head of Indian government comes here after long 45 years.

India is the fifth, and soon to be the third largest economy in the world, and Poland is sixth in the EU and 21st in the world. India is becoming a key player in the Indo-Pacific region, where there is a systemic rivalry between two superpowers: China and the US. Poland is the West's hub for operations in Ukraine, the leading country on NATO's eastern flank, and one of the leaders in building a new architecture of European security against Russia. Seeing these changes, Warsaw and New Delhi decided to seek better political and economic ties

Poland and India share several beautiful pages of history. During World War II, the Maharaja of Jamnagar gave shelter to several hundred Polish women and children trying to get to the West for several months on his estate in Gujarat. To this day, the "children of the Maharaja" are in touch with each other, and a street and a jun-



According to Poland, it is in India's interest to support the 'democratic world' in the fight against neo-imperialism and the use of military force, which is contrary to the principles of international law and the **Charter of the United Nations**

ior high school in Warsaw have been named after him. In 1944, Poles and Indians, arm in arm captured the hill and monastery of Monte Cassino, pushing the Germans out and opening the

way for the Allies to reach Rome. Today, Polish universities educate thousands of students from India. Poles are increasingly eager to watch Bollywood films and listen to Indian pop music. Tourism and business are developing in both directions. Indian companies are investing in Poland, especially in IT, biotechnology, and electronic equipment and packaging sectors. In 2023, they employed about 10,000 Polish workers, and investments exceeded USD 3 billion. India is the second largest market for Polish FDI in Asia.

In 2019, India was Poland's 28th largest trading partner, ranking 40th in exports (0.3%) and 25th in imports (0.8%). However, in 2021, bilateral trade reached USD 4.3 billion, marking a significant increase of 57% y-o-y. This positive trend continued, with exports from Poland to India reaching EUR 1.5 billion and imports EUR 3.868 billion a year later.

India and Poland have undergone critical changes in their political and economic systems over the last 45 years. The key areas of bilateral cooperation should include research and development and electromobility to a much greater extent. It is also worth increasing business contacts, including at the startup level. Joint development of hydrogen-related technologies, green technologies, solutions for space sector, climate-friendly mining, and the agri-food sector would be promising. Contacts in security infrastructure and capabilities of defence and IT sectors are worth expanding.

Direct air connections between New Delhi, Mumbai, and Warsaw, launched in 2019 are facilitated by direct business, scientific, and tourist contacts. Polish aspirations to create a new aviation hub in the heart of Europe may work well with the potential of aviation infrastructure in India, where passenger traffic is grow-

In Poland's thinking about strategic partnership, a new perspective on India as a rising global player, which is taken seriously by world powers is essential while simultaneously expecting greater responsibility for matters concerning the international order. Warsaw prepared a practical offer for India of comprehensive, mutually beneficial cooperation

based on new assumptions. It in-

cludes supplies of military equip-

ment, food, and products lack-

ing in the Indian market.

The topic of security cannot be omitted from bilateral talks Although historical and internal conditions prevent India from taking an openly critical stance towards Russia's actions in Ukraine, the government in Warsaw tries to convince the Indian Prime Minister to take a more decisive stance at the UN and in diplomacy. More so because the global consequences of the war are visible on many levels and are of great importance to India, such as the increase in the prices of energy resources, food shortages, and

disruption of supply chains. According to Poland, it is in India's interest to support the 'democratic world' in the fight against neo-imperialism and the use of military force, which is contrary to the principles of international law and the Charter of the United Nations This is important in the context of India's efforts to become a permanent member of the UN Security Council, which Poland supports. At the same time, almost three-year war in Ukraine favours strengthening Russia's relations with China. Obviously, this is not in India's interest. Russia may not be a problem for India, but China is.

> The writer is President, Centre for International Relations, Poland.

WISDOM CORNER

It takes 20 years to build a reputation and five minutes to ruin it. If you think about that, you'll do things differently

What's money? A man is a success if he gets up in the morning and goes to bed at night and in between does what he wants to do

It is not true that people stop pursuing dreams because they grow old, they grow old because they stop pursuing dreams GABRIEL GARCIA MARQUEZ

THIS DAY **IN HISTORY**

- **1429:** Joan of Arc's arrival in the outskirts of Paris. In preparation for an attack on Paris, part of Charles VII's campaign to drive the English from French soil, Joan of Arc and her soldiers reached the city's outskirts on this day in 1429, but the assault ultimately failed.
- **1768:** James Cook sails off on HMS Endeavour. The British explorer was the first European in recorded history to have visited the eastern shores of Australia. The ship reached Botany Bay in April 1770 and was back on British shores on July 12, 1771.
- **1883:** The volcano Krakatoa in Indonesia began to erupt, and 36,000 people were killed by the eruption and the resulting tsunami.
- 1914: During World War I the Battle of Tannenberg began, fought between the Germans and the Russians; several days later the German forces, led by Paul von Hindenburg and Erich Ludendorff, handed Russia a crushing defeat.
- 1920: 19th Amendment to the US Constitution takes effect. The amendment extended universal suffrage to women in the United States. Before this, women in some states could vote in local and state elections. The Amendment was first introduced in Congress 42 years ago in 1878 by Senator Aaron A. Sargent. In 1919, the Congress approved the amendment and sent it to the states to be ratified.
- **1966:** Namibian War of Independence begins. The 24-year long rebellion against the South African government began with an attack by the South African Defence Force on the members of the South-West Africa People's Organization (SWAPO) at Omugulugwombashe. Namibia gained independence on 21 March 1990. Namibians observe Heroes Day annually on
- 1975: Ethiopian Emperor Haile Selassie I—who steered his country into the mainstream of African politics after World War II and oversaw its entrance into the League of Nations and the United Nations—died at age 83, possibly

LOL

Designated decoy

One night, a police officer was staking out a particularly rowdy bar for possible DUI violations. At closing time, he saw a fellow stumble out of the bar, trip on the curb and try his keys on five different cars before he found his. The man sat in the front seat fumbling around with his keys for several minutes.

Meanwhile, all the other patrons left the bar and drove off. Finally he

started his engine and began to pull away. The police officer was

waiting for him. As soon as he pulled onto the street, the officer stopped him, read him his rights and administered the breathalyzer test to determine his blood-alcohol content. The results showed a reading of 0.0. The puzzled officer demanded to know how that could be. The driver replied, "Tonight I'm the designated

SPECTRUM NATIONAL SECURITY

India needs a critical infra protection Act



Padmalochan Dash

THE CURRENT **SECURITY ENVIRONMENT, MARKED BY BOTH EXTERNAL THREATS AND INTERNAL VULNERABILITIES, DEMANDS A COMPREHENSIVE APPROACH TO PROTECT INDIA'S CRITICAL INFRASTRUCTURE**

a worrying trend where exply lines, and trade routes. tremist radicals have purposefully targeted critical infrastructure, within that country, through coordinated acts of sabotage. With the likelihood of similar acts getting replicated in other parts of the region, it becomes imperative for India to take immediate legislative action to safeguard its critical infrastructure. In precise - the government of India must contemplate to enact a "Critical Infrastructure Protection Act (CIPA)" at the earliest.

The region's socio-political vulnerabilities, spanning both land and maritime domains, are being exploited by hostile actors. Adversaries such as Pakistan and China, driven by a broader strategy to disrupt India's growth, provide tacit support to non-state actors. These hostile entities view the disruption of critical infrastructure as an effective tool to undermine India's economic progress.

Radical elements in neighbouring territories, particularly within the Indo-Pacific region, are rapidly emerging as a significant threat. These groups, often fuelled by extremist ideologies and transnational support, pose a growing challenge to regional stability and security. These elements, as recently witnessed in

The recent protests in Bangladesh, will continue to tar- brid warfare, align India with mitigation. These legislative mod-Bangladesh have revealed get India's production bases, sup-

The intensification of geopo litical competition has led adversaries to adopt unconventional tactics, such as hybrid warfare, including cyber-attacks and sub-

The current security environment, marked by both external threats and internal vulnerabilities, demands a comprehensive approach to protect India's critical infrastructure. Safeguarding these assets is now central to the nation's internal security strategy, and a strong legislative response remains crucial to counter these evolving threats and ensure the protection of India's economic and security interests.

The urgency for India to enact a CIPA is not just significant but essential. This legislation would enhance the country's resilience against both internal and external threats and establish a robust legal framework capable of responding to the evolving security challenges that India's critical infrastructure, production bases, and supply chain systems face.

Enacting a CIPA can provide the required legal and regulatory tools - essential to fortify vital national assets and ensure their resilience. This act must be designed to address the complexities of hysecurity challenges. Enacting CIPA would not only counter adversaries' hybrid intentions but also impose stringent penal measures on threat actors, assign protection and resilience responsibilities to operators, and establish a comprehensive legal framework to safeguard India's economic progress. CIPA must be designed to sig-

nificantly strengthen India's key sectors, which are vital to national stability and development. This legislation must address the protection of critical sectors, but not limited to - chemical, commercial, communications, critical manufacturing, dams, defence industrial base, emergency services. energy, financial services, food and agriculture, healthcare, information technology, nuclear-related facilities, transportation systems, water and wastewater management systems, and all major government facilities. Ensuring the security of these sectors is crucial for maintaining India's economic resilience.

Acts intending the protection of critical infrastructure enforced in other countries formally institutionalise standard operating process and practices - for threat identification, assessment, and

global best practices, and offer a els provide valuable templates structured response to national that India can much learn from. In essence, a CIPA in India must cover both physical and cyberelectronic threats and must include punitive actions against the acts of terrorism, subversion, and sabotage. In essence, the act must manifest itself as the apt tool of responding to the countless facets of hybrid warfare.

For India to establish itself as a global economic and strategic power, securing its critical infrastructure must be a priority. The CIPA should be recognised not just as a legal requirement but as a strategic imperative. The government must centralise authority to oversee and implement protection measures, develop a comprehensive risk assessment framework, and strengthen public-private partnerships. The Act must also ensure resilience of critical infra and supply chain systems against natural and manmade threats. The effectiveness of CIPA will depend on the government's reflexion - the sectors and infrastructure it considers to be critical and seeks to notify them as critical while safeguarding them with a distinct statutory cover.

The writer is working for an independent think tank.

are most welcome to contribute letters postal address/email ID. They may also send in their valuable comments, opinion

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

TO THE EDITOR

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(200 words), articles and

requested to send their contact numbers and full

columns (between 750-1250 words). Contributors are

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Power & corruption

Sir, The words honest and politician do not go hand in hand but still we choose the most corrupt people to govern us as there are no other options. We have to be the options but most of us do not want to get into the whirlpool of politics and we also normally do not support a new political power. These negatives deter honest and deserving people from getting into politics. India still ranks 93 out of 180 countries on the Corruption Perception Index and is just two positions better than the 2011 ranking of 95 out of 183 countries. 2011 was the most corrupt year in India's history. The government has employed a lot of measures to curb black money and corruption over the years but could not improve its ranking on the Index and is still lingering among the most corrupt nations in the world. There are many instances where the net worth of MLAs and MPs has grown magically within five years. Power does not corrupt people, it is just an excuse used by a spineless power wielder.

Noopur Baruah, TEZPUR

Cyber threats

Sir, This refers to the article "The right to truth," Orissa Post, August 21. Online bullying, misinformation and spreading fake news through social media platforms are growing by the day. When someone shares a video on Facebook or you hop onto YouTube, the content reaches you after it has been passed around, syndicated, and filtered through several sources. But there is no system for truly identifying the original source of the content. This is not the only problem. Across other social media platforms like WhatsApp, Twitter, and Instagram, words and photos are getting shared to millions across the globe with little to no curation. Many of the forwarded messages that we receive on $\stackrel{\searrow}{\sim}$ WhatsApp daily either have partial or no truths at all. Their contents make it clear that the subterraneous aim of these 'forwards' is to fuel differences, instigate communal hatred and political animosities. Anonymity does breed anti-social behaviour. Fake IDs, pseudonyms and unverified user-accounts abound online, giving people ample opportunity to mask their identities as they post messages

Ranganathan Sivakumar, CHENNAI





PUNJAB-PAK BORDER

BSF seeks additional forces to combat drone threats

More than 120 drones have been recovered by security agencies at the front this year so far, as compared to 107 such seizures made during the entirety of 2023

The force currently

has about 20 battalions

to guard the more than

500-kilometre-long

front, out of which

18 are 'actively

deployed' at the

border

eral for the BSF's Punjab

Frontier, had recently said that

all the drugs from across the

Pakistan border was coming

into Punjab through the air route

via drones against the earlier

According to official data,

more than 120 drones have been

recovered by security agencies

at the front this year so far, as

compared to 107 such seizures

made during the entirety of 2023.

cials in Punjab and Delhi, also

wants to add more troops to ef-

fectively guard the riverine areas

being constructed over the Ravi

As many as 48 culverts are

along the Punjab front.

The force, according to offi-

land route.



PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Jalandhar/New Delhi, August 25: The BSF has sought the deployment of an additional battalion to check the onslaught of cross-border drones carrying drugs and ammunition and curb infiltration along the Punjab front of the India-Pakistan border.

The force currently has about 20 battalions to guard the more than 500-kilometre-long front, out of which 18 are "actively deployed" at the border while the rest are mobilised in view of the requirements at the Attari integrated check post in Amritsar and the Kartarpur corridor at Dera Baba Nanak in Gurdaspur district.

The drone menace that started around 2019-20 along this front is dominant in the border districts of Amritsar and Tarn Taran. One more Border Security Force (BSF) battalion has been sought to better secure the Punjab border, a senior officer told PTI.

The request is under "active consideration" of the Union home ministry, he said.

Atul Fulzele, inspector gen-

and the Sutlej rivers along the Punjab border, out of which work on 25 is complete.

The culverts are provided with sewage gates and locks and these are being checked regularly by BSF patrols, another officer said.

An additional battalion will bring about an operational strength of around 800-900 personnel to better guard this front, he said.

The BSF also needs more personnel in its intelligence (G branch) setup -- currently operating in a 50-kilometre area from the border

The deployment of G branch teams along this front has led to the recovery of a number of drones and its droppings (drugs and arms), apart from having "enhanced" liaison with local police and central anti-narcotics agencies to check drug syndicates, the second officer said.

A BSF commander said, "We are getting good response from locals in the border areas who inform us about drone droppings and drug traffickers. Cash rewards have been given to such informers in about 50 cases till now."

The BSF in Punjab has shared contacts of about 75 drug smugglers and suspects with the Punjab Police based on these inputs, he said. The force is also raising a mounted unit of horseriding women troops to patrol the front like the male personnel, officials said.

The BSF recently bolstered its strength along the Punjab-Jammu border by deploying more troops in Gurdaspur that abuts Jammu. This was done to check the infiltration of terrorists from the India-Pakistan border to Jammu via Punjab.

North American Punjabi Association condemns attack on NRI in Amritsar

Sukhchain Singh was shot at by two people in front of his family at his home in the Daburji village of Amritsar

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Chandigarh, August 25: The North American Punjabi Association Sunday condemned the attack on an NRI in Amritsar by two assailants and described the incident as "deeply troubling."

Sukhchain Singh was shot at by two people in front of his family at his home in the Daburji village of Amritsar Saturday, Singh, who recently returned

of his wife and his two children from his first marriage. Satnam Singh Chahal, executive director of the US-based North American Punjabi Association, said, "The attack

from the US, was shot at in front

troubling and warrants condemnation."
"Such acts of violence not

on an NRI in Punjab is deeply

create an atmosphere of fear and insecurity among the diaspora community. The Punjabi diaspora, who often invest significantly in their home state and maintain strong cultural ties, have every right to feel safe and respected," he said in a statement. Chahal added that ad-

only harm individuals but also

nity leaders to improve law and order and ensure justice. "The situation should be treated with utmost seriousness

dressing these issues required

concerted efforts from both the

local authorities and commu-

to prevent further incidents and to restore confidence among the

NRI community," he said.

"It's essential that steps are taken to address the root causes of these attacks and to bolster the safety and security of all residents and visitors in Punjab. This will help in rebuilding trust and ensuring a safer environment for everyone," he added.

Singh was intercepted outside his house by two motorcycle-borne assailants Saturday who asked him about the registration documents of his luxury car. Before he could understand anything, the two took out their pistols and forcibly took him inside his house.

Inside, the assailants fired hree shots at him and fled.

three shots at him and fled.

A bullet each hit Singh in the head and near the chest. He was rushed to a private hospital where

he is currently out of danger.

Meanwhile, police Sunday arrested five people, including the father of the victim's first wife,

father of the victim's first wife, in connection with the incident.

Efforts are being made to nab

the two criminals who shot at Sukhchain Singh, who recently returned from the US, and are on the run, they said.

Addressing the media here,

Amritsar Police Commissioner Ranjit Singh Dhillon said the attack on Sukhchain Singh was carried out at the behest of the family of his first wife. His first wife had committed suicide in December 2022 and her family nursed a grudge against him, he said. Two criminals, Sukhwinder alias Sukha and Gurkirat Singh alias Guri, were hired to kill Sukhchain Singh, police said. "We are after the assailants," Dhillon said.

Kshetra Trust.

MP to develop pilgrimage sites linked to Lord Krishna

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Indore, August 25: On the eve of Janmashtami, Madhya Pradesh Chief Minister Mohan Yadav Sunday announced that the state government would open centres in urban areas for discussions on various aspects of Lord Krishna's life.

Speaking at a symposium on Lord Krishna here, Yadav said one village will be developed on the lines of Gokul and Barsana in every development block in the state.

Yadav said, "Indore's Geeta Bhavan is a big centre for dialogue on various aspects of Lord Krishna. I am announcing today that our government will open centres on the lines of Geeta



Bhavan in urban areas of the state, which will give us an op-

portunity to discuss and debate various aspects of Lord Krishna." Janmashtami, an annual fes-

Janmashtami, an annual festival that celebrates the birth of Lord Krishna, will be observed Monday.

The chief minister said the state government will provide

funds to the urban bodies for these proposed centres, which will be developed as places to exchange authentic knowledge on mythological subjects. Places associated with Lord Krishna in the state will be de-

Krishna in the state will be developed as pilgrimage sites, Madhya Pradesh Chief Minister Mohan Yadav said Saturday. He was speaking at a public

felicitation of Mahant Nritya

Gopal Das, president of the

Shri Ram Janmabhoomi Tirtha

Yadav also praised the "hard struggle" of Mahant Nritya Gopal Das in the Ram Mandir movement and said he dedicated his entire life to preserve the

"We have decided that the

places touched by Lord Krishna's

feet in the state will be devel-

oped as pilgrimage sites," he

said. As per mythology, Janapav

in Indore district, Sandipani

Ashram and Narayana village in

Ujjain and Amjhera in Dhar dis-

trict were among places linked

to the deity, the chief minister

heritage of Sanatan culture.
The consecration of Ram temple was a wonderful moment and he will never forget the scene, he added.

Sisodia visits Golden Temple

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Amritsar, August 25: Senior AAP leader Manish Sisodia Sunday visited the Golden Temple and the Durgiana temple here and prayed for party chief Arvind Kejriwal's release from jail.

The former deputy chief minister of Delhi was accompanied by Punjab Chief Minister Bhagwant Mann.

This is Sisodia's first visit to Punjab since he was granted bail by the Supreme Court in corruption and money laundering cases linked to the now-scrapped Delhi excise policy earlier this month.

Talking to reporters at the Golden Temple complex, Sisodia said he and his family members offered prayers at the Sikh shrine.

He said he also prayed for

Vojvivvol'o vologo

Kejriwal is lodged in Delhi's Tihar jail in connection with corruption and money laundering cases linked to the alleged excise policy scam being probed by the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) and the Enforcement Directorate (ED) respectively.

Sisodia recalled his 17 months in Tihar jail and claimed that he was put behind bars "under a conspiracy".

He said he got justice with the blessings of God, because of the Supreme Court and the Constitution.

"It is my great fortune that I had the opportunity to bow down at Darbar Sahib. I came here with my family with full devotion. Even when I was in jail, I prayed for the victory of truth," he said.



Punjab Chief Minister Bhagwant Mann and former Delhi deputy chief minister Manish Sisodia offer prayers at Golden temple, in Amritsar

Three MP villages become hotspot for thieves and robbers

THE RECENT THEFT OF VALUABLES WORTH ₹1.45 CRORE BY A 14-YEAR-OLD BOY DURING A WEDDING AT A FIVE-STAR HOTEL IN RAJASTHAN CAPITAL JAIPUR BROUGHT THESE VILLAGES – KADIYA SANSI. GULKHEDI AND HULKHEDI – INTO PROMINENCE ON THE NATIONAL CRIME MAP

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Rajgarh (MP), August 25: Dotted with palatial bungalows and sprawling campuses, a cluster of three villages stands out as an outlier in Madhya Pradesh's Rajgarh district on economic prosperity. Just that it is powered by activities on the wrong side of the law.

The recent theft of valuables worth ₹1.45 crore by a 14-year-old boy during a wedding at a five-star hotel in Rajasthan capital Jaipur brought these villages – Kadiya Sansi, Gulkhedi and Hulkhedi – into prominence on the national crime map.

The local police estimate that 1,000-1,200 criminal cases have been registered across the country against boys, men, girls and women from these villages. With a population of about 5,000, Kadiya Sansi is the epicentre of the illegal activities.

But, it's not easy for enforcement agencies to make arrests here. A police team from Tamil Nadu's Coimbatore, under security cover of the local cops, was attacked in Gulkhedi, under Boda police station, during one such attempt August 10.

"Local cases are few but the

"Local cases are few but the people of these villages, especially Kadiya Sansi, face criminal cases in different parts of the country. We learn about those only when outside police contact us. There must be 1,000-1,200 cases registered against these people across India," Boda police station in-charge Ramkumar Bhagat told PTI.

Bhagat said that the lure of easy money drives the residents of these three villages, about 50 km from district headquarters, to break the law.

"They get easy money through loot, theft and other crimes. They appear to inspire one another. Since most of these people are associated with it (crimes), there is no one to stop it. Women are more expert in this field than

men," he said.

Bhagat said that a local po-



lice team was also attacked with stones when it accompanied their counterparts from Tamil Nadu to find out about the accused in a crime committed in Coimbatore.

A search is underway to track down those who hurled stones at the police team, he said.

Asked about reports that outsiders are also being trained at Kadiya Sansi village for stealing, theft and other criminal activities, Bhagat claimed ignorance, saying the people from this village cluster carry out recce before committing crimes.

However, this is not the first time a police team has come under attack in these villages, also notorious for illegal liquor trading.

Mohan Singh, sarpanch of Kadiya Sansi village, claimed that the people are well educated and work in different jobs in major cities.

"There may be some people

THE LOCAL POLICE ESTIMATE
THAT 1,000-1,200 CRIMINAL
CASES HAVE BEEN REGISTERED
ACROSS THE COUNTRY
AGAINST BOYS, MEN, GIRLS
AND WOMEN FROM
THESE VILLAGES

WITH A POPULATION OF ABOUT 5,000, KADIYA SANSI IS THE EPICENTRE OF THE ILLEGAL ACTIVITIES

who could be involved in such incidents. But the people here are well educated and 2-3 persons from every household work in big cities. Our children are studying in good private schools," Singh told PTI over the phone.

The village head rejected the reports about the area being a breeding ground for criminal activities. There is no truth in those reports, he said.

Singh also denied the reports about "training" being given by the people of these villages to children to make them experts in committing crimes.

Asked about the Jaipur theft involving a minor and ₹1.45 crore valuables, Singh said the boy might not have imagined what was in the bag that he picked. He must have thought he would get ₹10,000-20,000 for pocket expenses, said Singh.

"Everyone in the village has land and properties. We are not terrorists. All want their children to be educated. This is an era of technology. Those who were involved earlier in such crimes are gone. Nobody can defeat the administration and police," he said. However, police records

present a contrasting version.
Over the past six months, police have arrested 25 members of the Kadiya gang and seized goods and valuables worth ₹4.37 crore from their possession, officials said.

Rajgarh Superintendent of Police (SP) Aditya Mishra said the people of Kadiya Sansi are active in criminal activities not only in MP but also in other states.

Nobody is above

law: Mohan Yadav

Indore, August 25: Madhya Pradesh Chief Minister Mohan Yadav Saturday said nobody is above the law and that the government is acting as per Constitutional norms after Congress leader Priyanka Gandhi Vadra questioned 'bulldozer justice' in Chhatarpur district.

CHHATARPUR HOUSE RAZING INCIDENT

The Congress targeted the MP government after the house of one Shahzad Ali was demolished Thursday for his alleged involvement in a protest called by the Muslim community against the purported anti-Islam remarks made by Ramgiri Maharaj Wednesday. A mob had hurled stones and damaged vehicles,

"All I have to say is that no person is above the law. There is the rule of law. The government is taking action under the Constitutional provisions against those who break the law," Yadav told reporters when asked about Vadra's post.

leaving several policemen injured.

"Construction work should be done after taking due approval. If you don't take necesary approval for construction activity and if you become synonymous with terror in various ways, then the administration is also free to do its job. In such a scenario, they (the administration) will do what is needed," Yadav added.

Earlier in the day, Gandhi Vadra stated 'bulldozer justice' is completely unacceptable and must stop. "If someone is accused of a crime, then only the court can decide his crime and punishment. But punishing the family of the accused as soon as the allegation is made, taking away the roof from their heads, not following the law, disobeying the court, and demolishing the house of the accused as soon as the allegation is made - this is notiustice," the Congress general secretary said.

national



A message has gone among the **Muslims of the country that** Narendra Modi wants to snatch Waqf properties from Muslims. We want the prime minister and the government to think over it and take back the proposed law

ASADUDDIN OWAISI | AIMIM PRESIDENT the meeting, Paswan said

CHIRAG RE-ELECTED LJP (RAM VILAS) CHIEF

Union minister Chirag Paswan was Sunday re-elected as Lok Janshakti Party (Ram Vilas) president for five years at its national executive meeting. The decision was taken unanimously at the meeting, Paswan said





The DMK rule is period of the HR&CE department. It was during the rule of the Justice Party, the starting point of the DMK, that a law was enacted and right to worship ensured

UDHAYANIDHI STALIN DMK LEADER

One should find out how much revenue generated after cheetahs were translocated to India (in Kuno Park in Madhva Pradesh)



AADITYA THACKERAY | SHIV SENA (UBT)

No society is perfect, Crimes against women are a reality. These crimes had come down in the state in the last three years. But the real intention in the recent incidents is much bigger, through crimes such as rape the target is our land, civilisation

HIMANTA BISWA SARMA ASSAM CM

SHORT TAKES

SC to hear Nair's bail plea Aug 27

New Delhi: The Supreme Court is scheduled to hear August 27 the bail plea of former Aam Aadmi Party communication in-charge Vijay Nair in a money laundering case related to the alleged Delhi excise policy scam. A bench of justices Hrishikesh Roy and SVN Bhatti issued a notice to the Enforcement Directorate August 12 on the plea of Nair while noting that he has been in custody for two years.

Flood situation in **Tripura improves**

Agartala: The overall flood situation in Tripura further improved Sunday with the water receding in many places even as 1.17 lakh neonle are still sheltered in 525 relief camps in various districts, an official said. The catastrophic flood which hit the state for the first time in over three decades, so far, claimed 31 lives, including women and children, and a few other people injured in landslides and drowning in flood water in six of the eight districts -- South Tripura, Gomati. West Tripura. Sepahijala, Unakoti and Khowai since August 19 and two persons were reportedly missing.

Two killed in blast at fireworks unit

Chennai: Two people were killed in an explosion at a firecracker unit in Avichipatti in Natham Taluk of Dindigul district in Tamil Nadu. According to local residents, they heard a deafening sound from the cracker unit in the early morning. Locals informed the police and a team of police personnel arrived to find that two persons were found dead inside the factory. The bodies had borne severe injuries on the head, neck and arm.

T'gana to launch **Sports University**

Hyderabad: The government of Telangana will establish a Sports University next academic year with an aim to produce sportspersons who can win Olympic medals, Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy said Sunday. He announced that the Sports University would rope in international coaches to train the athletes. The Chief Minister was speaking at the concluding programmes of the NMDC Hyderabad Marathon at Gachibowli Stadium. The Chief Minister said Young India Sports University was planned on the lines of Young India Skills University established recently to provide skills to youth in various sectors.



Taking a dig at the government, Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge said, "The 'U' in UPS stands for Modi Govt's U turns! Post June 4, the power of the people has prevailed over the arrogance of power of the Prime Minister'

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, August 25: The Congress Sunday took a jibe at the Centre over its announcement of the Unified Pension Scheme, saying the 'U' in UPS stands for the Modi government's 'U-turns"

The Opposition party also alleged that the UPS appears to be an attack on Dalits, tribals and backward classes

Taking a dig at the government, Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge said, "The 'U' in UPS stands for Modi Govt's U turns! Post June 4, the power of the people has prevailed over the arrogance of power of the Prime Minister.

"Rollback in the budget regarding Long Term Capital Gain/Indexation. Sending Waqf Bill to JPC. Rollback of Broadcast Bill. Rollback of Lateral Entry," he said in a post on X. "We will keep ensuring accountability and protect 140 crore Indians from this despotic government," the Congress chief said. The Congress' media and publicity department head Pawan Khera alleged that the UPS appears to be an attack on Dalits, tribals and backward

"In many states, the upper age limit for government jobs for reserved category is 40 years. In UPSC, this limit is 37 years. Under the unified pension scheme, it is mandatory to render 25 years of service to get a full pension," Khera said.

In such a situation, how will Scheduled Caste, Scheduled Tribe and Other Backward Classes employees avail this facility, he asked. "Now the government should tell whether it wants to end the upper age limit facility available to the underprivileged or wants to deprive them of full



pension?" Khera said on X.

However, Professionals' Congress chairman Praveen Chakravarty appeared to strike a divergent note from his party and said the introduction of the scheme was "welcome and prudent".

"Pension for govt staff in India is inherently a tax on the majority poor to pay the elite minority. So, OPS was reformed to NPS in 2013. But NPS did not assure a minimum amount for retired families," Chakravarty said in a post on X.

"Now, UPS does that UPS = NPS + Minimum guarantee. This is prudent & welcome," he said. Though Chakravarty's X account is not verified, several top Congress leaders, including Rahul Gandhi, follow it.

The Union Cabinet Saturday approved an assured pension of 50 per cent of salary for those who joined the service after January 1, 2004, under the National Pension System (NPS), fulfilling a long-pending demand of government employees ahead of Assembly elections in Harvana

and Jammu and Kashmir. Employees opting for the UPS would be eligible for an assured pension of 50 per cent of the average basic pay drawn over the last 12 months before superannuation for a minimum qualifying service of 25 years. This pay

BJP hits back

The BJP Sunday hailed Prime Minister Narendra Modi for the decision to bring a unified pension scheme for central government employees and hit out at the Congress, asking why it has not implemented its promise of bringing back the old pension scheme in Himachal Pradesh and other states where it is in power. Addressing a press conference at BJP headquarters here, senior party leader Ravi Shankar **Prasad slammed Congress** president Mallikarjun Kharge for his U-turn jibe at the Centre and said Prime Minister Modi is "sensitive" to public issues and takes decisions in public interest after careful consideration.

is to be proportionate for a lesser service period up to a minimum of 10 years of service, Information and Broadcasting Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw said.

The new pension scheme also guarantees an assured minimum pension of ₹10,000 per month on superannuation after a minimum of 10 years of service. This will benefit 23 lakh central government employees, Vaishnaw said, adding that the number would rise to 90 lakh if state governments want to join

Actor Darshan caught relaxing in jail; leaked photo stirs debate

INDO-ASIAN NEWS SERVICE

Bangalore, August 25: Jailed Kannada superstar Darshan's photo showing him enjoying a cup of coffee and cigarette inside the Central Jail in Parappana Agrahara of Bangalore went viral on social media Sunday, raising questions about prison authorities giving preferential treatment to him.

Darshan is the second accused in the kidnap and brutal murder case of his fan Renukaswamy The photo shows Darshan holding a coffee mug while sitting cross-legs on a chair. He is also seen holding a cigarette in another hand and is seen joyful and enjoying inside the prison.



The photo also shows Darshan sitting with his manager and other two jail inmates on chairs while having a delightful discussion without any fear or guilt. Darshan is being kept in the special barrack of the prison.

Sources said that the jail authorities have given Darshan a free hand inside the prison to roam and meet inmates.

The development has shocked the family of Renukaswamy, a fan brutally killed by Darshan, his partner Pavithra Gowda and 15 others. The case is in the final stage of submission of a charge sheet and the development is seen as a setback to Darshan who is hoping to apply for bail soon after the submission of a charge sheet by the police. However, the Police Department has not made any comments about the incident yet.

The gruesome murder of Renukaswamy took place June 8 in Bangalore

Modi: Crimes against women unpardonable



PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Jalgaon (Maharashtra), August 25: Prime Minister Narendra Modi Sunday termed crimes against women an unpardonable sin, adding the guilty should not be spared.

Modi's strong remarks follow protests against the brutal rape and murder of a 31-year-old trainee doctor at Kolkata's RG Kar Hospital and the sexual abuse of two four-year-old school girls in Badlapur near Mumbai. Speaking at the 'Lakhpati Didi Sammelan' in north Maharashtra's Jalgaon, Modi said the safety of women should be a priority.

"The safety of mothers, sisters, and daughters is the country's priority. I have repeatedly raised this issue from the Red Fort. Be it any state of the country, I understand the pain and anger of my sisters and daughters,' he said. Modi said that he would tell every political party and state government that crime against women is an unpardonable sin. Whoever is guilty should not be spared, he added. "Those helping the perpetrators of crimes against women should not be spared. Be it a hospital, school, government or police

station, at whatever level

negligence occurs, everyone

should be held accountable." "Till 2014, less than ₹25,000 crore loans were given to women self-help groups but in the last 10 years, ₹9 lakh crore help was given," Modi said, referring to the government's 'Sakhi Mandal' programme. Modi, who interacted with Lakhpati Didis at Jalgaon, released the ₹2,500 crore revolving fund benefiting 48 lakh members of 4.3 lakh self-help groups. The Lakhpati Didi scheme is not only about boost ing the income of women, but also about empowering future

generations, Modi said.

Mann ki Baat: PM bats for youth without political background to enter politics

New Delhi: Prime Minister Narendra Modi Sunday said collective efforts will help the youth sans a political background to rise in politics and asserted that the spirit shown by such people during the freedom struggle is required again to attain the goal of 'Viksit Bharat'. In his monthly Mann Ki Baat radio broadcast, Modi said his Independence Day call for one lakh youth without any political background to join politics has evoked wide reactions with some youth stating that dynastic politics crushes new talent 'This year from Red Fort, I have urged one lakh youth who are not from a political background to connect with the political system. This point of mine has garnered tremendous response. We thus come to know that a large number of our youth are eagerly ready to enter politics," Modi said.

DPAP releases first list of 13 candidates

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Srinagar/Jammu, August 25: The Democratic Progressive Azad Party (DPAP) Sunday released its first list of 13 candidates for the Assembly elections in Jammu and Kashmir.

This will be the maiden Assembly elections for the party floated by the former Chief Minister of the erstwhile state of J&K Ghulam Nabi Azad. The party's general secretary (organisation) R S Chib released

The party has decided to field former J&K minister Abdul Majeed Wani from the Doda East assembly con-

MLA Mohammad Party (AAP) also also informed the Amin Bhat from Party (AAP) also Election Amin Bhat from Devsar, former J&K came out with advocate general Mohammad Aslam its list of seven from Bhaderwah, DDC member Saleem Parray from Dooru and Muneer Ahmed

Mir from Lolab. The Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) also came out with its list of seven candidates for the Assembly elections. The DPAP said DDC member Bilal Ahmed Deva will be its candidate from Anantnag West, Ghulam Nabi Wani (Nellora) from Rajpora, Mir Altaf Hussain from Anantnag and Qaiser Sultan Ganai

(Jin) from Ganderbal. Further, it said Ghulam Nabi Bhat would contest from Eidgah, Amir Ahmed Bhat from Khanyar, Nisar Ahmed Lone from Gurez and Peer Bilal Ahmed from

Hazratbal, Amir Ahmed Bhat had recently contested the Lok was unsuccessful.

The three-phased Assembly elections for 90 constituencies in the Union territory will take place September 18, 25 and October 1, followed by the counting of votes October 4.

The seven names on AAP's list are Fayaz Ahmad Sofi (Pulwama), Mudasir Hassan (Rajpora), Sheikh Fida Hussain (Devsar), Mohsin Shafkat Mir (Dooru), Mehraj din Malik (Doda), Yasir Shafi Matto (Doda West) and Mudassir Amat Mir (Banihal). The Delhi Chief

Minister Arvind stituency, former The Aam Aadmi Kejriwal-led party

Commission about its 40 star campaigners for the polls.

The list includes the Delhi Chief Minister, his wife Sunita Kejriwal, Punjab Chief

Minister Bhagwant Singh Mann, former Delhi Deputy Chief Minister Manish Sisodia and party leaders Sanjay Singh, Raghav Chadha, Atishi and Imran Hussain. Fourteen candidates have so far filed their nomination papers for the first phase of the elections covering 24 Assembly segments - 16 in Kashmir and eight in the Jammu region -- since the issuance of the election notification August 20. The last date for filing of nomination is August 27.



candidates for

the Assembly

elections



Children dressed as Lord Krishna take part in Janmashtami festival celebrations in Bangalore, Karnatka

parts of Assam against gangrape of 14-yr-old \angle

Protests in different

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Guwahati, August 25: People hit the streets in different parts the alleged gang rape of a 14-yearold girl in Nagaon district and demanding exemplary punishment for the culprits.

The girl was allegedly raped by three persons, who came on a motorcycle and surrounded her while she was returning home from tuition on her bicvcle in Dhing Thursday evening.

At Dhing, shops and business establishments reopened today after two days of spontaneous closures to protest against the crime.

A march was held in the area demanding the arrest of the remaining culprits and exemplary punishment for them. The prime accused, who was arrested on Friday in the rape case allegedly escaped from custody, jumped into a pond and died on Saturday morning, police said.

Kolkata, Thane incidents put focus on FTSCs

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi. August 25: A nationwide uproar over the rape-murder of a Kolkata medic and the sexual assault on two kindergarten girls in Thane has led to a demand for fast-track trial in cases of crimes against women and children

While several opposition leaders, including West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee and former Maharashtra Chief Minister Uddhay Thackeray, are demanding speedy justice for the victims, central government officials said a fast track court scheme launched nearly five vears ago has disposed of cases in a timely manner.

The government launched the Fast Track Special Court (FTSC) scheme in 2019 and since then, these courts have disposed of more than 2.53 lakh cases.

Officials in the Ministry of Law's Department of Justice



The government launched the Fast Track Special Court (FTSC) scheme in 2019 and since then, these courts have disposed of more than 2.53 lakh cases

said in some trials, FTSCs convicted people in a considerably "short time", ranging from four

Following the passage of the Criminal Law (Amendment) Act

days to four months.

in 2018, the government had decided to set up 1,023 FTSCs, including 389 to deal exclusively with Protection of Children from Sexual Offences (POCSO) Act cases, in 31 states and Union Territories (UTs).

As June 30, 752 FTSCs, including 409 exclusive POCSO courts, were operational in 30 states and UTs.

The officials pointed out that this year a POCSO court in Uttar Pradesh's Mathura awarded life term to a man within 90 days of commencement of trial in the sexual assault case of an eight-year-old girl.

In 2023, a POCSO court in Kerala handed down death penalty to a 28vear-old man within 109 of the of fence of rape and murder of a fiveyear-old girl. In the same year, a POCSO court in Uttar Pradesh's aligarh sentenced a man to seven vears in iail in an attempt to rape case in 24 days from the day charges

were framed, the officials said. In 2022, a POCSO court in Bihar's araria completed the trial in four days in a rape case involving a six-year-old andawarded death penalty to the convict.

national

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA



KOLKATA RAPE-MURDER

Rahul Gandhi, you are the **Leader of Opposition. You talk** about the OBCs. It's good. It's your right. But how far lower will you take this debate?

INDIA, INDONESIA TO BOOST ANTI-TERROR COOPERATION

India and Indonesia have condemned the use of terrorist proxies for cross-border terrorism amid Pakistan's support to terror groups carrying out terrorist activities in Jammu and Kashmir





communal organisations which are spreading venom in this country, I do not want to name them, those who take out rallies, pelt stones on mosques, lynch Muslims, then why is there a ban on the JeI which has contributed a lot in the education

MEHBOOBA MUFTI PDP CHIEF

A combination of slow wage growth and an unprecedented decline in real wages (wages adjusted for price rise) and

JAIRAM RAMESH | CONGRESS GENERAL SECY

The centra government will purchase all maize from farmers at Minimum



AMIT SHAH UNION HOME AND MINISTER OF COOPERATION

Murder accused

actor #Darshan

Agrahara central

@nabilaiamal

treatment at

Parappana

prison?!

If true, this just reinforces how rich

& affluent criminals get treated

differently within the same four

SHORT TAKES

Two Bangladeshis

detected in Assam

nationals who illegally entered

India were detected in Assam.

and sent back to their country,

Chief Minister Himanta Riswa

railway station and sent back

to Bangladesh Friday night.

"Two Bangladeshi nationals

Sarma wrote on X.

Man, 41, rapes

7-year-old girl

girl was allegedly raped

Deoria (UP): A seven-year-old

Sunday by a man here, police

said. The incident took place

when the girl had gone to

purchase milk at a nearby

shop when Safiullah (aged

said. The shopkeeper was known to the accused, police said. Hearing the screams, people gathered there and

nabbed the accused, beat

him up and handed him over

to the police. Superintendent of

Police Sankalp Sharma said

the matter.

an FIR has been registered in

Pak intruder held

Jaipur: Rajasthan police and

(BSF) have arrested a Pakistani

intruder who crossed into the

Indian territory, officials said

Police and the BSF, he added.

the Border Security Force

about 41 years), belonging to

another community, took her inside the shop and allegedly raped her, Additional SP Deependra Nath Chowdhury

were apprehended at Badarnur

railway station by @assampolice,"

Sarma said. The duo was

apprehended at Badarpur

Guwahati: Two Bangladesh

walls of prison. Hierarchy even in



RAVI SHAKAR PRASAD



Main accused undergoes polygraph test

Government of India to revoke ban on the

New Delhi, August 25: CBI officers Sunday conducted a liedetection test on the main accused, Sanjay Roy, in connection with their ongoing probe into the rape and murder of a woman doctor of state-run RG Kar Medical College at Kolkata's Presidency Jail where he is sector, helped people in floods of currently lodged, an officer said. 2014 and COVID?

The CBI also searched various places in connection with its probe into the alleged financial irregularities in the hospital.

The central agency officers also conducted polygraph tests on a couple of others at their Kolkata office, he said, adding that the test on Roy was over after around four hours.

Four persons including former principal of the RGKMCH Sandip Ghosh underwent the polygraph test Saturday.

The CBI has sought permission from a local court in Kolkata to put seven persons including Roy and former principal of the RGKMCH through the lie-detector test. The test cannot be used as evidence during the trial but findings give the agency a direction for the further probe.

A team of polygraph specialists flown to Kolkata from the



Security personnel stand guard as CBI officials conducting a probe into a corruption case at RG Kar College and Hospital, in Kolkata

Central Forensic Science Laboratory (CFSL) in Delhi conducted the tests.

A civic volunteer of the Kolkata Police, Roy (33) was arrested by the Kolkata Police August 10, a day after the body of the 31-year-old medic was found in the seminar hall of the medical college.

A Bluetooth device found near the medic's body led to Roy's arrest. CCTV footage also showed him on the third floor of the hospital where the seminar hall is situated.

The accused allegedly was close to a few senior Kolkata Police officers, following which he was moved to the Welfare Board

of the force. The CBI earlier told the Supreme Court that the crime scene was altered by the time it took over the probe which suggests there was an attempt by the local police to cover up the rape and killing of the post-graduate

The medic's body with severe injury marks was found inside the seminar hall of the hospital's chest department August 9 morning, sparking widespread protests. The Calcutta High Court August 13 ordered the transfer of the probe from the Kolkata Police to the CBI.

Meanwhile, CBI sleuths launched simultaneous search operations on the premises of Ghosh, ex-medical superintendent and vice principal of the RGKMCH Sanjay Vashisth and 13 others in and around Kolkata in connection with their probe into alleged financial irregularities at the institute, officials said.

CBI also searched the residences and offices of those engaged in supplying materials for the management and care of patients. At least seven officers of the central probe agency questioned Ghosh at his residence from 8 AM till 7 PM while other officers were grilling Vashisth and another professor of the forensic-medicine de-

Rallies, demonstrations continue to rock Bengal

KOLKATA: Rallies and demonstrations were held in different parts of West Bengal Sunday, protesting the rape and murder of the doctor at the RG Kar Medical College and Hospital. In state capital Kolkata, civil society members marched from Ramlila Maidan in Moulali to Metro Channel in Esplanade, demanding justice for the victim of the crime that shook the conscience of the nation. Slogans such as "Hatras theke RG Kar, dharsaner biruddhe othao swar (From Hathras to RG Kar, raise voice against rapes)" rented the air.

partment of the medical establishment, among others, they said. The CBI team, which reached Ghosh's residence around 6 am, was made to wait for nearly one-and-half hours before he opened the doors, the officials said.

They also summoned the present principal Manas Kumar Bandyopadhyay and asked him to accompany them during the investigation inside the hospital - the ex-principal's office in the hospital and the canteen in the academic building.

HEMA COMMITTEE REPORT

Director Ranjith, actor Siddique step down over sexual abuse allegations



PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Thiruvananthapuram/Kochi, August 25: Rocked by the Justice K Hema Committee's explosive findings of harassment and abuse of women professionals, the Malayalam cinema industry Sunday witnessed two highprofile resignations related to such issues, including that of director Ranjith who stepped down as the chairman of a staterun film academy.

Even as political pressure was building against Ranjith, actor Siddique quit as the general secretary of Association of Malayalam Movie Artists (A.M.M.A.) amid voices from within his fraternity seeking his resignation.

Ranjith, an eminent filmmaker, was under fire after a Bengali female actor accused him of misbehaviour years ago, but the issue came to the limelight in the wake of the Hema Committee report becoming public. Further, a woman actor had raised sexual assault allegations against Siddique August 24.

Ranjith stepped down as the head of the government-run Kerala Chalachitra Academy Sunday and informed his decision through an audio clip sent to a television channel.

He resigned amid an opposition clamour--from the Congress and BJP-- demanding he quit from the post. Ranjith said he doesn't want to continue in the position as it would adversely impact the reputation of the Left government in the state. He said he would fight the accusations against him legally.

"I have been targeted by a certain section of people since the day I took charge as the Chairman of the Academy. I need to prove before the society that the allegations are untrue. I have decided to move legally and bring out the truth," he was heard saying in the audio clip. "Many people including the media are attacking me without understanding the truth. In this context, I have decided to step down from the post," Ranjith

The Bengali actor had recently alleged that the award-winning filmmaker had behaved in an inappropriate manner when she came up for the shooting of a film which he had helmed. The filmmaker has rejected the actor's charge and said he was the "real" victim" in the case. After Raniith announced his resignation, state Cultural Affairs Minister Saji Cheriyan told reporters in the state capital the government would accept the filmmaker's

Reiterating that the Left government has always stood by the victims in issues relating to sexual assaults and abuses, the minister also rejected allegations that he had tried to shield the accused director.

resignation as soon as he sent it.

"I have always taken a stern stand in favour of women in all issues. The Left government's_ stand is also crystal clear in the matter We are always with victims in such cases. Stringent action will be taken against the wrongdoers." Siddique, a senior actor said he has sent his resignation letter to President of A.M.M.A and top star, Mohanlal.

Political parties voice support for **Palestinian cause** PRESS TRUST OF INDIA New Delhi, August 25: Members

of several parties, including the Congress, SP, JD(U) and Aam Aadmi Party, Sunday condemned Israel's "brutal assault" on Palestinians in its war against Hamas and asked the Indian government to work to ensure peace and justice for the victims.

Samajwadi Party MPs Javed Ali and Mohibbulah, AAP MP Sanjay Singh, JD(U) leader K C Tyagi and Congress' Danish Ali were among those who joined Mohammad Makram Balawi, Secretary General of League of Parliamentarians for Al-Quds, a pro-Palestinian body, at a meeting here to convey their support for Palestinians.

Balawi spoke in detail about Israel's alleged violation of international laws by targeting civilians and said more than half of those killed in its attacks were women and children.

Members of various parties said in a statement that they unequivocally condemn the ongoing "Zionist aggression" and the "heinous genocide of the Palestinian people by Israel".

"This brutal assault is not only an affront to humanity but also a gross violation of international law and the principles of justice and peace," the statement said. "We take pride in the fact that India was the first non-Arab country to recognise the State of Palestine in 1988, and has consistently supported the Palestinian people's right to selfdetermination, sovereignty and liberation," the leaders said.



Vehicles pass through a waterlogged road after heavy rains in Rajkot, Gujarat

SNIPPETS

RDSO report flags challenges train controllers face

NEW DELHI: A study by the Research Design and Standards Organisation (RDSO), which functions under the Railway Ministry, has found that train controllers face multiple challenges at work including "unattractive" pay scale, huge stress due to vacancy leading to health concerns, and a lack of basic amenities. The report, which was submitted to the Railway Board recently, said section controllers perform high-strain jobs, their task made more difficult by the around 15-20 per cent vacancy, medically-decategorised officers posted in the department and the absence of appropriate reward either in terms of money, or esteem and career growth.

Landslides: Kerala govt convenes all-party meeting August 29

Thiruvananthapuram: The Kerala government will convene an all-party meeting August 29 to discuss the renabilitation of landslide survivors in Wayanad. Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan has called for the meeting which would be held via online, a CMO statement said Sunday. Various ministers, including revenue and housing, forest and wildlife, electricity, transportation, finance, public works would attend the meeting along with the chief secretary and the respective additional chief secretaries. The Kerala government Saturday said the temporary rehabilitation process of the victims of landslides in Wayanad has been completed and all the surviving families have been shifted to rented accommodations.

Maharashtra Cabinet clears revised NPS

MUMBAI: A day after the Union Cabinet approved the Unified Pension Scheme (UPS) for Central government employees, the Maharashtra Cabinet chaired by Chief Minister Eknath Shinde Sunday approved the implementation of a revised National Pension Scheme (NPS) for state government employees on the lines of the central scheme. The revised National Pension Scheme of the state government will be implemented from March 1, 2024, to the employees who are covered by the National Pension System. There are 13.45 lakh state government employees and also from local selfgovernment. Of the 13.45 lakh employees, 8.27 lakh employees are presently covered under the National Pension Scheme.

Will contest all 243 seats in Bihar polls 2025: Kishor

INDO-ASIAN NEWS SERVICE

New Delhi, August 25: Political strategist Prashant Kishor made a significant announcement regarding his political campaign, Jan Suraaj, Sunday, revealing that the party will contest all 243 seats in the 2025 Bihar Assembly elections, with at least 40 women candidates in the fray.

Elaborating on his party's plans, Prashant Kishor stated, "In 2025, Jan Suraaj will contest on 243 seats, and at least 40 women candidates will be nominated. We have also pledged that by 2030, 70-80 women leaders will emerge from our party."

18K adoptions, but only 1.4K with special needs find homes

THOUGH THE NUMBER **OF CHILDREN WITH SPECIAL NEEDS FOR** ADOPTION HAS RISEN. THE ADOPTION RATE IS **STILL SIGNIFICANTLY** LOW, ACTIVISTS **POINTED OUT**

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, August 25: Of the 18,179 adoptions recorded since 2019, only 1,404 involved children with special needs even as the absolute numbers of adoptions saw an increase over the next five years, according to official data.

In 2019-20, India saw a total of

3,745 adoptions -- 3,351 in-country and 394 international. Of the total number, only 56 boys and 110 girls with special needs were adopted, the Central Adoption Resource Authority (CARA) said in its response to an RTI query filed by PTI.

In 2020-21, a total of 3,559 adoptions were recorded including 3,142 in-country and 417 intercountry. Only 110 boys and 133 girls with special needs were adopted in this year.

The number of adoptions dropped marginally to 3,405 --2.991 in-country and 414 international -- in 2021-22. The total number of adoptions included 136 boys and 206 girls with special needs.

In 2022-23, 3,441 adoptions --3,010 in-country and 431 intercountry - were recorded, with 156 boys and 188 girls with special



needs finding adoptive families. The number of adoptions in 2023-24 increased significantly to 4,029 -- 3,580 in-country and 449

international. These included 135 boys and 174 girls with special needs.

Adoptions of children with

needs require additional support due to physical, developmental. behavioural or emotional challenges special needs have shown a

Children with special

marked increase over the past five years. Despite a slight dip in 2023-24, the overall trend indicates a growing acceptance of children with special needs among prospective adoptive parents.

But challenges persist including the fact that a significant proportion of children available for adoption fall into this category. As of July 5, 2024, 420 children with special needs were waiting for adoption in childcare institutions across India,

according to CARA. Citing data from CARA's Child Adoption Resource Information and Guidance System (CARINGS), the founder of NGO Families of Joy Avinash Kumar said that as of July 2024, 76 per cent of the 1,709 children legally available for adoption were those with special needs. These figures are stark, especially when compared to the dwindling number of healthy children available for adoption.

Only 25 healthy children under the age of two are available for adoption nationwide, making up just 1 per cent of the total. In 19 states, there are no healthy children below the age of 10 available for adoption, highlighting broader challenges within India's adoption system, Avinash Kumar said. The classification of children with special needs remains contentious.

Sunday. Barmer Superintendent of Police Narendra Singh Meena said Jagsi Kohli (20), a resident of Hakli Kharoda Tharparkar in the neighbouring country, reached Jhadpa village, eight kilometres inside the Indian border, Saturday night. He was arrested in a joint operation by the Rajasthan

international



After decades of war and in the midst of a terrible humanitarian crisis, the Afghan people deserve much better than being threatened or jailed if they happen to be late for prayers, glance at a member of the opposite sex who is not a family member

ROZA OTUNBAYEVA | FORMER PRESIDENT, KYRGYZSTAN

INS 'MUMBAI' TO VISIT SL

The Indian Naval Ship (INS) 'Mumbai' will arrive at the port of Colombo Monday for a three-day maiden visit to Sri Lanka, the Indian High Commission has said





frank, and this only to India, but to any state that would be positive about summit. We will not be able to hold a peace summit in a country that has not yet joined the peace summit

VOLODYMYR ZELENSKYY PRESIDENT, UKRAINE

We are planning to make the metro rail infrastructure a key point installation security for its protection from any kind of vandalism

MUHAMMAD FOUZUL KABIR KHAN ROAD TRANSPORT ADVISER, BANGLADESH

The initiatives to mend ties with Turkey did not yield any results worth mentioning



genuine keenness of mediators BASHAR AL-ASSAD PRESIDENT, SYRIA

SHORT TAKES

Floods kill 13 in Indonesia

Jakarta: Thirteen people were killed and two injured in Indonesia's North Maluku province Sunday after floods in the east of the sprawling archipelago, authorities said. The country's disaster management agency BNPB said the floods, caused by heavy rain since Saturday, also badly damaged 10 houses in Ternate city. Citing forecasts that heavy rain may continue in the next few days, BNPB warned local residents to be on guard. "We urge people to remain vigilant and follow directions from authorities on potential subsequent floods," spokesperson Abdul Muhari said in a statement.

Khan may face military court

Islamabad: Pakistan's jailed Khan's trial in cases concerning the violence May 9 last year might go to the military courts, a government spokesperson has said. The events and vandalism May 9 last year invited the application of the Army Act since military installations were attacked and damaged, Government spokesperson for legal affairs Barrister Ageel Malik was quoted as saying by Dawn newspaper. On May 9 last year. violent protests erupted after the arrest of Imran Khan by paramilitary Rangers.

China opposes US sanctions on firms

Beijing: China Sunday expressed its opposition to the latest US sanctions on Chinese companies over their alleged ties to Russia's war in Ukraine. saying it will adopt necessary measures to safeguard the rights and interests of the country's businesses. The US Friday announced sweeping sanctions on hundreds of firms in Russia and across Europe, Asia and the Middle East, accusing them of providing products and services that enable Russia's war effort and aiding its ability to evade sanctions

Mali drone strikes kill 15

Bamako: At least 15 people, including children, were killed by drone strikes Sunday on the town of Tinzaouaten in north Mali, near where the army suffered a heavy blow last month, Tuareg rebels said The town, located near the Algerian border, came under drone attack again. The strikes hit a civilian home, a pharmacy and other parts of town, Mohamed Elmaouloud Ramadane said via telephone.

PROTESTS FADE

Dhaka limps back to normal

Till three weeks ago, the streets of the capital were flooded with anti-govt protesters, many public squares choked by the agitating masses reaching a dramatic climax August 5, the fall of the Sheikh Hasina-led government and her fleeing to India

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Dhaka, August 25: With the metro resuming services, buses and taxis plying regularly and university students enjoying carefree evening strolls in the gardens of the historic Curzon Hall, life seems to be returning to normal in Dhaka.

Businesses have resumed but it's not business as usual in the capital city of Bangladesh.

Till three weeks ago, the streets of the capital were flooded with anti-government protesters, many public squares choked by the agitating masses reaching a dramatic climax August 5, the fall of the Sheikh Hasina-led government and her fleeing to India.

The wave of the resistance has subsided and an interim



government has been in place since August 8, but the streaks of rebellion remain in many

In the past few days, several government employees have held protests in groups at the government secretariat while some demonstrators have marched in streets near the famous Ahsan Manzil and other areas to put forth their demands.

Many Dhaka University students are raising their voices regularly at the Raju Memorial Site opposite the Teacher Student Centre (TSC) for holding students' union elections at the varsity and demanding "no political

interference" on the campus. The anti-government protests have initiated a churn in Bangladesh and while education goes on, so do protests to achieve a more equitable society "free of discrimination and cor-

ruption" İbrahim Mahmud, a student of public administration who took part in a varsity protest earlier this week, alleged that members of Chhatra League, the student wing of the ousted Awami League, used to "harass" several fellow students in the

"We have achieved our 'second independence', this time from the high-handedness of the Awami League and its bad influence," he told PTI on the sidelines of the protest held at the Raju Memorial site opposite

The Dhaka Metro line near the university, a major lifeline for students and a means to beat city traffic, was shut for over a

While the passenger services resumed Sunday morning, two of its stations Mirpur-10 and Kazipara will remain shut.

These two stations were vandalised during the anti-government protests.

Students of Dhaka University and other institutions heaved a sigh of relief as the metro services resumed after a gap of over

Abdur Rahman, a first-year undergraduate student in the English Department of the 103year-old Dhaka University, said the last time he had used the city metro was about 40-50 days ago. "Life is slowly getting back on track," he said.

Near to the Dhaka Metro station is the historic Curzon Hall housing the science faculty of the university. Students and general visitors go there every evening for strolls while others take selfies or make reels for social media platforms.

Two bus mishaps in Pakistan kill 40

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Islamabad, August 25: At least 40 people, including 11 Shia Muslim pilgrims, were killed and several others injured in two separate bus accidents in Pakistan Sunday, officials said.

The first accident occurred when a bus carrying around 70 pilgrims returning from Iraq through Iran overturned on the Makran coastal highway and fell into a ditch, police said.

At least 11 people were killed and 35 others injured in the accident in Balochistan province, over 100 km from Karachi.

The Makran Coastal Highway is a 653-km national highway that extends along Pakistan's Arabian Sea coast from Karachi in Sindh province to Gwadar in Balochistan province. Most of the passengers were from Lahore or Gujranwala, according to police sources. The driver apparently lost control of the bus. which first overturned and then fell into the ravine, police said.

Senior Superintendent of Police (SSP) Lasbela Capt. Naveed Alam said the bus was carrying pilgrims from Iran to Punjab when it overturned near Buzzi Top on the coastal highway as the driver lost control of the vehicle due to overspeeding.

He said 11 bodies were taken out from the ravine while 35 passengers who were injured were



sengers are still trapped inside the remains of the bus and they are being rescued," he said.

Hours later, 29 people were killed and three others injured when a coaster bus carrying 30 people fell into a ditch in Pakistanoccupied Kashmir, said Qamar Nadeem of Edhi Foundation, which runs the largest private ambulance service.

The accident took place on the Girari Bridge, Kahuta, some 400 km from Lahore, when the driver reportedly lost control of the vehicle due to the failure of brakes. According to Rescue 1122, the dead include 23 men, five women and one child. The bodies of some dead were taken out after cutting the bus body. Deputy Commissioner Sadhanoti Umar Farooq said the victims were from the Sadhanoti district.

The police, administration and rescue teams were present at the site of the incident. Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif and President Asif Ali Zardari expressed sorrow over the loss of lives in the accident, offering their condolences to the families of the deceased.

Telegram messaging app CEO arrested



Paris, August 25: Pavel Durov, the Russian-born billionaire founder and owner of the Telegram messaging app, was arrested at Le Bourget airport outside Paris shortly after landing on a private jet late Saturday and placed in custody, a police source said.

The arrest of the 39-year-old technology billionaire prompted Sunday a warning from Moscow to Paris that he should be accorded his rights and criticism from X owner Elon Musk who said that free speech in Europe was under attack

There was no official confirmation from France of the arrest, which French and Russian media have also reported, saying that Durov was arrested shortly after arriving at Le Bourget airport on a private jet from Azerbaijan.

France's BFM and TF1 said that Duroy, who has dual French and United Arab Emirates citizenship, was arrested as part of a preliminary police investigation into allowing possible criminality due to a lack of moderators on Telegram and a lack of cooperation with police. Reuters' police source could not confirm that.

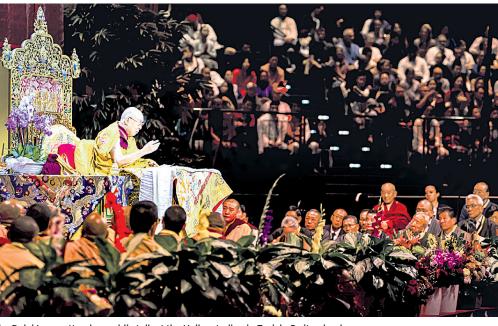
Durov faces possible indictment Sunday, according to French media.

Telegram, based in Dubai, was founded by Durov, who left Russia in 2014 after he refused to comply with demands to shut down opposition communities on his VK social media platform, which he has sold. Durov came up with the idea

of an encrypted messaging app as a way to communicate while he was under pressure in Russia. His younger brother, Nikolai, designed the encryption.

"I would rather be free than to take orders from anyone," Durov said in April about his exit from Russia and search for a home for his company which included stints in Berlin, London, Singapore and San Francisco.

Meanwhile, Tesla and SpaceX CEO Elon Musk Sunday came out in support of Telegram Founder Pavel Durov, saying Mark Zuckerberg should instead be arrested for massive child exploitation problem on his Metaowned Instagram.



The Dalai Lama attends a public talk at the Hallenstadion in Zurich, Switzerland

China, Philippines clash again in SCS

Manila, August 25: The Philippines and China clashed in disputed waters of the South China Sea (SCS) Sunday over what Manila said was a resupply mission for fishermen, the latest in a series of sea and air confrontations in the strategic waterway.

The incident overshadows efforts by both nations to rebuild trust and better manage disputes after months of confrontations, including a violent clash in June, in which a Filipino sailor lost a finger.

The Philippines Sunday accused China of "aggressive and dangerous manoeuvres" to block the resupply mission. China's coast guard, meanwhile, said it had taken "control measures" against a vessel that had "illegally" entered the waters and repeatedly approached Chinese ships in a dangerous manner. In the incident near the Sabina

Shoal, the Philippine South China Sea task force said Chinese vessels rammed and used water cannons against a Philippine Bureau of Fisheries ship transporting food, fuel and medical supplies for Filipino fishermen.

For its part, the Chinese coast guard said the Philippine ship "ignored repeated serious warnings and deliberately approached and rammed" China's law enforcement boat, resulting in a collision.

Syrian man confesses _ to German stabbing

Solingen, August 25: German police said Sunday that a Syrian man has given himself up and confessed to killing three people and wounding eight others in a knife rampage at a street

The random attack as thousands of people gathered Friday night in the western city of Solingen has stunned Germany

Two men aged 56 and 67 and a 56-year-old woman were killed, officials said. Four of the wounded remained in a serious condition. All of the victims were stabbed in the neck, according to police. Police said in a statement that the suspect was a 26-year-old Syrian who had "given himself up to authorities and declared himself responsible for the attack" Officers arrested a suspect in a raid at a hostel for asylum seekers Saturday, not far from the scene of the attack, a police spokesman told AFP.

Police have evidence linking the man to the knife attacks, according to North Rhine-Westphalia state interior minister Herbert Reul. Federal prosecutors have launched an investigation into charges of "participating in a terrorist organization", a spokesman said.

He was not known to the security services as an extremist. the newspapers reported.

Rohingya refugees mark anniversary of their exodus

THE REFUGEES DEMAND A SAFE RETURN TO MYANMAR

ASSOCIATED PRESS

Cox's Bazar, August 25: Tens of thousands of Rohingya refugees from Myanmar who live in sprawling camps in Bangladesh Sunday marked the seventh anniversary of their mass exodus, demanding safe return to Myanmar's Rakhine state.

The refugees gathered in an open field at Kutupalong camp in Cox's Bazar district carrying banners and festoons reading 'Hope is Home" and "We Rohingya are the citizens of Myanmar," defying the rain on a day that is marked as "Rohingya Genocide Day."

On August 25, 2017, hundreds of thousands of refugees started crossing the border to Bangladesh on foot and by boats amid indiscriminate killings and other violence in Myanmar's

Myanmar had launched a brutal crackdown following attacks by an insurgent group on guard posts. The scale, organisation and ferocity of the operation led to accusations from the international community, including the UN, of ethnic cleansing and genocide.

Then-Bangladesh Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina ordered border guards to open the border, eventually allowing more than 700.000 refugees to take shelter in the Muslim-majority nation. The influx was in addition to the more than 300,000 refugees who had already been living in Bangladesh for decades in the wake of waves of previous violence perpetrated by Myanmar's military.

Since 2017, Bangladesh has attempted at least twice to send the refugees back and has urged the international community to build pressure on Myanmar for a peaceful environment inside Myanmar that could help start the

7th Anniversan repatriation. Hasina also sought

25 -August 2017

help from China to mediate. But in the recent past, the situation in Rakhine state has become more volatile after a group called Arakan Army started fighting against Myanmar's security forces. The renewed chaos forced more refugees to flee toward Bangladesh and elsewhere in a desperate move to save their lives. Hundreds of Myanmar soldiers and border guards also took shelter inside Bangladesh to flee the violence, but Bangladesh later handed them over to Myanmar peacefully.

As the protests took place in camps in Bangladesh Sunday, the United Nations and other rights groups expressed their concern over the ongoing chaos in Myanmar.

Washington-based Refugees

International in a statement Sunday described the scenario.

Rohingvas are native indigenous people of Arakan and thus their "N reinstated by an Act of Parliament with an international guar

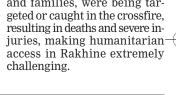
> "In Rakhine state, increased fighting between Myanmar's military junta and the AA (Arakan Army) over the past year has both caught Rohingya in the middle and seen them targeted. The AA has advanced and burned homes in Buthidaung, Maungdaw, and other towns, recently using drones to bomb vil

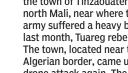
On August 25, 2017, thousands of refugees started crossing the border to Bangladesh on foot and by boats amid indiscriminate killings and other violence in Myanmar

lages," it said.

"The junta has forcibly recruited Rohingya and bombed villages in retaliation. Tens of thousands of Rohingya have been newly displaced, including several who have tried to flee into

Bangladesh," it said. UNICEF said that the agency received alarming reports that civilians, particularly children and families, were being tar-

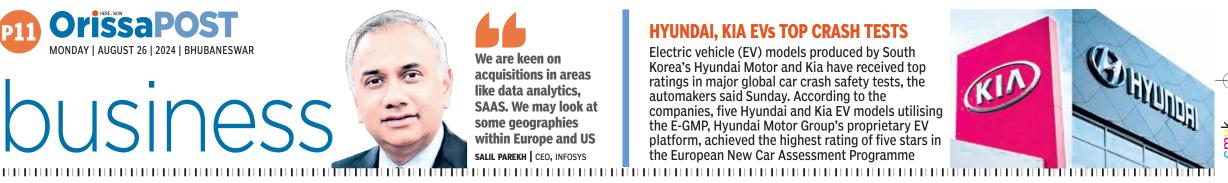






HYUNDAI, KIA EVS TOP CRASH TESTS

Electric vehicle (EV) models produced by South Korea's Hyundai Motor and Kia have received top ratings in major global car crash safety tests, the automakers said Sunday. According to the companies, five Hyundai and Kia EV models utilising the E-GMP, Hyundai Motor Group's proprietary EV platform, achieved the highest rating of five stars in the European New Car Assessment Programme





There is a technology transition happening and AI is a very important

technology of the future, and we in India need to lead this journey. If you look at the current state, I think we are still adopters of somebody else's technology paradigms, especially in the digital world

BHAVISH AGGARWAL FOUNDER, OLA

This week, we expect the market to witness a gradual upmove with stock specific action. The focus will shift to monthly F&O expiry as well as global cues



SIDDHARTHA KHEMKA | HEAD OF RETAIL RESEARCH, MOTILAL OSWAL FINANCIAL



country's sustainable transformation

RAVICHANDRAN PURUSHOTHAMAN

SHORT **TAKES**

India-Australia CECA talks in Nov

New Delhi: Senior officials of India and Australia are expected to hold their next round of talks for a compressive free trade agreement in November here, the commerce ministry said Sunday. The two countries implemented an interim trade agreement in December 2022 and are now under negotiations to expand its scope. It said that the tenth round of India-Australia CECA (comprehensive economic cooperation agreement) negotiations was held from 19-22 August in Sydney in the areas of goods, services, digital trade, government procurement, rules of origin and agri-tech.

ONGC opens new well in KG field

New Delhi: State-owned Oil and Natural Gas Corporation (ONGC) Sunday said it has onened another well on its flagship deep-sea project in Krishna Godavari basin in Bay of Bengal, which will help augment production of crude oil and natural gas. In January this year, ONGC had started producing oil, which is converted into fuels like petrol and diesel in refineries, from the KG-DWN-98/2 or KG-D5 block. "On August 24, 2024, ONGC marked a significant milestone by starting production from its fifth oil well in the Block KG-DWN-98/2 Cluster-2 asset," the firm said in a stock exchange filing Sunday,

Gender-neutral booking option by IndiGo

Air India Express and Vistara already offer the 'Mx' option for passengers who do not want to identify themselves

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, August 25: IndiGo will be soon introducing the gender-neutral option of honorific 'Mx' for passengers at the time of booking tickets, as part of larger efforts to boost inclusivity.

Besides, the country's largest carrier, which has a domestic market share of 62 per cent, aims to increase by two-fold the number of individuals with disabilities employed by it.

"The airline will be introducing the 'Mx' option at the time of booking for passengers and that will provide a choice for

Nine of top 10 valued

firms add ₹95,522cr

to market valuation

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

transgenders who do not want to identify themselves," Sukhjit S Pasricha, Group Chief Human Resources Officer at IndiGo, told PTI.

Currently, 'male' and 'female' are the options available on the airline's website during the booking process. Pasricha said IndiGo has im-

plemented various initiatives for the LGBTQ+ community, including employee referral programmes specifically designed to encourage hiring of LGBTQ+ individuals.



more inclusive environment for LGBTQ+ employees... we partner with agencies specializing in LGBTQ+ recruitment," he said.

According to him, there is a steady induction of LGBTQ+ individuals and they are working in various functions, ininsurance, has created an even more inclusive space, and has been one of the attractive features in our outreach to aspiring candidates from the community," he added.

At the end of March 31, 2024, the airline had 36,860 perma-

concerns such as rising re-

cession fears in the

US amid weak

the

trade,

added.

jobs data, un-

certainty over

the timing of

interest rate

cuts, and

winding of

yen carry

Advisors, said

banking

that FPIs

are selling

shares

across 60+ cities in customer facing roles. The placement of individuals with disabilities is determined based on multiple factors, including safety, accommodation requirements, and skill mapping. We prioritise merit-based hiring and have primarily employed individuals with disabilities as customer service officers/executives for airport operations roles, with some

Pasricha said. He also said the airline aims to increase the number of individuals with disabilities employed by it by at least two-fold

Amidst a global

geo-political crisis

slowdown,

neighbouring countries. India

still stands at a sweet spot

fraternity to take a bet for a

MANOJ PUROHIT | PARTNER & LEADER,

FINANCIAL SERVICES TAX, TAX & REGULATORY SERVICES, BDO

long term investment horizon

in the middle east and

compelling the foreign

also serving in cargo teams,

FUNDS SIPHONING

'Anil Ambani reviewing Sebi's penalty order'

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, August 25: Businessman Anil Ambani is reviewing a Sebi order imposing a fine and banning him from capital markets for five years in an alleged fund diversion case and will take appropriate next steps as legally advised, his spokesperson said in a statement Sunday.

Ambani, the spokesperson in a statement said, had resigned from the board of Reliance Infrastructure Ltd and Reliance Power Ltd, pursuant to Sebi's interim order dated February 11, 2022 in the matter pertaining to Reliance Home Finance Ltd.

He "is in compliance with the said interim order (of February 11, 2022) for the last two and half years," the statement said.

On the August 22 order that banned him and 24 others from the securities market for five years on charges of diversion of funds, the spokesperson said, "Mr Ambani is reviewing the final order dated August 22, 2024 passed by Sebi in the said matter, and will take appropriate next steps as legally advised."

The Securities and Exchange Board of India (Sebi) had also imposed a fine of ₹25 crore on Ambani, saying he orchestrated a scheme to "siphon off" funds from Reliance Home Finance, a listed subsidiary of conglomerate Reliance Group of which he is chairman.

The ban means that he and the other 24 will not be able to access the securities market and are prohibited from buying, selling or otherwise dealing in securities, directly or indirectly.

In a separate statement, Mumbai-listed Reliance Infrastructure Ltd said it "was not a noticee or party to the proceedings before Sebi in which the order is passed. No directions are given in the order against Reliance Infrastructure Ltd"

cluding flying, at the airline. nent employees, including 5,038 'This has strengthened can-"Our benefits like gender repilots and 9,363 cabin crew. didate mobilisation through inassignment surgery, inclusion "Our organisation has over 240+ individuals with disabilities in the coming financial year. of live-in partners in the medical **Debt market in demand**

FPIS INJECT ₹11,366CR IN DEBT MARKET IN AUGUST; INFLOW TALLY CROSSES ₹1L-CR FOR 2024

the other hand,

FPIs pulled out over

₹16,305cr from equities so far

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, August 25: The combined market valuation of nine of the top 10 most valued firms jumped by ₹95,522.81 crore last week, with Reliance Industries, TCS and HUL emerging as the biggest gainers.

Rising for the fourth straight session, the 30-share BSE Sensex ended 33.02 points or 0.04 per cent higher at 81,086.21 on Friday. Last week, the BSE benchmark jumped 649.37 points or 0.80 per cent.

The market capitalisation (Mcap) of Reliance Industries surged by ₹29,634.27 crore to ₹20,29,710.68 crore.

The valuation of TCS jumped ₹17,167.83 crore to ₹16,15,114.27 crore and that of Hindustan Unilever by ₹15,225.36 crore to ₹6,61,151.49 crore.

The Mcap of Bharti Airtel rallied by ₹12,268.39 crore to ₹8,57,392.26 crore and that of ICICI Bank by ₹11,524.92 crore to ₹8.47.640.11 crore

Reliance Industries retained the title of the most valued firm, followed by TCS, HDFC Bank, Bharti Airtel, ICICI Bank, Infosys, State Bank of India, LIC, Hindustan Unilever and ITC.

New Delhi, August 25: Foreign investors infused ₹11,366 crore in the Indian debt market so far this month, pushing the net inflow tally in the debt segment

to over the ₹1-lakh-crore mark. Foreign investors' strong buy ing interest in the Indian debt market can be attributed to India's inclusion in JP Morgan's **Emerging Market government** bond indices in June this year. According to data with the

crore in the debt market this month (till August 24). This inflow came following a net investment of ₹22,363 crore into the Indian debt market in July, ₹14,955 crore in June and

depositories, Foreign Portfolio

Investors (FPIs) injected ₹11,366

₹8,760 crore in May. Before that, they pulled out ₹10,949 crore in April.

With the latest flow, FPIs net investment in debt has reached ₹1.02 lakh crore in 2024 so far. Market analysts said that ever

since the announcement of India's inclusion came in October 2023 year, FPIs have been front-loading their investments in Indian debt markets in anticipation of the inclusion in global bond indices.

Even after the

inclusion, their

inflows have continued to remain ro-Himanshu Srivastava, Associate

Director, Manager Research, Morningstar the post-budget an-

nouncement of an increase in capital gains tax on equity investments has largely fueled this selling spree. In addition.

FPIs have been cautious due to the high valuations of Indian stocks. coupled with global

this month, due to unwinding of the yen carry trade, recession fears in the **US** and ongoing

geopolitical conflicts Investment Research India, said attracting long-term invest-

ments from FPIs. In terms of sectors. FPIs were big sellers **Investments**

Waterfield

Overall, India concerns over slow deposit remains in a growth. favourable position, "There are also challenges in Q1FY25 for banks with shrinking margins, deteriorating asset quality, and rising provisions.

especially in credit cards, perin financials in sonal loans, and agriculture portfolios," he said. India in the first Besides, selling was witnessed fortnight of August. Vipul Bhowar, in many other sectors including Director Listed metals on fears that economic slowdown in US and China will

> keep metal prices soft, VK Vijayakumar, Chief Investment Strategist, Geojit Financial Services, said.

Conversely, foreign investors were buyers in telecom and health care where the growth and earnings prospects are safe

SNIPPETS

TCS completes 20 years of listing

technology (IT) services company, TCS, Sunday marked 20 years of its listing, its Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer K Krithivasan said the firm would remain equally



first \$1 billion initial public offering (IPO) by a private-sector company in India. Tata Sons diluted 14 per cent of its equity shares. Over these two decades, TCS has announced five buybacks and three bonus issues, returning 77.5 per cent of its total cash to shareholders. The company's market capitalisation (mcap) has surged by over 3,300 per cent.

REC to provide ₹45,000 crore to JNPA



New Delhi: State-owned REC Ltd Sunday said it has inked an initial pact to provide up to ₹45,000 crore financing to various Jawaharlal Nehru Port Authority (JNPA) projects, REC Ltd, under the Ministry of Power and a leading non-banking financial company (NBFC),

signed an MoU with Jawaharlal Nehru Port Authority (JNPA) for financing up to ₹45,000 crore for various upcoming JNPA projects, including development of Vadhavan Port, a company statement said, RFC Executive Director Rahul Dwivedi signed the MoU with JNPA Chairman Unmesh Sharad Wagh, The MoU was signed in the presence of Union Minister for Ports, Shipping and Waterways Sarbananda Sonowal.

Fuel giants keep rolling in fines

IOC, BPCL, GAIL FINED FOR 5TH STRAIGHT QUARTER FOR NOT MEETING LISTING NORMS

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, August 25: India's biggest oil firms including Indian Oil, BPCL and gas utility GAIL have been slapped with fines for a record fifth straight quarter for failing to meet listing norms of having the requisite number of independent and women directors on their board.

Stock exchanges BSE and NSE have slapped fines on oil refining and fuel marketing giants Indian Oil Corporation (IOC), Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Ltd (HPCL) and Bharat Petroleum Corporation Ltd (BPCL), explorer Oil India Ltd (OIL), gas utility GAIL (India) Ltd, and refiner Mangalore Refinery and Petrochemicals Ltd (MRPL) for not meeting the listing requirement in the April-June quarter.

In separate stock exchange filings, the companies detailed the fines imposed by the BSE and NSE for either not having the requisite number of independent directors or the mandated women directors in the quarter ended June 30, 2024 (first quarter of current 2024-25 fiscal year). but were quick to point out that appointment of directors was done by the government and they had no role in it.

The companies had faced fines for the same reason the previous four quarters as well.

Listing norms require companies to have independent directors in the same proportion



rectors. They are also required to have at least one woman director on the board.

IOC said, BSE and the National Stock Exchange of India Ltd (NSE) imposed a fine of ₹5,36,900 each on the company for noncompliance of Regulation 17(1) of the SEBI (LODR) relating to composition of the Board of Directors during the quarter ended June 30, 2024.

BPCL said it has been imposed with a fine of ₹2,41,900 each by BSE and NSE for having one independent director short. HPCL said it has been fined

₹5,36,900 each by BSE and NSE. GAIL too faced similar fines. The oil giants have not been in compliance with the listing

norms since April last year and have been slapped with fines every quarter since then. IOC, HPCL, BPCL, GAIL, OIL

and MRPL were slapped with a fine of ₹5,36,900 each by NSE and BSE for the January-March quarter. The companies were slapped a fine of ₹5,42,800 each for the third quarter (October-December 2023). They had faced a similar fine for the second quarter (July-September 2023).

ALCOHOL ABOLITION

Russians falling out of love with vodka

The stereotypical national drink's place has been taken by lower-strength alcoholic beverages, like beer and wine

INDO-ASIAN NEWS SERVICE

Moscow, August 25: It is the alcoholic beverage most stereotypically identified with Russia. but vodka seems to be losing its charm for the people of the country, with its share of the domestic market in 2024 plunging to single-digit figures, as per

sales data. Vodka accounted for just six per cent of sales of alcoholic beverages in this year so far, said the Moscow city news agency, citing data by IT company Atol which manufactures equipment and software solutions for the retail sector, RT reported.



The stereotypical national drink's place has been taken by lower-strength alcoholic beverages, like beer and wine, which together accounted for nearly threefourths of the total alcohol sales in the year, with the former the most popular by far as it is favoured alcohol sales since the beginning of the year, as per the data. Wine was the second most

consumed alcohol product in the country, making up 23 per cent of sales in the alcoholic drinks category, it added. Vodka's measly share of the

Overall, the greatest demand for alcoholic drinks was recorded in June, reaching 18 per cent of total sales, according to Atol. Russian Deputy Prime

Minister Tatyana Golikova had

in July noted that consumption

of alcohol in the country has almost halved since 2009, with intake declining from 14 to eight litres per capita. Golikova, a former Health Minister, said that Russian authorities have been setting up health centres and consulting

offices for preventive care since

2009, while a campaign for greater

awareness among the public has

also been launched, RT reported. "We started talking about the basic necessity to change our lifestyle within the framework of the national project 'Health','

TERMED AS "THE INDIANA JONES OF EMERGING MARKET INVESTING," MARK FOUNDED MOBIUS CAPITAL PARTNERS

INDO-ASIAN NEWS SERVICE

Mumbai, August 25: As he turned 88, ace investor Mark Mobius has announced to launch a new fund in January next year, in a rapidly-changing financial landscape where innovation presents unprecedented oppor-

Mobius reflected on his journey as a fund manager, which began in his 50s, in a blog post.



take calculated risks in life, but let me say this: the world belongs to optimists

MARK MOBIUS | ACE INVESTOR

Mobius, who is a Veteran emerging markets investor, said that this is precisely why "I believe now is the best time to take advantage of my decades-long ex-

ful to say that I'm feeling younger, stronger and wiser than ever" "One must always take cal-

culated risks in life, but let me say this: the world belongs to optimists," Mobius added. Termed as "The Indiana Jones of Emerging Market Investing,'

he founded Mobius Capital Partners with his Templeton colleagues Carlos von Hardenberg and Greg Konieczny, after retiring from Franklin Templeton in 2018.

In November 2023, he stepped down from his firm, and joined Chartwell Capital, an independent Hong Kong-based investment

firm, in an advisory role. In 1999, he was selected to \rightleftharpoons serve on the World Bank's Global Corporate Governance Forum as a member of the Private Sector

market was just marginally above Looking back on my life as a by over half of the consumers. perience to set up a new fund, Advisory Group and as co-chair-Beer (pivo in Russian) has begin and rum, which each had a she stated, adding that tobacco fund manager, I realise I've made which is planned for launch in man of its Investor Responsibility consumption has also signifi-January 2025". come the most popular alcoholic 5 per cent share. Various other a lot of mistakes. But I'm glad I Task Force. His work and ex-He celebrated his 88th birthbeverage among Russians, acspirits made up the remaining cantly decreased over the made them and that I've learned pertise have earned him nucounting for 51 per cent of total 10 per cent of sales. past 15 years. from them," he wrote. day last week, saying "I'm thankmerous industry awards.

Biggest-ever India team for Para Games

84 SPORTSPERSONS IN 12 DISCIPLINES ACCOMPANIED BY 95 OFFICIALS FOR SPECIAL NEEDS OF PARA ATHLETES



New Delhi, August 25: The 84member Indian contingent taking part in the Paris Paralympics beginning August 28 will be accompanied by 95 officials as many participants will have their personal coaches and escorts travelling with them to take care of their special needs. The total strength of the Indian contingent will thus be 179 members. This incidentally is the largest-ever Indian contingent to take part in the Paralympics.

Out of the 95, a total of 77 are team officials, nine are contingent medical officials and another nine contingent officials. The Paralympics will be held August 28 to September 8. India will be participating in 12 disciplines. In the Tokyo Paralympics in 2021, India were represented by 54 members in nine sports.

"Considering the special needs of some para athletes, personal PARALYMPICS TO START AUGUST 28 AND FND SEPTEMBER 8 IN PARIS

INDIA HAD WON 19 MEDALS INCLUDING 5 GOLD AT THE 2021 TOKYO PARALYMPICS

PCI PRESIDENT DEVENDRA JHAJHARIA CONFIDENT INDIA WILL BAG MORE THAN 25 MEDALS THIS TIME

coaches have been included in the contingent. However, they will provide necessary services to other players as per the directions of the Chef de Mission/team head coach," the Sports Ministry said while clearing the contingent.

The participation of the entire contingent (including sportspersons, contingent officials, coaches) except that of Chef de Mission and one team manager for para badminton will be at cost to government,"

the ministry added.

The likes of javelin thrower Sumit Antil and shooter Avani Lekhara, who would be looking to defend their Tokvo Paralympics gold, are among those who will be having personal coaches.

"In any para sports event, the participants need more support staff like personal coaches and escorts than able-bodied competitors. So, it is nothing new to have more support staff in para sports," a team official said.

Paralympic Committee of India (PCI) president Devendra Jhajharia, who left Sunday for Paris with a large contingent, including CDM Satya Prakash Sangwan, said that he will be staying outside the Games Village 'to look after all the athletes' as some will be competing outside Paris. Jhajharia had earlier said that India would be looking to win more than 25 medals, including double-digit gold tally, at the Paris

Paralympics. India had won 19 medals (5 gold, 8 silver, 6 bronze) at the Tokyo Paralympics in 2021, which is the highest ever till now.

"As we embark on this journey to the Paris Paralympics, I am filled with immense pride for our athletes. Their dedication, perseverance, and spirit are truly inspiring. This is our largest contingent ever, and I have no doubt that they will surpass expectations and bring home more than 25 medals. The entire nation stands behind them, and I am confident that they will make India proud on the global stage,' Jhajharia stated.

All the members of the contingent except for the CDM and team manager for the para badminton team will get USD 50 per day out of pocket allowance 'as per required and actual period of stay during the Games which will be inclusive of acclimatisation and training period plus two days to and fro journey time'.

Bangladesh register historic win

ner with 706 international scalps. DRAMATIC **COLLAPSE SEES PAKISTAN BOWLED OUT FOR 146 AND LOSE FOR THE 1ST** TIME TO BANGLADESH

ASSOCIATED PRESS

Rawalpindi (Pakistan), August 25: Bangladesh shrugged off political unrest back home to notch a historic 10-wicket win after Pakistan collapsed to 146 all out on a dramatic final day of the first test here Sunday.

Off-spinner Mehidy Hasan Miraz (4/21) and left-arm spinner Shakib Al Hasan (3/44) shared seven wickets after the pace bowlers mopped up the top order to give Bangladesh their maiden win in 14 Tests against Pakistan. The three pacers Shoriful Islam, Hasan Mahmud and Nahid Rana snared one wicket each. Shakib in the process became the highest-ever wicket-taker as a left-arm spin-

Openers Zakir Hasan and

Shadman Islam were unbeaten on 15 and nine, respectively, as Bangladesh reached 30-0 at the stroke of the tea interval for only their seventh away Test win and the first since beating New Zealand at Mount Maunganui in January 2022.

Pakistan, who conceded a 117run first innings lead despite declaring at 448-6, were bowled out by a disciplined pace and spin attack after they resumed on 23-1 and still 94 runs behind.

Mohammad Rizwan followed his career-best unbeaten 171 to top-score with 51 but most of his teammates were guilty of falling to rash shots coupled with some aggressive field placing by Bangladesh skipper Najmul Hossain Shanto.

Earlier, in a dramatic first session Bangladesh set up their victory as Pakistan limped to 108-6 and lost five wickets. Captain Shan Masood (14) was dismissed in the second over of the day when Hasan found a faint edge and had the Pakistan skipper caught behind.

Hasan should have had Babar

Azam out for a pair of ducks in the game, but wicket-keeper Litton Das spilled a simple catch off the first ball Babar faced. Babar tried to break the shackles and hit three boundaries before he was out to fast bowler

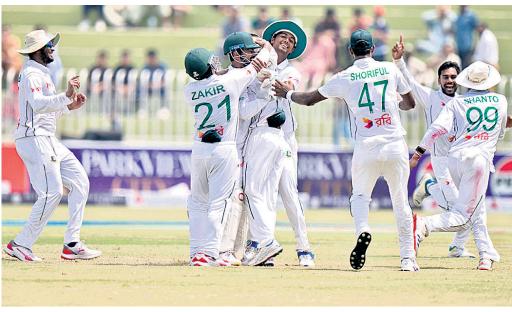
Rana (1/30) when on 22. First innings century-maker Saud Shakeel needlessly tried to play an extravagant shot against Shakib and got stumped for zero for the first time in his

short Test career. Abdullah Shafique also ran out of patience and went for an over ambitious shot against Shakib and top edged a catch to point before Mehidy found the outside edge of Salman Ali Agha's bat in his second over.

The writing was clear on the wall after Rizwan under edged a sweep against Miraz onto his stumps soon after completing his half century.

Brief scores

Pakistan 448 for 6 decl and 146 (Mohammad Rizwan 51, Mehidy Hasan Miraz 4/21, Shakib Al Hasan 3/44) lost to **Bangladesh** 565 and 30 for no loss by 10



Bangladesh players celebrate after the fall of the last Pakistan wicket, Sunday

Kohli, Rohit recall Dhawan's contributions

SHORT TAKES

India A eves go down to Australia

Gold Coast (Australia): Incisive bowling by Tess Flintoff (3/39) and Charli Knott (3/34) helped Australia A defeat India A by 45 runs in the unofficial one-off women's Test here Sunday. Chasing a target of 289, India A were bundled out for 243 as they managed to add just 94 runs to their overnight score of 149 for 6 on the fourth day of the contest. Only Raghvi Bist (26) and Uma Chetry (47) offered some resistance to the Autralian bowlers.

Denied Indian visas, PBSA lodges complaint

Karachi: The Pakistan Billiards and Snooker Association (PBSA) has lodged a formal complaint with the sport's world governing body and the organisers after their squad was denied visas by the Indian High Commission for the IBSF U-18 and U-21 World Championships, which began Saturday in Bangalore. A top official of the PBSA said that they couldn't secure visas for their three players, Ahsan Ramazan, Hasnain Akhtar and Hamza Illyas. "We had applied to the Indian High Commission on time after getting all NOCs from our government and Pakistan Sports Board. But it didn't issue visas due to which our squad could not travel to Bangalore," Alamgir Sheikh said.

1st WTA title for Noskova

Monterrey (Mexico): Sixth-seeded Linda Noskova won the Monterrey Open tennis tournament here Saturday night for her first WTA Tour title, beating Lulu Sun 7-6 (8-6), 6-4 at Sonoma Club courts here. Noskova avenged a straight-sets loss to Sun last week in the first round of the Cincinnati Open. The 19-year-old Czech, an Australian Open quarterfinalist in January, will open US Open play Tuesday against 30th-seeded Yulia Putintseva.

Suarez shines

Fort Lauderdale (Florida): Luis Suárez scored 30 seconds into the match and again in the sixth minute and that was all goalkeeper Drake Callender needed as Inter Miami beat FC Cincinnati 2-0 Saturday night to become the first team this season to clinch a spot in the playoffs. In the process, Inter Miami (17-4-5) avenged a 1-6 drubbing in Cincinnati earlier this season and moved eight points ahead of them.

Norris stuns home favourite Verstappen



Co-drivers spray champagne on Dutch Grand Prix winner Lando Norris

AGENCIES

Zandvoort (Netherlands), August 25: McLaren's Lando Norris sped to victory Sunday at the Dutch Grand Prix here, a superb drive consigning home favourite Max Verstappen to his first-ever loss in front of his 'Orange Army' fans. The British driver claimed his second career chequered flag after winning in Miami in May. In the process he reduced Verstappen's lead over him in the world championship to 70 points, with the Dutchman coming second.

Despite raucous encouragement from a packed Zandvoort circuit, Verstappen could not extract enough from vehicle to

compete with a recently upgraded McLaren that is beginning to look like the car to beat in Formula One.

"It feels amazing... The pace was very strong and the car was unbelievable today," said Norris, who also secured a point for the fastest lap.

The start was critical. Questions have been asked of the starting ability of Norris, who has three times this season failed to convert pole position into a first lap lead. And again Norris was sluggish off the line, allowing Verstappen to power around the outside to huge cheers from the crowd, who saw their man take a 0.9-second advantage into the second lap.

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, August 25: Virat Kohli and Rohit Sharma fondly remembered Sunday the contributions of Shikhar Dhawan, the significant other of a holy trinity that dominated bowlers with aggression and aura, and said he has left a lasting impression with his accomplishments.

From 2013 to 2019, the triumvirate of Dhawan, Rohit, and Kohli displayed unprecedented supremacy in international cricket, putting to swords bowling attacks of all kinds.

After a career spanning nearly 13 years, Dhawan announced Saturday his retirement from all forms of cricket, leaving Kohli, Rohit, Ravi Shastri and others to recall the time when the flambovant southpaw was an indispensable part of India's ODI batting thanks to his ability to win matches on his own.

"From sharing rooms to sharing lifetime memories on the field. You always made my job easier from the other end. THE ULTIMATE JATT," India captain Rohit, who had formed a formidable opening partnership with Dhawan, wrote on 'X'.

Kohli hailed Dhawan as one of India's most dependable openers, noting that while his fervour, sportsmanship and signature



smile will be missed, his enduring legacy will forever res-

"Shikhar @SDhawan25 from your fearless debut to becoming one of India's most dependable openers, you've given us countless memories to cherish. Your passion for the game, your sportsmanship and your trademark smile will be missed, but your legacy lives on," Kohli tweeted. The former India skipper thanked Dhawan, fondly known as 'Gabbar', for all the memories and wished the 38-year-old luck for his future endeavours. "Thank you for the memories, unforgettable performances and always leading with your heart. Wishing you the best in your next innings,

off the field Gabbar!" Kohli added. Shastri tweeted, "Enjoy your retirement, Shiki Boy! You brought me so much joy and entertainment during my seven years as coach and director. Your match-winning innings in ICC tournaments, Asia Cups, and that unforgettable knock in Galle will always be remembered. You're still young and have plenty of ways to contribute to the sport. God bless.

Dhawan played his first Test in March 2013 when he smashed the fastest century on debut, in only 85 balls, against Australia in Mohali. "What an incredible career @SDhawan25 Paaji! Truly a Gabbar, on and off the field. Wish you all the very best for the next chapters, very excited to see what future holds for you,' wrote India's current T20I skip-

Shikhar Dhawan

dependable

memories to

cherish. Your

game, your

smile will be

missed

VIRAT KOHLI

passion for the

your trademark

openers, you've

your fearless debut

to becoming one of

iven us countless

sportsmanship and

Also known as 'Mr ICC' for his exploits in tournaments organised by the game's apex body, Dhawan lit up the Champions Trophy 2013, helping India to a title win and ending up has the highest run-scorer at an astonishing average of 90.75.

per Suryakumar Yadav.

Chelsea, Liverpool in cruise control

London, August 22: Luis Diaz's fine solo effort and an opportunistic strike by Mohamed Salah helped Liverpool maintain their winning run in the Premier League Sunday with a 2-0 victory over promoted Brentford. This was Liverpool's second successive win and will certainly boost new manager Arne Slot's confidence.

Earlier in the day, Chelsea hit Wolverhampton (Wolves) for a six winning their first game in the league 6-2. The Blues had lost their opening game this season. Noni Madueke with goals in the 49th, 58th and 63rd minutes including a hat-trick was the star performer for Chelsea. Nicholas Jackson opened the scoring in the second minute in a fast and furious first half where Wolves matched Chelsea move for move.





Noni Madueke of Chelsea scores one of his goals during the game against Wolves

Matheus Cunha restored parity for the Wolves, but a fine strike by Cole Palmer in the 45th minute put Chelsea ahead once again. However, Wolves fought back and equalised in added on time in the first half through Jargen Strand Larsen. However, the second half blitzkrieg by Madueke and an 80th minute

goal by Joao Felix completely

destroyed the Wolves. Earlier Saturday in a late night game, Leandro Trossard scored with his first touch after coming off the bench as the Arsenal substitute inspired a 2-0 win against Aston Villa. The other goal for the Gunners was scored by Thomas Partey.

RAKESH BEATS AKASH TO WIN SNOOKER CROWN

POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar, August 25: Rakesh Roshan Pradhan emerged champion in the Green Baize Classic - All Odisha Open Snooker Championships which concluded Saturday at the Vintage Club here. In the final, Pradhan defeated Akash Mohapatra by six frames to three (24-65, 25-75, 67-34, 63-30, 48-7, 77-13, 22-66, 57-48, 61-51).

Pradhan who did not start well and was down 0-2 came back strongly in the match and win the next four frames in a row to establish his supremacy in the match. Even though Akash got the highest break of the tournament of 60 points in the final, it was not enough for him to win the title. He did make a comeback of sorts to win the seventh frame



Rakesh Roshan Pradhan (left) and

Akash Mohapatra and narrow down Pradhan's lead to 3-4, but then Pradhan played some flawless snooker to win the next two frames

The winner was presented with a trophy and a cash award of ₹15,000 while the runner-up along with a trophy got a cash prize of ₹8.000.

Easy victories for top teams

POST NEWS NETWORK

Bargarh, August 25: Sundargarh defeated Rourkela Steel Plant 3-0 in a match of the Senion Women's Inter-District football tournament for the PC Behera Trophy here Sunday. In another match, Mayurbhanj trounced Nabarangpur 6-0. Both the matches were one-sided affairs.

In the Sundargarh-Rourkela game Sonia Ekka (seventh). Joshna Lakra (39th) and Rupashree Munda (50th) scored for the winners. Sundargarh could have added more goals to their tally had their forwards \rightarrow been a little alert in front of the opposition goal.

Jabamani Soren (fourth, 33rd, 35th and 40th) scored four goals including a hat-trick for Mayurbhanj in the game against — Nabarangpur.

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