

SHORT TAKES

'No other Orissa HC bench in state'

Bhubaneswar: Amid a long-standing demand for the establishment of a bench of Orissa High Court in the state's western region, Chief Minister Mohan Charan Majhi told Monday the House that such a facility is not justified according to a Supreme Court verdict. In response to a written question from BJD member Kalikesh Singh Deo, Majhi said, "As per a Supreme Court verdict, there is no justification for having a bench of Orissa High Court in any part of the state." **P3**

Ex-RG Kar principal arrested by CBI

Kolkata: The CBI arrested Monday former principal of RG Kar Medical College and Hospital Sandip Ghosh in connection with alleged financial misconduct at the establishment, officials said. Ghosh was grilled for the 15th day before his arrest at the agency's office at Salt Lake. Within hours of Ghosh's arrest, CBI also nabbed his security guard and two of his business associates. **P8**

IRREGULAR by MANJUL



HELPING HANDS: Police personnel rescue Monday a young girl from the flood-affected Bhadradi Kothagudem district in Telangana **PTI PHOTO**

Maiden Paralympic gold for Nitesh

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Paris, Sept 2: India's Kumar Nitesh clinched his maiden gold medal at the Paralympics, defeating Great Britain's Daniel Bethell in a gripping men's singles SL3 badminton final here Monday.

The 29-year-old from Haryana showcased incredible resilience and tactical brilliance, overcoming Tokyo silver medallist Bethell in a nail-biting contest that lasted 80 minutes, with the final scoreline reading 21-14, 18-21, 23-21.

"I still don't feel it. May be when I go to the podium and the national anthem is played, it will sink in," Nitesh said after the match.



Competing in the SL3 category, which is reserved for players with severe lower limb disabilities and requires to play on a half-width court, Nitesh's journey to gold was anything but ordinary. At the age of 15, he lost his left leg in a train accident in

Visakhapatnam in 2009. However, this devastating event didn't crush his spirit.

Nitesh knew he had a job on hand, as Bethell had won all the nine encounters they played. "I didn't think it this way. Thoughts were coming into my mind how I will win. But I was not thinking about what I will do after I win," Nitesh informed.

Later in the day, Thulasimathi Murugesan and Manisha Ramadass signed off with maiden silver and bronze medals respectively in women's singles SU5 category. In the SL4 segment Suhass Yathiraj ended with the silver medal after going down 9-21, 13-21 to France's Lucas Mazur in the final. **P12**

SC raps 'bulldozer justice'

AGENCIES

New Delhi, Sept 2: With several state administrations flattening the houses of those involved in criminal cases with bulldozers, the Supreme Court questioned Monday how can anybody's residence be demolished just because he is an accused. A bench of Justices BR Gavai and KV Viswanathan said it will lay down guidelines on the issues that would be enforceable across the country.

"How can anybody's house be demolished only because he is an accused? Even if he is a convict, still it can't be done without following the procedure as prescribed by law," the bench stated.



We propose to lay down certain guidelines on a pan-India basis so that concerns with regard to the issues raised are taken care of SC BENCH

Appearing for one of the petitioners, senior advocate Dushyant Dave sought a direction from the apex court to ensure that 'bulldozer justice' is not

meted out across the country. Addressing the bench, Solicitor General of India, Tushar Mehta submitted that no immovable property can be demolished just because the accused is involved in a criminal offence. "Such demolitions can only happen if the structure is illegal," Mehta pointed out. He also argued that the matter is being misrepresented before the court.

"If construction is unauthorised, fine. There has to be some streamlining. We will lay down a procedure. You are saying demolition only if violation of municipal laws. There is a need for guidelines, it needs to be documented," Justice Gavai observed. The solicitor general said the pe-

tioners have projected the issue as if houses were demolished only because some people committed an offence. Mehta said he can show that authorities had issued notices well in advance before demolition was carried out.

Stressing on the need for formulating guidelines on the issue, the bench said it was necessary to ensure that neither an individual takes advantage of a loophole nor authorities rely on lacunae. "As they said, a pious father can have recalcitrant son and vice-versa, but this is no way to go about it," the bench observed.

Dave said, "Let a statement be recorded that across the country, bulldozer justice will not be meted out to people anymore."

Student suicides up 58%: CM

PNN & AGENCIES

Bhubaneswar, Sept 2: Odisha has witnessed a 58 per cent rise in student suicides in three years till 2023, Chief Minister Mohan Charan Majhi told the Assembly, Monday.

In a written response to a question from BJD member Dhruva Charan Sahoo, the Odisha CM, who also holds the Home portfolio, said 119 students in the state ended their lives in 2021, while the number went up to 173 in 2022. The year 2023 saw 189 students dying by suicide for various reasons.

The state has witnessed more such cases among girl students

than boys. Altogether 218 boys died by suicide in the three years, while the number was 263 for girl students, Majhi informed.

The CM said the state has reported 17,778 suicide cases in three years from 2021.

The number of students who died by suicide stood at 119 in 2021, went up to 173 (2022) and increased to 189 (2023)

Number of girl students dying by suicide more than that of boys in Odisha

According to 'Student suicides: An epidemic sweeping India', incidents of students dying by suicides in the country have grown at an alarming annual rate, surpassing the population growth.

ସୁଭଦ୍ରା

www.subhadra.odisha.gov.in

ଏହା ରାଜ୍ୟ ସରକାରଙ୍କର "ସୁଭଦ୍ରା" ପାଇଁ ଏକମାତ୍ର ସରକାରୀ ୱେବସାଇଟ୍ ।
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ଚିତ୍ରଣୀ

- ଆବେଦନ ଫର୍ମ ସମ୍ପୂର୍ଣ୍ଣ ନିଃଶୁଳ୍କ ଅଟେ
- ମୋ ସେବା / ଜନସେବା କେନ୍ଦ୍ରରେ ଅନଲାଇନ ଫର୍ମ ଆବେଦନ ଏବଂ ତାହା ସହିତ ଆବଶ୍ୟକୀୟ ସମସ୍ତ କାର୍ଯ୍ୟାବଳୀ ସମ୍ପୂର୍ଣ୍ଣ ଦେୟମୁକ୍ତ
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leisure

FORTUNE FORECAST

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

ARIES
Your charismatic appeal is always ready-to-use. And today, you will possibly reap rich dividends through it. But there is always scope for improvement and you will find yourself drawn to altruism. Ganesh guarantees satisfaction in lending a helping hand to the needy.

TAURUS
You will enjoy your responsibilities at the home front, says Ganesh. People whom you trusted to watch your back might let you down today. Remember, what you sow is what you reap, so do not fall short of putting in the effort required to make something fruitful.

GEMINI
A favourable day to put an end to all the doubts surrounding your ability to do well, especially in the field of communication. People around you will find you incredibly charming and enchanting. You will win hearts with your verve and panache. You may want to spruce up your surroundings at work and at home.

CANCER
It is quite possible that your personal life will take precedence over your professional life. You will not be able to repress or ignore your feelings, and you should not either, says Ganesh. But you should be careful about how you express yourself in public.

LEO
No matter how far you go, there is always a horizon that you desire to reach. And what holds true for all outer projections of life most certainly holds true for one's inner self as well, reminds Ganesh. Bear this in mind as you strive to improve yourself in as many ways as possible.

VIRGO
Financial doldrums are headed your way today. In order to seek what you desire, expect shelling out a hefty price. You might just net those short-term goals in the evening. Ganesh foretells large and important business deals will end the day on a high note.

LIBRA
Today will be fabulous for you, especially if you are in the world of business. Long-term deals seem to be on the cards for you. If you happen to be a government officer, luck favours you today. Keep your ears and eyes open, there may be news of a possible promotion.

SCORPIO
Ganesh feels that your intuitive feelings will rule your actions today. You will need to break past your stress threshold and tackle work with zeal and zest. Follow your instincts and relax to some good music when the burden of work is overwhelming. At the end of the day, it is not the thought that matters but how that thought was implemented into action.

SAGITTARIUS
Ganesh sees a spectacular day in store for you, especially if you are an artist. Radio jockeys will be heard and cheered for. Television anchors will receive thundering applause and golden opportunities. Go ahead – seize the day!

CAPRICORN
Your extraordinary skills, passion for perfection, and an overpowering personality will inspire and motivate those around you, says Ganesh. Many will, in fact, emulate your actions, so much so that you could most likely have a fan following.

AQUARIUS
Spirituality is your new passion and Calvin Klein matters less today! Mysticism attracts you, says Ganesh. This may lead you to seek solace in holy books and religious places. It's going to take some time for you to understand that spiritual attainment can be had in the flesh-and-blood world as well.

PISCES
You are ceaselessly driven to find room for improvement. A part-time course to enhance your skills or to increase your efficiency is what you will likely be pursuing today, says Ganesh.



WHEN ANGELINA JOLIE STOPPED SINGING

Hollywood actress Angelina Jolie stopped singing after an ex criticised her voice. "I had somebody in my life who was not kind to me about singing. It was a relationship I was in. And so I just assumed I couldn't really sing," she told *The Hollywood Reporter*.

ALBA SURPRISES FAMILY WITH UNIQUE GESTURE

American actress Jessica Alba surprised her parents by buying them her father's childhood home, which they had been planning to sell to raise money for her grandmother's medical care.



Rhea not ready to tie knot

Mumbai: Actor-model Rhea Chakraborty, who is rumoured to be dating entrepreneur Nikhil Kamath, has opened up about her thoughts on marriage and whether she is ready to tie the knot. Sharing her views, the *Chehre* actress said, "First of all, there is no right age for marriage. Secondly, I'm reaching this place, Why do you want? Why do you want to get married?... Why should this be a pressure on you only? Men don't feel

this pressure. Because of the biological clock. Great, you can freeze your eggs. That is also a bit torturous, but please do it because it's available."

Asked if she is ready for marriage, she added, "I already have a bunch of friends who did it in their 20s and 30s. When I weigh the two, that side's winning (who got married in their late 30s and 40s). In my Excel sheet of pros and cons, the 40 category is winning. I'm 32 and I don't think I'm ready yet because I want to a lot of things in my professional life... I don't want to go to a court of law for one more thing. Do I take permission from there on whom to get married? I go for my passport, I don't want to go for this. If you are in that place in your life where you're thriving, I don't think a man or being someone's wife is going to fulfil it."

'Stardom is just a tag'



Mumbai: One of India's finest actors, Rajkumar Rao, said he would always want to be known for his art first, as he feels stardom is just a tag given by people.

Asked how he would define stardom today, the National Award-winning actor told this agency: "I think stardom is a tag, to be honest, that people give you. Of course, it's a great feeling when people call you a star, superstar." The actor, who made his debut in 2010 with *Love Sex Aur Dhokha*, said, "First I want to be known for my craft. But for me, I would always want people to know me as an actor, like a guy who's known for his art first. And then comes the tags, of course, that is secondary."

In a career spanning 14 years, Rajkumar has worked in over 30 films and has been feted with several honours including a National Film Award and an Asia Pacific Screen Award. He also appeared on *Forbes India's* Celebrity 100 list in 2017. Does he feel he has achieved it all, the actor said, "No, no, of course, there's a lot more to offer. I'm very hungry as an actor. The learning never stops. So, I think that feeling would never come to me that, you know, now I've achieved it."

On the work front, Rajkumar was recently seen in *Street 2* and will be seen next in *Maalik*.

Crime against women

Ananya for systematic change

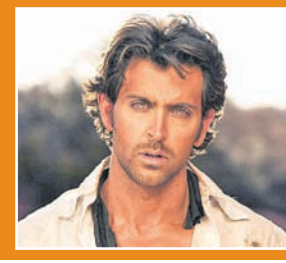
Mumbai: Actress Ananya Panday said women have historically faced dark times, but what has changed is that they have become more vocal about the issues today. Asked about her views on the current climate where there have been many crimes against women as well as how they are treated in cinema, Panday said though raising awareness is crucial, it must be accompanied by concrete efforts to bring about real change in society.

"It's always been dark times for women, now we are just speaking about it a lot more. There's one thing talking about it but the more important thing is doing something about it," the actress told this agency. "As women and as actors, we are doing our bit by educating the men around us in what they can do better in these situations and also speaking up for issues that are important," she added.

Panday, who will next be seen in the web series *Call Me Bae*, said, "There is a need for systemic change, especially through legislation. The more important step is actually laws changing, and the government making actionable changes to this."

PROMOTION OF UNHEALTHY PRODUCTS

CELEBS CALLED OUT



Mumbai: YouTuber Nitin Maurya recently lashed out at several celebrities for promoting unhealthy diets in spite of having a disciplined diet for themselves.

Nitin's YouTube video, re-shared on Twitter, exposes the inconsistency between actors' public statements on healthy living and the products they endorse. The video starts with Kartik Aaryan

discussing the importance of avoiding junk food like burgers, pizza, and sugar in interviews, only to then feature him in an advertisement for a burger chain and soft drink. Samantha Ruth Prabhu, who advocates avoiding sugar and processed foods in a podcast, is later shown endorsing chocolate brands, sunflower oil, and processed snacks. Similarly, Alia Bhatt and

Hrithik Roshan, who claim to avoid sugar, promote chocolate brands. Sara Ali Khan appears in a commercial eating pizza and drinking a soft drink, despite stating she avoids junk food. The video concludes by highlighting celebrities endorsing tobacco, with the YouTuber emphasising that these stars don't consume the products they promote, so they shouldn't be

trusted for fitness and nutrition advice.

Reacting to the video, a user commented, "This should be shared with every single Indian." Another user wrote, "They need to stop all this totally." A user also pointed out, "Bollywood always promotes harmful foods to all." Another user commented, "No moral values for these actors."

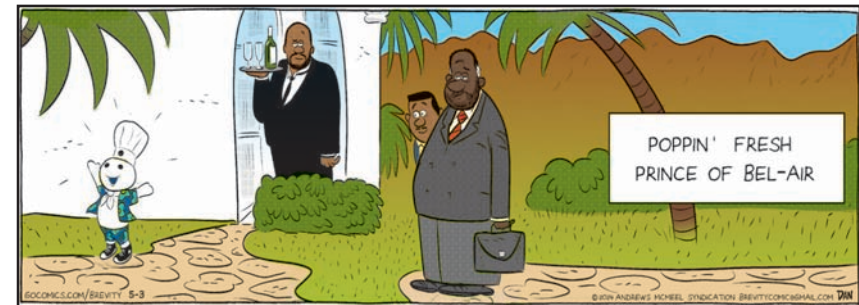
PEANUTS



CALVIN AND HOBBS

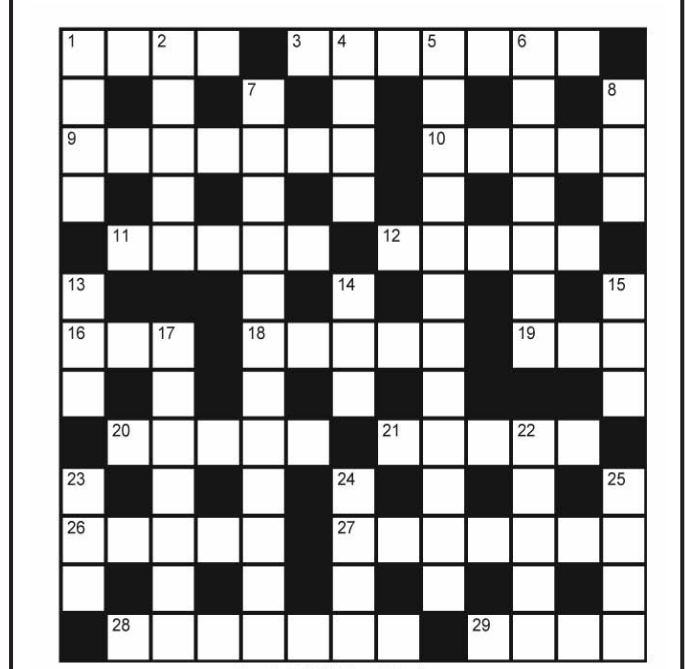


BREVITY



FUN post

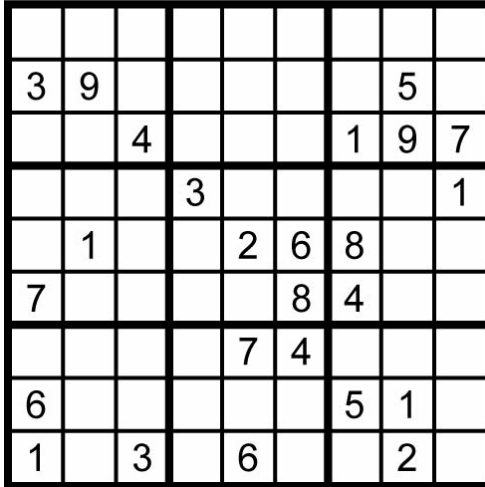
CROSSWORD



- Across**
- 1 Tardy
 - 3 Pasta recipe advice (2,5)
 - 9 Windward Islands state
 - 10 Family member
 - 11 Small sample
 - 12 Pitchfork wielder
 - 16 Deadeye's forte
 - 18 Old Spanish master El ___
 - 19 Bubble source
 - 20 Show flexibility
 - 21 Palace dweller
 - 26 Japanese dish
 - 27 Double-decker
 - 28 Enigma
 - 29 Deuce topper
 - 7 Photographer's outlook (7,5)
 - 8 Wetland
 - 13 Manta
 - 14 Poseidon's domain
 - 15 Outback runner
 - 17 1966 Monica Vitti flick, ___
 - 22 Colour of honey
 - 23 Query
 - 24 Wild hog
 - 25 Spot
- Down**
- 1 Olympic sled
 - 2 Greek letter
 - 4 Toxic element
 - 5 Perfume (3,2,7)
 - 6 Like a time bomb, maybe

SUDOKU

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

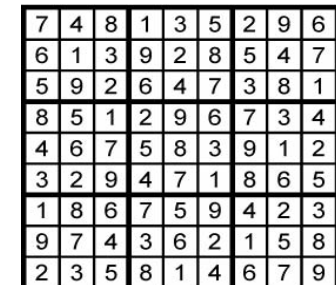


SOLUTIONS

CROSSWORD



SUDOKU



CHECK FOR SOLUTIONS OF THE PUZZLES TOMORROW

SC SAYS NO JUSTIFICATION OF HC BENCH: CM

'Subhadra' web portal launched



₹49cr DA seized from 39 officials in 2 months

Vigilance Directorate conducted raids on the properties of 39 government officials over the last two months and seized disproportionate assets (DA) worth ₹49.35 crore, Chief Minister Mohan Charan Majhi told the Assembly, Monday.

Director of Mines in Talcher, and uncovered significant assets, including a flat worth ₹1.30 crore in Bhubaneswar, a duplex, a market complex, and two buildings in Keonjhar.



Responding to a question of BJP MLA Upasna Mohapatra, Majhi said the raids were conducted between June 12, the day when the BJP government came to power in the state, and August 25.

Additionally, they found nine plots, including two in a prime area of the City and seven in Telkoi, Keonjhar, along with ₹9.83 lakh in cash, officials said.

Nayak, who joined public service in 2014, had repaid a loan of ₹75 lakh taken in 2022 within just two years. Vigilance sleuths suspect that the repaid amount might be derived from ill-gotten gains.

From August 2023 to August 25, 2024, the Vigilance Directorate has seized DA worth approximately ₹115.75 crore accumulated by government officials, Majhi added.

Monday, Vigilance sleuths raided the properties of Dharanidhar Nayak, deputy di-

rector of Mines in Talcher, and uncovered significant assets, including a flat worth ₹1.30 crore in Bhubaneswar, a duplex, a market complex, and two buildings in Keonjhar.

The Supreme Court's December 2022 ruling stated that the demand for a bench of Orissa High Court had become obsolete with advancements in technology. It also noted that Odisha was not large enough to warrant permanent benches outside Cuttack.

The apex court's verdict came after vandalism in Sambalpur court premises November 12, 2022.



POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar, Sept 2: Ahead of the formal launch of Subhadra Yojana, the state government Monday unveiled a dedicated web portal containing information about the scheme.

The portal was launched by Deputy Chief Minister Pravati Parida, who is also in charge of the Women and Child Development department.

"The information available on the web portal is official and authentic," Parida said. She said all information, including eligibility criteria and the application process, are detailed on the portal. Applicants can also lodge their grievances through it.

The state government has made an outlay of ₹55,825 crore for the scheme. Beneficiaries will receive ₹10,000 in their bank accounts in two instalments in a year.

Women can register for the scheme free of cost from September 4

All information, including eligibility criteria and the application process, are detailed on the portal

Applicants can also lodge their grievances through it

The state government has made an outlay of ₹55,825 crore for the scheme

Beneficiaries will receive ₹10,000 in their bank accounts in two instalments in a year

for the scheme, and the beneficiaries will receive ₹10,000 in their bank accounts in two instalments in a year under the programme.

The first instalment will be provided to the beneficiaries September 17, the date of its formal launch.

PNN & AGENCIES

Bhubaneswar, Sept 2: Amid a longstanding demand for the establishment of a bench of Orissa High Court in the state's western region, Chief Minister Mohan Charan Majhi Monday told the Assembly that such a facility is not justified according to a Supreme Court verdict.

In response to a written question from BJD member Kalikesh Singh Deo, Majhi said, "As per a Supreme Court verdict, there is no justification for having a bench of Orissa High Court in any part of the state."

Singh Deo had inquired whether the state government had any proposal to set up a circuit bench of the HC in Bolangir.

Outside the Assembly, Singh Deo defended his demand for a circuit bench in Bolangir say-

ing, "Prior to Independence, there was a High Court bench in Bolangir. According to the accession treaty, it is binding on both the state and Central governments to provide the same facility. There would be no issue in having a High Court bench if the government was willing."

Singh Deo accused the BJP government of betraying the people of western Odisha, citing the CM's rejection of the demand in the Assembly.

Senior BJP lawmaker from Sambalpur Jayanarayan Mishra disagreed with the notion of not having a HC bench in the western region.

He argued, "We (BJP) have not withdrawn the demand for a HC bench in western Odisha. The CM has referred to the Supreme Court judg-

ment, but the state's population and HC cases are increasing. Why can't Odisha have a HC bench when Uttar Pradesh has three, and other states also have them?"

Congress legislator CS Raazen Ekka from Sundargarh district also highlighted the longstanding demand for a High Court bench in western Odisha, blaming both the BJD and the BJP for failing to establish one.

Ekka said, "The BJD government was in power for 24 years and failed to establish a HC bench in western Odisha. Present CM Majhi, who was in Opposition, was also fighting for a HC bench in the state. Despite being a tribal, he has failed to understand the problems faced by the people of his community who are now forced to depend on Cuttack, where the

HC is located." Ashok Das, convener of the Kendriya Kriyanusthan Committee (Central Coordination Committee), criticised the CM's understanding of the Supreme Court ruling.

"It seems that the CM has not thoroughly reviewed the Supreme Court's ruling. The apex court has never ruled out the justification for a High Court bench in western Odisha," Das said.

51 illicit liquor units bulldozed; 87 held

Bhubaneswar: Continuing the crackdown against production of illicit spirits in the state, Excise sleuths arrested 87 persons and confiscated 6,578 litre of country liquor, and 46,880 litre of fermented brew Monday, an official said. As many as 51 units, where the illicit liquor was manufactured, have been bulldozed, while eight vehicles used in the transport of the contraband seized. Two vehicle owners have been arrested after being grilled for their suspected connection with the illicit liquor syndicate. A total of 146 excise cases have been made out against the accused, who were forwarded to a court following arrest, the official added. He said in the statewide drive launched by the Excise department since August 20 - in the aftermath of last month's Ganjam hooch tragedy - a total of 1,836 persons have been arrested in 3,414 cases made out by the department till September 2. Over 1.73 lakh litre of country liquor and 16.15 lakh litre of fermented brew, along with 179 vehicles, have been seized during the period.

'Bangladeshi infiltrators being identified'

PNN & AGENCIES

Bhubaneswar, Sept 2: The state government has asked Collectors and superintendents of police (SPs) in all districts to identify Bangladeshi infiltrators, Chief Minister Mohan Charan Majhi told the Assembly Monday.

In a written reply to a question from BJP MLA Bhaskar Madhei, Majhi said a direction has been issued to form committees comprising officers of tehsils, blocks and police stations to identify the infiltrators in various places, especially Kendrapara district where the majority of the 'illegal entrants' reportedly live.

In another statement to the House, the CM said a total of 3,740 Bangladeshi infiltrators were living in the state illegally till 2021.

Of them, 1,649 live in

Kendrapara district, followed by 1,112 in Jagatsinghpur, 655 in Malkangiri, 199 in Bhadrak, 106 in Nabarangpur, 17 in Khurda district's Bhubaneswar and two in Bargarh district, he said.

The proposal to send them back to their country is under consideration of the government, Majhi informed the Assembly.

In the backdrop of Bangladesh's recent political upheaval, security measures have been tightened in the state to prevent infiltration from that country.

The maritime boundary area is closely monitored by conducting patrolling at regular intervals, Majhi said while replying to a query from BJD legislator Bibhuti Bhusan Balabantaray.

The CM said staff of the maritime police stations along with



the officials of the Coast Guard and Fisheries department are keeping a close watch on the sea.

The National Population Register Card Reader machine provided by the Ministry of Home Affairs is being used to identify Indian and foreign nationals, he stated.

Apart from this, SPs of all coastal districts in the state have been instructed to be vigilant

and patrol the waterways to prevent Bangladeshi infiltrators.

The CM said that the state intelligence wing has also instructed its officials to remain in touch with the fishermen associations and trawler owner bodies to collect information about infiltrators.

A total of 18 marine police stations are functioning in the state and 15 high-speed interceptor boats have been provided to the police under a Central scheme, he pointed out.

Majhi said cars and two-wheelers along with modern equipment have also been provided for patrolling in the coastal areas.

Each marine police station has been asked to conduct patrolling for at least 1800 hours in the sea in a year. In 2023, each marine police station conducted sea patrolling for over 2395 hours, he noted.

NZP welcomes pair of giraffes from WB

POST NEWS NETWORK

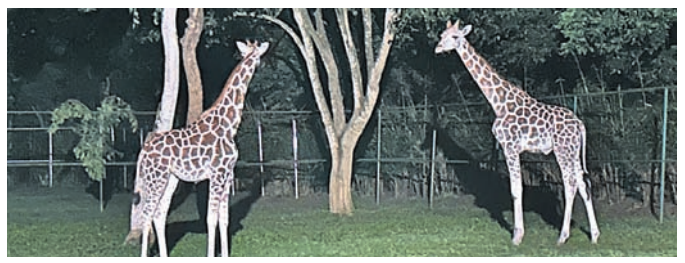
Bhubaneswar, Sept 2: In what would bring cheer to animal lovers, Nandankanan Zoological Park (NZP), on the outskirts of the City here, has received a pair of giraffes from West Bengal's Alipore Zoological Garden, official sources said Monday.

Sharing a picture, and a 31-second video, featuring the giraffe pair on X, Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (PCCF) Susanta Nanda said, "The new guests at Nandankanan... The pair would give much needed company to the lonely Giraffe Khushi of the zoo. This is a part

of the design to create 'African Panorama' in the zoo. Cheetahs & Zebras would follow soon."

With the new additions, the number of giraffes at Nandankanan has gone up to three. "While the male giraffe is 17-month old, the female is 13-month old. The giraffes arrived in Nandankanan late Sunday night after 25-hour journey from Kolkata in a special container," NZP sources said.

The new guests will give company to 'Khushi', who had been staying alone at the zoo for long, they said. Khushi was brought from Patna zoo in 2012. "Multiple attempts were made to bring



more giraffes to NZP, but to no avail. In 2008, a giraffe was brought from Alipore zoo, but it died on way due to electrocution. In 2016, a male giraffe was brought. However, it died due to disease within a week," they pointed out.

It was a tough task for NZP au-

thorities to get the pair as India has only a few of the species.

Following discussions with Alipore zoo, Odisha government approached the Central Zoo Authority for its nod. Finally, the state government got a go-ahead for the initiative August 9 this year.

Women fisherfolk protecting forests for over 2 decades

POST NEWS NETWORK

Puri, Sept 2: In the remote coastal village of Sahan at the Devi river mouth in the district, a group of women fisherfolk has been quietly making history for the past 25 years.

The 'Maa Gangadevi Jungle Surakhya Committee', led by these resilient women, has become a beacon of community-led forest protection.

Members of the committee, along with their families, rely on trading fish, dry fish in particular, to sustain their livelihoods. However, despite their unprivileged background and limited formal education, they have shown unparalleled commitment towards nature conservation.



Since 1999, in the aftermath of the devastating Super Cyclone, they have been protecting the casuarina and mangrove forests surrounding their village. This initiative is carried out through a routine group system known as 'Thenga Pali' where women, armed with wooden sticks, take turns patrolling the forests.

Each morning, the committee members venture into the forest carrying food and water for the day. Their mission is to guard the casuarina and mangrove stretches from any threats - from illegal logging or other harmful activities. They do not hesitate to confront those who pose a danger to the forests,

while working closely with local Forest department to ensure the necessary actions against the trespassers.

In addition to protecting the forest, they also lead beach clean-up drives at the Devi river mouth, Sagan beach, and Jahania beach - crucial breeding sites for the vulnerable Olive Ridley turtles.

Though this community-driven initiative has not been officially recognised by any government policy, its impact is undeniable. The women of the committee have nurtured a legacy of forest protection spanning across generations.

Abali Behera, a committee member, said, "We know the great value of our native forests and mangrove ecosystems. They

protect us from the strong winds that come from the sea. We are committed to safeguarding them for our safety."

Another core member, Nabi Dei, highlights the vital role of mangroves in their lives. "Our homes and the river are separated only by a soil wall. The mangroves make that wall stronger. My family depends on fishing and collecting crabs, which thrive thanks to the mangroves' presence. We protect them for our safety and the safety of future generations."

The committee has also been playing an active role in collaborating with local administration and various stakeholders in forest restoration and conservation initiatives.

National Institute of Electronics and Information Technology (NIELIT)

NIELIT Bhawan, Plot No. 3, PSP Pocket, Sector-8, Dwarka, New Delhi - 110077

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पावरग्रिड POWERGRID

NOTICE

1. Approval under Regulation 86 of CERC (Conduct of Business) Regulations, 1999 and CERC (Terms and Conditions of Tariff) Regulations, 2019 for determination of Transmission Tariff from DCOO to 31-03-2024 for Transmission Assets: **Asset 1:** Installation of 400/220 kV, 1x315 MVA ICT at Durgapur Substation along-with associated bays (DOCO:09.06.2019), **Asset 2:** Bypassing arrangement of LIL0 of 400 kV lines at Angul (DOCO:10.02.2020), **Asset 3:** Installation of 400/220 kV 315 MVA ICT - IV (in Parallel to ICT - II) at Rourkela sub station (DOCO:07.12.2020), **Asset 4:** Installation of 400/220 kV 315 MVA ICT - III (in Parallel to ICT - I) at Rourkela sub station (DOCO:02.03.2021), **Asset 5:** Replacement of 400/220 kV, 315MVA ICT at Malda S/S with 400/220 kV, 500MVA ICT (1st)(DOCO:31.03.2021), **Asset 6:** Installation of 400/220 kV 315 MVA ICT - III (in Parallel to ICT - I) at Jaypore sub station(DOCCO:19.04.2021), **Asset 7:** Installation of 400/220 kV 315 MVA ICT - IV (in Parallel to ICT - II) at Jaypore sub station(DOCCO:01.11.2021), **Asset 8:** Replacement of 400/220 kV, 315MVA ICT at Malda S/S with 400/220 kV, 500MVA ICT (2nd)(DOCO:21.02.2022) **Asset 9:** Installation of 01 no 400/220 kV, 315 MVA ICT including associated 400 kV GIS and 220 kV AIS bays extension at New Siliguri Substation (DOCO:02.03.2022) and **Asset 10:** Reconductoring of Malithon RB- Malithon (PG) 400 kV DIC along with modification/ addition of bay equipment at both ends of line (DOCO:08.08.2023) under "Eastern Region Strengthening Scheme-XVII(Part-B) [ERSS-XVII (Part-B)]" in Eastern Region.

2. The Beneficiaries of the above-mentioned Transmission System are (A) Bihar State Power (holding) Company Limited (B) West Bengal State Electricity Distribution Company Limited (C) Grid Corporation Of Orissa Ltd (d) Damodar Valley Corporation (E) Power Department, Govt. Of Sikkim, (f) Jharkhand Biji Vitran Nigam Ltd.

3. Tariff details: SCOD of the Project: 08.06.2019, FR Approved cost for Project : ₹ 19143.99 Lakhs, RCE cost of the project: ₹ 20749.51 Lakhs, Estimated completion cost: ₹ 20058.92 Lakhs.

Asset	DOCO	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24
Asset-1A (New Element)	09.06.2019	124.85	160.59	169.22	176.28	186.9
Asset-1B (Recapitalization)	09.06.2019	146.88	178.79	181.6	184.76	187.57
Asset-1 (Carrying Cost)		37.76				
Asset-2	10.02.2020	1.87	21.48	31.22	33.99	34.63
Asset-3A (New Element)	07.12.2020	0	15.74	54.7	57.9	58.86
Asset-3B (Recapitalization)	07.12.2020	0	42.37	138.74	143.33	147.59
Asset-4A (New Element)	02.03.2021	0	16.94	224.64	254.64	264.38
Asset-4B (Recapitalization)	02.03.2021	0	11.06	138.74	143.33	147.59
Asset-5	31.03.2021	0	1.93	732.32	767.55	782.55
Asset-6A (New Element)	19.04.2021	0	0	47.93	57.24	60.92
Asset-6B (Recapitalization)	19.04.2021	0	0	168.98	180.18	183.22
Asset-7A (New Element)	01.11.2021	0	0	83.05	222.14	246.3
Asset-7B (Recapitalization)	01.11.2021	0	0	94.46	205.22	207.65
Asset-8	21.02.2022	0	0	71.09	683.19	698.05
Asset-9A (New Element)	02.03.2022	0	0	42.38	517.19	514.21
Asset-9B (Recapitalization)	02.03.2022	0	0	11.17	140.49	144.74
Asset-10	08.08.2023	0	0	0	0	526.85
AFC Asset		311.36	448.89	2190.24	3767.43	4392.01

4. A copy of the application made for the determination of the tariff is posted on the applicant's website at www.powergrid.in.

5. The suggestions and objections, if any, on the proposals for determination of tariff contained in the application be filed by any person, including the beneficiary before the Secretary, Central Electricity Regulatory Commission 6th, 7th & 8th Floors, Tower B, World Trade Centre, Nauroji Nagar, New Delhi-110029 (or other address where the office of the Commission is situated), with a copy to the applicant at the address of its corporate office within 30 days of publication of this notice.

Place : Gurugram S/d
Date : 30.08.2024 General Manager (Commercial)

POWER GRID CORPORATION OF INDIA LTD
(A Government of India Enterprise)
Registered Office : B-9, Qutab Institutional Area, Katwaria Sarai, New Delhi 110 016
Corporate Office : "Saudamini", Plot No.2, Sector-29, Gurugram, Haryana - 122 001
Website : www.powergrid.in, CIN: L 40101 DL 1989 GOI 038121
A Maharatna PSU

Central team to visit state to monitor outbreak of bird flu



The control and containment operation is being carried out as per the action plan of government of India. The control and containment operation in the infected zone of epicentres at Pipili and Satyabadi has been completed while the process is under progress at the epicentres of Delanga and Nimapada Block.

As many as 51 Rapid Response Teams (RRTs) are engaged in culling, disposal of birds and sanitation in infected zones and till date 35,329 birds, 84 eggs and 15,380kg of poultry feed has been destroyed," officials said.

Family Welfare department, Fisheries and Animal Resources Development (F&ARD) department, Bhubaneswar Municipal Corporation (BMC) and Collectors of Puri, Kendrapara and Khurda attended the meeting through video conference. Official sources said the outbreak of Avian Influenza has been confirmed at four epicentres in Pipili, Satyabadi, Nimapada & Delanga Block of Puri district only.

Bhubaneswar, Sept 2: A central team will visit Odisha to monitor the measures taken by the state government to prevent the outbreak of bird flu, official sources said Monday. The team will visit the state September 4 and 5 for further monitoring of the situation. Meanwhile, the Secretary, DAHD, Government of India has assured all types of support to the state for control and containment of the outbreak. A high level meeting chaired by Chief Secretary Manoj Ahuja was convened here to discuss the status of control and containment of the recent Avian Influenza outbreak. Alaka Upadhyaya, Secretary, Department of Animal Husbandry and Dairying (DAHD), Government of India, senior officers from Forest, Environment and Climate Change department, Health and



RAISING VOICE: Members of All Odisha Asha Sathi Association stage a demonstration at Lower PMG in Bhubaneswar, Monday to press for fulfillment of their 13-point charter of demands

4 bridges at Bhadrak-Vizianagaram Rail Section

Bhubaneswar, Sept 2: The construction of four important bridges over the rivers Mahanadi, Birupa, Kathajodi and Kuakhai is set to begin as part of the strategic third line expansion between Bhadrak-Vizianagaram Rail Section, the Ministry of Railways announced Monday. The landmark project will be part of government's commitment to enhancing rail connectivity in eastern India, railway officials said. East Coast Railway (ECoR) sources said the tender has been invited for construction of four important river bridges between



Nergundi and Barang, in a stretch of 22 km. "The project involves the construction of critical bridges on an Engineering, Procurement, and Construction (EPC) mode. The estimated cost of the EPC tender for construction work stands at ₹996.60 crore, reflecting the scale and importance of the infrastructure development," officials said. The Mahanadi Rail Bridge, in particular, holds historical significance. The first Mahanadi Rail Bridge, completed in 1899, was an engineering marvel of its time, featuring 64 spans of 30 meters each. The second Mahanadi Rail Bridge, commissioned in 2008, was constructed at a cost of ₹120

crore. Spanning 2.1 km (1.3 mi), the bridge is designed to accommodate trains travelling at speeds of up to 160 km per hour and is engineered to withstand seismic activities. "The bridges will not only enhance the capacity and reliability of the railway network but also ensure safe and efficient travel across the vital Railway Section," officials said. The project, ECoR sources said, is crucial for enhancing capacity of train traffic along with boosting the region's economy by improving the connectivity between key industrial and commercial hubs in Odisha and beyond.

Phase III clinical trial for India's 1st dengue vaccine kicks off at KIMS

Bhubaneswar, Sept 2: The third phase of the clinical trial for India's first indigenous dengue vaccine, 'DengiAll,' commenced at the Kalinga Institute of Medical Sciences (KIMS) here Sunday. The trial began in the presence of the Dean and Principal of KIMS AP Mohanty; HoD, Community Medicine Sonali Kar; and HoD, General Medicine, Lalatendu Mohanty. Kar along with Mohanty, Dipti Pattnaik of the department of Microbiology, and Saurav Patra, the Director of the Central Laboratory will oversee the operations, supported by an investigation team led by PC Samantaray. The site initiation visit (SIV) started August 29, where the Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) team from various institutes of ICMR, Sponsor from Panacea Biotech and JSS



as CRO for the study visited KIMS to guide the trial team on operating procedures of the trial. The trial aims to evaluate the efficacy of the indigenous tetravalent dengue vaccine developed by Panacea Biotech, in collaboration with the ICMR, institute of officials said. KIMS is the only hospital in Odisha selected to conduct the Phase III trial, which involves 18 other sites across 18 states in India. "We have to recruit more than

500 participants in Bhubaneswar who would have volunteer for the third phase of the trial," said a doctor involved in the process. Notably, India ranks among the top 30 countries with the highest incidence of dengue, with Odisha ranking sixth among the states. Telangana tops the chart, followed by Delhi and Rajasthan. "Currently, there is no antiviral treatment or licensed vaccine against dengue in India. Developing an effective vaccine is complex due to the need for good efficacy across all four serotypes of the dengue virus, all of which are known to circulate or co-circulate in many regions of India," officials said. "The tetravalent dengue vaccine strain (TV003/TV005), originally developed by the National Institutes of Health (NIH), USA, has shown promising results in preclinical and clinical trials worldwide," they said.

Under-trial prisoner attacked by inmates

Bhubaneswar, Sept 2: An under-trial prisoner has been attacked by other inmates at Jharpada Jail here, resulting in severe head injuries, a senior jail official said Monday. Additional Director General (Prisons) Amitabh Thakur, who along with Deputy Inspector General (Prisons) Anusuya Jena visited the prison, said a thorough investigation has been launched into the incident. "Stringent action will be taken against the inmates found guilty during the investigation," he said. The Cuttack DIG is recording the statements of the inmates and other officials and will submit a detailed report, Thakur said. Jena said that the statement of the victim, Soumyakant Mohanty, was recorded and he said that 12-15 persons entered his cell Sunday and attacked him. Mohanty, who was admitted to Capital Hospital and later discharged, alleged that another inmate Munna, son of notorious gangster Haidar, and his gang were behind the incident.

Badagada Mahotsav to have 57-ft tall Ganesh idol



Bhubaneswar, Sept 2: A 57-ft tall idol in the style of Mumbai's Lalbaug will be installed at Badagada for the seven-day Ganesh Mahotsav this year, Bright Star Youth Association secretary Sangram Martha said during a recently held press conference here. "The idol will sit atop a 12-ft tall mouse, he said adding that another attraction will be a 10kg silver foot of Lord Ganesh," he said. "The idol is being built by artisans and will be decorated with natural colours. A Titanic-style light gate will also be installed. Every evening, Khichdi Prasad will be distributed to devotees," Martha said. He said that puja mandap will be decorated with a German hangar shed and a mini pagoda. The entire area from the puja mandap to Kalpana Chhak will be decorated with colourful lights. For the convenience of divyang and senior citizens, wheelchair facilities will be available for their hassle-free visit to the puja mandap, he said. This apart, various cultural programmes will be organised during the period. Odia film stars like Archana Padhi, Ira Mohanty, Kuldeep Pattanayak, Nabhyaa, Murga, Tariq Aziz, Ankit Patra, Danta Chhuria, and others will perform on the occasion.

MARKET WATCH

INDEX	VAIATION
SENSEX	82559.84 ↑ 194.07
NIFTY	25278.70 ↑ 42.80
DOLLAR	83.90 ↑ ₹0.01
EURO	92.88 ↑ ₹0.21
GOLD	₹71,644 ↑ ₹33
SILVER	₹82,454 ↓ ₹831

WEATHER

	BBSR	CTC
Max Temp	33.7°C	32.6°C
Min Temp	26.3°C	25.0°C
Humidity	85%	81%
Rainfall	Nil	Nil

FORECAST
Partly cloudy sky with possibility of moderate rain

CLASSIFIED

AFFIDAVIT

I Ranjit kumar Khatua (49), S/o- Dr. Sudhakar Khatua, At/ Po: Prachinagar, Samaraipur, PS: Bhadrak (R), Dist: Bhadrak . One passport was availed dated 3/4/2014 in favour of my son Satya jyotiraditya Khatua bearing the no. L8214035. At the time of application for the aforesaid passport 'SRI' was inadvertently mentioned as the prefix to my son's name. All his educational certificates do not bear 'SRI' as prefix, via this affidavit no. - 1734 on date 01/08/2024 I would like to have his name corrected in the passport by deleting SRI.

Scientists unlock secret to conversing with sleeping mind

Findings suggest that it may be possible for some people to make decisions from inside a dream and communicate them to the outside world

People have pondered whether dreams have a purpose throughout human history. Modern scientists are fascinated with this question too. For a long time the science of dreams has oscillated between fringe research and the mainstream. But creative study designs and new technology are transforming it into an exciting and serious research niche. --Lucid dreams In 2021 an international study showed that two-way communication between a lucid dreamer and a researcher in the lab was possible. In 2024, another study built on this by training lucid dreamers to control a virtual car from within their dreams. The 12 dreamers in the experiment made slight muscle twitches, which sent a signal to a computer to make the virtual vehicle move forwards or turn. Signals were sent back to the dreamer to inform them of obstacles to try and avoid. Some could move the car well, but others, no matter how hard they tried, could not. While fascinating, it is still unknown how such technology could be used in everyday life. But the findings suggest that it may be possible for some people to make decisions from inside a dream and communicate them to the outside world. **Why do we dream?** Sleep and dreams researcher Mark Blagrove from Swansea University thinks dreams were meant to be shared socially and evolved in humans to enhance emotional intelligence and empathy. Since 2016, Blagrove has collaborated with artist Julia Lockheart in a dream discussion and illustration group. An audience member is invited to share a recent dream. Blagrove leads the discussion, while Lockheart sketches an interpretation of the dream onto the pages of Sigmund Freud's book The Interpretation of Dreams. His 2019 research paper showed that discussing a dream in this way can lead to increased empathy between dream sharer and listeners. Blagrove argues this could have been valuable to ancestral survival in forming significant connections with others. Other theories about why we dream have begun to emerge in recent years too, and some were discussed at a panel in June 2024 at the International Association for the Study of Dreams (IASD) annual conference. For example, the embodied cognition theory of dreaming, proposes that dreams prepare us for the cognitive actions of ordinary waking life. Insights from long dream series Michael Schredl of the University of Mannheim in Germany is arguably the most prolific dream researcher today, having published hundreds of articles and books since his career began in the 1990s. At the IASD conference, he gave a keynote talk analysing over 12,000 of his dreams. Overall, the patterns seemed to support the continuity hypothesis of dreaming - that our dreams are influenced by events and concerns that are happening in our waking lives. Schredl believes he is one of the first people to look at weather patterns in dreams. He noticed a steady decline over the years of ice, snow and hail in his dreams. Interestingly, this was similar to the documented declining number of "ice days" (days when the temperature was below 0°C for 24 hours) in Germany since he has been keeping a dream journal. Another interesting pattern was references to money in dreams. When the Deutsche Mark was the prevailing currency, it occasionally showed up in his dreams over the years, but when the German currency changed to the Euro in 2002, the number of Deutsche Mark references was replaced by references to the Euro. (THE CONVERSATION)

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5 get life term for murder of 4

POST NEWS NETWORK

Aska, Sept 2: A local court here in Ganjam district Monday sentenced five people to life imprisonment after convicting them for the murder of four persons two years ago at Pittala Square under Hinjili police limits in the district.

The Additional District Judge Prabir Kumar Choudhury handed down life imprisonment to five out of six accused after convicting them for the murder of four persons including three siblings and their cousin.

The convicted persons were identified as Milan Kumar Swain,



29, Santosh Kumar Swain, 27, Bahanpati Behera, 27, Chitrasen Sethi, 23 and Amiya Kumar Swain alias Sadhu, 40, of Ramchandrapur, who beat four persons to death at Pittala Square under Hinjili police station area March 22, 2022.

The court recorded the state-

ments of two eye-witnesses, 26 witnesses and examined medical reports and some other documents, Cadre Public Prosecutor Trilochan Parida said.

The court awarded 25 years of imprisonment to Amiya and 20 years jail term to four others while delivering the order in the case.

Raja Swain, 28, and his two brothers Sambhu, 25, and Pandav, 23, and their cousin Chandan, 16, were killed in a clash with the accused on the night of March 22, 2022. All the four siblings were lying in a pool of blood on the highway as police rushed them to Hinjilicut hospital where doc-

tors pronounced them dead.

As per the case diary, the deceased persons were running a fast food outlet at Pittala Square on National Highway-59. The clash occurred after one of the accused passed some objectionable remarks at a woman who was having food at the outlet.

Police arrested six persons, including a teenager, over a complaint filed by the deceased's father Mangulu Swain. The five accused were lodged in the jail after their arrest. While the five persons were awarded life imprisonment, the trial of the teenager was underway in the juvenile court, the PP said.

Couple killed in tusker attack

POST NEWS NETWORK

Khaprakhol, Sept 2: In a tragic incident, a couple was killed in a tusker attack at Chabripali village of Bhanpur panchayat under this block of Harishankar forest range in Bolangir district late Sunday night. The deceased were identified as Nilambar Bariha, 56, and his wife Yashobanti Bariha, 54.

According to reports, the family of Nilambar was residing in a hut in the midst of their farmland near Chabripali village. All the family members went to sleep after dinner, Sunday. In the dead of the night, a wild tusker suddenly entered the village around 2am in search of food and broke open their house.

The family members shouted for help but the tusker attacked the couple, flung them on air and trampled them to death. Other family members including their son, daughter-in-law, granddaughter and grandson managed to protect themselves from the elephant attack and fled the spot. Other villagers managed to drive away the elephant into the nearby forest.

On being informed, Forest department personnel, fire brigade team and police reached the spot and sent the bodies for post-mortem to Khaprakhol hospital. After post-mortem, police handed over the bodies to their family members. A case (No-11/2024) of unnatural death was registered with Khaprakhol police who began an investigation, said Khaprakhol PS IIC, Narendra Chhatar.

Containers of sunken ship wash ashore at Satabhaya



PNN & AGENCIES

Rajnagar, Sept 2: Two shipping containers of a sunken ship washed ashore Satabhaya beach in Gahirmatha Marine Sanctuary in Kendrapara district Monday, officials said.

It appeared that both the containers were lost at sea after a cargo vessel sank in the sea last week, they said.

Labels on the containers confirmed that both were owned by logistics firm ITT Lines Private Limited, Kolkata.

MV ITT Puma, a Mumbai-registered general cargo vessel, was en route to Port Blair from Kolkata when it sank August 26 around 90 nautical miles south of Sagar Island in West Bengal.

Stormy weather caused the shipping containers to drift from the sunken ship to Satabhaya beach, the officials said.

Police and Forest officials rushed to the beach and cordoned off the area and warned people to keep a safe distance from the containers.

The authorities were still investigating what items were in the containers.

Most of the items in the containers were washed away as doors were opened due to the impact of waves, Divisional Forest Officer (DFO) of Bhitarkanika National Park, Sudrashan Gopinath Yadav, said.

All the containers of the sunken ship contained household materials. The ship was sailing from Kolkata to Port Blair when the cargo vessel capsized, an official of ITT Lines Private Limited, Kolkata said.

The Indian Coast Guard rescued 11 crew members from the sunken ship August 26 and brought them to Paradip the next day.

Elephant fatalities continue unabated



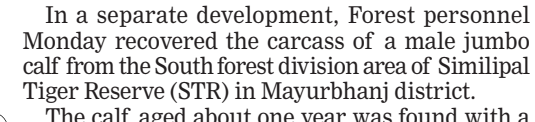
SIMILIPAL

POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar/Baripada, Sept 2: Amid growing concern over jumbo fatalities, deaths of two elephant calves were reported from different parts of Odisha. While in the first case an elephant calf died in Chandaka wildlife sanctuary Sunday night, the carcass of a second calf was recovered in Similipal sanctuary Monday by Forest department personnel.

Officials informed that a three-year-old elephant calf was undergoing treatment at the Chandaka-Dampada Sanctuary's elephant training centre.

However, despite the treatment provided by veterinarians from Nandankanan and OUAT, the baby elephant



CHANDAKA

breathed its last Sunday night. As the calf was unable to eat or drink, he was being given saline, Chandaka DFO Sarat Chandra Behera said.

In a separate development, Forest personnel Monday recovered the carcass of a male jumbo calf from the South forest division area of Similipal Tiger Reserve (STR) in Mayurbhanj district.

The calf aged about one year was found with a wound on its anus. Preliminary inquiry indicated that the calf died 3-4 days back due to infection in the wound on its anus, STR Field Director and Regional Chief Conservator of Forests Prakash Chand Gogineni said.

With the deaths of the two calves, Odisha has lost more than 40 elephants between April 1 and August 31. The state had reported 66 elephant deaths in 2023-24, one of the lowest in the last five years.

Statistics reveals that this year's elephant deaths have been recorded in 15 forest and wildlife divisions. Four jumbos breathed their last in Angul division, the highest among the forest ranges. Athagarh, Balasore, Baripada, Dhenkanal, Kalahandi North, Keonjhar, Sambalpur, Satkosia, Similipal North and Similipal South are other divisions that recorded at least two elephant deaths. Accidental and deliberate electrocutions resulted in deaths of 16 elephants while five died in road or railway accidents.

Woman killed over refusal to serve 'handia'

POST NEWS NETWORK

Ghashipura, Sept 2: A man dragged a woman out of her house and hacked her to death allegedly for not serving him 'handia' a local country brew at Nalijharan village under this police limits in Keonjhar district, late Sunday night.

The deceased was identified as Salke Hembram, wife of Mohan Hembram in the village. Speculations were rife that the murder might have taken place over suspected witchcraft and sorcery as the family members have remained tightlipped and are yet to lodge a complaint at the local police station. The villagers also refused to comment on the issue.

Police rushed to the spot and launched an investigation after the deceased's brother Ghanashyam visited Ghashipura police station and lodged a complaint, Monday.

Police said the villagers attended a mass feast, Sunday. The incident occurred when Mohan and his family members had gone to attend the feast leaving the woman and her elderly mother-in-law at home.

Meanwhile, a person visited their house and asked the woman to bring her 'handia' from a local vendor. When she denied, the man flew into rage and dragged her out of the house. There he hacked her to death with sharp weapons, her mother-in-law Sumi said. Despite being aware about his wife's mur-



der, Mohan did not inform the police.

The matter came up before police after the deceased's brother visited the police station and lodged a complaint on his sister's murder. A police team led by Anandapur SDPO Prasant Kumar Behera visited the village and conducted an investigation, Monday.

Police registered a case and detained a person in this connection while the actual reason behind the murder is yet to be ascertained, the SDPO said.

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF DISTRICT MEDICAL & PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICER, RAYAGADA
Letter No. 6209/Date : 31/08/2024

CORRIGENDUM

No. E-268 : In pursuance to this office Tender Call Notice No. 5355 Dt. 31.07.2024 for "Rate Contract of Printing & Supplying of IEC/ BCC Materials & Different Logistics etc for the Year 2024-25". The last date of receipt of the tender is 16.09.2024 instead of 02.09.2024, which is rescheduled to be opened on 18.09.2024 instead of 04.09.2024. All other terms and conditions remain unchanged.

Sd/- Chief District Medical & Public Health Officer, Rayagada
OIPR-10035/11/0003/2425

Registered Office : 19-A Dhuleswar Garden, Jaipur, Rajasthan, India, 302001.
www.aubank.in

LOAN AGAINST GOLD - AUCTION NOTICE ON "AS IS WHERE IS" BASIS

The below mentioned borrower/s have issued notices to pay their outstanding amounts towards the loan against gold facilities availed from AU Small Finance Bank Limited ("Bank"). Since the borrower/s has/have failed to repay his/their dues, we are constrained to conduct an auction of pledged gold items/articles on 09 Sep 2024 between 11:00 AM - 3:00 PM (Time) at below mentioned branches according to the mode specified therein. In the case of deceased borrowers, all conditions will be applicable to legal heirs. Please note that in the event of failure of the above auction, the bank reserves its right to conduct another auction without prior intimation.

E-Auction Branch Details (E-auction will be conducted by using Weblink <https://gold.samil.in>)

CUTTACK - 23660002158617 | JAJPUR - 23660002128584 | KUAKHIA - 2466000059426 24660000538265 |

Note: The auction is subject to certain terms and conditions mentioned in the bid form, which is made available before the commencement of auction.

Sd/- Manager
AU Small Finance Bank Limited

AN INVESTOR EDUCATION AND AWARENESS INITIATIVE

Do join us to learn more about Mutual Funds.

Date and Venue:
Tuesday, 3rd September 2024; 6:30 p.m. onwards and
Wednesday, 4th September 2024; 6:30 p.m. onwards.
at Hotel Radhika Regency, Bira Road, Rourkela - 769 001, Odisha.
For registration, please contact: Ranjit Mallik, Mobile: 99370 88035.

Registration is compulsory.
The registration time will be from 9:30 am to 5:30 pm.
No walk-ins will be allowed.

HDFC Mutual Fund
An Investor Education and Awareness Initiative

Visit <https://www.hdfcfund.com/information/key-know-how-to-know-more-about-the-process-to-complete-a-one-time-know-your-customer-kyc-requirement-to-invest-in-mutual-funds>. Investors should only deal with registered Mutual Funds, details of which can be verified on the SEBI website (www.sebi.gov.in/investorrelations.html). For any queries, complaints & grievance redressal, investors may reach out to the AMC's and/or Investor Relations Officers. Additionally, investors may also lodge complaints directly with the AMCs, if they are unsatisfied with the resolutions given by AMCs they may raise complaint through the SCORES portal on <https://scores.gov.in>. SCORES portal facilitates investors to lodge complaint online with SEBI and subsequently view its status. In case the investor is not satisfied with the resolution of the complaints raised directly with the AMCs or through the SCORES portal, they may file any complaint on the Smart ODR on <https://smartodr.in/login>.

Mutual Fund investments are subject to market risks, read all scheme related documents carefully.

GOVERNMENT OF ODISHA
OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER, RURAL WORKS DIVISION, PATNAGARH
E-mail: eerw_ptng@yahoo.in, Phone No - 06658-222121
Office Order No.4692, Date: 02.09.24

1st Corrigendum to this office BID IDENTIFICATION NO. EEPNG-online-02/2024-25 Invited Vide this office Letter No.4578, Dtd.22.08.2024

No. O-242: In pursuance to this office BID IDENTIFICATION NO. EEPNG-online-02/2024-25 published vide this office e-procurement notice No.4578, Dtd.22.08.2024, the following changes have been made in NIT.

Sl.No.	Items	As per Original TCN	As per 1st Corrigendum
1	Availability of tender online for bidding	28.08.2024, 11.00 AM to 10.09.2024 upto 5.00 PM	05.09.2024 11.00 AM to 17.09.2024 upto 5.00 PM
2	Last date of seeking clarification	09.09.2024 upto 5.00 PM	13.09.2024 upto 5.00 PM
3	Date and Time of opening of tender in office of the R.W. Division, Patnagarh	11.09.2024 at 11.00 AM	18.09.2024 at 11.00 AM

All other terms and condition remain unaltered.

OIPR-25154/11/0003/2425 Sd/- Executive Engineer, R.W.Division, Patnagarh

ALL INDIA COUNCIL FOR TECHNICAL EDUCATION
(A Statutory Body of Government of India)
Nelson Mandela Marg, Vasant Kunj, New Delhi-110070
Website : www.aicte-india.org Ph. No.011-29581000

AICTE PG (GATE/CEED) SCHOLARSHIP 2024-25

Online proposals are invited from **AICTE approved Institutions for the Post Graduate Scholarship** through DBT to the students admitted in **AICTE approved Institute/programs and within approved intake of M.E./M.Tech./M.Des.** for the 1ST year students of the academic year 2024-25 having gained qualifying marks with valid GATE/CEED score.

Detailed advertisement having guidelines/instructions/FAQs and procedure for online registration and eligibility of the student is available at link: <https://www.pgscholarship.aicte-india.org>

All eligible students are informed that the AICTE PG Scholarship Portal will be opened on **2nd September 2024** and they can upload their information on the AICTE PG portal by **30th November 2024**. Also it is requested to the institutions shall complete the procedure of student documents verification on or before **15th December, 2024** on AICTE PG Scholarship portal

Advt. No: CBC 21300/12/0009/2425 Member Secretary

Hooch tragedy toll rises to 5

BERHAMPUR: The toll in the Ganjam hooch tragedy rose to five with the death of one more person at MKCG Hospital and Hospital here Monday, police said.

The deceased was identified as Pradeep Behera of Jenapur village near Chikiti, said SP (Berhampur) Sarthak Sarangi. He was undergoing treatment at the Medicine Intensive Care Unit (ICU) of the MKCG Medical College and Hospital in Berhampur. Earlier, four people had died in the hooch tragedy. Currently, while a total of six persons are undergoing treatment at the MKCG Medical College & Hospital, three are in the ICU. At least 15 people from Jenapur and Karabalu area were admitted to the medical college and hospital August 19, after they consumed the suspected spurious liquor from a vendor, who allegedly sold the country-made liquor at Maundapur village. Police and Excise personnel have carried out a crackdown on the illegal liquor manufacturing units in the area.

आईआरईएल (इंडिया) लिमिटेड IREL (India) Limited
Formerly Indian Rare Earths Limited
(A Government of India Undertaking)

Ref: ADVT. No. 24-25/08 TENDER NOTICE Date: 03.09.2024

IREL, OSCOM invites request for proposal for the following items/job descriptions.

Bid No.	Job/Item Description
GEM/2024/B/5297283	Filter Press Unloading & Damaged Filter Cloth Replacement.
GEM/2024/B/5344596	Supply of Caustic Soda Lye.
GEM/2024/B/5340871	Engagement of Registered Private Security Agency for Providing Security Service in IREL, OSCOM Unit.

Bidder may download tender document from <http://irel.co.in>, <http://gem.gov.in> or <https://eprocure.gov.in>

SP/procure/epgp. Any corrigendum / Extension to above tenders shall be hosted in above websites only.

CBC 48146/12/0009/2425 Sd/- GM & HEAD, MMD, OSCOM

Bank of India
Zonal Office : Star House, 1/1D, Jayadev Vihar, Nayapalli, Bhubaneswar-751015

POSSESSION NOTICE
(Rule-8(11) of Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules-2002)

Whereas, the undersigned being the Authorised Officer of the Bank of India, Raghunathpur Branch under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 and in exercise of powers conferred under Section 13(12) read with Rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 issued a Demand Notice calling upon the Borrowers in the loan account given below to repay the amount mentioned in the Notice plus interest & expenses thereon within **60 days** from the date of receipt of the said Notice. The Borrowers having failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to the Borrowers and the public in general that the undersigned has taken **Possession** of the property described herein below in exercise of powers conferred on him under Sub-Section (4) of Section 13 of the said Act read with Rule 8 of the said rules. The Borrowers in particular and the public in general are hereby cautioned not to deal with the property and any dealings with the property will be subject to the charge of the **Bank of India, Raghunathpur Branch** for an amount mentioned below with interest & expenses thereon. **The Borrower's attention is invited to provisions of Sub-Section (8) of Section 13 of the Act, in respect of time available to redeem the secured assets.**

RAGHUNATHPUR BRANCH / Name & Address of Borrowers	Liabilities due as per Notice	Date of Demand Notice / Date of Possession	Description of the Immovable Property
Borrowers: 1) Mrs. Kusum Joshi, W/o.: Mr. Krushna Kumar Joshi, 2) Mr. Krushna Kumar Joshi, S/o.: Mr. Jamunadhar Joshi, Both are At: Manik Ghose Bazar, Bhandari Sahi, Telenga Bazar, Cuttack, Odisha-753009	₹ 20,01,988.37* + interest & expenses thereon	11.06.2024 / 29.08.2024	All that part and parcel of Land and Building situated over Khata No.: 313/512, Plot No.: 943/1637, Area: Ac.0.016 Dec. and Plot No.: 942/1636, Area: Ac.0.024 Dec., Total Area: Ac.0.040 Dec., KISSAM: Homestead, situated at Mouza: Cuttack Sahar Unit No.: 3 Bidanasi, Thana: Bidanasi, Thana No.: 3, Cuttack Sadar, DSRO: Cuttack, Tahasil: Cuttack, Dist.: Cuttack, Standing in the name of Mrs. Kusum Joshi , W/o.: Mr. Krushna Kumar Joshi, Bounded by North: Road, South: Govt. Land, East: Plot No.: 942(F), West: Plot No.: 942(P)

Note: *Repayments received in the account after the notice dated 11.06.2024 to be netted from total dues.

Place: Bhubaneswar Date: 03.09.2024 Authorised Officer Bank of India

ପ୍ରଧାନମନ୍ତ୍ରୀ ବିଶ୍ୱକର୍ମା ଯୋଜନା ଅନ୍ତର୍ଗତ ରାଜ୍ୟସ୍ତରୀୟ ପ୍ରଦର୍ଶନୀ

ଦିନାଙ୍କ: ୧୩୭୧ ୧୫ ସେପ୍ଟେମ୍ବର ୨୦୨୪ ସ୍ଥାନ: ନୀଳାଚଳ ଅର୍ବାନ୍ ହାଟ, ପୁରୀ

ପ୍ରଦର୍ଶନୀର ଉଦ୍ଦେଶ୍ୟ:

- ବିଶ୍ୱକର୍ମାମାନଙ୍କର ନିଜସ୍ୱ ଉତ୍ପାଦିତ ଦ୍ରବ୍ୟ ଏବଂ କୌଣସିକ ଦର୍ଶକଙ୍କ ସାମାଜିକ ବିପ୍ଳବ ଭାବରେ ପ୍ରଦର୍ଶନ କରିବା।
- ସମ୍ପୂର୍ଣ୍ଣ ଗ୍ରାହକ ଏବଂ କ୍ରେତାଙ୍କ ସଂଗଠନ ଯୋଡ଼ି ଦେବା।
- ସମସ୍ତ ଲାଭାର୍ଥୀ ଏବଂ ଶିଳ୍ପ ବିଶେଷଜ୍ଞଙ୍କ ସଙ୍ଗରେ ନେତୃତ୍ୱ ବିଧାନ କରିବା।
- ନିଜର ଉତ୍ପାଦିତ ଦ୍ରବ୍ୟ ଏବଂ ସେବାଗୁଡ଼ିକ ଉତ୍ତମ ମାନରେ ପ୍ରଦର୍ଶନ କରିବା ଏବଂ ମାର୍ଗଦର୍ଶନ ପ୍ରାପ୍ତ କରିବା।

୧. ବଜ୍ରଲ, ୨. ତମ୍ବା ନିର୍ମାତା, ୩. ଅଗ୍ରଗୁଣ ନିର୍ମାତା, ୪. କମାର, ୫. ହାତୁଡ଼ି ଏବଂ ସାଜ ସଜାଣ ନିର୍ମାତା, ୬. ଚାଲା ନିର୍ମାତା, ୭. ବଣିଆ, ୮. କୁପ୍ପାର, ୯. ଗୁପ୍ତ (ଗୁଣିକାର, ପଥର ଖୋଦେକାରୀ), ପଥର ଭଙ୍ଗାଳୀ, ୧୦. ମୋତି (କୋଡ଼ା ନିର୍ମାତା), ୧୧. ମିଷ୍ଟା (ରାଜମିଷ୍ଟା), ୧୨. ଝୁଡ଼ି / ଗାଳିତା / ଝୁଡ଼ି ଓ ଆରି କରିବାବାଲା / ନଡ଼ିଆକଡ଼ା ବୁଣାକାର, ୧୩. କର୍ଣ୍ଣେଇ ଓ ଖେଳନା ନିର୍ମାତା (ପାରମ୍ପରିକ), ୧୪. ନାପିତ, ୧୫. ପୁଲ୍ଲମାଳ ନିର୍ମାତା (ମାଳାକାର), ୧୬. ଯୋବା, ୧୭. ସିଲେଇ କାରିଗର (ଦରଜି), ୧୮. ମାଛଜାଲ ବୁଣାଳୀ।

ଆପଣଙ୍କ ଉତ୍ପାଦିତ ଦ୍ରବ୍ୟ ପ୍ରଦର୍ଶନୀରେ ବକ୍ ବିଶିଷ୍ଟ ଯୋଗଦାନ ଦେବ ଏବଂ ଆପଣଙ୍କ ଉଦ୍ଦେଶ୍ୟକୁ ପୂର୍ଣ୍ଣ କରିବାରେ ସହାୟକ ହେବ। ଇଚ୍ଚକ୍ଷମତା ଲାଭାର୍ଥୀମାନଙ୍କ ଯାହା ପାଖରେ ବିଶ୍ୱକର୍ମା ଲାଭାର୍ଥୀ ଆଇ.ଡି. କାର୍ଡ ଓ ପ୍ରମାଣପତ୍ର ଅଛି, ସେମାନେ ନିଜର ନାମ, ସଂସ୍କୃତ ବିଶ୍ୱକର୍ମା ଗ୍ରହଣ, ଠିକଣା, ମୋବାଇଲ୍ ନଂ., ଇ-ମେଲ୍ ଆଇ.ଡି., ଉତ୍ପାଦିତ ଦ୍ରବ୍ୟ କିମ୍ବା ସେବାର ବିବରଣୀ (ଯାହାକୁ ପ୍ରଦର୍ଶନ କରିବେ), ପି.ଏମ୍. ବିଶ୍ୱକର୍ମା ଲାଭାର୍ଥୀ ଆଇ.ଡି. କାର୍ଡ ପଞ୍ଜୀକରଣ ସଂଖ୍ୟା ସହିତ ସାଦା କାଗଜରେ ଲେଖି ଦିନାଙ୍କ ୨ ସେପ୍ଟେମ୍ବର ୨୦୨୪ ସୁଦ୍ଧା ଇ-ମେଲ୍ ଆଇ.ଡି. dccl-cuttack@dcmsme.gov.in ଜରିଆରେ କିମ୍ବା ତାଙ୍କ ମାଧ୍ୟମରେ ନିମ୍ନୋକ୍ତ ଠିକଣାରେ ଦାଖଲ କରିବାକୁ ପ୍ରଦର୍ଶନ ରୟନ ସମିତି ଦ୍ୱାରା ଯୋଗ୍ୟ ପ୍ରଦର୍ଶନୀକାରୀଙ୍କୁ ସୂଚିତ କରାଯିବ। ପ୍ରଦର୍ଶନୀରେ ଆବେଦିତ ଝୁଲ ନିଶ୍ଚଳ ରହିବ।

ଆୟୋଜକ:
ଅଶୁ, କ୍ଷୁଦ୍ର ଓ ମଧ୍ୟ ଉଦ୍ୟୋଗ ବିକାଶ କାର୍ଯ୍ୟାଳୟ
ଭାରତ ସରକାର, ବିକାଶ ସଦନ, କଲେଜ ଛକ, କଟକ - 753003
ଇ-ମେଲ୍: dccl-cuttack@dcmsme.gov.in Website: www.msmedicuttack.gov.in
ସମ୍ପୂର୍ଣ୍ଣ ମୋବାଇଲ୍ ନଂ.

ଶ୍ରୀ ସଚ୍ଚିଦାନନ୍ଦ ଦାଶ, ଉପନିର୍ଦ୍ଦେଶକ, ମୋ: 7008297514, ଶ୍ରୀ ସତ୍ୟଜିତ କୁମାର ସାହୁ, ସହ ନିର୍ଦ୍ଦେଶକ, ମୋ: 9040216973, ଶ୍ରୀ ଦୁର୍ଗାଚରଣ ମିଶ୍ର, ସହ ନିର୍ଦ୍ଦେଶକ, ମୋ: 9438581973 CBC 25113/12/0057/2425

FOCUS NATION

UNIVERSAL BASIC INCOME



Since we have enacted rights or have given de facto entitlement to food, education, rural employment, this idea of basic income, especially to the most vulnerable, is but a natural extension

less the conditionality attached, the lesser the cost and better the chances of it being effective. The approach should be opt-out rather than opt-in. So richer folk who prefer to remain out of UBI have to voluntarily opt-out, otherwise by default everyone is in. Universal coverage simplifies administration and reduces exclusion errors. Of course, the benefit ends up also going to individuals who do not need such assistance, as they may be quite well off. Of course, as the Economic Survey too pointed out, the cash based UBI can be potentially inflationary. And in any case UBI may need to be enhanced every year due to inflation indexation. This aspect makes the UBI less attractive, because if the inflation burden rises faster than the growth of taxes, then at some point it becomes unsustainable.

One practical approach is to roll out UBI like a targeted public distribution system (TPDS), which only focuses on backward areas and districts. A pilot UBI can be rolled out that targets only the most vulnerable groups, such as the elderly, poor women (like in LBS of Maharashtra or MP), or indigent and the disabled. It could be tried out in different States. The learning from such a pilot can be used to better design a UBI which is affordable and effective.

There remains the philosophical issue whether basic income is a right. Since we have enacted rights or have given de facto entitlement to food, education, rural employment, this idea of basic income, especially to the most vulnerable, is but a natural extension. Given the proliferation across different states of various cash transfer and other free in-kind benefits schemes for girls and women, we are already marching toward a modified form of UBI.

The writer is a noted Pune-based economist.
@THEBILLIONPRESS

In the Economic Survey of 2016-17, the concept of Universal Basic Income (UBI) was discussed as a potential solution to reducing poverty and income inequality. It was put forth as a radical idea whose time had come. The Survey report estimated that the cost of a direct cash transfer to every Indian of Rs 7260, equal to the then poverty line number would entail an annual cost of 4.9% of GDP. This was unthinkable and daunting given the fiscal resources available to the government. So UBI was a distant and elusive goal. However, the concept of direct cash transfers has gained immense popularity. The Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT) was rolled out in January 2013 because it eliminates leakage, is timely, is transparent and helps financial inclusion.



Ajit Ranade

THE LESS THE CONDITIONALITY ATTACHED, THE LESSER THE COST AND BETTER THE CHANCES OF IT BEING EFFECTIVE

The no frills Jan Dhan bank accounts, Aadhaar number identification and mobile are the JAM enablers of DBT. All three have become ubiquitous making it easier for the spread of DBT which can be in the form of cash or in kind. As per the DBT website there are 315 schemes across 53 ministries being implemented by the Central government alone, which cumulatively have disbursed 38 trillion rupees so far, of which 3 trillion was just in the last fiscal year. The total number of unique beneficiaries who receive cash was about 700 million in 2023-24. The concept of DBT is not confined to cash alone, since the free distribution of food grain of five kilo per person per family per month is also considered an in-kind DBT. The number of beneficiaries for such in-kind DBTs was more than 1 billion in 2023-24. The distribution of in-kind benefits such as free food grain or a cooking gas cylinder also entails the cost of delivery. But DBT of cash is directly into the bank account already created by JDY. Hence the cost of transfer is minimal. Which is why cash DBT has caught on in popularity,

and many states are also using it. If you include the variants of DBT implemented by various states, the total number of schemes could surpass 450.

The latest example of a cash DBT is Maharashtra's Ladki Bahin Scheme (LBS). This gives 1500 rupees to every woman between the age of 21 and 65 who is domiciled in the state, not a government employee or taxpayer and whose family income is less than Rs 2.5 lakh per annum. Since it puts conditions for eligibility it cannot be called universal. But more than 2 crore applications have been received already. The Chief Minister has promised to double the benefit if re-elected. The estimated cost to the state's exchequer is Rs 46,000 crore per year. The objective of this cash transfer scheme is to empower women and help them come out of poverty. So, it is not unlike the objective of UBI. It was inspired by the Ladli Behna Scheme (LBS) launched in neighbouring Madhya Pradesh in January 2023, which received an enthusiastic response. That too was aimed at providing financial assistance to women, to empower, and to have resources for skill development and training. Interestingly, it was pitched only to married (or divorced or widowed) women. Madhya Pradesh had launched the Ladli Lakshmi scheme in 2007 which was emulated by six other states. Unlike LBS which is for financial empowerment, the Lakshmi scheme was aimed at the girl child and to reduce the skew in the sex ratio. The total benefit to the girl given as deferred payment on reaching the age of 21 was more than Rs 1 lakh.

If you count the various cash transfer schemes for girls and women across different states of India, it adds up to a significant amount. To that you can add in-kind benefits like free tuition, free bicycles, or free bus tickets and so on, which are being implemented in a few states. This does begin to get closer to universal income focused on the female gender. We need to then go back to the UBI debate and examine its viability in the present context, after eight years of being introduced in the Economic Survey.

For UBI to be fiscally viable, many existing schemes have to be cut down or replaced. For instance, the cash transfer to farmer households (PM Kisan) will be subsumed in UBI. The



In sincerity is the certitude of victory. Sincerity! Sincerity! How sweet is the purity of thy presence?

THE MOTHER

Ceasefire Now

Massive protests swept through Tel Aviv, Jerusalem and other Israeli cities Sunday night as tens of thousands vented their anger after the bodies of six hostages captured by Hamas on 7 October, last year were discovered in Gaza over the weekend. The huge scale of the protests with over five lakh participants, as per some media estimates, will hopefully pressurise Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and his Right-wing government to go for a ceasefire and hostage release deal with the Palestinian militant outfit. There are calls from within the cabinet, for example from Defence Minister Gallant, for Netanyahu to change course as also for holding fresh elections in the country as its longest serving prime minister's approval ratings are at their lowest.

The bodies of Carmel Gat, Hersh Goldberg-Polin, Eden Yerushalmi, Alexander Lobanov, Almog Sarusi and Ori Danino were found from a tunnel in the city of Raffah in southern Gaza even as a polio vaccination drive was launched in the war-ravaged Palestinian territory over the weekend. The hostages were shot multiple times from a close range. Of them, Goldberg-Polin, an American-Israeli, and four others were abducted from a music festival on 7 October, while the sixth was captured from a nearby farming community.

Netanyahu, despite facing immense pressure to end the war which has now been going on for close to 11 months, remained steadfast. "Whoever murders hostages - does not want a deal," he said. On the other hand, senior Hamas officials blamed Israel's refusal to agree to a ceasefire for the fatalities. "Netanyahu is responsible for the killing of Israeli prisoners... The Israelis should choose between Netanyahu and the deal," senior Hamas official Sami Abu Zuhri told news agency Reuters.

There are 101 more Israeli hostages held by the Hamas militant group. It is estimated by Israeli authorities that a third of them have been killed. Israelis are polarised over the fate of their hostages, leading to one of the most distressing political conflicts in the nation's history. Surveys indicate that a significant number of Israelis desire the return of hostages, even if it means exchanging them for Palestinian prisoners and agreeing to a ceasefire, which is indeed the need of the hour. They have lost faith in Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, feeling that he has displayed a dismissive attitude towards the plight of the hostages and the suffering of their families. While this is the view of the majority of Israelis, an influential minority believes that the hostages should be regarded as a necessary sacrifice to fulfil the objectives of the war, and the government evidently intends for those objectives to encompass the ultimate conquest and settlement of Gaza.

Netanyahu wants the war to continue to that end as he is desperate to save his own political career. He has so far paid no heed to the multiple calls for a ceasefire from various stakeholders, including from the United States, Israel's biggest ally. Unsurprisingly, this is what most despotic leaders the world over, elected or unelected, do when faced with a crisis. They take refuge in nationalism and war and in the process bring untold miseries to their victims who are mostly their own citizens.

Israel's ground and aerial offensives in Gaza have so far claimed over 40,000 lives, mostly civilians, and ousted most of the enclave's 2.3 million residents from their homes. A ceasefire appears to be the only hope for peace in the region and that seems to be the elusive dream.

WISDOM CORNER

Character cannot be developed in ease and quiet. Only through experience of trial and suffering can the soul be strengthened, ambition inspired, and success achieved.
HELEN KELLER

There are two kinds of people one can call reasonable: those who serve God with all their heart because they know him, and those who seek him with all their heart because they do not know him.
BLAISE PASCAL

Question with boldness even the existence of a God; because, if there be one, he must more approve of the homage of reason, than that of blind-folded fear.
THOMAS JEFFERSON

THIS DAY IN HISTORY

■ **1609:** English navigator Henry Hudson, in a quest for a passage to India on behalf of the Dutch East India Company, sailed into the harbour of present-day New York City and up the river that now bears his name.

■ **1783:** The Treaty of Paris (part of the Peace of Paris) was signed between Britain and the United States.

■ **1962:** American poet and painter E.E. Cummings—who first attracted attention, in an age of literary experimentation, for his unconventional punctuation and phrasing—died at age 67.

■ **1970:** American professional gridiron football coach Vince Lombardi—who became a national symbol of single-minded determination to win, known for leading the Green Bay Packers to victories in the first two Super Bowls—died at age 57.

■ **1971:** Qatar officially became independent from the United Kingdom. The Persian Gulf state gained its independence after 55 years of British rule.

■ **1976:** Viking 2's Mars landing. After a nearly yearlong journey, NASA's robotic spacecraft Viking 2 landed on Mars this day in 1976 and began relaying information about the planet's atmosphere and soil as well as colour photographs of the rocky surface.

LOL

Giving away a horse

A retiring farmer in preparation for selling his land, needed to rid his farm of animals. So he went to every house in his town. To the houses where the man is the boss, he gave a horse. To the houses where the woman is the boss, a chicken was given. He got toward the end of the street and saw a couple outside gardening. "Who's the boss around here?" he asked. "I am," said the man.



"I have a black horse and a brown horse," the farmer said, "which one would you like?" The man thought for a minute and said, "The black one." "No, no, no, get the brown one." the man's wife said. "Here's your chicken," said the farmer.

SPECTRUM MANUFACTURING

China's rise and imminent fall

Chinese overcapacity is raising concerns worldwide. It is easy to see why: China accounts for nearly one-third of the world's manufacturing value-added, and one-fifth of global manufacturing exports. But there is good reason to believe that the decline of China's manufacturing sector is imminent. To understand what is happening now in China, it is worth recalling Japan's recent history: After World War II, Japan's manufacturing sector grew rapidly, thanks largely to access to the massive US market. But the 1985 Plaza Accord (which boosted the yen's value and weakened Japanese exports), together with an aging population and a shrinking labour force, reversed this trend.



Yi Fuxian

TO UNDERSTAND WHAT IS HAPPENING NOW IN CHINA, IT IS WORTH RECALLING JAPAN'S RECENT HISTORY

From 1985 to 2022, the share of Japanese goods in US imports dropped from 22% to 5%, and Japan's share of global manufacturing exports declined from 16% to 4%. And the number of Japanese companies on the Fortune Global 500 list dropped from 149 in 1995 to just 40 today. China has followed a similar upward trajectory in recent decades, but China's manufac-

turing rise was even more dependent on the US market. Japan's imports from the United States equaled 51% of its exports to the US in 1978-84, compared to a 23% share for China in 2001-18.

Chinese family-planning policies are largely to blame for this imbalance. Typically, household disposable income would account for 60-70% of a country's GDP, in order to sustain household consumption of around 60% of GDP. In China, however, the one-child policy—which was in place from 1980 until 2015—limited household earnings, encouraged high savings, and constrained domestic demand.

As a result, Chinese household disposable income dropped from 62% of GDP in 1983 to 44% of GDP today, with household consumption falling from 53% of GDP to 37% of GDP. In Japan, by contrast, household consumption equals 56% of GDP. One can look at it this way: If wages would normally amount to \$60-70, Chinese workers receive only \$44 and have just \$37 of spending power, whereas Japanese workers have \$56 of spending power.

China's government, however, has plenty of financial resources, which it uses to support industrial subsidies and investment in manufacturing. Moreover, because China's manufacturing sector offers high returns, international investors are willing to channel capital toward it. Add to that a surplus of about 100 million workers, and excess capacity is difficult to avoid.

Given insufficient demand at home, China's only option for reducing its excess capacity and creating enough jobs for its population is to maintain a large current-account surplus. That is where the US comes in: the share of Chinese goods in US imports rose from 1% in 1985 to 22% in 2017. In 2001-18, the US accounted for three-quarters of China's trade surplus.

Beyond losing the American market, China is losing some of its own manufacturing companies, which are shifting part of their production to countries such as Vietnam and Mexico, to avoid US tariffs. This partial transfer augurs a wider withdrawal, much like that faced by Japan's manufacturing sector as it fell into decline.

China is looking increasingly like Japan for two other reasons. First, its workforce is rapidly shrinking and aging.

Second, China's services sector is set to squeeze manufacturing. As China's government seeks to increase the GDP share of household disposable income, Chinese demand for US goods will rise, and some manufacturing workers will shift to services, which is also where China's rapidly growing pool of college graduates will find employment.

The decline of manufacturing might not happen as fast as it did in Japan, because China has a larger domestic market and a more complete industrial ecosystem, and because it is investing heavily in artificial intelligence and robotics, which could deliver productivity gains. But decline is both inevitable and irreversible. Unfortunately for the US, however, this will not necessarily bring about a revival of domestic manufacturing.

The writer is a senior scientist at the University of Wisconsin-Madison.
@PROJECTSYNDICATE

Letters

TO THE EDITOR

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

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Focus on nutrition

Sir, Malnutrition among children is increasing globally. In India, this situation has worsened in the last five years, as noted by the National Family Health Survey (NFHS). According to a United Nations report, in 2021, 425 million people in Asia suffered from malnutrition. UNICEF statistics reveal that more than 180 million children worldwide are malnourished, with 65% of them residing in just 20 countries. Food is the foundation of health. Proper nutrition enhances physical and mental well-being and strengthens the immune system. When nutrition is inadequate, immunity becomes weak. Therefore, to raise awareness about the importance of nutrition, "National Nutrition Week" is observed in India every year from September 1 to 7. The programme aims to promote healthy eating habits among people, thereby improving physical and mental health. "National Nutrition Week 2024" provides an opportunity to improve our eating habits over a week. By making small, achievable changes every day, we can develop habits that promote better nutrition. By participating in the week-long events, people can learn about the importance of nutrition and balanced eating habits, choose healthier options, and live a healthier, disease-free life.
Krishna Kumar Vepakomma, HYDERABAD

Easing the nerves

Sir, It has been shown that a host of disorders and illnesses in babies can be prevented if they are properly breastfed. Mothers themselves stand to gain from feeding their children with breast milk. Experts have recommended exclusive breastfeeding of infants upto six months. Breastfeeding children till the age of 2 years is an effective measure for their overall health. However, it is also important for the mothers to feel comfortable to scientifically breast feed their offspring. Working mothers face a great deal of dilemma because privacy is a major issue. Several governments have put in place measures to ease the nerves of lactating mothers. Now, the Odisha government has directed government officials to set up breastfeeding cabins in offices and public places including private institutions for women. It may be noted that Odisha boasts of an average of 72.9 per cent exclusive breastfeeding rate which is nearly 10 per cent higher than the national average.
Ganapathi Bhat, AKOLA

Bakerwal community starts return journey to keep date with J&K polls



Gujjars and Bakerwal families migrate to the upper reaches of J&K along with their cattle at the beginning of summer in search of greener pastures and return to the grazing grounds in the plains ahead of winter.

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Kishtwar/Jammu, Sept 2: Mohammad Sidiq, a shepherd, is walking back to his native Kathua district in Jammu and Kashmir with his herd of sheep and goats from the high-altitude meadows of Kishtwar, months ahead than intended. Like him, many members of the pastoralist Bakerwal community are making the journey two months ahead of the scheduled seasonal migration to cast their votes in the Jammu and Kashmir Assembly polls, taking place for the first time since the abrogation of Article 370 of the Constitution in 2019. Gujjars and Bakerwal families migrate to the upper reaches of Jammu and Kashmir along with their cattle at the beginning of summer in search of greener pastures and return to the grazing grounds in the plains

During the recent LS elections, hundreds of Gujjars and Bakerwals walked long distances to their polling stations in the twin districts of Rajouri and Poonch to exercise their franchise

The last Assembly election in Jammu and Kashmir was held in 2014. On August 5, 2019, the Central government revoked the special status of Jammu and Kashmir granted under Article 370 and bifurcated it into two Union Territories - Jammu and Kashmir, and Ladakh.

In December last year, the Supreme Court directed the restoration of statehood in Jammu and Kashmir at the earliest and to hold elections to the Assembly by September 30, 2024.

Abdul Qayoom, a member of the Bakerwal community, was excited to participate in the polls taking place after a long wait.

"Our community is faced with many issues. Educationally, economically and socially we are backward compared to other sections of society. We hope the new government will focus on our upliftment," he said.

During the recent Lok Sabha elections, hundreds of Gujjars and Bakerwals walked long distances to their polling stations in the twin districts of Rajouri and Poonch to exercise their franchise.

A massive drive under the Election Commission's Systematic Voters' Education and Electoral Participation (SVEEP) programme is underway across the Union Territory in an effort to promote electoral awareness and ensure maximum participation of people in the upcoming polls.

Dozens of SVEEP programmes under the supervision of district election officers are being undertaken every day with a focus on all sections, especially the first-time voters, officials said.



Security personnel conduct a search operation after an army sentry opened fire on observing suspicious movement outside a camp, in Jammu, Monday

BJP releases 4th list for J&K polls

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Jammu, Sept 2: The BJP Monday released its fourth list of candidates for the Jammu and Kashmir Assembly polls, fielding its Union Territory unit president Ravinder Raina from Nowshera in the Jammu region.

With the fresh list, the party has so far named 51 candidates, including 14 for the Kashmir Valley, where the BJP is yet to open its account in Assembly elections.

Raina, who won from Nowshera in Rajouri district in the 2014 polls too, has been fielded again from his home constituency.

The other names in the list are former MLC Vibodh Gupta from Rajouri (ST) in the Jammu region; and Aijaiz Hussain (Lal Chowk), Arif Raja (Eidgah), Ali Mohammad Mir (Khansahib) and Zahid Hussain (Chrar-e-Sharif) from the Kashmir Valley.

The list was released on the approval of the party's central election committee.

The Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir, which has a 90-member assembly, is going to polls in three phases from September 18, 25 and October 1. These six seats will vote in the second phase.

BJP MLA urges Shah to withdraw 60K Central forces from Manipur

INDO-ASIAN NEWS SERVICE

Imphal, Sept 2: A day after two persons were killed and 10 others were injured in an attack by suspected Kuki militants in Imphal West District, influential BJP MLA Rajkumar Imo Singh Monday requested Union Home Minister Amit Shah to withdraw 60,000 Central forces from the state claiming "they are not yielding peace".

Singh, who's the son-in-law of Chief Minister N Biren Singh, wrote to the Home Minister stating that the presence of around 60,000 Central forces in Manipur "is not yielding peace, thus it's better to remove such forces who are mostly present as mute spectators".

"We are pleased with the action to remove certain units of Assam Rifles who were not cooperating with the state government and the public, but if the presence of Central forces cannot stop the violence, it is better to remove them and allow the state forces to take charge and bring peace in Manipur," the MLA said in the letter. Noting that the Central government has to take more stringent measures against armed militant/insurgent groups,



the lawmaker said the militants violated the ground rules of Suspension of Operation (SoO). The Home Ministry has to abrogate the SoO pact against these groups who are constantly spreading violence, said Singh, a three-term MLA from Sagolband Assembly constituency in Imphal West District.

A total of 23 underground outfits under two conglomerates - eight under United Peoples' Front (UPF) and 15 under Kuki National Organisation (KNO) - signed the Suspension of Operation (SoO) agreement with the government of India in August 2008.

Demanding to investigate the fundings and supply of arms and ammunition to the militant outfits, Singh said, "Earlier also I said that a mere ethnic conflict should not last for such a long

time, but it has continued for nearly a year-and-a-half due to the support and supply of illegal arms and ammunition. One has to act and stop these supplies immediately to halt all kinds of violence in the state."

"The militants are constantly spreading terror in the state," he added. The Central government has to hand over the unified command to the state government headed by the Chief Minister and allow it to act as per the procedures prescribed by law to bring peace and normalcy in the state, Singh said, adding that the present set up is not able to prevent violence.

The BJP MLA also demanded the Centre to initiate political dialogue and engagement between all the stakeholders at the earliest to bring to a permanent and peaceful solution to the ethnic crisis in Manipur.

This process may take some time but it has to be initiated at the earliest, he added.

Soon after the ethnic violence broke out in Manipur May 3 last year, the Central government appointed former Director General of CRPF, Kuldeep Singh, as the Chief Security Advisor to the Manipur government.

PDP banks on Ittija Mufti to retain party's bastion in J&K



PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Srinagar, Sept 2: The PDP has banked on Ittija Mufti, the daughter of party chief Mehbooba Mufti and a third-generation member of the family, to retain its Srigufwara-Bijbehara Assembly seat, a PDP bastion since 1996.

The Srigufwara-Bijbehara Assembly seat, earlier known as the Bijbehara constituency before the delimitation exercise of 2022, is going to polls in the first phase of Assembly elections in Jammu and Kashmir September 18.

This constituency in south Kashmir's Anantnag district has the least number of candidates - just three - of all the 24 constituencies that will go to polls three weeks from now.

The other two candidates in the fray are two former MLCs - National Conference (NC) leader Bashir Ahmad Shah and BJP leader Sofi Mohammad Yousuf.

If 37-year-old Ittija Mufti emerges victorious, it would strengthen the PDP's - and the Mufti family's - hold on this bastion that they have made their own since 1996.

Mufti Mohammad Sayeed, who founded the PDP in the latter part of his long political ca-

reer, started his electoral foray with a win from the Bijbehara seat in 1962 as candidate of the NC faction headed by Ghulam Mohammad Sadiq.

PDP president Mehbooba Mufti also started her electoral politics from Bijbehara, winning on Congress ticket. She resigned from the Assembly when the Senior Mufti decided to part ways with the Congress and floated his own regional outfit.

Mufti loyalist and senior PDP leader Abdul Rehman Bhat won four consecutive elections from Bijbehara till 2014, the last Assembly polls held in Jammu and Kashmir. Bhat has been given the party ticket from the Shangus-Anantnag West constituency this time.

National Conference candidate will be hoping to break the PDP stranglehold on this constituency which was represented by his father Abdul Gani Shah from 1977 to 1990.

The oldest political party of Kashmir has invested heavily in Bashir Ahmad Shah, giving him the party ticket several times even though he lost every time. He was even made an MLC when the NC formed a coalition government with the Congress from 2009 to 2014.

DRONE ATTACKS IN MANIPUR Congress questions Centre's 'silence'

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Imphal, Sept 2: The Congress Monday wondered why the Central government is mum on the use of drones in militant attacks that left two persons dead and nine others injured in a village in Manipur's Imphal West District.

If bombs are dropped with the help of drones, it is a question of national security since the Raj Bhavan and the chief minister's residence might not be safe, Congress Legislature Party leader O Ibobi Singh told a press conference.

"The state government has learnt about the unfortunate incident of attack on unarmed Koutruk villagers using drone, bombs and sophisticated weapons," a Home department statement said Sunday.

The BJP government in the state has failed to protect lives of the people, alleged Singh, a former three-time chief minister.

He said, "Who will protect the lives and properties of the people? Why is the Central gov-

JOINT COMBING OPS ON

Security forces continued their joint combing operations Monday in Manipur's Kangpokpi and Imphal West district, where suspected Kuki militants killed two people including a woman, injured ten others and burnt many abandoned houses at Koutruk and neighbouring Kadangband villages. A police officer said that combing operations and area domination marches were being conducted by the Central and state security forces in both the fringe and vulnerable areas of hill and valley districts. So far no one has been arrested in connection with Sunday's attack. After a lull of many weeks, Sunday's militant attacks caused widespread panic among the Meitei community people, while men, women, children and elderly people fled to safer locations.

ernment silently looking into such acts? Where is the democratically elected government in the state?"

The latest development at Koutruk has shown that modern technology that is deployed in warfare in Ukraine and Israel are now being used in Manipur, Singh said.

Koutruk, located around 18km from the state capital Imphal, has witnessed several attacks since ethnic violence in Manipur broke out in May last year. Over 200 people were killed and thousands

rendered homeless in the clashes.

He said, "It has become a question of national security now. Are the Raj Bhavan and the Chief Minister's Bungalow safe from drone attacks? If these two complexes are not safe, what about the rest of the people?"

The Congress leader wondered whether the Centre is ignoring Manipur since it is a small state.

"We are not asking for President's Rule but why is the Centre remaining a mute spectator," he said.

Museum highlights J&K's history, Army's contributions

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Srinagar, Sept 2: The famous Gulmarg ski resort in Jammu and Kashmir now boasts a new tourist attraction, with the inauguration of a unique museum showcasing the Union Territory's rich history and heritage, along with the Army's role in the Valley's security and development.

The Gulmarg Army Museum 'Gul-A-Seum' was inaugurated by Army commander, Northern Command, Lt Gen MV Suchindra Kumar Saturday, a Srinagar-based defence spokesperson said in a state-



ment. The museum is an initiative to highlight the rich his-

tory and heritage of Kashmir along with role of Indian Army

ARMY'S KILO FORCE MARKS SILVER JUBILEE



PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Srinagar, Sept 2: Army's counter-insurgency unit Kilo Force, responsible for anti-terror operations in north Kashmir, celebrated its silver jubilee Monday, a defence spokesperson said.

Raised September 1, 1999, the force has also played a critical role in securing vital communication lines, maintaining peace, enforcing law and order and fostering strong relationships with the local populace through meaningful engagement and guidance to youth in north Kashmir, he said.

The Headquarters Counter Insurgency Force (Kilo) proudly celebrated its Silver Jubilee, marking 25 years of gallant and

distinguished service, the spokesperson said here.

The Silver Jubilee celebrations commenced with a wreath laying at the Kilo Force War Memorial by Lt Gen Rajiv Ghai, GOC, Chinara Corps and Maj Gen Vivek Narang, GOC Kilo Force who paid homage to the bravehearts who made the supreme sacrifice in the line of duty, followed by a Special Sainik Sammela and celebration with troops, he added.

While interacting with troops, the GOC commended them for their exceptional valour, unwavering dedication and operational excellence, which has been the hallmark of Kilo Force over the last 25 years, the spokesperson said.

towards enhancing the security and development of Kashmir Valley, the spokesperson said.

The museum was conceptualised and constructed by the Army's Dagger Division and its Himalayan Brigade. The Army museum showcases the valour, sacrifice and enduring spirit of the Indian armed forces towards nation building, he said.

The state-of-the-art facility is dedicated to showcasing the Army's pivotal role in various wartime efforts, its contribution to national development and the rich cultural tapestry of Jammu and Kashmir, he added.

The museum would add another colourful feather to the beauty of Gulmarg and would provide an opportunity to the tourists visiting the resort and help them in learning about the rich cultural heritage of Kashmir, the spokesman said.

The museum features an extensive collection of artefacts, documents and interactive displays through which visitors can explore the cultural heritage of Jammu and Kashmir, showcasing region's unique traditions, art and historical milestones along with the Army's engagement in the region for nation building.

national

of the day quote

In view of a lot of complaints about potholes in Bengaluru, I have given a 15-day deadline to BBMP Chief Commissioner Tushar Giri Nath to fill up potholes

We are steadfast in our mission to establish BJP government in J&K, with a vision centred on transparent governance, development, and maximising natural resources

Due to the efficient police system, not a single riot has taken place in the state during the last seven years. Today, Uttar Pradesh is being seen as a model of good governance. The state has succeeded in changing the world's view about itself

SHORT TAKES

Second drone attack in 2 days in Manipur

Imphal: A 23-year-old woman was injured after suspected militants launched a fresh bomb attack using a drone in Manipur's Imphal West district Monday, police said. This is the second drone attack in two days. Monday's place of raid is located around 3 km from Koutruk where two persons were killed and nine others injured in bomb and gun attacks Sunday. At least two explosives were dropped from a drone Monday evening at Senjam Chirang in which the woman was injured, they said.

IAF's MiG-29 aircraft crashes in Barmer

Jaipur/New Delhi: A MiG-29 fighter aircraft of the Indian Air Force crashed in Rajasthan's Barmer Monday night due to a "critical" technical snag. The pilot ejected safely and no loss of life was reported. A senior IAF official said a Court of Inquiry has been ordered into the incident. The IAF later also posted an update on X after the incident. During a routine night training mission in Barmer sector, an IAF MiG-29 encountered a "critical" technical snag, forcing the pilot to eject, the IAF said on X.

Four killed in road mishap

Damoh (MP): At least four persons were killed and more than 20 injured when a tractor-trolley carrying them overturned in Madhya Pradesh's Damoh district, police said Monday. The incident occurred on the intervening night of Sunday and Monday near Fatehpur village under the Batiyagarh police station limits, said Superintendent of Police Shrutikirti Somvanshi. The tractor trolley was carrying some residents of Ghughas village in Damoh district to Jatashankar in Chhatarpur district, the SP said.

Naxal surrenders before security forces

Ranchi: A self-proclaimed "area commander" of banned outfit Tritiya Sammelan Prastuti Committee (TSPC), a splinter group of CPI (Maoist), surrendered before security forces in Jharkhand Monday, police said. The Naxal, identified as Rahul Ganju alias Khalil ji, joined the banned outfit in 2016. He was wanted in 21 cases related to extortion, threats and encounters in different police stations in Ranchi and its surrounding areas, according to a police statement.



The PDP tells the truth. Look at the National Conference's governing period and compare it to ours. The National Conference governed Jammu and Kashmir for 40 out of 70 years. We had a third of the MLAs of the National Conference and yet look at our performance. There is no comparison

MEHBOOBA MUFTI | PDP CHIEF

SIKH BODIES OBJECT TO 'EMERGENCY'

Government is learnt to be treading a cautious line on the row over Kangana Ranaut starrer 'Emergency' after the top Sikh religious body, Shiromani Gurdwara Prabandhak Committee, raised certain objections over the film. The film directed by Ranaut - the BJP Lok Sabha member from Mandi in Himachal Pradesh - was scheduled for release September 6 but is yet to get a clearance from the Central Board of Film Certification (CBFC)



Andhra, T'gana reel under rain fury

Due to incessant rains in the two states, flooding and breaches were reported in Kazipet-Vijayawada section and five trains were stranded

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Hyderabad/Vijayawada, Sept 2: Torrential downpour in Telangana and Andhra Pradesh left 31 persons dead, battered roads and rail tracks snapping connectivity, submerged thousands of acres of agricultural crops and left people scampering for daily needs as rescue agencies were pressed into rescue and rehabilitation efforts.

The two Telugu speaking states were reeling under the impact of the rains Monday, as 16 persons were killed in Telangana and 15 others in the neighbouring Andhra Pradesh, which particularly bore the brunt of the rain fury.

A portion of gravel under the railway track near Kesamudram in Telangana was washed away due to floodwaters.

Nearly 4.5 lakh people were affected in Andhra, even as heart-wrenching scenes of people struggling to ensure essentials, including milk were witnessed in the worst affected Vijayawada. The most affected districts included NTR, Guntur, Krishna,

Eluru, Palnadu, Bapatla and Prakasam, said an official press release.

Twenty SDRF and 19 NDRF teams are engaged in relief and rescue operations.

Life was completely thrown out of gear in Vijayawada following torrential downpour over the past three days and with more than 24 hours of power cuts in several parts of the city.

Visuals aired on local TV news channels showed a woman lamenting to Chief Minister N Chandrababu Naidu that people were stranded for two days in Vijayawada without drinking water. She complained no boat came to their rescue while another man standing in waist deep waters begged Naidu, who was touring the flood-affected areas for the third time on a boat, to understand their predicament.

People were seen wading through floodwaters carrying their children on shoulders to safety while an old woman lying on a mattress was seen being shifted over floodwaters by two persons. Some people tried to help themselves through the deluge using a rope.

As people waded through the floodwaters, a few of them held on to some basic necessities in their hands and a large queue was formed at one of the flood-affected places to collect milk



sachets and food packets.

At one such place, a flood victim complained they did not have milk since Sunday morning and alleged no help came their way from the government.

Internet and mobile telephone connectivity were disrupted and long traffic snarls disrupted normal life. Connectivity to Hyderabad was affected. Transportation within Vijayawada city and its vicinity was chaotic.

At Prakasam Barrage, 11.3 lakh cusecs of floodwaters were discharged by 8 am Monday.

In Telangana, at least 16 people lost their lives in various rain-related incidents and the state government Monday put the damage at ₹5,000 crore citing preliminary estimates. It sought

an immediate Central assistance of ₹2,000 crore.

Chief Minister A Revanth Reddy appealed to Prime Minister Narendra Modi to visit the affected areas and declare the floods as a national calamity. He also announced an ex-gratia of ₹five lakh each to the kin of those who were killed in the rain-related incidents.

The CM held a meeting with ministers and officials at Suryapet as part of his visit to rain-hit areas.

State IT and Industries Minister D Sridhar Babu said full details on the loss of life and others would be known after reports on damage are received. The government will submit a comprehensive report on the flood damage to the Centre, an

Cong makes conflict of interest allegations against SEBI chief

Oppn asks PM to come clean on appointment

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, Sept 2: The Congress Monday levelled fresh conflict of interest allegations against SEBI Chairperson Madhabi Buch and asked Prime Minister Narendra Modi to come clean as the head of the appointments committee of the cabinet on her appointment.

The Opposition party said the Supreme Court should take cognisance of these fresh revelations and demanded that the Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) chairperson should be dismissed immediately.

At a press conference, the Congress alleged that since the current SEBI chairperson took office in 2017, she has not only been drawing a salary from SEBI but has also been holding an office of profit at the ICICI Bank, continuing to receive income from them to this very day.

While there was no immediate response from Buch, ICICI Bank



The non-biological PM, who has been complicit in providing cover to the SEBI chairperson through his silence, must come clean and answer the following questions -- What is the fit and proper criteria for appointment of heads of regulatory bodies

JAIRAM RAMESH | CONGRESS GENERAL SECRETARY

said it has not paid any salary or granted ESOPs to the SEBI chairperson after her retirement October 31, 2013.

Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge said since the SEBI chairperson was appointed by the Narendra Modi-Amit Shah-led committee (appointments committee of the cabinet), they cannot absolve themselves, from the new revelations involving charges of corruption.

"Narendra Modi ji, for 10 years, you have tried your best to crush the autonomy and independence of India's long-standing institutions to help your cronies friends! We saw this in the case of appointments in CBI, ED,

RBI, CEC; now we are facing the same in SEBI," Kharge said in a post on X.

"We demand that - Hon'ble Supreme Court should take cognisance of these fresh revelations. SEBI chairperson should be dismissed immediately. There should be a JPC investigation of the Adani Mega Scam," Kharge said.

Congress general secretary in-charge communications Jairam Ramesh said serious questions have been raised over the conflict of interest of the SEBI chairperson in the regulatory body's Supreme Court-mandated investigations into violations of securities laws by the Adani Group.

COURT CORNER

Maliwal assault case: SC grants bail to Kejriwal aide Bibhav Kumar

New Delhi: The Supreme Court Monday granted bail to Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal's aide Bibhav Kumar in the Swati Maliwal assault case. A bench of Justices Surya Kant and Ujjal Bhuyan directed that Kumar will not be reinstated as a personal assistant to Kejriwal or given any official assignment in the chief minister's office. The top court also restrained Kumar from entering the chief minister's residence till all witnesses have been examined. Kumar allegedly assaulted Maliwal, a Rajya Sabha MP, May 13 at Kejriwal's official residence. While denying him bail, the high court had said the accused enjoys "considerable influence" and no ground has been made out to grant him the relief.

Shambhu border: SC forms committee to resolve grievances of farmers

New Delhi: Observing that the issue of farmers' protest should not be politicised, the Supreme Court Monday constituted a high-powered committee headed by former Punjab and Haryana High Court judge Justice Nawab Singh to amicably resolve the grievances of protesting farmers at the Shambhu border. A bench of Justices Surya Kant and Ujjal Bhuyan directed the committee to convene its first meeting within a week and asked the panel to reach out to the agitating farmers to immediately remove their tractors, trolleys etc. from the Shambhu border between Punjab and Haryana to provide relief to commuters. Both the Punjab and the Haryana governments will be free to give suggestions to the committee, it added.

Excise policy 'scam': SC grants bail to Vijay Nair in PMLA case

New Delhi: In a relief to former AAP communication in-charge Vijay Nair, the Supreme Court Monday granted him bail after nearly 23 months of incarceration in a money laundering case stemming from the alleged Delhi excise policy scam, observing that liberty is "sacrosanct" and needs to be respected in cases involving even stringent laws. A bench of Justices Hrishikesh Roy and SVN Bhatti also relied upon the legal principle of "bail is rule and jail is exception" referred to by a bench headed by Justice BR Gavai while granting bail to AAP leader and former deputy chief Minister Manish Sisodia and BRS leader K Kavitha in the same case.

Kolkata protests: SC dismisses bail plea of Chhatra Samaj leader

New Delhi: The Supreme Court Monday dismissed the West Bengal government's plea challenging the Calcutta High Court's order granting bail to one of the organisers of the August 27 march to the state secretariat to protest against a trainee woman doctor's rape and murder. A bench of Justices JB Pardiwala and Justice Manoj Misra said "prima facie" a case for bail was made out in the case. The Calcutta High Court on Friday granted bail to Paschim Banga Chhatra Samaj leader Sayan Lahiri. Paschim Banga Chhatra Samaj, an unregistered student group, was one of the two organisations that gave the call for the August 27 'Nabanna Abhijan'. Lahiri was arrested August 27 evening for playing an active role in leading the rally which, the police said, turned violent, causing destruction of public and private property and attacks on police officers. Acting on a plea by Lahiri's mother Anjali seeking quashing of proceedings against him and grant of bail, the Calcutta High Court had on Friday ordered his release from police custody by 2 pm Saturday.

Forest dept using dolls to bait man-eating wolves

THE MAN-EATING WOLVES HAVE UNLEASHED A REIGN OF TERROR KILLING SEVEN KIDS AND ONE WOMAN

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Bhraich (UP), Sept 2: In a bid to catch wolves that have unleashed a reign of terror in this district of Uttar Pradesh, the Forest department here has initiated an innovative effort of using colourful teddy dolls soaked in children's urine as a bait to capture them, a senior forest official said Monday.

Over the past few months, the Brahraich district has been plagued by a series of attacks by man-eating wolves targeting the children and villagers. So far seven children and one woman have lost their lives in wolf attacks. Thirty others have been mauled or injured. The latest attack took place Sunday night in which a

2.5-year-old girl was killed.

These dolls have been strategically placed near the riverbanks, close to the wolves' resting places and dens, and are being soaked in children's urine to simulate the natural human scent.

"The wolves are constantly changing their locations. Typically, they hunt at night and return to their dens by morning. Our strategy is to mislead them and lure them away from residential areas towards traps or cages placed near their dens," divisional forest officer Ajit Pratap Singh said.

"Since these animals have primarily been targeting children, we have introduced large teddy dolls dressed in colourful clothes, soaked in

children's urine, to create a false sense of human presence near the traps. The natural human scent may attract the wolves closer to the traps," the officer added.

Senior IFS officer Ramesh Kumar Pandey, who has extensive experience working in the Terai forests and is currently serving as the Inspector General of Forests in the Ministry of Environment, said that wolves, jackals, foxes, coyotes and other domestic and wild dogs belong to the canid species. They always tend to attack in packs and targets humans or animals that are smaller in size.

In recent months, a pack of wolves in the Mahsi Tehsil of Brahraich has become increasingly aggressive, with attacks intensifying since

Wolves maul to death child, injure women

A two-year-old girl was killed and two women injured in three separate wolf attacks in the Mahsi area of Brahraich district while reports of suspected animal attacks were also received from neighbouring Sitapur district. District Magistrate (Bhraich) Monika Rani said this was the eighth death in wolf attacks since July 17. Seven children were among those killed and about 30 injured. In the second incident, 70-year-old Kamala Devi from Mauja Kotiya village in the Barabigha area was injured when a wolf entered her house and attacked her early on Monday, they said. In the third incident, Suman Devi (45) was found injured in a suspected wolf attack early Monday and hospitalised, the officials said.

July. Officials said that four of the six have been captured, but two remain at large, continuing to pose a threat in the area. The Forest department is actively searching for these wolves using both thermal and regular drones, an official informed.

CBI arrests ex-RG Kar principal Sandip Ghosh



PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Kolkata, Sept 2: The CBI Monday arrested the former principal of RG Kar Medical College and Hospital Dr Sandip Ghosh in connection with the alleged financial misconduct at the establishment, officials said.

Ghosh was questioned for the 15th day at the agency's Salt Lake office over the alleged rape and murder of the RG Kar hospital post-graduate trainee August 9.

He was later escorted to the CBI's Nizam Palace office in Kolkata which houses the agency's anti-corruption wing and was shown as arrested.

This is the second arrest in the ghastly RG Kar crime fallout scenario that took place 24 days after the crime was committed.

CCEA nod to Mumbai-Indore rail line

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, Sept 2: The Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs Monday approved a 309-kilometre new line project, providing the shortest rail connectivity between the two major commercial hubs of Mumbai and Indore, Union minister Ashwini Vaishnaw said.

The total cost of the project has been pegged at ₹18,036 crore and it will be completed by 2028-29, the minister said.

The project will generate direct employment for about 102 lakh man-days, or what Vaishnaw described as "human days", during the construction.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi said in a post on X, "Today's Cabinet decision will improve connectivity between Mumbai and Indore. In addition to boosting commerce, it will also provide employment opportunities to several people."

An official statement later said the new line between Indore and Manmad would provide direct connectivity and improve mobility, ensuring enhanced efficiency and service reliability for the Indian Railways.

The project is a result of the PM-Gati Shakti National Master Plan for multi-modal connectivity, which has been possible through integrated planning and will provide seamless connectivity for the movement of people, goods and services, it said.

national

of the day quote

The BJP is full of empty promises and false declarations. The people who have been exploited by the BJP for 10 years will show them the door out in the upcoming polls

KUMARI SELJA | CONGRESS LEADER

All departments of the Delhi government have become epicentres of corruption whether it is health, education or any other department

VIRENDRA SACHDEV | BJP PRESIDENT, DELHI

I think it is not alright to linger on in the BJP in such a situation. I will wait for a few more days and then take a decision

EKNATH KHADSE | FORMER MINISTER, MAHARASHTRA

X POST OF THE DAY

When a house is on fire, as it has been in Manipur for more than a year, there are two kinds of people whom you would see... First, who try to douse the fire. Second, who just run away from there. I don't have to tell you that the Indian government belongs to which category.

@MANOJ_216

SHORT TAKES

ED arrests AAP MLA Amanatullah Khan

New Delhi: The Enforcement Directorate Monday arrested AAP MLA Amanatullah Khan as part of a money laundering investigation against him and some others linked to him, official sources said. He was taken into custody under the provisions of the Prevention of Money Laundering Act (PMLA) after the agency conducted a search at his residence in Okhla area of the national capital that was launched just after 6 am. They said some questions were put to Khan during the searches but he remained "evasive" and hence was arrested.

Soldier killed at military installation

Jammu: An army personnel suffered a fatal bullet injury at a military station here Monday, a defence spokesman said, ruling out any terror angle after the firing sparked an alert and a massive house-to-house search in the area. According to officials, Naik Kuldeep Singh of Punjab was on guard duty when he was hit by a bullet in the head at Sunjawan Military Station on the outskirts of Jammu and was evacuated to a hospital where he succumbed to injuries.

JJP MLA Devender Singh Babli joins BJP

New Delhi: Haryana MLA Devender Singh Babli, who was elected on the ticket of the Jannayak Janata Party (JJP), joined the BJP Monday, as the ruling party looks to bolster its ranks in the state ahead of the upcoming Assembly polls. The Tohana MLA was a minister in the government headed by former chief minister Manohar Lal Khattar and might be fielded by the BJP in the polls. Babli said the BJP is driven by the mindset of development. He expressed confidence that the party will return to power in Haryana for a third term.



Political attempts to divide and poison society often give rise to intolerance and hatred towards different communities and minorities. Rather than upholding the state's ethos, politicians themselves are fuelling violence

PRIYANKA CHATURVEDI | RAJYA SABHA MP

INDIAN NAVY'S P8I AIRCRAFT IN FRANCE FOR EXERCISE VARUNA

A P8I aircraft of the Indian Navy has reached France to participate in 'Exercise Varuna' with the French Navy, an official said. The 2024 edition of Indo-French bilateral naval 'Exercise Varuna', scheduled from Sep 2 to 4 in the Mediterranean Sea, will include advanced tactical exercises between the two navies, a spokesperson of the Indian Navy said in a statement



IC-814 SERIES ROW

I&B Ministry summons Netflix content head

The depiction of hijackers of the Indian Airlines flight from Kathmandu to Delhi has stirred controversy with a section of viewers objecting to the 'humane' projection of the perpetrators

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, Sept 2: The government has summoned the content head of OTT platform Netflix over the series 'IC-814: The Kandahar Hijack', which has triggered a row over the depiction of hijackers, contending that nobody has the right to play

with the sentiments of the nation. Official sources said the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting has summoned the content head of Netflix India Tuesday, seeking an explanation on the allegedly contentious aspects of the OTT series portraying the 1999 hijack of an Indian Airlines flight by Pakistan-based terror outfit Harkat-ul-Mujahideen. The depiction of hijackers of the Indian Airlines flight from Kathmandu to Delhi has stirred controversy with a section of viewers objecting to the 'humane' projection of the perpetrators. "Nobody has the right to play with the sentiments of the people of this nation. Indian culture and civilisation should always be respected," another official source said.



"Should we allow any foreign people to slipshod over our cultural values," the source said without elaborating. The sources said filmmakers have to think before portraying something in a wrong manner. "You may be liberal, but you

Using hashtags #BoycottNetflix, #BoycottBollywood and #IC814, several X users shared posts claiming the filmmakers changed the names of the hijackers to 'Shankar' and 'Bhola' to allegedly protect the terrorists who belonged to a certain community

cannot portray institutions in a wrong manner," the source said. Using hashtags #BoycottNetflix, #BoycottBollywood and #IC814, several X users shared posts claiming the filmmakers changed the names of the hi-

jackers to 'Shankar' and 'Bhola' to allegedly protect the terrorists who belonged to a certain community. BJP IT Cell chief Amit Malviya said the hijackers of the IC-814 flight were dreaded terrorists, who acquired aliases to hide their Muslim identities. "Filmmaker Anubhav Sinha, legitimised their criminal intent, by furthering their non-Muslim names. Decades later, people will think Hindus hijacked IC-814," Malviya posted on X. "Left's agenda to whitewash the crimes of Pakistani terrorists, all Muslims, served. This is the power of cinema, which the Communists have been using aggressively, since the 70s. Perhaps even earlier," Malviya said.

Landslide claims two on Vaishno Devi track

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Katra/Jammu, Sept 2: Two women pilgrims from Punjab and Uttar Pradesh died while a five-year-old girl was grievously injured in a landslide on the new track to the Vaishno Devi shrine in Jammu and Kashmir's Reasi district Monday, officials said. Movement of pilgrims on the Himkoti track was halted fol-



lowing the landslide but the pilgrimage to the shrine atop Trikuta hills continued through the traditional Sanjichhatt route, they said.

Describing the incident as "unfortunate", Jammu and Kashmir Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha expressed grief over the loss of lives and sanctioned an ex gratia of Rs 5 lakh each to the bereaved families.

The deceased have been identified as Sanna (27) of Dhianpur village in Punjab's Gurdaspur, and Neha (23) of Kanpur in Uttar Pradesh, officials said.

In a condolence message, Sinha said, "Extremely pained to learn about the loss of precious lives of pilgrims due to the unfortunate incident of shooting stones on Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Shrine track today. My deepest condolences to bereaved families in this hour of grief."

Officials said the landslide hit the route near Panchi, three kilometres ahead of Bhawan, around 2.15 pm. A portion of an overhead iron structure was also damaged, they said.

The pilgrims were heading for the shrine when they got trapped under the iron structure following the landslide, officials said.

ELECTORAL ROLL CASE

Delhi HC rejects plea to quash defamation case against Kejriwal

BJP leader accused Arvind Kejriwal and AAP leaders of defaming the BJP by claiming the party was responsible for deleting 3 million names from the Delhi electoral rolls

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, Sept 2: The Delhi High Court Monday refused to quash the proceedings against Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal and other AAP leaders in a defamation case over their remarks about alleged deletion of the names of 30 lakh voters belonging to some communities from electoral rolls here, saying the imputations prima facie lowered down the reputation of BJP. The high court said the imputations were prima facie "defamatory" with an intention of vilifying the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) and gaining undue political mileage. Justice Anoop Kumar Mendiratta dismissed the plea by Kejriwal and three others - Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) former Rajya Sabha member Sushil Kumar Gupta, Minister of Education Atishi and party leader Manoj Kumar - challenging the defamation proceedings pending before the trial court.

The high court, which had February 28, 2020 stayed the proceedings, vacated the interim order and asked the parties to appear before the trial court October 3.

The AAP leaders had challenged a sessions court order which upheld a magisterial court's decision to summon them as accused in the complaint filed by BJP leader Rajeev Babbar.

The high court said a political party cannot be allowed to engage in mud-slinging and making



The high court said a political party cannot be allowed to engage in mud-slinging and making 'mischievous, false and defamatory' imputations against rival political parties

"mischievous, false and defamatory" imputations against rival political parties.

"Under the constitutional schemes, the citizens have a right to know truthful and correct information in order to form an appropriate opinion about the social processes. However, at the same time, a political party cannot be permitted to sponsor the print media for political purposes, thereby slinging mud and making mischievous, false and defamatory imputations on the rival political parties," the high court said.

It further said, "The imputations in the present case are prima facie defamatory with an intention of vilifying BJP and

gaining undue political mileage by attributing that BJP was responsible for deletion of names of about 30 lakh voters belonging to particular communities."

The court said prima facie the tweets and press conferences appear to be malicious and defamatory to the BJP and specifically to its Delhi unit and the office bearers of the party, with serious consequences for having targeted particular communities.

The court said it is of the considered opinion that there is a fine distinction between legitimate criticism of the policies of a political party or the government or an organisation and intentional malicious imputations which may be defamatory.

"The issue highlighted by the petitioners regarding discrepancies in the list of voters prepared and uploaded on the website of Election Commission may have been crucial and critical from the perspective of citizens, but imputing that the exercise of deletion of names of certain communities was at instance of BJP clearly exhibits that the imputations were made with malafides.

J&K ASSEMBLY POLLS

Cong releases second list of 6 candidates

The total number of candidates declared by the party is now 15

AGENCIES

New Delhi, Sept 2: The Congress Monday released its second list of six candidates for the upcoming assembly polls in Jammu and Kashmir, fielding JKPCC chief Tariq Hameed Karra from Central Shalteng.

The list was released soon after Congress' Central Election Committee (CEC) met here to finalise names of candidates for the elections, which the party is contesting in alliance with the National Conference.

Apart from J&K Pradesh Congress Committee chief Karra, the party has fielded Mumtaz Khan from Reasi, Bhopender Jamwal from Mata Vaishno Devi, Ifikhar Ahmed from Rajouri (ST), Shabbir Ahmed Khan from Thannamandi (ST) and Mohammad Shah Nawaz Choudhary from Surankote (ST). These constituencies will go



to polls in the second phase of the three-phase Assembly elections.

The total number of candidates declared by the party is now 15. Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge, former party chief Rahul Gandhi, general secretary in-charge (organisation) K C Venugopal, Karra, Jammu and Kashmir screening committee chief Sukhjinder Singh Randhawa and senior leader Salman Khurshid, among others, attended the meeting at the AICC headquarters here.

The National Conference and the Congress have finalised the seat-sharing formula and will contest 51 and 32 seats, respectively. There will be a friendly contest on a few seats.



Union Ministers Pralhad Joshi, Bhopender Yadav and Nirmala Sitharaman and Minister of State Arjun Ram Meghwal during the launch of BJP's membership campaign 'Sadasyata Abhiyan 2024', in New Delhi, Monday

CABINET APPROVES DIGITAL AGRICULTURE MISSION

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, Sept 2: The Union Cabinet Monday approved an outlay of Rs 2,817 crore to support digital initiatives in the agriculture sector, aimed at enhancing farmers' income and providing direct-indirect employment opportunities in the sector.

"The Union Cabinet, chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, approved the Digital Agriculture Mission today with an outlay of Rs 2,817 crore, including the central share of Rs 1,940 crore," according to an official statement.

This scheme is one of the seven programmes approved by the Cabinet with an outlay of nearly Rs 14,000 crore.

The Digital Agriculture Mission is "conceived as an umbrella scheme to support digital agriculture initiatives, such as creating digital public infra-

structure, implementing the Digital General Crop Estimation Survey (DGCES), and taking up other IT initiatives by the central government, state governments, and academic and research institutions".

The aim is to make timely and reliable information available for the agriculture sector and provide farmer-centric digital service. Digital identity to farmers, similar to Aadhaar, is one of the key components of these digital initiatives.

To bring about a digital revolution in the farm sector, the government announced the building of Digital Public Infrastructure for agriculture in the Union Budget 2023-24. Further, in the Budget 2024-25, the augmentation of the DPI initiative for the agricultural sector has also been announced.

"The Digital Public Infrastructure (DPI) for agriculture aims to provide com-



prehensive and useful data on farmers comprising authenticated demographic details, land holdings and crops sown," the statement said, adding this will include cultivators and tenant farmers, as per the policy of the state government.

services in the sector. "Aligned with the vision of Viksit Bharat@2047, the DPI for agriculture forms the core of the Digital Agriculture Mission," the government said.

The three DPIs to be built under the mission are Agristack, Krishi Decision Support System, and Soil Profile Mapping.

"Besides enabling farmer-centric digital services, these DPIs will make timely and reliable information available for the agriculture sector."

Out of these three DPIs, the AgriStack is a farmer-centric DPI that will enable efficient, easier, and faster services and scheme delivery to farmers. It is being built in a federated structure as a collaborative project between various agencies of the Centre and States.

It consists of three foundational registries or databases in the agriculture sector, which are - Farmers' Registry, Geo-ref-

erenced village maps and the Crop Sown Registry, created and maintained by the State Governments/ Union Territories.

"Under AgriStack, farmers will be given a digital identity (Farmer ID) similar to Aadhaar, which will be a trusted 'Kisan ki Pehchaan'," the statement said.

This 'Farmer ID' will be linked dynamically to the State's land records, livestock ownership, crops sown, demographic details, family details, schemes and benefits availed etc.

Crops sown by farmers will be recorded through mobile-based ground surveys i.e. Digital Crop Survey to be conducted in each season.

A Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) is being signed between the centre and state governments to create and implement the DPI for agriculture. So far, 19 states have signed MoUs with the Union Agriculture Ministry.

international



In order to hide from inconvenient facts, from truthful information, the West, which considers itself the standard of freedom, has launched an open persecution against Russian correspondents
VLADIMIR PUTIN | PRESIDENT, RUSSIA

NAZI GERMANY'S WWII MASSACRES

Poland Monday held a state burial of the remains of over 700 victims of Nazi Germany's World War II mass executions that were recently uncovered in the so-called Valley of Death in the country's north



of the day quote

It is not for the sake of territorial integrity that China wants to annex Taiwan. If it does, why doesn't it take back the lands occupied by Russia that were signed over in the Treaty of Aigun. Russia is now at its weakest right
LAI CHING-TE | PRESIDENT, TAIWAN

The regulations (banning most Russian citizens from buying property in the country) are aimed at preventing possible hostile influences against Finland
ANTTI HAKKANEN | DEFENCE MINISTER, FINLAND

Taiwan did not steal the US chip industry. This is a misunderstanding on Trump's part. The President has a lot on his plate; maybe a friend or a competitor in Taiwan told him that
KUO JYH-HUEI | ECONOMY MINISTER, TAIWAN

SHORT TAKES

Cambodian Deputy PM passes away

Phnom Penh: Cambodian Deputy Prime Minister and Royal Palace Minister Kong Sam Ol died Monday at the age of 94 due to illness, the country's Prime Minister Hun Manet said. Cambodian Deputy PM Kong Sam Ol passes away. The Prime Minister expressed his deepest sympathy to the bereaved family, saying that the death of Sam Ol was a great loss not only for the family members but also for the nation, reports Xinhua news agency.

Bangladesh Parl Speaker resigns

Dhaka: Bangladesh Parliament Speaker Shirin Sharmin Chaudhury resigned Monday, nearly four weeks after President Mohammad Shahabuddin dissolved the house following the ouster of Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina. Bangabhaban presidential palace officials said Chaudhury tendered her resignation to the President. Her resignation comes as she was accused in a murder case over the death of a jewellery worker during the anti-government protests. The case against Chaudhury is one of scores of others against ministers of the former cabinet and Awami League leaders.

Pakistan roadside bomb kills three

Peshawar: A roadside bomb struck a bus in northern Pakistan Monday, killing three people including two security officials, police said. Another passenger was injured in the attack in Kohistan, a district in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa province, according to local police chief Abdul Rahim. The bus was heading to Dasu district, where Pakistan's biggest hydropower project is being built with Chinese help. No group claimed responsibility, but suspicion was likely to fall on the Pakistani Taliban, who have stepped up attacks on security forces in recent years.

SK President skips Parl formal opening

Seoul: President Yoon Suk Yeol boycotted the formal opening of South Korea's Parliament Monday as his squabbles with the Opposition deepen over allegations of wrongdoing by top officials and his wife. It's a tradition for South Korean Presidents to deliver a speech at opening ceremonies for National Assembly sessions, and Yoon is the first to skip the event since the country's transition from a military dictatorship to democracy in the late 1980s.

GAZA HOSTAGE DEATHS

Israelis continue protests

Thousands again gathers in Tel Aviv, waving blue and white Israeli flags or holding photographs of the remaining 101 hostages aloft

REUTERS

Jerusalem, Sept 2: Israeli protesters took to the streets for a second day Monday and the largest trade union launched a general strike to press the government to reach a deal to return hostages still held by Hamas, after six more captives were found dead in Gaza.

The strike disrupted transport and medical services in several Israeli districts and many shops and businesses were closed after the head of the Histadrut union, which represents hundreds of thousands of workers, called for a general stoppage.

The recovery of the six hostages, who were shot dead between 48-72 hours before being found by Israeli forces, according to the health ministry, triggered a wave of grief and fury in Israel, prompting at least half a million people to take to the streets in Jerusalem and Tel Aviv Sunday.

The demonstrators are demanding Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu reach a ceasefire agreement with Palestinian militant group Hamas to bring the remaining hostages home.



On Monday, thousands again gathered in Tel Aviv, waving blue and white Israeli flags or holding photographs of the remaining 101 hostages aloft.

Professor Yehuda Ullmann, head of the surgery division at the Rambam Hospital in Haifa, said strike action went against the grain of doctors dedicated to saving patients.

"But we are in a very, very hard situation now, we and all the

DISCOVERY OF SIX DEAD HOSTAGES SHOCKS ISRAEL

TRANSPORT AND HOSPITAL SERVICES DISRUPTED BY STRIKE

LABOUR COURT RULES STRIKE MUST END AT 2:30 PM

PROTESTERS TAKE TO STREETS AGAIN IN TEL AVIV

country, because of the hostages. And yesterday it was maybe the hardest day," he said. "We can't stand aside and that's why we came into a strike."

Following an intervention by Finance Minister Bezalel Smotrich, Israel's Labour Court ruled the general strike must end at 2:30 pm (11:30 GMT), saying the strike had no economic basis and was largely political. Histadrut accepted the ruling.

UK cuts arms export licences to Israel

LONDON: Britain will immediately suspend 30 of its 350 arms export licences with Israel because there was a risk such equipment might be used to commit serious violations of international humanitarian law, foreign minister David Lammy said Monday. Lammy said the decision to suspend the licences did not amount to a blanket ban or an arms embargo, but only involved those that could be used in the ongoing conflict between Israel and Hamas in the Palestinian enclave of Gaza. "We recognise, of course, Israel's need to defend itself against security threats, but we are deeply worried by the methods that Israel's employed, and by reports of civilian casualties and the destruction of civilian infrastructure particularly," Lammy told Parliament.

"We live in a country of law and respect the court's decision, therefore I instruct everyone to return to work at 2:30 pm," Histadrut chairman Arnon Bar-David said, a day after he described the strike as "a cry for the return of the hostages."

US researchers find Russia's launch site



REUTERS

Washington, Sept 2: Two US researchers say they have identified the probable deployment site in Russia of the 9M370 Burevestnik, a new nuclear-powered, nuclear-armed cruise missile touted by President Vladimir Putin as "invincible."

Putin has said the weapon, dubbed the SSC-X-9 Skyfall by NATO, has an almost unlimited range and can evade US missile defenses. But some Western experts dispute his claims and the Burevestnik's strategic value, saying it will not add capabilities that Moscow does not already have and risks a radiation-spewing mishap.

Using images taken July 26 by Planet Labs, a commercial satellite firm, the two researchers identified a construction project abutting a nuclear warhead storage facility known by two names, Vologda-20 and Chebsara, as the

new missile's potential deployment site. The facility is 475 km north of Moscow.

Reuters is the first to report this development. Decker Eveleth, an analyst with the CNA research and analysis organization, found the satellite imagery and identified what he assessed are nine horizontal launch pads under construction. They are located in three groups inside high berms to shield them from attack or to prevent an accidental blast in one from detonating missiles in the others, he said.

The berms are linked by roads to what Eveleth concluded are likely buildings where the missiles and their components would be serviced, and to the existing complex of five nuclear warhead storage bunkers.

The site is "for a large, fixed missile system and the only large, fixed missile system that they're (Russia) currently developing is the Skyfall," said Eveleth. Russia's defense ministry and Washington embassy did not respond to a request to comment on his assessment, Burevestnik's strategic value, its test record and the risks it poses.

Meanwhile, Russian President Vladimir Putin arrived Monday in Mongolia, a member of the international court that issued an arrest warrant for him.

SNIPPETS

Brazil SC votes to uphold X suspension



Brasilia: A five-member panel of Brazil's Supreme Court voted unanimously Monday to uphold Justice Alexandre de Moraes' ruling to shut down social media giant X in the country for not complying with local norms.

Justices Flavio Dino, Cristiano Zanin, Carmen Lucia and Luiz Fux sided with Moraes, with some of them saying however that the suspension could be reversed if the platform complies with previous court rulings. X was taken down in Brazil, one of its largest markets, in the early hours of Saturday following a decision by Moraes, after the platform missed a court-imposed deadline to name a legal representative in Brazil as required by local law. It is not possible for a company to operate in the territory of a country and intend to impose its vision on which rules should be valid or applied," Justice Dino said as he sided with Moraes. "

ISIS no longer a threat, says Iraq PM

Baghdad: Iraqi Prime Minister Mohammed Shia al-Sudani said that the Islamic State (ISIS) terrorist group no longer poses a threat to Iraq and dialogue to end the US-led international coalition to fight the IS group continues. Al-Sudani made the remarks during talks with Major General Kevin C. Leahy, commander of the US-led coalition against ISIS in Iraq, in the presence of US ambassador to Iraq Alina L. Romanowski, said al-Sudani's media office in a statement, Xinhua news agency reported. The remnants of ISIS terrorists have turned into gangs that are being hunted by Iraqi forces in remote areas of the country, the statement said. The meeting focused on "the progress of the technical dialogue between Iraq and the US-led international coalition about ending the coalition's mission in the country and transferring the mission to bilateral relations between Iraq and the coalition member states," it said.



Khan's military trial 'possible': Defence minister

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Islamabad, Sept 2: Pakistan's Defence Minister Khawaja Asif has said that a military trial of jailed former Prime Minister Imran Khan was "possible" in the cases concerning the violence May 9 last year.

"Yes, it is possible," Asif replied when asked during the Geo News programme 'Naya Pakistan' Sunday if a military trial of the former premier was possible.

He said that during the Imran Khan-led government, military trials of the civilians were held and he "remembers cases of 24 civilians" who went through the process of facing military court.

It is not the first time that the ruling Pakistan Muslim League-Nawaz (PML-N) expressed such a possibility. Several leaders of the party have accused Khan of orchestrating the May 9, 2023 violence. On May 9 last year, violent protests erupted after the arrest of 71-year-old Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) party founder Khan by paramilitary Rangers from the premises of the Islamabad High Court in connection with an alleged corruption case.

His party workers allegedly vandalised a dozen military installations, including the Jinnah House (Lahore Corps Commander House), the Mianwali airbase and the ISI building in Faisalabad. A mob also attacked the Army headquarters in Rawalpindi.

TEESTA WATER SHARING TREATY B'desh to restart dialogue with India

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Dhaka, Sept 2: Bangladesh's interim government wants to restart with India the dialogue on the Teesta water sharing treaty, adviser on water resources Syeda Rizwana Hasan has said, asserting that upper-riparian and lower-riparian countries should adhere to international principles on the distribution of water.

Speaking to PTI in Dhaka, Hasan expressed confidence that the Teesta treaty and other water-sharing agreements with India would be resolved amicably through dialogue but suggested that Bangladesh might consider international legal documents and principles if an agreement cannot be reached.

"I have discussed the issue of Teesta water sharing with all relevant stakeholders (in Bangladesh). We have discussed that we need to restart the process and dialogue regarding the Teesta treaty. We also have to work on the Ganges treaty, which is coming to an end in two years," she told PTI in an interview Sunday.

"Both sides agreed, and a draft of the Teesta water-sharing agreement was prepared, but the agreement was not signed due to the opposition of the West Bengal Chief Minister. The fact remains that we have not been able to finalise the agreement. So, we will start from that point with the draft of the agreement and urge India to come forward



and restart the dialogue process," she said.

India and Bangladesh were set to ink a deal on Teesta water sharing during then-Prime Minister Manmohan Singh's Dhaka visit in 2011, but West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee declined to endorse it, citing scarcity of water in her state.

"We would try to find an amicable solution. As this is an international water issue, it also concerns other countries' consideration of legal entitlement. So, how much water is available and whether it is sufficient is unclear to us. Even if very minimal water is available, the flow must continue to Bangladesh due to international sharing norms," she said.

Hasan noted that the issue of international water sharing can be better handled if both upper-riparian and lower-riparian countries adhere to certain international legal principles.

"Bangladesh may consider endorsing international legal

principles and documents regarding water sharing. That is what I mean when I say we might engage internationally," the renowned environmentalist of Bangladesh said.

The 56-year-old adviser to Bangladesh's Department of Water, Forest, Environment, and Climate Change said the interim government has not yet discussed taking the issue of water sharing with India to the international forum.

"I don't think we have discussed that yet. I think the first step for Bangladesh will be to address it with India and Nepal. We haven't discussed taking this matter to any other country at this stage," she said, asserting that the "issue can be resolved amicably with India."

When asked about the erstwhile Awami League regime's failure to seal the Teesta deal with India, Hasan said, "It did not work all these years because of the political context that Bangladesh had."

Turkey bids to join BRICS in push to build alliances beyond West

Turkey has formally asked to join the BRICS group of emerging-market nations as it seeks to bolster its global influence and forge new ties beyond its traditional Western allies, according to people familiar with the matter.

The view of President Recep Tayyip Erdogan's administration is that the geopolitical center of gravity is shifting away from developed economies, according to the people, who spoke on condition of anonymity because they aren't authorized to comment.

The country's new diplomatic push reflects its aspirations to cultivate ties with all sides in a multipolar world, while still fulfilling its obligations as a key member of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization, they said.

Straddling Europe and Asia, Turkey submitted an application to join BRICS some months

ago amid frustration over a lack of progress in its decades-old bid to join the European Union, the people added. The bid is also partly a result of rifts with fellow NATO members after Turkey maintained close links with Russia following its invasion of Ukraine in 2022, the people added. Turkey's foreign ministry and presidency declined to comment.

"Turkey can become a strong, prosperous, prestigious and effective country if it improves its relations with the East and the West simultaneously," Erdogan said in Istanbul over the weekend. "Any method other than this will not benefit Turkey, but will harm it."

The BRICS grouping, named after Brazil, Russia, India and China and South Africa, includes some of the biggest emerging economies. It got four new members at the start of this year



when Iran, the United Arab Emirates, Ethiopia and Egypt joined its ranks. Saudi Arabia was invited to join, though the kingdom is yet to do that.

The group's further enlargement could be discussed during a summit in Kazan, Russia, from October 22-24, said the people.

Malaysia, Thailand and Turkey's close ally Azerbaijan are among other countries looking to join.

The BRICS touts itself as an alternative to what its members see as Western-dominated institutions such as the World Bank and International Monetary Fund. New members

We do not have to choose between the European Union and the Shanghai Cooperation Organization as some people claim. On the contrary, we have to develop our relations with both these and other organizations on a win-win basis

RECEP TAYYIP ERDOGAN | PRESIDENT, REPUBLIC OF TURKIYE

can potentially get access to financing through its development bank as well as broaden their political and trading relationships.

Erdogan's ruling Justice and Development Party has long accused Western nations of thwarting Turkish aspirations for a self-sufficient defense industry and strong economy. The President has repeatedly called

for an overhaul of the United Nations Security Council to broaden its five permanent members, and expressed interest in joining the Shanghai Cooperation Organization, set up by Russia and China as a rival to NATO.

BRICS expansion has largely been driven by China, which is trying to boost its global clout by courting nations traditionally allied with the US.

Turkey has been in talks to join the EU since 2005, but has encountered a series of obstacles, including what that bloc describes as the country's democratic shortcomings.

Turkey believes joining the BRICS could help the country improve economic cooperation with Russia and China, and become a trade conduit between the EU and Asia. It wants to be a hub for gas exports out of Russia and Central Asia, the people said.

business

of the day quote

Yesterday, I asked Maharashtra's FM to attend the GST Council meeting and propose the reduction of GST on flex-fuel engine cars and scooters

NITIN GADKARI | UNION MINISTER

Marching towards building a digitally connected Bharat and an #Atmanirbhar telecom sector DoT, India is proud to share that the first rules of The Telecom Act 2023, 'Digital Bharat Nidhi' are now in effect

JYOTIRADITYA SCINDIA | TELECOM MINISTER

Our primary goal is to ensure the stability and integrity of the financial system, not to hinder business operations

SWAMINATHAN J | DEPUTY GOVERNOR, RBI

SHORT TAKES

L&T's RE biz vertical

New Delhi: Infrastructure major Larsen & Toubro (L&T) Monday said it has created a separate renewable business vertical. A Ravindran, Senior Vice President - Larsen & Toubro, has been appointed as the head of renewable business, L&T said in a statement. "Effective September 1, 2024, Larsen & Toubro has carved out a separate business vertical for renewable EPC out of its power transmission and distribution business, within its infrastructure projects segment," it said. Larsen & Toubro is a \$27 billion Indian multinational engaged in EPC projects, hi-tech manufacturing, and services, operating across multiple geographies.

Coal output rises

New Delhi: The country's coal production rose by 6.48 per cent to 384.08 million tonne (MT) in the first five months of the ongoing fiscal. The production was 360.71 MT in April-August FY24. The figures for the period under review are provisional. The production of CIL, which accounts for over 80 per cent of the domestic coal output, rose to 290.39 MT during April-August FY25, marking a growth of 3.17 per cent year-on-year, the coal ministry said in a statement. Coal production from captive and other entities rose to 68.99 MT in April-August FY25 from 52.84 MT a year ago. The cumulative coal dispatch up to August was at 412.07 MT against 391.93 MT during the same period of FY24.



India has one of the brightest global economic growth prospects. It is up to us to sustain it, and it is also up to us to use that to our advantage in carving out policy space for ourselves

V ANANTHA NAGESWARAN | CEA

300MB/S: 5G SPEED TRIAL

Telecom operator Bharti Airtel, MediaTek and Nokia have achieved 300 megabits per second upload speed on a 5G network during a recently concluded trial, a joint statement said Monday. The trial comprised the combined use of a set of mid-band spectrums, utilising the latest generation chipset



Kaynes gets nod for semiconductor unit

THE COMPANY HAS ALREADY ACQUIRED LAND IN SANAND, GUJARAT FOR THE PROJECT, AND CONSTRUCTION WILL START SOON

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

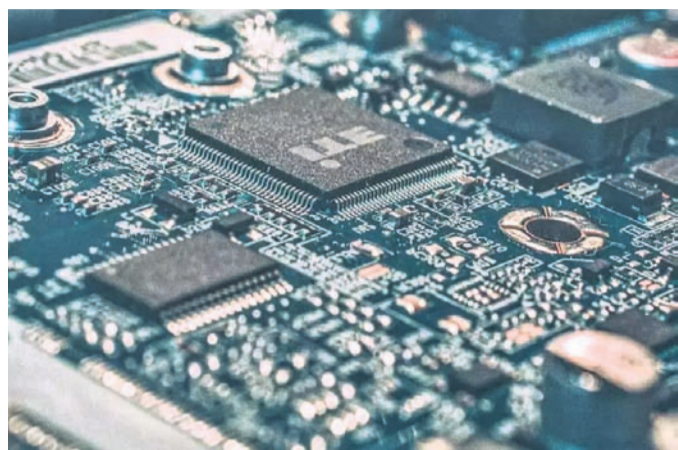
New Delhi, Sept 2: The government Monday cleared a proposal of Kaynes Semicon to set up a ₹3,307-crore semiconductor unit in Sanand, Gujarat, that will have the capacity to churn out 6.3 million chips a day.

Addressing reporters after the Union Cabinet meeting, IT Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw noted that a complete semiconductor ecosystem is coming up in India under the India Semiconductor Mission, and promised that the country will take a long-term view of this "foundational" sector and increase the outlay, as needed.

He likened the semiconductor industry to steel and chemicals industries which feed into many other allied sectors, and said the sector will be "crucial" for India's growth and the industrial production blueprint of the country.

The minister said that the progress of Tata's fab, a complex project, has been "very good", and added that land has been allocated, and geo-technical investigations are done.

"Today, the Cabinet has approved Kaynes' plant, with a capacity of 6.3 million chips per day. The plant will come up in 46 acres, it is a big plant and large portion of the production will go for Kaynes Industries, it has already been booked," the minister said.



Investment for the unit is about Rs 3,307 crore
The plant will churn out 6.3mn chips a day
It will also cater to chips related to power sector

The semicon mission is a programme for 10 years minimum. This industry will be crucial for the country's growth for India's industrial production. We have a large automobile industry, have a very large electronics manufacturing industry coming up in our country

ASHWINI VAISHNAW | IT MINISTER

Chips produced in this unit will cater to a wide variety of applications which include segments such as industrial, automotive, electric vehicles, consumer electronics, telecom, and mobile phones amongst others. "Power-related chips, chips used in automobiles and home appliances, will also be produced in this plant," Vaishnaw said briefing reporters.

Giving an update on Tata's Dholera plant, the minister informed that land acquisition has already been done for the "massively large and complex project". It is pertinent to mention here that Tata Electronics will set up a semiconductor fab in partnership with Powerchip Semiconductor Manufacturing Corp (PSMC) of Taiwan. This fab will come up at Dholera in Gujarat, and entail an investment of ₹91,000 crore.

Known for its expertise in logic and memory foundry segments, PSMC has six semiconductor foundries in Taiwan.

On the status of Micron's project, the minister said that the first Made in India chip will come up in the middle of next year.

In June last year, Micron announced an investment of \$825 million to set up a new assembly and test facility in Gujarat.

Kaynes said the employability from Kaynes' and other semiconductor-related projects in India needs to be seen in the context of a multiplier impact that semiconductor has as a foundational industry.

"When we look at employment generation potential of semiconductor plant, we have to think like a steel plant, chemical, plastic plant or refinery... as foundational industry that feeds into many industries," he said.

Factory activity eases as biz confidence dips

Manufacturers see softer increases in new business, output in August: PMI

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, Sept 2: India's manufacturing sector growth moderated in August as output and sales rose at slowest rates since January, while competitive pressures and inflation concerns hampered business confidence, a monthly survey said Monday.

The seasonally adjusted HSBC India Manufacturing Purchasing Managers' Index (PMI) stood at 57.5 in August, below July's reading of 58.1 but above its long-run average of 54.0, signalling a substantial improvement in operating conditions.

In PMI parlance, a print above 50 means expansion, while a score below 50 denotes contraction.

"The Indian manufacturing sector continued to expand in August, although the pace of expansion moderated slightly. New orders and output also mirrored the headline trend, with some panellists citing fierce competition as a reason for slowdown," Pranjul Bhandari, Chief India Economist at HSBC, said.

According to the survey, new business rose sharply through the second quarter of the fiscal year, but the pace of expansion eased to a seven-month low.

New export orders, likewise, increased at the weakest pace since the start of the 2024 calendar year.

On the prices front, goods producers benefited from a moderation in cost pressures during August.

"On a positive note, the rise in input costs slowed sharply. Manufacturers increased their



Business outlook for the year ahead moderated slightly in August, driven by competitive pressures and inflation concerns

PRANJUL BHANDARI | CHIEF INDIA ECONOMIST, HSBC

raw material buying activity in order to build safety stocks. In line with input costs, the pace of output price inflation also decelerated, but the deceleration was to a much smaller extent, thereby increasing margins for manufacturers," Bhandari added.

The survey further noted that job creation softened midway through the second fiscal quarter as a few firms trimmed headcounts. Nevertheless, the overall rate of employment growth was solid in the context of historical data.

According to the survey, business confidence retreated and panellists were at their least optimistic level since April 2023.

Meanwhile, India's economic growth slowed to a 15-month low of 6.7 per cent in April-June 2024-25, mainly due to poor performance of the agriculture and services sectors, government data showed Friday.

The gross domestic product (GDP) expanded 8.2 per cent in the June quarter of 2023-24.

The HSBC India Manufacturing PMI is compiled by S&P Global from responses to questionnaires sent to purchasing managers in a panel of around 400 manufacturers.

JSW Cement's ₹4K-cr IPO in 'abeyance'

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, Sept 2: Capital markets regulator Sebi has put on hold the proposed ₹4,000-crore initial public offering (IPO) of JSW Cement.

Without specifying reasons, Sebi stated that the "issuance of observations (has been) kept in abeyance," according to an update on its website Monday.

JSW Cement, part of the diversified JSW Group, filed the preliminary IPO papers with Sebi August 16.

The proposed issue involves a new issue of equity shares worth ₹2,000 crore and an offer-for-sale (OFS) of ₹2,000 crore by investor shareholders, according to the draft red herring prospectus (DRHP) filed with the regulator.

Under the OFS, AP Asia Opportunistic Holdings Pte Ltd and Synergy Metals Investments Holding Ltd will offload shares worth ₹37.5 crore each and State Bank of India (SBI) will divest shares valued at ₹125 crore.

Proceeds from the fresh issue to the tune of ₹800 crore will be used for partially financing the establishment of a new integrated cement unit in Nagaur, Rajasthan, while ₹720 crore will be allocated for payment of debt and the remaining funds will be allocated for general corporate purposes.

JSW Cement, which has a manufacturing capacity of 19 MT annually, aims to achieve the capacity of 60 MTPA. It currently has manufacturing units at Vijayanagar in Karnataka, Nandyal in Andhra Pradesh, Salboni in West Bengal, Jajpur in Odisha and Dolvi in Maharashtra.

Besides, JSW Cement through its subsidiary Shiva Cement operates a clinker unit in Odisha.

JM Financial Ltd, Axis Capital Ltd, Citigroup Global Markets India Private Ltd, DAM Capital Advisors Ltd, Goldman Sachs (India) Securities Private Ltd, Jefferies India Private Ltd, Kotak Mahindra Capital Company Ltd and SBI Capital Markets Ltd are responsible for managing the company's IPO process.

Nomura expects RBI to pivot to rate cuts from Oct

REUTERS

Mumbai, Sept 2: Nomura expects India's central bank to begin cutting interest rates next month as inflation in the South Asian nation edges lower and economic growth weakens, the investment bank said Monday.

Nomura anticipates that the Reserve Bank of India's (RBI) rate setting panel will reduce rates by a total of 100 basis points from October to mid-2025, more than its previous forecast of 75 bps of rate cuts for the same period.

"We believe that an inflection in India's monetary policy cycle is around the corner, and it is un-

likely to be shallow," Nomura economists said in a note.

"While the initial easing will realign nominal rates with lower inflation, rate cuts in 2025 will likely be triggered by weaker growth."

Data released Friday showed India's gross domestic product (GDP) grew at a slower-than-expected pace of 6.7% on an annual basis in the April-June quarter due to a decline in government spending during the national elections.

Following the data, Nomura

lowered its economic growth forecast for the current fiscal to 6.7% from 6.9% a year earlier.

"Overall, Q2 GDP data are weaker than expected, although the role of transitory factors like elections, versus more persistent factors like slowing profit growth is still unclear," Nomura said in a separate note dated Aug. 30.

Even as government spending picks up, lower corporate profit growth and a moderation in credit growth are likely to persist as growth drags, it said.

Last month, the RBI kept key policy rate unchanged for a ninth consecutive meeting amid inflationary pressures and maintained its 'withdrawal of accommodation' policy stance, with the governor flagging stubborn food inflation.

"High-frequency data show that prices of vegetables, cereals and pulses have already declined sequentially in August. We expect a moderation beyond August too," Nomura said.

It expects India's headline inflation to ease further to 3% year-on-year in August, and average at 3.6% in July-September, below the RBI's inflation target of 4%.

Equities at fresh peaks



FMCG, IT and financial sector shares supported the record run in indices while metal and pharma sector shares ended in the red

Sensex rises for 10th straight session, ends at 82,559.84
Nifty surges for 13th straight day, closes at 25,278.70

Sebi study shows over half of IPO shares sold in week

THE INCREASE IN IPO PARTICIPATION COULD BE DERIVED FROM GROWTH IN DEMAT ACCOUNTS

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, Sept 2: A study by markets regulator Sebi highlighted flipping behaviour among investors in the initial share-sale market with investors (excluding anchor) selling 54 per cent of IPO shares allotted to them by value within a week.

The study found a strong disposition effect (tendency to prematurely sell assets that have made financial gains) with investors showing a greater propensity to sell IPO shares that posted positive listing gains, compared to those that listed at a loss.

In light of the increasing participation of retail investors and the heightened oversubscription in recent IPOs, the Securities and Exchange Board of India (Sebi) conducted an in-depth study to analyze investor behaviour in main-board IPOs. The study encompasses data from 144 IPOs listed between April 2021 and December 2023.

During the study period, 144 IPOs collectively raised a total of ₹2.13 lakh crore. Notably, 65 per



cent of the total issue size was Offer for Sale (OFS), through which the pre-existing shareholder sold their shares, instead of the company raising the money.

According to the study, "About 54 per cent of IPO shares (in value terms) allotted to investors (excluding anchor investors) were sold within a week from listing". Individual investors sold 50.2

per cent shares (in value terms) allotted to them within a week from listing, non-institutional investors (NIIs) offloaded 63.3 per cent shares and retail investors sold 42.7 per cent shares. Interestingly, individual investors sold 70 per cent of shares by value within a year.

On the other hand, mutual funds tend to invest for a longer period in IPO shares, whereas

banks tend to sell swiftly. Mutual funds sold about 3.3 per cent of allotted value within a week, as compared to 79.8 per cent for banks.

The study highlighted that returns influenced the selling behaviour as individual investors sold 67.6 per cent of the shares by value within a week when IPO returns exceeded 20 per cent within a week. In contrast, only 23.3 per cent of shares by value were sold when returns were negative.

In terms of geography, retail investors from Gujarat received 39.3 per cent of the allotment in the category, followed by Maharashtra (13.5 per cent), and Rajasthan (10.5 per cent).

Notably, nearly half of the demat accounts that applied for IPOs between April 2021 and December 2023 were opened during the post-Covid period - 2021-2023.

Following Sebi's policy interventions regarding NII share allotment process and RBI's guidelines on IPO financing by NBFCs in April 2022, the study observed

a reduction in the oversubscription under NII category from 38 times to 17 times.

Also, it noted a decline in the number of IPO applications by 'big ticket NII Investors' - applying for more than ₹1 crore in IPOs - to 20 applications per IPO in the post-policy period (April 2022-December 2023) from around 626 applications per IPO in pre-policy period (April 2021-March 2022)

Additionally, it found a reduction in the exit of big-ticket NII Investors to about 25 per cent within a week during April 22-December 23 from about 70 per cent within a week during April 21-March 22.

In April 2022, Sebi made changes in share allotment methodology from a pro-rata basis to a lottery basis for the NII category and sub-divided NII category (15 per cent quota) into small-NII (5 per cent quota) and big-NII (10 per cent quota) categories, while RBI introduced restrictions on IPO funding by NBFC upto ₹1 crore per borrower.

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Mumbai, Sept 2: Logging its longest winning run in nearly a year, benchmark BSE Sensex rose for the 10th straight day to close at a fresh lifetime high Monday, tracking foreign fund inflows and a rally in the US markets.

The 30-share Sensex rose by 194.07 points or 0.24 per cent to settle at a record high of 82,559.84. During the day, it surged 359.51 points or 0.43 per cent to reach a new intra-day record peak of 82,725.28.

The index surged for the 10th straight session, which is its longest gaining streak since September 2023 when it rose for nine straight days in the first half of the month. The NSE Nifty rose for the 13th straight day, which experts said, was its longest winning run in decades.

The 50-share index climbed 42.80 points or 0.17 per cent to settle at a lifetime high of 25,278.70. During the day, it soared 97.75 points or 0.38 per cent to hit a fresh intra-day peak of 25,333.65. In a 13-day gaining streak

since August 14, the Nifty has rallied 4.72 per cent or nearly 1,140 points. Sensex has risen by 2.65 per cent or 2,135.16 points in its 10 straight days of gains.

Expectations of an interest rate cut by the US Federal Reserve this month and renewed foreign fund inflows have fuelled the recent rally in domestic equities, traders said.

Among the 30 Sensex firms, Bajaj Finserv, Bajaj Finance, HCL Tech, IndusInd Bank, ITC, UltraTech Cement, Axis Bank and Infosys were the biggest gainers.

On the other hand, Tata Motors, NTPC, Mahindra & Mahindra, Bharti Airtel, Larsen & Toubro and Power Grid were among the laggards.

In the BSE smallcap gauge declined 0.47 per cent and the mid-cap index dipped 0.03 per cent. Among the indices, FMCG jumped 0.75 per cent, financial services (0.55 per cent), IT (0.37 per cent) and bankex (0.32 per cent).

Commodities, consumer discretionary, telecommunication, metal and services were among the laggards.

PARIS PARALYMPICS

Sumit retains gold Shuttlers shine with multiple medals

JAVELIN STAR BECOMES FIRST INDIAN MAN TO DEFEND TITLE



Paris, Sept 2: Sumit Antil defended his Paralympic javelin gold medal, creating a new Games record to clinch the top podium in Paris Monday. Antil recorded a highest throw of 70.59m in his second attempt, which remained the highest throughout the competition. Antil delivered an impres-

sive performance in the final, launching a throw of 69.11m on his first attempt and then surpassing it with a new Paralympic record in the F64 category by breaking the 70m barrier. He continued his strong form with a third throw of 66.66m.

Despite a foul on his fourth attempt, Antil wrapped up the event with solid throws of 69.04m and 66.57m in his fifth and sixth attempts, respectively. No other competitor managed to cross the 70m mark.

Sri Lanka's Dulan Kodithuwakku secured the silver medal with a top throw of 67.03m, while Michal Burian claimed bronze with a best of 64.89m.

The 26-year-old world record holder from Sonapat, Haryana, surpassed his previous Paralympic record of 68.55m, which he set while winning gold in Tokyo three years ago.

Antil's world record remains an impressive 73.29m.

He becomes only the second Indian athlete, following shooter Avani Lekhara, to successfully defend a Paralympics title.

The F64 category is designated for athletes with lower limb impairments, including those who compete with prosthetics or have differences in leg length.



INDO-ASIAN NEWS SERVICE

Paris: India's top women's parashuttler Thulasimathi Murugesan put up a good fight but lost 0-2 against China's Qiu Xia Yang in the gold medal match in the Women's Singles SU5 category at the Paralympic Games here Monday.

Despite starting on the front foot which saw the Indians take a 11-8 lead, Yang fought her way back into the first game and won 21-17.

Yang continued her dominance in the second game and took an early advantage with a score of 5-10. The Chinese had no problem in taking the game away from World No 1 and went on to win the game 21-10 and secure the gold medal with a dominant performance.

With this win, Qiuxia Yang took revenge for her defeat to the Indian in the Women's Singles SU5 final in the Asian Para Games in Hangzhou in October 2023.

She may had to settle for a silver medal but it was a great result for Thulasimathi Murugesan in her debut Paralympic Games. She began her campaign with a 2-0 (21-9, 21-11) victory over Italy's Rosa Efomo de Marco before defeating Portugal's Beatriz Monteiro in her second Group A match to end the Group stage on top with a +44 point differential.

Thulasimathi was India's biggest star in badminton at the 2022 Asian Para Games in Huangzhou, claiming three medals including the gold in the Women's

BACK-TO-BACK SILVER FOR SUHAS

Indian shuttler Suhas Yathiraj secured his second successive Paralympics silver medal in men's singles SL4 after going down in straight games to favourite Lucas Mazur of France in the final here Monday. The 41-year-old Suhas, a 2007 batch IAS officer, looked tentative and was no match for the formidable French, losing 9-21 13-21 in a lop-sided summit clash. The loss meant Lucas once again denied Suhas the glory, having beaten him in the Tokyo Paralympics final three years ago. His silver took India's medal tally in Paris Paralympics para-badminton to four, following the gold won by Kumar Nitesh (SL3) and silver and bronze claimed by Thulasimathi Murugesan and Manisha Ramadass in women's singles SU5.



MANISHA'S MAIDEN BRONZE

Manisha Ramadass won her maiden bronze medal in the Paralympic Games, defeating Denmark's Cathrine Rosengren 2-0 (21-12, 21-8) in the third-place match in the Women's Singles SU5 category. Her victory ensured that India had a double podium finish with compatriot Thulasimathi Murugesan bagging the silver medal. Manisha's dominance started in the first game. Despite her Danish opponent hanging close, Manisha built a sizable lead and took advantage to win the first game 21-12, going up 1-0 in 13 minutes.



Singles SU5. He won a silver medal in Women's Doubles SL3-SU5 along with Manasi Joshi and

claimed a bronze medal in the Mixed Doubles SL3-SU5 with Nitesh Kumar.

SNIPPETS

Archery duo Sheetal-Rakesh bags bronze

Paris: The Indian duo of Sheetal Devi and Rakesh Kumar staged a remarkable comeback after the heartbreak in the semifinals to claim the bronze medal with a 156-155 win over Italy's Eleonora Sarti and Matteo Bonacina in mixed team compound archery competition at Paralympics here Monday. It is only the second time that India has won a medal in Paralympics in archery. Harvinder Singh bagged an individual bronze at the Tokyo edition of the Games three years ago. Sheetal also became the first Indian woman to win an archery medal at the quadrennial showpiece as coach Kuldeep Vedhwan rejoiced at the stands. India won after the 17-year-old Sheetal's shot in the final end was upgraded from 9 to 10 following a revision. Something similar had happened in the semifinal too, against Iran earlier in the evening, but the Indians were at the receiving end on that occasion.



Modi lauds Nishad on silver feat

New Delhi: Prime Minister Narendra Modi congratulated Nishad Kumar on winning silver medal in the Men's High Jump T47 event at the Paris Paralympics. The 24-year-old Nishad, who is a reigning Para Asian Games champion, soared to a height of 2.04m in the final, losing the gold medal to the USA's Roderick Townsend. This was Nishad's second Paralympic medal. He won the silver medal at Tokyo Games with a clearance of 2.06m. "Congrats to @nishad_hj for his remarkable achievement in winning a silver medal in the Men's High Jump T47 event at the #Paralympics2024! He has shown us all that with passion and determination, everything is possible. India is elated," the Prime Minister posted on X.



First Indian track and field athlete to win two medals in Paralympics

PREETHI SCRIPTS HISTORY

Paris: Preethi Pal created history as she became the first Indian woman track and field athlete to win two medals at the Paralympics while clinching the bronze in the 200m T35 category with a personal best time of 30.01 seconds here Sunday.

The 23-year-old Preethi also became only the second Indian woman to win two medals - both bronze - in a single Paralympics after shooter Avani Lekhara who won a gold and a bronze in Tokyo three years ago.

The bronze won by the 23-year-old Preethi was also India's second para-athletics medal in the Paris Paralympics.

World record holder and Tokyo Paralympics champion Zhou Xia of China won the gold with a time of 28.15 while compatriot Guo Qianqian (29.09 seconds) took the silver. T35 classification is meant for athletes who have coordination impair-

ments such as hypertonia, ataxia and athetosis.

On Friday, Preethi, a farmer's daughter from Muzaffarnagar in Uttar Pradesh, had clinched



India's first athletics medal in a Paralympics track event, winning a bronze in the women's T35 100m competition with a personal best time of 14.21 seconds.

All the athletics medals India had won since the 1984 edition of the Paralympics have come from the field events.

In fact, the only other Indian woman track and field medalist in Paralympics is former Paralympic Committee of India president Deepa Malik who won a silver in shot put - a field event - F53 category in 2016 Rio Games. Preethi faced significant physical challenges when she was born as her lower body was plastered for six days after birth.

Weak legs and an irregular leg posture made her prone to various diseases. She underwent various traditional treatments to strengthen her legs, including wearing calipers for eight years from the age of five.

Silver star Kathuniya

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Paris: A second consecutive silver medal at the Paralympics is not a feat Indian discus thrower Yogesh Kathuniya is too happy about as he feels he is stuck with second-place finish in a series of major events.

The 27-year-old from Haryana produced a season best effort of 42.22m to finish second on the F-56 discus podium at the Paris Olympics Monday.

But Kathuniya wasn't satisfied with his performance and he vowed to better the colour of his medal in the next major tournament.

"Event was okay, I got a silver. I will work harder to change the colour of the medal," a rather disappointed Kathuniya said after his event.

"For some time, I'm winning silver only be it Tokyo (Paralympics) or today, World Championships or Asian Games...everywhere I'm winning silver. Gaadi atak gayi hai (I'm stuck on silver). I think I need to work harder. Now I want gold."

Kathuniya, who developed the Guillain-Barre syndrome, a rare autoimmune condition



which causes numbness, tingling and muscle weakness that can progress to paralysis, was wheelchair bound before his mother learnt physiotherapy to help him regain muscle strength to walk again.

His performance at the Stade de France was inferior to the 44.38m effort he produced at Tokyo three years back and also below his personal best of 48m which he produced at the Indian Open, which is, though, not a World Para Athletics event.

"Today was not my day, my performance is consistent but today I don't feel that happy. My family will be happy, they must be celebrating. My coach has helped me a lot. I did very well in training but unfortunately I wasn't able to replicate it today," he said.

SHORT TAKES

Injury hits Nagal

New Delhi: India's top singles player Sumit Nagal Monday pulled out of the upcoming Davis Cup tie against Sweden due to a back injury. Nagal recently lost his first round singles contest to Tallon Griekspoor at the US Open. The indoor hard-court contest in Stockholm will be played September 14-15. "I was really looking forward to representing in the upcoming Davis Cup tie against Sweden," Nagal wrote on social media. Nagal reached a career-high ranking of 68 in July but has dropped to 82 in the latest rankings. India's highest-ranked singles player not being part of the Davis Cup tie is a big blow to the team.

Mbappé ends drought

Madrid: With two goals in less than 10 minutes, Kylian Mbappé ended his scoring drought in the Spanish league, leading Real Madrid to a 2-0 win over Real Betis. Madrid's biggest signing in years, Mbappé had scored once in the team's win over Atalanta in the UEFA Super Cup final last month, but he had yet to find the net in his previous three Spanish league matches. "I was looking forward to scoring in this legendary stadium, the best in the world," Mbappé said. He opened the scoring at the Santiago Bernabeu with a low left-footed shot from inside the area after a neat backheel pass by Federico Valverde in the 67th minute. Mbappé then added to the lead by converting a 75th-minute penalty kick after a foul on Vinicius Junior.

DEAF WORLD C'SHIP

Dhanush sinks records as India make clean sweep

INDO-ASIAN NEWS SERVICE

New Delhi, Sept 2: The Indian trio of Dhanush Srikanth, Shourya Saini and Mohammed Murtaza Vania made a clean sweep of the 10m Air Rifle men's event on Day Two of the 2nd World Deaf Shooting Championship 2024 being held at Hanover, Germany.

Mahit Sandhu and Natasha Joshi also won silver and bronze in the women's event as India added five medals to the four (one gold, two silver and one bronze) they won on Day One of the competition.

Dhanush shot a double deaf-shooting world record in a single day, with a 632.7 to top the qualification round and then a 251.7 in the final to leave his compatriot Sourya (249.9) well be-

hind in second. Mohammed Murtaza had earlier bowed out with a bronze having shot 226.2 points.

India has selected a 16-member squad for the 2nd World Deaf Shooting Championship 2024. The Indians made a bright start by winning one gold, two silver and one bronze medal on Day One of competition.

Anuya Prasad won gold in the women's 10m Air Pistol. In comparison, India also had a double podium finish in the men's 10m Air Pistol with Abhinav Deshwal claiming silver and Shubham Vashist bagging bronze as the duo also teamed up with Chetan Sakpal to clinch the team silver in the Championship, which will go on till September 7. The Indian shooters will compete in the Air Rifle and Air Pistol disciplines.



US OPEN

Tiafoe topples Popyrin, Zverev in QFs



INDO-ASIAN NEWS SERVICE

New York, Sept 2: The 20th seed Francis Tiafoe registered a 6-4, 7-6(3), 2-6, 6-3 win to fend off giant-slayer Alexei Popyrin and reach the US Open quarterfinals for a third consecutive year.

Popyrin scribed his name in US Open lore when he sent defending champion Novak Djokovic tumbling out of the draw just 48 hours prior to Sunday's fourth-round contest.

With the win, Tiafoe continues to make history for American men's tennis, becoming the fourth American man to appear in three US Open quarterfinals since 2000. The feat puts him in elite company with Andre Agassi, Andy Roddick and Pete Sampras as the only other men to do so this

century.

Tiafoe looks to keep his momentum going in the quarterfinals against No 9 seed Grigor Dimitrov, who eliminated sixth seed Andrey Rublev earlier in the day. The Bulgarian holds a 3-1 edge over Tiafoe in head-to-head record.

In other action, Alexander Zverev of Germany ended American Brandon Nakashima's run to reach the quarterfinals in New York for the fourth time.

Zverev recovered from scratchy play in the first set and won 29 first-serve points in a row to end Nakashima's dream run, defeating the American, 3-6, 6-1, 6-2, 6-2 in two-hour, 38-minute and notched his 450th win.

Zverev will next face Taylor Fritz in a rematch of their fourth-

Bopanna-Ebden ousted

India's challenge in the men's doubles event of the US Open ended with the defeat of Rohan Bopanna and his Australian partner Matthew Ebden in the third round, here. The second seeded Bopanna-Ebden pair lost 1-6 5-7 to the 16th seed Argentine combo of Maximo Gonzalez and Andres Molteni in 66 minutes Sunday night. Bopanna and Ebden had won the Australian Open early this year. The 44-year-old Bopanna has already announced retirement from Davis Cup and it will be interesting to see if he will return to defend his Australian Open crown in January 2025. Sumit Nagal had exited the men's singles with an opening round defeat while Yuki Bhambri and N Sriram Balaji earlier lost in men's doubles at different stages of the tournament. Bopanna's challenge is still alive in the mixed doubles event with Indonesian partner Aldila Sutjiadi and interestingly, he and Ebden will now be up against each other.



Navarro dethrones Gauff

Emma Navarro advanced to her first US Open quarterfinal after the 23-year-old American defeated Gauff in a straight-sets, fourth-round match. After a convincing upset of Gauff earlier at Wimbledon, this was the second time in a row at a major, that Navarro beat her countrywoman. The No 13-seeded Navarro backed up that breakthrough with a 6-3, 4-6, 6-3 win to advance to her second straight major quarterfinal. That ended No 3 Gauff's title defense and a muscular 11-match winning streak in New York.



round battle at Wimbledon earlier this summer.

On the other hand, No 1 American Fritz fired past 2022 US Open runner-up Casper Ruud of Norway 3-6, 6-4, 6-3, 6-2 to reach the quarterfinals in New York

for the second consecutive year. Fritz will be trying to reach the semi-finals at a Grand Slam tournament for the first time when he takes to court on Tuesday, having fallen in the quarter-finals four times.