Tamannaah's perspectives

Actor Tamannaah Bhatia shares why fundamental human emotions will always be the main motivator behind any film

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LEISURE | P2



Typhoon Yagi claims 179

Vietnam evacuates thousands of people living near the swollen Red River as its waters rise to a 20-year high, killing at least 179 people

INTERNATIONAL | P10



Markets in red

Sensex reverses its early gains to close lower by 398 points while broader Nifty slips below the 25,000 mark amid weak global trends

BUSINESS | P11



🎹 India in semis

India seal semifinal spot after 🤻 thrashing Malaysia 8-1 for their third consecutive win in the Hero Asian Champions Trophy SPORTS | P12

BHUBANESWAR | THURSDAY SEPTEMBER 12, 2024



ESSING DISSENT: Police use water cannon to disperse protestors, who were demanding demolition of an illegal portion of a mosque in Shimla's Sanjauli area in Himachal Pradesh, Wednesday

Man climbs atop **Puri Srimandir**

PNN & AGENCIES

Bhubaneswar, Sept 11: In a major security breach at Puri Srimandir, an elderly man climbed atop the 'Dadhinauti' of the 12th century shrine, Wednesday.

The man was identified as Balaram Moharana of Chhatrapur in Ganjam district.

According to sources, Moharana entered the temple premises through Western Gate and climbed atop the temple with the help of the chain used by Chunara servitors.

Servitors and temple officials. who spotted Moharana atop the shrine, managed bringing him down safely. When asked, Moharana said he got an order in his dream to touch 'Patitapabana'. He was detained at Singhadwar police station for questioning.

"He is an elderly man. He was prought down after a lot of efforts. Since he seems to be a bit nervous now, we'll question him later." said Puri SP Pinak Mishra.

Meanwhile, questions are being raised on how the man breached the three-tier security arrangement to climb atop the temple.

IRREGULAR by MANJUL



medal winner is being welcomed or is it a rape accused who got bail

AYUSHMAN BHARAT FOR ALL ABOVE 70 YEARS

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, Sept 11: The Union Cabinet Wednesday approved health coverage to all persons aged 70 years and above under Ayushman Bharat Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana irrespective of their income, benefiting around six crore senior citizens, Union Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw said.

The ₹5-lakh free health insurance cover would benefit senior citizens of around 4.5 crore families. Eligible beneficiaries would be issued a new distinct card under the scheme.

have to share with the other mem-

"Senior citizens of the age 70 years and above belonging to families already covered under AB PM-JAY will get an additional topup cover up to ₹5 lakh per year for themselves (which they do not bers of the family who are below

CAG picks holes in KALIA

POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar, Sept 11: Pointing out serious flaws in implementation of Krushak Assistance for Livelihood and Income Augmentation (KALIA) Yojana, the Comptroller and Auditor General (CAG) of India in its report tabled in the Assembly Wednesday said that the previous government has doled out ₹782.26 crore to 12.72 lakh ineligible beneficiaries under the scheme, with remote chances of recovery. The auditor also found irregularities in disbursement of ₹18.03-crore post-matric scholarship to ghost beneficiaries.

The report said the Agriculture department had provided KALIA aid to 65.64 lakh beneficiaries during 2019-21 and released instalments thrice to 41.64 lakh beneficiaries, twice to 8.09 lakh beneficiaries and only once to 15.91 lakh beneficiaries. This happened due to identification of 9.76 lakh ineligible beneficiaries while implementing the scheme. In addition to this, the audit also analysed the KALIA database, with reference to other databases like SECC, VAHAN, IFMS and HRMS and identified another 2.96 lakh ineligible beneficiaries, bringing the total number of ineligible beneficiaries to 12.72 lakh who have availed ₹782.26 crore, with re-

₹4,162cr lost as iron ore grade declines

The CAG observed that after the auction of the selected mines, there was an "abrupt and abnormal decline in the grade of iron ore and its classification", as reported by new lessees. "The decline of grade of iron ore has resulted in a revenue implication of approximately ₹4,162.77 crore for FY 2020-21 and 2021-22 in the form of lesser royalty and premium (post auction)," the CAG said in its report. Though more than 83 per cent production was reported in the grade of 62-65 per cent Fe (iron) in the pre-auction period, the same came down to nearly 16 per cent in the two years after auction (2020-2022), it said. MORE P3

mote chances of recovery, the CAG report pointed out.

The auditor also said ₹107.64 crore was released to 1.28 lakh account holders in which the names of account holders were different from names of beneficiaries indicating payment to unauthorised persons.

The report also said the scheme, having six components was aimed at accelerating agricultural prosperity and reducing poverty of cultivators. The compliance audit of the package revealed that due to lack of preparedness, the Agriculture department did not ensure the



agricultural households - were implemented during 2018-21. Further, only three out of five instalments were released to beneficiaries under the first component as of March 2021. **GHOST BENEFICIARIES GOT**

POST MATRIC SCHOLARSHIP The report also revealed irreg-

ularities in implementation of Post Matric Scholarship (PMS) scheme for ST and SC students in Khurda district. The system of identification of the beneficiaries as well as determination of their eligibility had been severely compromised leading to disbursement of scholarship to ghost as well as ineligible beneficiaries, the CAG report pointed out. Lack of verification of caste certificates furnished by the applicants resulted in disbursement of PMS amounting to ₹97.32 lakh. Similarly, ₹40.51 lakh was disbursed to 48 students who had submitted fake income certificates in the district.

Scrub typhus claims 3

PREMANANDA KHAMARI, OP

Bargarh, Sept 11: At least three persons, including a minor girl, succumbed to scrub typhus, a disease caused by bacteria, in Bargarh district within a week, official sources said Wednesday, adding that three more patients are undergoing treatment. The deceased were identified as Saroj

Pradhan,42, of Bungapali village under Ambabhona block, Sakhi Pradhan, 70, and Sikha Rana, 16, of Padmapur in the district, chief district medical officer (CDMO) Nirupama Sarangi told the mediapersons, Wednesday. All the three patients were

under treatment at various private hospitals when they died.

She further said that 20 blood samples were taken for examination at the district headquarters hospital (DHH) out of which three were found to be positive for the bacterial disease and are undergoing treatment at home.

Meanwhile, no scrub typhus patient has been admitted to the DHH yet, the CDMO asserted.

Necessary medical kits have been despatched to all sub-health centres, primary health centres and community health centres in the district while ELISA test is being conducted at the district headquarters in Bargarh.

Moreover, awareness programmes are being undertaken in the district while residents are being advised to undergo blood tests if they have any symp-

toms of the disease or suffer from fever for a prolonged

Authorities of all private hospitals in the district have been directed to inform the DHH authorities about any possible scrub

typhus patients there. Notably, over 2,800 cases of scrub typhus were reported from various districts of Odisha last year. The disease had claimed the lives of at least eight people in the state.

YOUTH **CONCLAVE** 2024 **CLIMATE CHANGE: BUILDING RESILIENCE**

DHARITRI CLIMATE GRANT

Inviting young people and youth organisations of Odisha deeply engaged in climate action with local communities.

Kindly send us entries of your work with simple bio description (250-300 words) and 4 high resolution photos/ a video of your climate action activities to get a chance to win the Dharitri Climate Grant.

You can also nominate someone else by following the same process.

Selected entries will be awarded the **Dharitri Climate Grant** as encouragement and impetus for their climate action work at Dharitri Youth Conclave 2024 to be held in November at Bhubaneswar.

Chosen entries will also get invited to attend the Conclave with young climate warriors and experts in the field.



Construction workers' ex-gratia hiked to ₹6L

PNN & AGENCIES

Bhubaneswar, Sept 11: In a significant move, Chief Minister Mohan Charan Majhi Wednesday announced a hike in exgratia amount for construction workers in case of accidental death at workplace to ₹ 6 lakh from the existing ₹4 lakh.

Majhi made the announcement while

addressing a convention of construction workers here. He said. "The state government has hiked the ex-gratia to ₹6 lakh from the existing ₹4 lakh." The CM also announced that the government will provide ₹3 lakh ex-gratia to construction workers for natural death during their employment. Earlier, the ex-gratia amount was ₹2 lakh, Majhi said.

Trump-Harris 1st debate sees fierce clash

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Washington, Sept 11: Democratic nominee Kamala Harris and her Republican counterpart Donald Trump participated in the US Presidential Debate Tuesday, exactly eight weeks before the United States goes to polls. In a fierce debate that saw both sides indulge in a verbal duel, there were claims and counter-claims over all major issues, including US foreign policy, economy, border security and abortion.

The matchup Tuesday began with a handshake but later descended into acrimony.

During the 90-minute debate in Pennsylvania, Trump, the Republican presidential candidate, and Harris, the Democratic nominee, presented a different vision they wanted to implement over the next four years.

"I think you've heard tonight two very different visions for our country, one that is focused on the future and the





other that is focused on the past and an attempt to take us backwards. But we're not going back," Vice President Harris,

59, said in her concluding remarks. "And I do believe that American people know we all have so much more in common than what separates us, and we can chart a new way forward," she said. Trump, 78, asked why Harris had not done those things in these three-and-a-half years of the Biden-

Harris administration. "She just started by saying she's going to do this, she's going to do that.

She's going to do all these wonderful things. Why hasn't she done it? She's been there for three-and-a-half years. They've had three-and-a-half years to fix the border. They've had three-anda-half years to create jobs and all the things we talked about. Why hasn't she done it?" Trump asked in his concluding remarks.

This was the second presidential debate, but the first between Trump and Harris

Harris said if Trump is re-elected, he would sign a national abortion ban bill. "There would be a national abortion

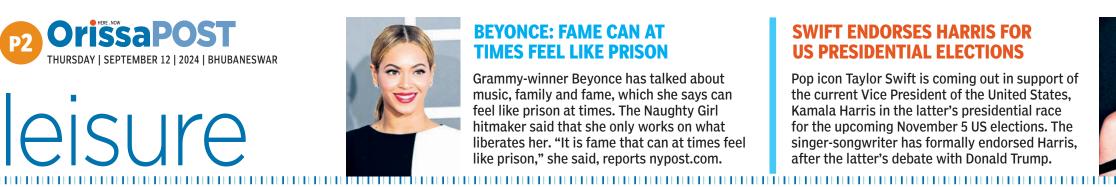
monitor that would be monitoring your pregnancies, your miscarriages," she alleged. Trump countered her and said that

abortion policy should be determined by

Harris was seen interrupting Trump multiple times during the debate. It was not heard as the mikes of the non-speakers were muted during the debate.



eisure



BEYONCE: FAME CAN AT TIMES FEEL LIKE PRISON

Grammy-winner Beyonce has talked about music, family and fame, which she says can feel like prison at times. The Naughty Girl hitmaker said that she only works on what liberates her. "It is fame that can at times feel like prison," she said, reports nypost.com.

SWIFT ENDORSES HARRIS FOR US PRESIDENTIAL ELECTIONS

Pop icon Taylor Swift is coming out in support of the current Vice President of the United States, Kamala Harris in the latter's presidential race for the upcoming November 5 US elections. The singer-songwriter has formally endorsed Harris, after the latter's debate with Donald Trump.



FORTUNE **FORECAST**

GaneshaSpeaks.com accuracy • reliability • trust

FOR ASTROLOGY DIAL 55181

You will pay attention to the voice of your inner self today. This will help you implement all your plans perfectly. You will not only be jovial, but you will also not let disappointments cow you down Ganesha says not only today, but you can summon this quality whenever you like.

TAURUS

The competitive streak in you might relent today as you look for a lifestyle that is more relaxed and laid-back. The rat race is tiring and you will feel the urge to get away, far from the maddening crowd and the never-ending routine. Matters pertaining to your home may also occupy some of your time today, says Ganesha.



Along with your house, family and business matters, you will also be busy with your social obligations today. You will be afforded the co-operation of those around you. New ways of thinking will flourish within you. Make full use of the opportunies you get today, says Ganesha

Ganesha says that this will be a unique and auspicious day for you. You will get clue and hints of this from morning itself. A religious ceremony in the house, and thereby invitation to guests is indicated The chance of shifting to a new house is indicated.

LEO Few and rare are the days

when creativity takes flight After all, even Picasso couldn't make a masterpiece every day. So make the most of this auspicious day urges Ganesha, during which your imagi nation peaks and touches new heights

■ VIRGO

Today is a mixed bag of values and pragmatism, says Ganesha, and if there were to be a competition for the most humani tarian person, you would be likely to win hands down. You would do well to make plans to increase your productivity.

LIBRA

Ganesha says today you will wish to spend more time $% \label{eq:controller} % \l$ with your beloved instead of your friends. This is a good day to express your innermost feelings and get varied nities. This is a good time to pro pose to your beloved and give them a

SCORPIO

It seems, the book, 'How to win friends and influence people' has left a great impact on your mind, bringing about a lot of change in your practical life too. As you switch to a new business venture, your efforts will be appreciated. In short, you are a personality that every one would take a note of.

SAGITTARIUS

The pressing needs of your loved ones call for extra attention today. A small party at home may see a group of friends and relatives dine together. This may find you in a chatty mood. Ganesha says an intimate tête-à-tête with your better half would fare you well.

CAPRICORN

Unless you be calm and patient, your tendency to act impulsively will get you into hot water, warns Ganesha. Your image on the minds of your colleagues and bosses will remain intact, though You will keep on climbing up the ladder and come closer to success, but don't get too excited if everything is turning out as per the plan.

AQUARIUS

It is time to make addition in your possessions. Book your dream house or buy a vehicle, as today is a favourable day to do so. You, however, need to consider your financial resources before deciding any thing because it will take a major chunk out of your savings, warns Ganesha.

I PISCES

You will have frequent mood swings today but you will still manage to fix a work related goal. Your mood will be better if you focus on work. You might feel stressed about some personal matter, but Ganesha says it is not a matter to worry. You will receive some good news by the end of the day.

GKCM AWARD FESTIVAL CONCLUDES

Srjan presents Tantra's timelessness in finale



A presentation by Srjan ensemble

Bhubaneswar: After a week-

long celebration of dance and

music of the highest calibre,

the 30th Guru Kelucharan

Mohapatra (GKCM) Award

Festival 2024, organised by Srjan-

Guru Kelucharan Mohapatra

Odissi Nrityabasa, concluded

here at Rabindra Mandap,

The last evening commenced

'Age is a part of beauty'

Mumbai: Kareena Kapoor Khan, who is known

for her power-packed roles, recently dis-

cussed the reason behind not opting for

any beauty treatments like Botox and re-

In an interview with Harper Bazaar,

the Aitraaz actress said, "Age is a part

of beauty. It's not about fighting lines

or trying to look younger; it's about

embracing and loving the age you're at,"

She went on to add how her husband

Saif Ali Khan appreciates her beauty

and shared, "I'm 44 and have never felt bet-

ter. I don't feel the need for Botox or any

cosmetic enhancements. My husband

finds me sexy, my friends say I look amaz-

ing, and my films are thriving. I play roles

that reflect my age and am proud of it. I want

people to see me for who I am and appreciate

At the same time, the actress insisted that

she believes in self-care and self-love. "From

the beginning, I was confident that my talent

and dedication would ensure I continued to

get work. I took care of myself, stayed fit,

and focused on being the best version of my-

self. Self-care means taking time for myself.

whether it's spending quality moments with

friends, cooking with Saif, or simply enjoying

a workout. It's about feeling great, whether that's

through fitness routines or just being with my

family. Nourishing my soul with a good meal, a

heartfelt chat, or a bottle of wine is essential for

she said.

vealed how her husband Saif Ali Khan

continues to find her 'hot' even today.

Wednesday.

with the award ceremony, followed by the much-awaited finale by the Srian ensemble led by Guru Ratikant Mohapatra.

The awards were presented to four iconic figures of the state. The Shalimar Guru Kelucharan Mohapatra Awards 2024, carrying an allocation of Rs. 1,00,000/- and a citation, were presented to Kumkum Lal for her



contributions to Odissi dance, Guru Lakshmikanta Palit and Guru Dhaneswar Swain for their

lifetime achievements in the fields of music and percussion. respectively, and to veteran actor Uttam Mohanty (received by his wife actress Aparajita Mohanty) for his outstanding contributions to Odia cinema.

Additionally, Shalimar's Guru

Kelucharan Mohapatra Yuva Prativa Samman awards, with a cash prize of Rs. 25,000/- and a citation, were presented to four exceptionally talented performing artistes under the age of 40 years. Pompi Paul and Rajnita Mehra received the same for Odissi dance, while Avijit Das was honoured for his ded-

Pradhan to Odissi music (Mardala). Following the award ceremony, Guru Ratikant Mohapatra's famed Srian ensemble presented the dance ballet Tantra. Through this spectacular narrative, Guru Mohapatra ventured beyond traditional Odissi, using dance, music, and innovation to exfound and timeless subject of Tantra, invoking the divine feminine for the betterment of society and humankind.

Renowned Bharatanatyam exponent and Guru Sandhya Purecha, also the Chairperson, Sangeet Natak Akademi, and eminent actress Mahasweta Ray. were among the dignitaries who graced the occasion.

ication to Kuchipudi and Rohita press the essence of the pro-Tamannaah: Filmmakers in South focus on emotions

graphical area. That is why their

content is translating globally,'

shared Tamannaah, who man-

ages to concisely distil the di-

versity of South Indian cinema.

news portal, Tamannaah shared

that the filmmakers focus on

fundamental human emotions.

During a conversation with a

Mumbai: Tamannaah Bhatia, who has worked in Tamil, Telugu, and Hindi films, recently talked about the one fundamental aspect of South cinema, and why emotions will always be the main motivator behind any film.

"In the South, the sto-

ries are very whether in a drama or a revenge rooted. As film, which centres around rein, it is lationships. They do not perceive well conthe audience as distinct tained segments of individuwithin their als and are not attempting to cater to various de-

> mographics. Furthermore, the emotional intensity is so profound that it resonates with viewers, even when

Mumbai: Actress Samantha

Ruth Prabhu has given her

fans and followers a peek

into a day in her life, which

she describes as 'Golden life'.

watching the film in its original language rather than a dubbed version.

Drawing comparisons to Hindi films, Tamannaah notes that while the work done there has undoubtedly inspired her, it's crucial to look deeper. "When you create work that is catered to work for different audiences, and everybody's consumption, it becomes a hotchpotch of a film. Take, for instance, Laapataa Ladies. It was a village story, but managed to resonate with the urban audience, right? So, it is important to understand that what really matters is not the people and their setting, but the emotions,' said the actress. AGENCIES



Samantha shares her

Samantha took to Instagram, where she shared a video giving a glimpse of what she does in a day and captioned it: "Life's Golden."

The video begins with 'a day in my life' written on the clip. It then begins with Samantha flaunting a golden glow and captioned it 'Sunlight at 6.30'. She then shared a glimpse of her doing oil pulling and Gua Sha.

'golden life'

therapy, pickle ball and meditating. The actress mentioned that by 10.00 pm she is in bed. On the work front, Samantha will be seen alongside Varun in Citadel Honey *Bunny*, which will drop November 7.

She then revealed that she

hits the gym at 7.00 am. She

then shared moments of her

praying, going for red light

Citadel Honey Bunny is the Indian counterpart of the larger global series Citadel which starred Priyanka Chopra Jonas and Richard Madden in

PEANUTS

me," added the actress



CALVIN AND HOBBES



BREVITY



FUN POST

CROSSWORD 10 Copyright @2024 PuzzleJunction.co

22 Baton twirler

20 Dormant

(4,9)

Down

Across						
oxing	class					
	oxing					

8 Like Connor MacLeod of

16 Recount

19 Engrave

- Highlander 9 Church nook
- 10 Ali's foe
- 12 Synthetic fiber 14 Constraint
- - - zone 4 Expand
- 1 Ray of light 2 Golf shot

5 Wedlock no-no

- 3 Certain time
- 17 Decayed
 - 18 Cronus or Oceanus

6 Terminate

11 Rescind

13 He waves the

red flag

15 Connive

gradually (5,3)

21 Distillery items

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

			1				6	
4	01	5						8
3	50		3	9				
6			6					
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	0.		2			1	9	3
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			4		5			

SOLUTIONS

REMAINOPTIC CROSSWOR

SUDOKU

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

CHECK FOR SOLUTIONS OF THE PUZZLES TOMORROW



downtown

An artisan gives finishing touches to clay idols of Lord Biswakarma in Cuttack, Wednesday



Amid ruckus, House adjourned sine die

PNN & AGENCIES

Bhubaneswar, Sept 11: The first session of the 17th Assembly was adjourned sine die Wednesday, two days ahead of

Speaker Surama Padhy adjourned the House following a disruption caused by members of the Opposition, including

The Opposition members were

protesting the adoption of a censure motion against Congress member Taraprasad Bahinipati and BJD members Dhruba Sahu and Braja Pradhan

for alleged disrespect towards the Speaker during the session. Padhy also sent the matter to

the Ethics Committee of the Assembly after two women BJP members submitted a petition alleging that the trio used un parliamentary words against the Speaker and disrupted House proceedings.

The first session, which commenced July 22, was initially scheduled to conclude September 13, with a break from August 1 to 19.

During this session, the BJP government's first Budget was presented July 25 by Chief Minister Mohan Charan Majhi. who also handles the Finance portfolio. The House approved

200 new 'goshalas' in next 5 years: Min

 $T^{
m he\, state}$ government has set a target for the establishment of over 200 'goshalas' over the next five years and is providing up to 90 per cent subsidy to private entities for the purpose, Fisheries and

Wednesday.

He requested all the 147 MLAs in the Assembly cutting across party lines to set up at least one

around 90 per cent subsidy for establishing a 'goshala' Besides, the government is providing a food subsidy of ₹54 per day per cattle, he said.

the minister said 94 private and one government-run 'goshala' have been established in 70 blocks of 28 districts in the state.

The state government has been providing financial assistance (90 per cent of actual cost) to animal welfare organisations and urban local bodies (ULBs) for setting up 'goshalas', he said.



Resources

Development Minister Gokulananda Mallik told the Assembly

Mallik said that the BJP had promised in its election manifesto that 200 new 'goshalas' would be opened.

'goshala' each. One can avail of

Later, in a written statement,

crore for the 2024-25 financial

Pet crematoriums in cities soon: Min

The state government will matoriums in different cities, Housing and Urban Development (H&UD) Minister Krushna Chandra Mohapatra told the Assembly Wednesday.

In a written reply to a query by Congress MLA Sofia Firdous, the H&UD minister said the facilities will be established in the state capital Bhubaneswar, Cuttack and other major cities.

"In light of the growing number of pet owners in Odisha, can the government consider the establishment of dedicated pet crematoriums in major cities, including

Bhubaneswar and Cuttack, to ensure the respectful and environmentally sound disposal of deceased pets?" Sofia asked.

Mohapatra said, "To date, it has not been considered for the establishment of dedicated pet crematorium in major cities, including Cuttack and Bhubaneswar. However, the proposal is praiseworthy.'

Evaluating the environmental aspect and public health benefits, ate such facilities in consultation with the stakeholders and experts in the field, the minister informed



The present status clearly indicates the existence of system failure to timely detect the actual grades of lumps and fines produced, which adversely impacted the state government revenue, the CAG said

AIRING GRIEVANCES: Members of 'Odisha Gosthi Sahayika CRP CM Sangha' stage a sit-in at Lower PMG in Bhubaneswar, Wednesday, to press for fulfilment of their demands

Iron ore grade decline dealt ₹4K-cr blow to state: CAG

cent of total production in the two years after auction

(2020-2022). "A similar trend was also noticed in the case of production of fines. In the case of one iron ore mine under the Joda Circle, the average production of lumps of grades above 60 per cent Fe was about 77 per cent before auction, which drastically reduced to 9.88 per cent within one year, in the

financial year 2020-21," it said. It further reduced to zero per cent during the financial year 2021-22 after a new lessee started operating the mine, it said.

"It is evident that after the auction of leases under the and Minerals Development and Regulation (Amendment) Act, 2015, there was an inexplicable and steep decline, in the reported production of higher grade of iron ore from the same mines, within a short period of one or two years, the CAG report said.

The audit report said that it is 'highly improbable' that the

grades of mineral reserves, produced from the auctioned mines, would witness an abrupt decline within a short period of one or two years, especially, when there was a consistent pattern in the grade of iron ore production in the last six years' time under

the old lessees. 'Such a significant and sharp decline in the grade of iron ore indicated a significant risk that the new lessees were misreporting the grade of iron ore produced, in order to avoid higher royalty that would have been payable on higher grades," the

Despite such an abnormal decline in the grades of iron ore lumps and fines, indicating the risk of misreporting, the CAG report said, adding the state government had 'not taken any steps to investigate' the grades of iron ore production reported by the new lessees as of March

As per the report, the state government has formed a committee, led by the director of mines and geology, to study the discrepancy in downgrading and misreporting of size of ore and the committee observed downgrading of ore in three leases and discrepancy in size of ore in six leases

On account of the violation, the government has demanded an amount of ₹471.48 crore from the lessees, who have preferred revision of the cases before the revision authority.

"Therefore, the present status clearly indicates the existence of system failure to timely detect the actual grades of lumps and fines produced, which adversely impacted the state government revenue," the CAG said in its audit report.

Opportunists leaving BJD: Naveen

PNN & AGENCIES

Bhubaneswar, Sept 11: Breaking his silence on the resignation of two Raiva Sabha MPs from his party to join the ruling BJP, BJD president Naveen Patnaik Wednesday labelled them as 'opportunists' and said their departure has only strengthened the regional party's organisation.

Addressing the concluding

session of the BJD's youth wing, Biju Yuva Janata Dal, Patnaik remarked, "Opportunistic individuals leaving the BJD will only strengthen us in our fight with our blood and sweat for the vision of a prosperous Patnaik's comments were di-

rected at Kudumi community leader Mamata Mohanta and Kalahandi leader Sujeet Kumar, who recently resigned from their Rajya Sabha memberships and joined the BJP. While Mohanta has since been

re-elected to the Rajya Sabha as a BJP member within a month of her departure from the BJD, Sujeet Kumar is also expected to be elected to the Upper House as a saffron party member from the state. Patnaik emphasised that the

Biju Janata Dal was founded on the principles of former Chief Minister Biju Patnaik, who envisioned a developed and empowered Odisha.

"As long as we work towards Biju Babu's vision, the BJD will remain strong and continue to live in the hearts of the people. The BJD is not dependent on individuals; it is founded on the dream of a developed Odisha,' Patnaik added.



He urged the youth to embrace this vision and work tirelessly to achieve it. Noting the significant influence of social media, Patnaik encouraged the youth to be active on these platforms and combat misinformation and

falsehoods with vigour. Additionally, Patnaik advised party members to engage in social activities such as blood donation, environmental protection, and supporting the disadvantaged, to contribute to a strong and empowered Odisha.

Taking a jibe at the ruling BJP, Patnaik criticised the party for its reliance on falsehoods. "Merely speaking lies loudly does not make them true. It has been three months since the new government took office, and it should focus on delivering results through hard work instead of making grandiose claims," he said.

Patnaik also accused the BJP government of double standards, particularly regarding the announcements of the Subhadra Yojana for women, free electricity, and increased social se-

curity allowances "You may win elections through deceit, but not the hearts

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

as reported by new lessees.

₹4,162.77 crore for the financial

years 2020-21 and 2021-22 in the

form of lesser royalty and pre-

mium (post auction)," the CAG said in its report No 6 of the

year 2024, which was laid before

the Odisha Assembly Wednesday.

production was reported in the

grade of 62-65 per cent Fe (iron)

in the pre-auction period, the

same came down to approximately

16 per cent in the two years after

Similarly, the auditor s

the share of grades 60 per cent

Fe and below went up from ap-

proximately 11 per cent of total

production to more than 60 per

auction (2020-2022), it said.

Though more than 83 per cent

of the people," he asserted. Further targeting the BJP, Patnaik condemned recent debates over the renaming of Ravenshaw University in Cuttack, saying, "Some people are trying to impose their own thinking on others which is unacceptable in

a democratic society. Patnaik reiterated that the ideologies of 'Seva (service), Swabhiman (self-respect), and Sangram (struggle)' define the regional party. He said the BJD has evolved into a social movement due to the dedication and sacrifices of its workers and

In an attempt to boost party morale following the BJD's recent electoral defeats, Patnaik asserted that politics should not be solely about power. "I view politics as a medium to serve the people, our motherland, and humanity," he said. Patnaik highlighted that the

ahead of others. 'The love and affection of the people of Odisha is our greatest strength," he noted.

BJD received 41.02 per cent of the

vote in the last elections and

that, in terms of absolute vote

numbers, the party remains

ECoR unloads 100 MT goods in 160 days

AGENCIES

official said.

Bhubaneswar, Sept 11: The East Coast Railway (ECoR) has unloaded over 100 million tonne (MT) of goods in 160 days during the current financial year, an

The ECoR unloaded 100.44 million tonne by September 7, registering a 6.5 per cent growth over the same period of last year. This performance exceeds last year's figure by 6.15 million tonne, he said.

While Khurda Road Division unloaded 60.38 million tonne of goods, it was followed by 22.68 million tonne in Waltair Division, and 17.38 million tonne in Sambalpur Division



ECoR serves major ports including Paradeep, Visakhapatnam, Gangavaram, Gopalpur and Dhamra and caters to the transportation demands of critical industries such as steel, power, aluminium, fertilizers, cement and other sectors, he said. The major commodities transported by ECoR are coal, iron ore, alumina, manganese, and bauxite, the official said. In the previous financial year (2023-2024) the ECoR unloaded 100 million tonne of goods in 171 days.

Nat'l Florence Nightingale Award '24 for Malkangiri's Sanjukta Sethi

Bhubaneswar, Sept 11: President Droupadi Murmu Wednesday conferred the prestigious National Florence Nightingale Award 2024 on Odisha's Sanjukta Sethi and 14 others at Rashtrapati Bhavan in New Delhi, Wednesday.

Sethi, who works as a nursing officer/OT in-charge sister at the district headquarters hospital in Malkangiri, and the 14 others got the award in recognition of their outstanding commitment to duty and service to the community.

ANMs Sheela Mondal (Andaman and Nicobar Islands), Iken Lollen (Arunachal Pradesh), Vidjeyacoumary V (Puducherry), Januka Pandey (Sikkim) and Anindita Pramanik (West Bengal), Nurses Major Gen Ignatius Delos Flora (Delhi), Prem Rose Suri (Delhi), Tabasum Irshad Handoo (J&K), Nagarajaiah (Karnataka), Shamshad Beegum A (Lakshadweep), Asha Womanrao Bawane (Maharashtra), H Mankimi (Mizoram) and Radhey Lal Sharma (Rajasthan) and LHV Brahmacharimayum Amusana Devi (Manipur) were the other awardees

Union Health and Family Welfare (H&FW) Minister Jagat Prakash Nadda, Union Minister of State for H&FW Anupriya Patel and other dignitaries were present during the event.

Congratulating the awardees. Nadda said this accolade will in-



spire them to continue pushing the boundaries in public service.

"Heartfelt thanks to Hon'ble President Smt. Droupadi Murmu Ji for presenting the National Florence Nightingale Awards 2024 to the dedicated nursing personnel for their selfless service to the nation. Congratulations to all the awardees. This accolade will inspire you to continue pushing the boundaries in public service. Your tireless efforts play a crucial role in saving countless lives. Our Nurses truly are the backbone of our healthcare sector. Thank you for your invaluable contributions,' Nadda wrote on X.

Chief Minister Mohan Charan Majhi and BJD president Naveen Patnaik also congratulated Sethi The award was instituted by the Ministry of H&FW in 1973

as a mark of recognition for the meritorious services rendered by the nurses and nursing professionals to the society. A total of 15 awards are given

in the category of Registered Auxiliary Nurses & Midwife, Registered Nurses and Midwife and Registered Lady Visitor. The award is given to outstanding nursing personnel employed in Central, state/UT and voluntary organisations.

"The nurse in her/his regular job in the hospital or community settings, educational or administrative setting is eligible for the national award. Each award consists of a certificateof merit, ₹1,00,000 cash and a medal," it was learnt.

Puri seer opposes beach shacks plan



THE SEER'S **OPPOSITION TO** THE PROPOSAL **COINCIDED WITH THE DEMONSTRATION OF AROUND 40 SOCIO-CULTURAL ORGANISATIONS**

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Puri, Sept 11: Shankaracharya of Govardhan Peeth Swami Nischalananda Saraswati Wednesday opposed the state government's proposal for setting up beach shacks along Puri-Konark sea shore.

The seer's opposition to the

proposal coincided with the demonstration of around 40 socio-cultural organisations

near Srimandir here. While opposing the BJP government's proposal in the new excise policy, the agitators also demanded a total liquor ban in the pilgrim town and the sea

"Jagannath Dham is the place for spiritual pursuit and soulsearching and not for amusement. Puri beach should be a place devoted to bhajan, kirtan and religious discourses. It should not serve as a destination for pleasure-seeking," the Shankaracharya told reporters while responding to the state government's proposal.

While the state government's policy included serving liquor Shankaracharya said it would harm the spiritual sanctity of the pilgrim town and bring a bad name to the Jagannath cul-

The sale of alcohol at the beach is unacceptable, he said adding, "People from all over the world come to Puri as devotees, not tourists.'

The seer said, "The Puri beach is also called Mahodadhi which has a spiritual meaning and is meant for religious activities. The people here also offer Mahodadhi Aarti on the sea beach.

The Shankaracharya had also opposed a similar proposal of the previous BJD government in 2021, following which the idea could not materialise.

He said all followers of Sanatan Dharma should oppose such ideas and appealed to the state government to roll back the proposal.

Excise department sources said that the policy aimed at providing beach entertainment to the tourists along the Puri and Konark beaches like Goa to boost revenue.

The protestors, including women, said that the Puri Sea is considered as the maternal home of Goddess Lakshmi, and Sri Narayan visits there every New Moon day.



IN MEMORIAM: Union Minister of State for Social Justice and Empowerment Ramdas Athawale joins 130th birth anniversary observation of Acharya Vinoba Bhave at Soochana Bhawan in Bhubaneswar, Wednesday

'Will urge CM for 27% reservation to OBC students'

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Bhubaneswar, Sept 11: Union Minister Ramdas Athawale Wednesday said he will write to Chief Minister Mohan Charan Majhi, urging him to provide 27 per cent reservation for OBC students in higher education.

The Union Minister is on a two-day official visit to Odisha. Speaking to reporters here, Athawale, who serves as the Union Minister of State for Justice and Empowerment, noted that sev-

eral states across India already

grant 27 per cent reservation to OBC students.

'If OBC students in Odisha are not receiving this benefit. I will formally request the Chief Minister to address this issue, he said. Athawale, who is also the president of the Republican Party of India (RPI), emphasised his party's demand for a caste-based census to determine the population distribution of various communities.

"I have raised the call for a caste-based census in Parliament as well. We are awaiting the government's response," he

The Union Minister also expressed concern over the rising number of atrocities against Scheduled Castes (SC) and Scheduled Tribes (ST) in Odisha.

He cited statistics showing 3,003 reported cases in 2021, 3,704 in 2022, and 3,358 so far in 2023. "I will discuss this issue with the Governor and Chief Minister," he said.

Athawale highlighted that addressing atrocities requires more than just enforcing laws; it necessitates cooperation from all stakeholders, including the

state government, district administrations, NGOs, and political parties.

The Union Minister spent his first day reviewing the implementation of various welfare schemes. These include the Special Component Plan for Scheduled Castes, scholarships for SC/OBC students, the Atrocities Act for SC/ST, incentives for inter-caste married couples, hostels for SC/ST students, old age homes and pensions, and programmes for the empowerment of persons with

Genericart Medicine launched in Baragada



POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar, Sept 11: A new branch of Genericart Medicine was launched at Baragada Brit colony here Wednesday.

The inauguration ceremony was graced by the local corporators including Ajit Behera and Santosh Singh, and other esteemed medical professionals. The newly-opened venture marks a significant step towards providing high-quality, affordable medication for the betterment of the community.

With a total of 20 located across the state, Genericart Medicine is committed to expanding its reach and impact. At the newlylaunched store in Baragada, customers can avail a 70 per cent discount on medicines, ensuring access to the best quality healthcare products at an affordable price.

MARKET WATCH

GOLD

WEATHER

Max Temp

Min Temp

Humidity

Rainfall

Partly cloudy sky with

or thundershowers

one or two spells of rain

SENSEX **71,752.11** 612.21

21,725.70 1 203.60

VARIATION

Rains abate, relief begins in Malkangiri

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Bhubaneswar, Sept 11: The state government Wednesday began relief and restoration efforts in the heavily rain-hit districts of Malkangiri and Koraput, as rainwater began to recede from the villages.

Responding to a query in the Assembly, Pujari said Koraput and Malkangiri were the most affected by the recent heavy rains, induced by a deep de-

He said that road communication remained disrupted at 14 locations in Malkangiri and six locations in Koraput due to the flash floods

Pujari also highlighted that the district administrations of Malkangiri and Koraput were in constant communication with state authorities, and the Chief Secretary was in touch with the Home Ministry regarding the

Special Relief The Commissioner's office maintained regular contact with district collectors, who, in turn,

received updates from block and panchayat level officials to ensure effective management of the crisis.

The minister assured that the situation was well under control and reported that rescue teams from ODRAF, Fire Service, and NDRF were deployed for immediate rescue operations. Approximately 1,780 people

were relocated to temporary relief shelters in Malkangiri, where they received food, water. medicines, and medical checkups, the minister said. 'Post-flood damage assessment in the affected areas will

pensation will be provided in accordance with the Odisha Relief Code," Pujari added. Meanwhile, reports fro Malkangiri indicate that residents have begun returning to their homes as rainwater re-

be conducted soon, and com-

cedes and are in the process of repairing their houses. Preliminary reports indicate that 176 houses were damaged in Koraput, while 116 houses

were affected in Malkangiri.

'Poor lifestyle, dietary habits

Bhubaneswar, Sept 11: Incidence of brain stroke, which was previously seen mostly in older adults, is now affecting the younger population due to factors such as sedentary lifestyles, poor dietary habits, and increasing prevalence of diabetes, experts highlighted during the Indian Association of Neurology (IAN) Stroke Subsection Midterm Conference, organised by the department of Neurology, AIIMS

POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar Wednesday. Themed 'Code Stroke to St Intervention', the conference featured in-depth discussions on early stroke identification. treatment advancements, and the importance of stroke prevention. Distinguished neurologists from across the country participated in the event.

"The incidence of brain stroke



has become an alarming health concern in India, with approximately 2,000 cases reported daily nationwide," experts said.

A recent study published in 'The Lancet' has revealed that the incidence of stroke in Odisha is higher than the national average, with nearly one in seven

residents at risk, experts viewed. AIIMS Bhubaneswar executive director Ashutosh Biswas said that the Neurology department here handles over 500 stroke patients every month, offering comprehensive care that includes intravenous thrombolysis, me-

chanical thrombectomy, stroke neurosurgery, neurocritical care, and advanced neuro-rehabilitation services.

Among others, dignitaries present at the conference included Dean (Academics) PR Mohapatra and Medical Superintendent DK Parida. Prominent speakers included IAN Stroke Subsection Chairman Sunil K Narayan, Indian Stroke Association President Nirmal Surya, Kameshwar Prasad, P Vijaya, and SP Gorthi, who extensively discussed stroke management.

Training on biofortified crops in Koraput by ILS

Bhubaneswar: Institute of Life Sciences (ILS) and ICAR-Central Tuber Crops Research Institute (ICAR-CTCRI) jointly organised an awareness campaign and training programme on 'Biofortified tuber crops for food and nutritional security' in Borigumma block office campus, Koraput Wednesday. Fifty districts attended the programme. Several institutions, including BRIC-ILS, ICAR-CTCRI, ICAR-CIFA and ICAR-CHES are promoting cultivation of biofortified crops such as protein and zinc rich rice, essential amino acid rich maize and anti-oxidant and vitamin rich sweet potato. "These grains and vegetables are of great importance to people having nutrition deficiency. These crops are also of commercial importance due to high market price. BRICmoting vegetable cultivation and fish eries through Biotech-Kisan programme," an official said.



TPSODL INSTALLS 33kV LINE IN SOUTHERN ODISHA

Transforming consumers' lives through power infrastructure

Bhubaneswar, Sept 11: TP

Southern Odisha Distribution Limited (TPSODL) has made significant progress in upgrad-₹378 ing the power infrastructure across Southern Odisha, suc-SILVER ₹72,559 **1** ₹217 cessfully overcoming challenges posed by the region's difficult terrain, including hilly landscapes, dense forests, and remote areas. CTC These upgrades underscore TPSODL's commitment to de-34.4°(liver reliable electricity to every corner of Southern Odisha.

The company's commitment to upgrading the power infrastructure has transformed the lives of consumers in the region, bringing quality power supply to homes, schools, hospitals, and emergency services, ensuring a better quality of life for everyone. Over the past three

financial years, TPSODL has laid approximately 274 circuit kilometres of 33kV power lines. enhancing power reliability for consumers in some of the most far-flung areas of Southern

In the fiscal year 2023-24, TP-SODL laid 129.70 circuit kilometres of 33kV lines across various districts in Southern Odisha, significantly improving power reliability for nearly 76,000 consumers. The previous fiscal year saw the installation of 125.70 circuit kilometers of lines, benefiting over 72,000 people. Additionally, in the fiscal year 2021-22, TPSODL established 19 circuit kilometers of 33kV lines, directly improving the power supply for 10,925 con-

Looking forward, TPSODL has ambitious plans for the cur-



rent financial year also, to strengthen existing lines infrastructure as well as erection of new lines across Southern Odisha. The extensive expansion plan is already underway, aiming to further bolster the region's power infrastructure and provide consistent electricity to even more residents.

TPSODL CEO Amit Kumar Garg expressed satisfaction over company's achievements, stating, "Our mission is to ensure a high-quality power supply across Southern Odisha, regardless of the challenges posed by the region's geography. The infrastructural upgrades we've accomplished over the past three

Over the past three fiscal years, TPSODL has laid approximately 274 circuit kilometres of 33kV power lines, enhancing power reliability for consumers in some of the remote areas of Southern Odisha

years are just the beginning. We are dedicated to continuous improvement and expansion to better serve the people of Southern Odisha.

'TPSODL remains committed to its goal of providing a reliable and consistent power supply to every resident of Southern Odisha, contributing to the region's development and the wellbeing of its people," he said.

One of the key projects recently completed by TPSODL includes the installation of a new 33kV line from the Gunupur Grid Substation to the Bikrampur Primary Substation. The project has significantly enhanced the stability of the power supply for residents in the Jagannathpur, Gotalpadar, Morama, Sirijholli, and Bagasala panchayats within the Gunupur block of Rayagada district.

Nitesh Padhy, a resident of Gunupur, said, "Since TPSODL took over the power supply, we have noticed a significant improvement in service reliability. Power interruptions have been greatly reduced, and we are thankful for TPSODL team's efforts in bringing about the positive change.

CLASSIFIED ADVERTISEMENTS CONTACT OUR **BOOKING STATIONS**

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

OrissaPOST

Protests held over inadequate railway facilities in south Odisha

Berhampur, Sept 11: People from different areas of Ganiam district continued their protests here for the third consecutive day Wednesday, alleging that south Odisha has been deprived of facilities by the Ministry of Railways.

Under the banner of the 'Milita Kriyaanusthan Committee', a large number of people held a demonstration near the railway station here. They stated that they would continue their agitation demand ing the development of the railway sector in the district. The protests began Monday and will continue for a week at least, committee leaders said.

Several advocates, social ac tivists, retired bureaucrats, teachers, businessmen and others took part in the protests. Congress MLA from Mohana, Dasarathi Gamang joined the dharana Tuesday and expressed solidarity with the agitators.

The committee has demanded the construction of new railway lines from Gopalpur to Ravagada via Digapahandi, Mohana and Padmapur; Gopalpur to Sambalpur via Hinjili, Aska, Buguda, Bhanjanagar and Phulbani and from Gopalpur to Talacher via Aska, Buguda and Navagarh, It has also demanded construction of two more platforms at the railway station here.

setting up of a new division in this city, establishment of the proposed wagon factory at Sitalapalli to provide jobs to the unemployed youths of the district and new direct trains from here to different states.

The proposed wagon factory was sanctioned by the central government when Mamata Baneriee was the Railway Minister. But it was not implemented due to the stepmotherly attitude of the ministry towards the southern Odisha districts, alleged Saroi Kumar Patnaik, convener of the committee

In the present budget, the Railway Ministry has given a raw deal to the southern Odisha districts, ignoring the long-standing demands of the people, said Lokanath Parida, a protester. Kandhamal district, which does not have any railway tracks will be coming under the network, if these proposed projects are implemented, said BK Panda, a retired bureaucrat.

Somanath Nayak, a senior advocate in Bhanjanagar said they have demanded the implementation of the Gopalpur-Sambalpur railway track for several years. The proposed railway track will not only connect south and western Odisha towns, but it will pass through the tribal-dominated Kandhamal district, which is yet to come under the rail network, he said

Poultry farmers, firms battle over compensation money

POST NEWS NETWORK

Kendrapara, Sept 11: With bird flu being rampant in this district, the conflict between farmers and firms that deal with poultry products has once more come to the forefront. The district administration has started culling birds in various farms under Derabish block. Five poultry farmers have also been quarantined after they showed signs of being affected by the disease, sources said Wednesday.

So far over 8,000 birds have been culled in various farms. The administration is also carrying out awareness drives urging people not to consume poultry meat and eggs. A Central team has also visited this district and taken stock of the situation.

Farmers whose birds are culled are usually provided compensation by the state government. However, many firms who deal in poultry products and have offices here are asking the farmers to hand over the compensation money. This has come as a huge blow to the farmers.

The relationship between farmers and companies that deal in the products has never been good. Farmers have always alleged that the companies are eating with nothing to survive. Some of

into their profits leaving them them said Wednesday that representatives of some of the firms that deal with poultry products are threatening them with dire consequences unless they hand over the compensation amount provided by the government.

Sources pointed out that the farmers at an average makes a profit of rupees three to rupees five per bird which is indeed a very nominal amount. They added that poultry meat is sold at prices between ₹250-₹350 per kilogram. And it is the companies that make the maximum profits

It should be stated that not just meat, these companies also sell other poultry products like eggs after procuring them from farmers at nominal rates. Such is their dominance that farmers cannot directly sell their products to customers. Hence despite the demand for chicken and eggs growing in the state, the farmers have not been able to reap the benefits. It is the companies that deal with poultry products who are eating both the cream and the pie.

As there are no proper administrative measures in place to shackle the companies, the farmers have nowhere to go. They suffer silently and sell their products at minimal prices and without getting properly paid for the hard work they put in. These farmers are the last independent link in the company-owned supply chain, a source informed. He added that unless some steps are implemented to protect their interests, more and more poultry farmers will be forced to look for other means of livelihood.

Villagers evacuated for missile test

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Balasore, Sept 11: The disadministration Wednesday geared up to evacuate people from six villages close to the Integrated Test Range (ITR) at Chandipur ahead of the scheduled missile test by DRDO from a launch pad, officials said. The step was taken on the advice of the DRDO and elaborate arrangements have been made to temporarily evacuate 3,100 people, they added.

'The district administration will shift 3,100 people from six villages residing within 2.5km radius of the launch pad No. 3 of the ITR, and all arrangements have been made for their temporary stay in the three camps," informed an official.

Ahead of the evacuation of

the villagers, a joint meeting was held here among the DRDO authorities, district administration and police for the smooth management of the temporarily evacuated people, said a police officer.

To assist these temporarily shifted people, the district administration has deployed more than a hundred officials and 15 sections (one section comprises 10 personnel) of the police force.

Through the public address system, the district administration has made announcements in these villages for the people to shift by 6.00am Thursday till intimations are made for their return home after the test is over. All temporarily affected people will be compensated as per rule, said the officer.

4 poachers held in Mayurbhanj

POST NEWS NETWORK

Baripada, Sept 11: Forest department personnel belonging to Similipal south and Baripada divisions arrested Wednesday four poachers from Manikpur village under Udala police limits in Mayurbhanj district. The department said in an official release that the four have been identified as Sauru Murmu, Nitai Murmu, Mahato Kisku alias Hapna and Thupul Hembram.

One loaded double barrel gun, two unloaded guns, explosives, bows and arrows, one snare, pellets and four teeth belonging to a Royal Bengal Tiger have been seized from their possessions.

Officials said that initially Thupul was arrested following a raid at his residence in Manikpur village. Subsequent interrogation of the accused led the Forest department staff to the others. They were also promptly nabbed, officials said

Officials also stated that among the four, Mahato is the most notorious wildlife criminal. He had poached a tiger around two years back and since then had been absconding. He went missing after STF personnel recovered the skin of the poached tiger from his residence. Lately he had returned to the village. He will be handed over to the STF,

PASSING OUT CEREMONY OF FOREST GUARDS HELD

POST NEWS NETWORK

Keonjhar, Sept 11: The passing out ceremony of guards after completing six months of training was held Wednesday at the Nicholson Forest Training School in Champua of this district. A total of 97 guards took part in the ceremony which was attended by the Regional Chief Conservator of Forest (RCCF), Rourkela, P Ramaswamy (IFS) as chief guest. He also received the salute at the passing out parade.

Deputy Conservator of Forest, Dhanraj HD, DFOs Srikant Naik and Nityanand Naik and other dignitaries were present on the occasion. Officials informed that the guards received training in wildlife and environment protection and other duties associated with conservation of forests. They will now be posted at different places in the

Government of Odisha OFFICE OF THE PANCHAYAT SAMITI, DEOGAON e-Procurement Notice **BID IDENTIFICATION No. 01/DGN/2024-25**

E-mail ID: ori-deogaon@nic.in The Block Development Officer, Deogaon on behalf of the Governor

of Odisha invites percentage rate bid in single cover system in ONLINE MODE for construction of building work detailed in the table below from eligible contractors Nature of Work

Building Work 4 Nos. Building Work No. of tender Tender cost Class of Contractor "D" and "C' From Dt.12.09.24, 05.00 P.M. to Date & Time of Sale & Receipt of Bids Dt.03.10.2024 up to 5.30 P.M.

Date of opening bid : Dt.04.10.2024 at 11.30 A.M. The bidders have to participate in ONLINE bidding only. Further details can be seen from the website: http://tendersodisha.gov.in Sd./- Block Development Officer

OIPR-19253/11/0001/2425

Opening Date and Time 17-09-2024, 10.00 hrs

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS

WESTERN RAILWAY

RAILWAY RECRUITMENT CELL

Website: https://www.rrc-wr.com

RECRUITMENT AGAINST SCOUTS & GUIDES QUOTA FOR THE YEAR 2024-25 nent Notification No. RRC/WR/02/2024(S&G Quota)

Parcel Depot, Alibhai Premii Road, Grant Road (East), Mum

Western Railway invites **ONLINE** applications from eligible Scout & Guide candidates for filling up the following Posts against Scout & Guide Quota for the year 2024-25:

No.	Post	Quota	Distribution
1	Level 2 PB-2 ₹ 19,900 - 63,200	02	Anywhere on Western Railway
	Level 1 (Erstwhile Gr.D) PB-1 ₹ 18,000 - 56,900	12	02 Posts each for BCT, BRC, ADI, RTM, RJT & BVP Division (*)

bai, BRC-Vadodara, ADI- Ahmedabad, RTM-Ratlam RJT- Rajkot, BVP-Bhavnagar

Organization for the last 5 (Five) years i.e. 2019-20 onwards will be eligible to apply for appointment against above posts under Scout & Guide Quota.

For further details, refer Employment Notification No. RRC/WR/02/2024 (S&G Quota) dated 13/09/2024 uploaded on RRC/WR's Website https://www.rrc-wr.com on 13/09/2024. CHAIRMAN (RRC)

Pistol recovered from dead history-sheeter

Rourkela: Police recovered Tuesday night a foreign-made loaded revolver and live cartridges from a man who died due to an accident. The 22-year-old deceased has been identified as Sachin Sahu, a resident of Khatkurbahal under Kutra police station limits. Police said that Sachin had crashed against a tree while driving his motorcycle at high speed. Other than the revolver and bullets, cops have also recovered from Sachin's possession a mobile phone costing over a lakh. Police have also arrested Mukesh Sahu, an associate of Sachin. Both Sachin and Mukesh are known historysheeters. The cops are trying to ascertain whether Mukesh was in touch with Sachin before the accident occurred. They added that both Sachin and Mukesh were involved in past cases of extortion and also ran illegal gambling dens. SDPO Biramitrapur Susant Das said, "We have found the revolver in Sachin's possession. We have also arrested Mukesh as he is wanted by Jharsuguda police for his alleged involvement in a murder case." Das also said that Sachin was returning from Jharkhand when the accident occurred. "Police started chasing him and when Sachin tried to flee, the accident occurred.

JSWBPSL inaugurates new community centre



POST NEWS NETWORK

Sambalpur, Sept 11: In a significant milestone for community development, the CSR department of JSWBPSL inaugurated Wednesday a newly-constructed community centre in Lapanga village, situated near Ramchandi temple in this district. This initiative underscores JSW Foundation's ongoing commitment to enhance the quality of life in peripheral areas through impactful CSR activities.

The inauguration ceremony was held in presence of Vishal Raj, Head CSR of JSW Foundation, Sambalpur and Jharsuguda. ent during the function were Durga Prasad Sahu, Pradeep Sahu, Byasadev Sahu, Sanjiv Panda and other members of the village committee.

The newly-built community centre is designed to serve as a versatile venue for residents, offering a dedicated space for social and cultural activities. The centre aims to foster community engagement by providing an inclusive gathering spot where individuals and groups of all ages can meet and collaborate on various initiatives, a release said.

Raj highlighted the centre's role in nurturing a sense of belonging and social inclusion among community members. He emphasised that the new facility would act as a catalyst for collective endeavours and reaffirmed JSW Foundation's ongoing support for the development of the gram panchayat and the local community CSR department of JSWBPSL remains dedicated to its mission of supporting and enhancing the well-being of the communities in which it operates, with a focus on sustainable and meaningful development initiatives, the release added.

UTKAL GRAMEEN BANK (Sponsored by State Bank of India)

Stressed Asset Recovery Branch, At/PO: Dhanupali, Dist.: Sambalpur Mob.: 9861133922, 7325905368, E-mail ld: sarb@ukgb.in

Sale Notice

E-Auction /

SALE OF MOVABLE & IMMOVABLE ASSETS CHARGED TO THE BANK UNDER SECURITISATION AND RECONSTRUCTION OF FINANCIAL ASSETS AND ENFORCEMENT OF SECURITY INTEREST ACT, 2002. The undersigned as Authorized Officer of Utkal Grameen Bank has taken over Possession of the following property/ies u/s 13(4) of the SARFAESI Act. Public at large is informed that e-auction (under SARFAESI Act, 2002) of the charged property/ies in the below mentioned cases for realisation of Bank's dues will be held on "AS IS WHERE IS BASIS" and "AS IS WHAT IS BASIS" and on the terms & conditions specified hereunder

SI. No.	Borrower(s)	property / Type of Possession	recovery of which property/ies is/are being sold & Demand Notice date	EMD / BID Increment Amount				
	Krushna Panda, S/o- Sri Sanyasi Panda, At: Shivshakti Nagar, 7th Lane, Near Babaji Dhaba, Dist.:	Property consisting of Land and Building situated at Mouza: Ankuli, PS/Tahasil: Berhampur, PS No76, Dist.: Ganjam, Khata No.: 863/13070, Plot No.: 68/5865 (Gharabari), Area: Ac.0.012 dec. & Plot No.: 66/10359 (Gharabari), Area: Ac.0.004 dec., Total Area: Ac.0.016 dec., standing in the name of Sri Rama Krushna Panda , S/o- Sri Sanyasi Panda. (Double storied R.C.C Building) / PHYSICAL.	as on 11.09.2024 with further interest & costs	₹45,00,000/- / ₹4,50,000/- / ₹20,000/-				
DATE AND TIME FOR SURMISSION OF REQUEST LETTER OF PARTICIPATION/KYC DOCUMENTS/PROOF								

OF EMD ETC.: ON OR BEFORE: 14.10.2024 upto 05.00 P.M. DATE & TIME OF INSPECTION OF THE PROPERTIES: 14.10.2024 from 10.00 AM to 2.00 PM

DATE & TIME OF E-AUCTION: 15.10.2024 from 11.00 AM to 2.00 PM (with unlimited extensions of time up to 5 minutes each) The terms and conditions of the E-Auction are as under:

E-Auction is being held on "AS IS WHERE IS BASIS" and "AS IS WHAT IS BASIS" and will be conducted "On Line". The auction will be conducted through the Bank's approved service provider M/s e-Procurement Technologies Limited, Ahmedabad at the web portal (https://sarfaesi.auctiontiger.net). E-Auction Tender Document containing online e-auction Bid Form, Declaration, General Terms and Conditions of online auction sale are available in websites.

To the best of knowledge and information of the Authorised Officer, there is no encumbrance on the property/ies. However, the intending bidders should make their own independent inquiries regarding the encumbrances, title of property/ies put on auction and claims/rights/dues. affecting the property, prior to submitting their bid. The e-Auction advertisement does not constitute and will not be deemed to constitute any commitment or any representation of the bank. The property is being sold with all the existing and future encumbrances whether known or

unknown to the bank. The Authorised Officer/Secured Creditor shall not be responsible in any way for any third party claims/rights/dues. The intending purchasers / bidders are required to deposit EMD amount either through NEFT/ RTGS / Cash Deposit (at any UGB Branches) in the Account No.: 84034557626, Name of the A/C: Utkal Grameen Bank, Stressed Asset Recovery Branch, Sambalpur, IFSC Code No.: SBINORRUKGB or by way of demand draft drawn in favour Utkal Grameen Bank, A/c- Utkal Grameen Bank, Stressed Asset Recovery Branch, Sambalpur, payable at Sambalpur, drawn on any Nationalized or Scheduled Bank.

Bidders shall hold a valid email ID (e-mail ID is absolutely necessary for the intending bidder as all the relevant information and allotment of ID & password by **Ws e-Procurement Technologies Limited**, **Ahmedabad** may be conveyed through e-mail), Contact: Mr. Ram Prasad Sharma- 8000023297, Email Id: orissa@auctiontiger.net & support@auctiontiger.net
The intending bidder should submit the evidence for EMD deposit like UTR number along with Request Letter for participation in

E-auction, counterfoil incase deposited across counter of any branch of ours, self-attested copies of (i) Proof of Identification (KYC) viz. Voter ID Card/ Driving License/ Passport etc., (ii) Current Address-Proof for communication, (iii) PAN card of the bidder, (iv) valid e-mail ID, (v) contact number (Mobile/Landline) of the bidder etc. to the Authorised Officer of Utkal Grameen Bank, Stressed Asset Recovery Branch, At/PO: Dhanupali, Sambalpur & Address by 14.10.2024 upto 5.00 P.M. Scanned copies of the original of these documents can also be submitted to e-mail id of Authorized officer.

Names of the Eligible Bidders will be identified by the Utkal Grameen Bank, Stressed Asset Recovery Branch, At/PO: Dhanupali, Sambalpur to participate in online e-auction on the portal (https://sarfaesi.auctiontiger.net), M/s e-Procurement Technologies Limited, Ahmedabad will provide User ID & Password after due verification of PAN of the Eligible Bidders.

It shall be the responsibility of the interested bidders to inspect and satisfy themselves about the property before submission of the bid The e-Auction/bidding of above properties would be conducted exactly on the scheduled Date & Time as mentioned against the property by way of inter-se bidding amongest the bidders. The bidder shall improve their offer in multiple of the amount mentioned under the columns "Bid Increment Amount" against the property. In case bid is placed in the last 5 minutes of the closing time of the e-Auction, the closing time will automatically get extended for 5 minutes. The bidder who submits the highest bid amount (not below the Reserve Price) on closure of e-Auction process shall be declared as Successful Bidder and a communication to that effect

will be issued through electronic mode which shall be subject to approval by the Authorised Officer/ Secured Creditor.

The Earnest Money Deposit (EMD) of the successful bidder shall be retained towards part sale consideration and the EMD of unsuccessful bidders shall be refunded. The Earnest Money Deposit shall not bear any interest. The successful bidder shall have to deposit 25% of the sale price immediately within 48 hour on acceptance of bid price by the Authorised Officer and the balance of the sale price on or before 15th day of the sale or within such extended period as agreed upon in writing and solely at the discretion of the Authorised Officer. Default in deposit of amount by the successful bidder would entail forfeiture of the whole money, already deposited and property shall be put to re-auction and the defaulting bidder shall have no claim/ right in

respect of property/ amount. The prospective qualified bidders may avail online training on e-Auction from W/s e-Procurement Technologies Limited, Ahmedabad prior to the date of e-Auction. Neither the Authorised Officer / Bank nor W/s e-Procurement Technologies Limited, Ahmedabad will be held responsible for any Internet Network problem/Power failure/ any other technical lapses/failure etc. In

order to ward-off such contingent situation the interested bidders are requested to ensure that they are technically well equipped with adequate power back-up etc. for successfully participating in the e-Auction event.

The purchaser shall bear the applicable stamp duties / additional stamp duty / transfer charges, fee etc. and also all the statutory/non-statutory dues, taxes, rates, assessment charges, fees etc. owing to anybody.

The Authorised Officer/Bank is not bound to accept the highest offer and has the absolute right to accept or reject any or all offer(s) or adjourn/ postpone/ cancel the e-Auction or withdraw any property or portion thereof from the auction proceedings at

any stage without assigning any reason therefor.

The Sale Certificate will be issued in the name of the purchaser(s) / applicant(s) only and will not be issued in any other name(s)

Sd/- Authorised Officer, Utkal Grameen Bank, Stressed Asset Recovery Branch, Sambalpur

The sale shall be subject to rules / conditions prescribed under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002.

Date: 11.09.2024, Place: Sambalpur

Youth gets 10-yr RI for impregnating minor

Sambalpur: A local court here Tuesday convicted a 24-year-old man for impregnating a minor girl in 2016 by making a false promise of marrying her. The court sentenced him to 10 years of rigorous imprisonment (RI) and slapped a penalty of ₹1 lakh under Section 6 of Protection of Children from Sexual Offences (POCSO) Act. Special POCSO court judge Abhilash

Senapati also handed down one-year rigorous imprisonment (RI) along with ₹1,000 fine under Section 420 of the Indian Penal Code (IPC) while failure to pay the penalty would amount to an additional one-year RI. According to the case diary, Roshan Munda, a resident of Gudelkani village under Kisinda police limits in this district, used to visit his maternal uncle's house at Khandamunda during which he had developed intimacy with a minor girl of the

said Special Public Prosecutor Santosh Panda.

village which later turned into a physical relationship. Later, the girl became pregnant and gave birth to a baby boy. However, when the girl approached Roshan to marry her, he turned down her request. He also threatened to eliminate her if she held him responsible for the birth of the child. Unable to find any other way, the victim lodged a complaint at Kisinda police station February 22, 2016 alleging that Roshan raped her multiple times by making the false promise of marrying her. Acting on the complaint, a case (57/2016) under Section 376, 417, 506, 420 and Section 6 of POCSO Act was registered at Kisinda police station following which the cops began a probe and arrested Roshan. The special judge pronounced the judgement after

hearing statements of 18 witnesses and going through other evidences,

Man hacks daughter's boyfriend to death

POST NEWS NETWORK

Rayagada, Sept 11: In a shocking incident, a man allegedly hacked the boyfriend of his daughter to death with an axe at Adatakiri village under Kashipur block in this district Tuesday evening. He also attacked his daughter who suffered serious injuries and is currently battling for life at the district headquarters hospital (DHH) here.

The deceased was identified as Mangalsingh Majhi and the injured Lalita Majhi - both residents of the same village. Accused Bijay Majhi, who had fled the spot after committing the crime, was arrested Wednesday.

Police said Lalita had eloped with Mangalsingh last month. However, Bijay asked her to come back so that an amicable solution could be worked out. Lalita had returned to her home a week back.

Bijay invited Mangalsingh to his residence Tuesday and requested him to take Lalita back. However, when the duo was leaving on a bike, Bijay attacked them with an axe. Mangalsingh died on the spot while locals rescued Lalita and rushed her to the Kashipur CHC. She was later shifted to the DHH here.



Love is the keynote. Joy is the music. Knowledge is the performer, the Infinite All is the

SRI AUROBINDO



Dani Rodrik

an existential

Climate change is

threat. A large and

stable middle class

is the foundation of

liberal democracies.

And reducing global

imperative. It would

had to abandon any

of these three goals

poverty is a moral

be alarming if we

A New Trilemma

wrote a speculative article in 2000 on what I called "the political trilemma" of the world economy." My claim was that advanced forms of globalisation, the nation-state, and mass politics could not coexist. Societies would eventually settle on (at most) two out of three.

I suggested that it would be the nation-state that would give way in the long run. But not without a struggle. In the short term, the more likely consequence was that governments would seek to reassert national sovereignty, to address the distributive and governance challenges posed by globalisation.

To my surprise, the trilemma proved to have long legs. My book The Globalization Paradox, published a decade later, developed the idea further. The concept of the trilemma has become a handy way to understand the backlash against hyper-globalization, Britain's exit from the European Union, the rise of the far right, and the future of democracy in the EU, among other issues.

Lately, another trilemma has preoccupied me. This one is the disturbing possibility that it may be impossible simultaneously to combat climate change, boost the middle class in advanced economies, and reduce global poverty. Under current policy trajectories, any combination of two goals appears to come at the expense

During the early postwar decades, policies in the developed and developing world alike emphasised economic growth and domestic social stability. The advanced economies built extensive welfare states but also progressively opened their markets to poorer countries' exports, so long as the distributional and social consequences were manageable. The result was inclusive growth in the rich countries, as well as significant poverty reduction in those developing countries that were pursuing the right policies.

Successful as this strategy was, it sidestepped the risks of climate change. Over time, the consequences of economic growth powered by fossil fuels have become increasingly difficult to ignore

The postwar Keynesian-social democratic bargain in the advanced economies was further undone by the internal contradic tions generated by my original trilemma. As hyper-globalisation replaced the earlier Bretton Woods model, labour markets in the advanced economies experienced greater disruption, undermining the middle class and democracy itself. Both of these devel opments required new strategies

In the United States, President Joe Biden's administration has tackled these

new realities head-on. It has broken new ground by promoting substantial investment in renewables and green industries to combat climate change. And it deliberately aims to restore the middle class by promoting labour's bargaining power, reshoring manufacturing, and creating jobs in regions that were badly hit by imports from China

This new focus on climate and the middle class is long overdue. But what US and European policymakers see as a necessary response to neoliberalism's failures looks, to poor countries, like an assault on their development prospects. The recent crop of industrial policies and other regulations are often discriminatory and threaten to keep out manufactured goods from developing countries

Green subsidies in the US incentivise the use of domestic over imported inputs. The EU's carbon-pricing mechanism will soon require "dirty" exporters from developing countries to pay additional tariffs. Governments in poor countries believe that such measures will sabotage their efforts to replicate East Asian nations' export-oriented industrialisation. We can imagine an alternative combination of policies that focus on poor countries and the climate. This would entail a large transfer of resources – financial and technological – from the North to the South, to ensure the requisite investments in climate adaptation and mitigation in the latter.

It would also require significantly greater access in the North's markets to goods, services, and workers from the poor countries of the South, to enhance these workers' economic opportunities. This policy configuration is morally appealing; it would effectively apply the philosopher John Rawls' principles of justice on a global scale.

But here, too, the trilemma rears its ugly head. Such an approach would work at cross purposes with the imperative of rebuilding the middle class in advanced economies. It would create much greater competition for workers without college or professional degrees, driving down their wages. It would also reduce the fiscal resources available for investment in their human capital and physical infrastructure.

Fortunately, some of these conflicts are more apparent than real. In particular, policymakers in advanced economies and poor countries alike need to understand that the vast majority of the good, middle-class jobs of the future will have to come from services, not manufacturing. And economic growth and poverty reduction in developing economies will be fueled mainly by the creation of more productive jobs in their service sectors

Labour-absorbing sectors such as care, retail, education, and other personal services are non-traded for the most part. Promoting them does not create trade tensions in the same way as in manufacturing industries. This means that the conflict between the middle-class imperative in rich economies and poor countries' growth imperative is less severe than meets the eve

Similarly, it will be virtually impossible to address climate change without significant cooperation from developing countries. While emissions from the US and Europe have been declining, developing-country emissions are still rising, in some cases rapidly, and their contribution to global emissions (excluding China) will soon exceed 50%. Hence it is in rich countries' self-interest to promote green-transition policies that poor countries regard as part of their own growth strategies, not just as pure cost.

Climate change is an existential threat. A large and stable middle class is the foundation of liberal democracies. And reducing global poverty is a moral imperative. It would be alarming if we had to abandon any of these three goals. Yet our current policy framework imposes, implicitly but forcefully, a trilemma that appears difficult to overcome. A successful post-neoliberal transition requires us to formulate new policies that put these tradeoffs behind us.

> The writer, Professor of International Political Economy at Harvard Kennedy School, is President of the International Economic Association.

WISDOM CORNER

There may be a great fire in our hearts, yet no one ever comes to varm himself at it, and the passers-by see only a wisp of smoke

A good upbringing means not that you won't spill sauce on the tablecloth, but that you won't notice it when someone else does

When people are very damaged, they can often meet the world with

FOCUS EDUCATION

A NATIONAL DIGITAL VARSITY



Sanjaya Mishra

SETTING UP A DIGITAL UNIVERSITY IS A SIGNIFICANT STEP FOR INDIA. WHICH HAS ONE **NATIONAL OPEN UNIVERSITY AND 17 STATE OPEN UNIVERSITIES OFFERING DISTANCE AND ONLINE EDUCATION**

he Government of India has allocated ₹100 crore for a National Digital University (NDU) in the Union Budget 2024-25, enhancing it from ₹4 crore in 2023-2024. This shows the clear intention of the government to make the NDU a reality. Setting up a digital university is a significant step for India, which has one national open university and 17 state open universities offering distance and online education While India is a global leader in the digital and online service space, many countries already have digital/virtual/online universities. For example, our neighbours, Bangladesh and Pakistan, have such universities. Malaysia has one e-university, while South Korea has 19 cyber universities.

There have been many previous attempts to offer online education at scale. African Virtual University (AVU), established in 1997 with the support of the World Bank, used both satellite and the internet to create a network of universities in Africa to offer courses. After running for several years with donor funding, AVU was closed as it could not provide the scale it expected. A significant reason was the high cost of AVU programmes. The courses were developed by elite institutions to ensure quality, leading to criticism of knowledge transfer from north to south. The United Kingdom also started 'UK eUniversity' in the early 2000s and quickly folded operations because it could only attract 900 students. The more discussed reason for its closure was a supply-driven approach rather than a demand-driven one to export UK higher education to other English-speaking countries through a network of British institutions. Canadian Virtual University (CVU) was another network approach that offered online education. CVU ceased its operations in 2019, citing that it achieved the objective of pop-



With a suitable model and business plan, the NDU can revolutionise digital education in India and provide lifelong learning for all and increase gross enrolment ratio

ularising online education and that many more online learning opportunities are available to learners. Today, the only consortium in operation is 'Open Universities Australia,'— a network of over 20 universities offering online higher education.

There are several lessons that can be learned from the failure of the early network approach to online/virtual universities. Education is contextual —forgetting the local needs and using external courses and programmes do not work. Competition amongst the network partners for the same learner constituencies must be avoided. In addition, the focus on technologies should be on reducing cost and improving interactive, authentic and engaging learning. Today, there are three types of virtual/digital universities: (i) universi ties offering blended learning with primarily face-to-face teaching supported by online technologies, (ii) universities offering online learning with some in-person attendance requirements, and (iii) universities of fering completely online courses. These variations are usually context specific as per the needs of the learners and the domain of the subject taught

What operational model the NDU of India should adopt? What lessons, if any, it must learn from the existing operations of the 18 open universities in the country? With a suitable model and business plan, the NDU can revolutionise digital education in India and provide lifelong learning for all and in-

crease gross enrolment ratio. In India, we have the centralised SWAYAM platform for massive open online courses (MOOCs). It has over 1,300 ongoing courses offered by the best educational institutions in the country. The Ministry of Education (MOE) supports the platform, and the University Grant Commission has issued guidelines and regulations for providing course credits for MOOCs completed on the SWAYAM platform. Therefore, instead of creating a network model of the NDU, the MOE may establish it as a de novo 'Institution of Eminence'. It should become a 'Centre of Excellence' in digital education by harnessing the expertise from a range of individuals and institutions in the country and abroad to offer programmes using multi-modal approaches as per the needs of learners and demand of the

subject taught. Experts must decide to offer a course or programme in a particular mode or multiple modes. So, flexibility will be the hallmark of such a digital university leading to adopting a micro-credential approach to deliver micro- and nano-courses that are qualityassured, accredited, and stackable to help learners acquire qualifications over an extended period to complete a programme. The University must offer multi-disciplinary courses and programmes in areas with high demand for employability and also in disciplines where limited expertise is available at traditional universities. The NDU can offer such courses at scale and support quality education and transferability of the credits.

While the NDU is expected to focus on innovative uses of technology for teaching and learning, it should always be learnercentric, accessible (including for persons with disabilities) and affordable. The courses and learning materials at NDU must provide an engaging digital learner experience using dis cussion forum, artificial intelligence, audio, video, and AR/VR/MR tools. All these learning materials must also be available as open educational resources to promote their adaption in multiple languages. The NDU, therefore, must be visualised as a national resource centre, facilitating other universities to use the learning resources developed. Such a vision will need a collaborative approach and collegial decisionmaking to make the NDU a great place for educational in-

The writer is **Education Specialist** (Technology-Enabled Learning) at the Commonwealth of Learning, Canada. Views are personal.

SPECTRUM YEN

Cornerstone of global financial system



Sourajeet Pradhani

ONE OF THE PRIMARY REASONS THE YEN IS SO **IMPORTANT TO** THE GLOBAL **MARKET IS ITS STATUS AS A SAFE-HAVEN CURRENCY**

the Japanese Yen (JPY) tions holding vast amounts of for- winding the carry trade—often sive quantitative easing propected given Japan's size relative to larger economies like the United States or the European Union. Despite being the thirdlargest economy globally, Japan's currency plays a role that is arguably outsized compared to its GDP. The Yen's importance is rooted in its use as a global reserve currency, its role in the carry trade, and its influence on global interest rates and economic sta-

The Yen's significance can be traced back to Japan's post-war economic miracle, during which the country transformed itself from a war-torn nation into one of the world's leading economies. By the 1970s and 1980s, Japan had become a major player in global trade, particularly in industries like automobiles and electronics. The strength of Japan's export-driven economy bolstered the Yen's importance

in international trade. In the 1980s, Japan's central bank policy, characterised by lowinterest rates, helped to further entrench the Yen in the global financial system. This period also saw the rise of Japan as a significant creditor nation, with Japanese investors and institu-

holds a pivotal position in eign assets, further increasing in response to changes in global grammes. These policies have the global financial systhe global demand for the Yen. One of the primary reasons the

> Yen is so important to the global market is its status as a safehaven currency. In times of global financial uncertainty or market turmoil, investors often flock to the Yen, driving up its value. This phenomenon is due to Japan's strong current account surplus, its position as a net creditor nation, and the relative stability of its economy and political system. During global crises, such as the 2008 financial crisis or the COVID-19 pandemic, the Yen typically appreciates as investors seek refuge in assets perceived as low-risk.

The Yen is also a key currency in the carry trade, a popular strategy among investors. The carry trade involves borrowing in a low-yielding currency like the Yen and investing in higheryielding assets in other currencies. Japan's historically lowinterest rates, often at or near zero, make the Yen an attractive

currency for this type of trade. The carry trade can have significant effects on global financial markets. When the carry trade is active, it typically leads to a depreciation of the Yen as investors sell Yen to buy higheryielding assets. Conversely, un-

risk sentiment—can lead to a kept Japanese interest rates at rapid appreciation of the Yen. extremely low levels for years, increating ripple effects across global markets.

For example, during the 2008 financial crisis, the unwinding of carry trades contributed to the sharp appreciation of the Yen, exacerbating global financial instability. The interconnectedness of global financial markets means that movements in the Yen, driven by carry trade dynamics, can have far-reaching consequences. Japan remains one of the

world's leading exporters, particularly in industries such as automobiles, electronics, and machinery. As a result, the Yen plays a significant role in global trade. The value of the Yen can influence the competitiveness of Japanese goods on the world market. A weaker Yen makes Japanese exports more competitive, boosting demand for Japanese products, while a stronger Yen can have the opposite effect.

The Bank of Japan (BoJ), Japan's central bank, plays a critical role in the global monetary landscape. The BoJ has long been a pioneer of unconventional monetary policies, such as negative interest rates and masfluencing global interest rates and financial conditions.

Global investors often look to BoJ's policies for clues about the direction of global monetary policy. For instance, the BoJ's aggressive monetary easing has sometimes pressured other central banks to adopt similar measures to prevent their currencies from appreciating too much against the Yen. This dynamic can influence global capital flows and interest rates. impacting everything from mortgage rates to corporate borrowing costs worldwide.

The Yen is a cornerstone of the global financial system, with an influence that extends far beyond Japan's borders. Its role as a safe-haven currency, its centrality in the carry trade, its impact on global trade, and its influence on interest rates and economic stability make it a key player in the global market. As such, understanding the Yen's importance is crucial for anyone looking to navigate the complexities of the global economy.

> The writer the founder and CEO of fintech startup FinCist.

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

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

Fix accountability

Sir, This refers to "Cong ups ante over SEBI row" (Orissa POST, September 11). The Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) has been under heavy criticism from the Congress party, with concerns raised on how it has tackled recent investigations and other regulatory affairs. The party is adamant that SEBI has not done enough against big corporations, especially those alleged to have political ties. The Congress has now asked SEBI for more openness to ensure a wide-ranging probe into cases of corporate misconduct. The allegations against the SEBI at a time when an enormous number of investors trust the regulatory body with their hard-earned money is not a good sign. It is the responsibility of the SEBI as the main regulator of our financial market that controls everything to come out clean. The position that the Congress has adopted suggests that they see the SEBI's role as central to the larger discussion about corporate accountability and governance. As the government fends off SEBI's actions by saying that it is an independent as well as efficient body, the Congress keeps thinking otherwise with regards to political involvement and regulatory framework being tampered with. In order for this regulatory body to regain public trust after several years of dubiousness coupled with political meddling, some experts believe stricter reforms may be one of the possible ways forward for SEBI. This situation underscores the delicate balance between regulatory autonomy and political accountability in India's financial landscape.

Garima Singh, KANPUR

Combat cybercrime

Sir, This refers to "Shah urges agencies to AI for checking cybercrimes" (Orissa POST, September 11), the government's decision to deploy commandos and empower the cyber space with AI to combat cyber crimes is a bold but overdue measure. This step is particularly timely given that in 2022, 68 per cent of internet users in India experienced cyber crimes, compared to the global average of 39 per cent. During the same period, countries such as the US, Australia and Japan experienced cyber crime rates of 49 per cent, 40 per cent, and 21 per cent respectively.

PV Prakash, MUMBAI

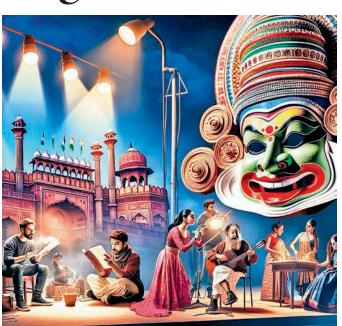




THURSDAY | SEPTEMBER 12 | 2024 | BHUBANESWAR

GUWAHATI ANNUAL DRAMA

Plays on rape, corruption to be staged at festival



The Festival has been organised since 2007 in memory of Brajanath Sharma, hailed as the 'father of Assamese Moving (mobile) Theatre

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Guwahati, Sept 11: A rape victim's journey to justice, drugs menace among youth and corruption over providing drinking water to people – plays on a diverse range of topics will be staged at the annual Brajanath Sharma Memorial Inter-State Drama Festival, which will get underway Thursday.

Into its 15th edition, the fourday festival organised by amateur theatre group Samahar Natya Gosthee will see performances of four plays, including the maiden show of renowned playwrightactor Sitanath Lahkar's latest

"It is indeed a very happy moment for us to formally announce the programme of the festival. During its 14 years of existence. this festival has become a landmark cultural event of the state. Now, it is a big responsibility on our shoulders to make it a grand success like the previous years. president of the Drama Festival

committee Lalit Sarma said. The Festival has been organised since 2007 in memory of Brajanath Sharma, hailed as the 'father of Assamese Moving (mobile) Theatre'

He was also the pioneer of modern Assamese theatre and had first brought women on stage to introduce co-acting in the state in 1933. Sarma said Lahkar's new play 'Nyay' on the issues of lynching and rape will be staged on the final day of the Festival.

"It highlights the ordeal faced by a rape victim and how she copes with the stigma attached to it. The struggle to get justice is not an easy path, which is portrayed in the play," he said.

Lahkar's two other plays, 'PIL-99' and 'Drohi', will also be staged at the Festival, Sarma said.

'PIL-99' mainly highlights rampant corruption, even in the name of drinking water, and presents how the verdict of the people's legal battle is stalled by the powers that be.

'Drohi' is based on the COVID-19 pandemic period and exposes how a section of society tries to capitalise on human catastrophe by means of superstitions. Another well-known theatre

Into its 15th edition, the four-day festival organised by amateur theatre group Samahar Natya Gosthee will see performances of four plays, including the maiden show of renowned playwrightactor Sitanath Lahkar's latest play 'Nyay'

personality Tarun Talukdar's ʻImaan Dhuniya Prithibikhon' will also be performed. It revolves around two youths addicted to drugs and shows the dangerous impact of such a menace on society and the possible way forward to get

'We hope the Festival, like yesteryears, will be a success this year too and help create an atmosphere of alternate theatre movement in Assam," Sarma Tribunal upholds ban on 6 J&K separatist groups The tribunal was constituted March 18 tion) and a third one for the four factions of the JKPL -- upholdfor the purpose of ing the ban imposed under the

adjudicating whether or not there was sufficient cause for declaring the MCJK-Bhat an unlawful association

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, Sept 11: A judicial tribunal of the Delhi High Court has upheld the Centre's ban on two factions of the separatist group Muslim Conference Jammu and Kashmir and four factions of another secessionist organisation, Jammu and Kashmir People's League (JKPL), for threatening India's integrity by promoting, aiding and abetting the secession of Jammu and Kashmir through terrorism.

Three separate orders - one for the Muslim Conference Jammu and Kashmir (Bhat faction), another for Muslim Conference Jammu and Kashmir (Sumji fac-Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act were issued by the tribunal consisting of Justice Neena Bansal Krishna, a Delhi High

The Muslim Conference Jammu and Kashmir (MCJK-Bhat) was declared a banned association by the Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) through a notification February 28.

The tribunal was constituted March 18 for the purpose of adjudicating whether or not there was sufficient cause for declaring the MCJK-Bhat an unlawful association.

"And, whereas, the said tribunal, in exercise of the powers conferred by sub-section (3) of section 4 of the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act, 1967. passed an order August 23, 2024, confirming the declaration made in the said notification," the home ministry said through a notification issued Tuesday.

While imposing the ban, the ministry had said the MCJK-Bhat had linkages with banned



terror outfits and supported terrorism in Jammu and Kashmir. its members were indulging in generating feelings of hatred and disaffection against the country to separate Jammu and Kashmir from the Union of India, and its leaders and members were involved in raising funds through various sources, including from Pakistan and its proxy organisations, for perpetrating unlawful activities, including supporting terror activities and sustained stone-pelting on security forces.

The MHA had also said the MCJK-Bhat and its members, by their activities, showed sheer disrespect towards the country's constitutional authority and constitutional set up, gave a clarion call to boycott polls on multiple occasions, attempted to subvert the will of people and the democratic process in Jammu and Kashmir, and were involved in promoting, aiding and abetting the secession of Jammu and Kashmir from India through anti-national and subversive ac-

In the second order, the tribunal upheld the February 28 ban imposed on the MCJK (Sumii faction). In its order issued August 23, the tribunal accepted the home ministry's submission that the MCJK (Sumji faction), chaired by Ghulam Nabi Sumji, is known for its anti-India and pro-Pakistan propaganda, its members are involved in supporting terror activities and providing logistic support to terrorists in Jammu and Kashmir.

Besides being involved in raising funds through various sources, including from Pakistan and its proxy organisations, for perpetrating unlawful activities, its members were also involved in supporting terror activities, sustained stone-pelting on security forces and constantly asked the people of Kashmir to refrain from taking part in elections and thereby, targeted and

stitutionally-recognised fundamentals of Indian democracy.

In the third order, the tribunal confirmed the ban imposed on the four factions of the Jammu and Kashmir People's League -- JKPL (Mukhtar Ahmed Waza), JKPL (Bashir Ahmad Tota), JKPL (Ghulam Mohammad Khan alias Sopori), which is also known as Jammu and Kashmir People's Political League, and JKPL (Aziz Sheikh) led by Yaqoob Sheikh -- as unlawful associa-

The tribunal, in its August 29 order, said "From the elaborate material and evidence placed on record in these proceedings. this tribunal finds that there is ample justification to uphold the ban on the four factions of the JKPL and uphold the declaration of the four factions of the JKPL, namely JKPL (Mukhtar Ahmed Waza), JKPL (Bashir Ahmed Tota), JKPL (Ghulam Mohammed Khan @ Sopori) also known as Jammu and Kashmir People's Political League, and JKPL (Aziz Sheikh) led by Yaqoob Sheikh as being 'unlawful associations' under the UAPA.

STUDENT SUICIDE

IIT-Guwahati asks

scribes not to

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Technology,

legedly by suicide.

support for all.

visit its campus

Guwahati, Sept 11: Authorities

of the Indian Institute of

Wednesday asked journalists not

to visit the campus after the

death of a third-year student al-

A third-year Computer Science

student, hailing from Uttar

Pradesh, was found dead in his

hostel room Monday, leading to

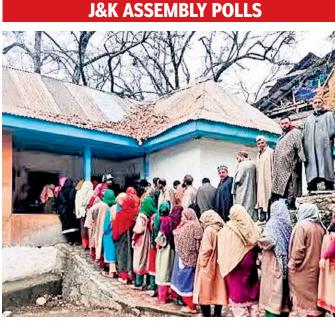
protests by students demanding

justice and proper mental health

echnolog

Guwahati

2,350 poll-related permissions given to parties



PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Jammu, Sept 11: Over 2,350 permissions related to for election campaigns were given to political parties and contesting candidates since the electoral process for Assembly elections commenced in Jammu and Kashmir last month, an official release said Tuesday.

J&K Chief Electoral Officer Pandurang K Pole has urged upon the candidates and political parties participating in the Assembly elections to utilise the 'Suvidha' application and platform, designed to streamline the application process for various permissions required during

election campaigns. The portal serves as a onestop solution, empowering the candidates and political parties to apply for and obtain permissions efficiently and con-

With a user-friendly interface and robust features, the App simplifies the process, ensuring that all necessary permissions are acquired in a timely manner, thereby enabling seamless campaign activities, the statement said.

"A total of 3.178 cases of mission requests were received for general elections to legislative Assembly in J&K and out of these, 2,350 permission requests which were completed in all respects were accepted by the competent authorities," the statement issued by the office of the chief electoral officer said.

It said 336 requests which were lacking in fulfilment of requisite formalities were rejected, while 241 requests are still under process at the level of various competent authorities to issue the permissions.

"As many as 158 requests are

Kharge announces five guarantees for J&K people

Anantnag (JK): Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge Wednesday announced five guarantees for the people of Jammu and Kashmir, including five lakh interest-free loan for women entrepreneurs and Rs 25 lakh health insurance per family, if the Congress-NC alliance is voted to power in the Union territory.

Campaigning for the alliance candidates in this south Kashmir town, Kharge also said the Congress-NC government will give Rs 3,000 monthly to the women heads of families besides promising to restore the provision to give 11 kg grains per person through the public distribution system.

He said the promise for rehabilitation of Kashmir Pandit migrants, which was made during the term of Manmohan Singh, will be fulfilled.

The OBCs will also get their rights as enshrined in the Constitution, he added.

The five guarantees were read out by the Congress president in presence of National Conference president Farooq Abdullah and other senior

still pending at various levels for want of NOCs etc, while 93 requests were cancelled on the basis of insufficient/ incomplete formalities submitted by the applicants in spite of ample time given to them to submit

the same," the statement said.

locomotor behaviour and the

langurs during road crossings

According to the study, Golden

time opted to cross the road at

ground level, disregarding the

traffic while in 29 per cent of

existing canopy connectivity,

altering their route to avoid

cases, they opted to utilize

langurs for 71 per cent of the

pattern adopted by golden

Congress leaders, including KC Venugopal and Subodh Kharge said there were one

lakh jobs vacancies in Jammu and Kashmir but the current dispensation appointed by the BJP-led Centre is not filling them as "they want to keep people of Jammu and Kashmir "We will fill these vacancies.

They did not bring any industry, hence no job creation. We will focus on tourism and manufacturing. More than 4,400 government schools have been closed in the past several years. We will reopen them as we will focus on education, the Congress president said. Kharge reiterated that the

party will strive for restoration of statehood to Jammu and Kashmir while promising to restore a bi-cameral legislature in the Union territory.

"We will strive to get state hood for J&K. The bi-cameral House will be restored. They (BJP) keep asking how we will do it? When people are with us, we will do it as it is people's power," he added.

Following the protests, jourit said 437 for permission to nalists were barred from enterhold meeting with loud ing the campus to report from the speaker, 278 for permission to spot. "Members of the media hold meeting without loud are requested not to visit the speaker, 217 applications were campus now. The institute asaccepted for door to door cansures you that the situation is vassing, 28 for helicopter and being treated with utmost urhelipad and 54 for opening of gency," a statement issued by temporary party office. IIT-Guwahati said.

Media will soon be invited to the campus for a meeting with the director, it added.

'We request members of the press to understand and cooperate with us in these difficult times and give us a few days to bring the situation back to normal," the statement added.

Several journalists who have visited the campus in North Guwahati since Tuesday evening have been turned away from the gates. IIT-Guwahati authorities were also not available in person or over phone to talk to the media but later issued a statement announcing that the resignation of the Dean of Academic Affairs was being discussed internally and a decision will be taken soon.

Journalists who were barred from entering the campus pointed out that they were prevented from doing their duty, with the authorities refusing to respond to their queries but only a state-

ment was issued. The institute also urged the students to refrain from protests and return to their classrooms and to prioritise academic continuity and maintain a peaceful campus

Students had gathered outside the administration building since Monday evening and many of them did not attend classes in protest against recurring incidents of recurring deaths of students on the campus.

After installing two such bridges, a camera trap was positioned at each bridge to monitor its utilization, supplementing the regular direct observation schedule.

It was observed that this pipe bridge had a more appealing appearance, which encouraged golden langurs to use it, Biswas pointed out.

constructed at Siljan in Kokrajhar but it took six months for golden langurs to gain confidence in using these bridges.

'We installed bamboo bridges, mixed bamboo-cum-rope bridges. patterns and trends of vehicular and pipe bridges up on the anchor movement along State Highway trees by fastening the rope to 14. alongside observing the

the branches on each side of the trees. To ensure stability, we tied the remaining part of the ropes to adiacent trees next to the main anchor trees", he said.

Four ladder bridges were also

During the monsoon period, the golden Langurs typically utilized canopy gaps by jumping or avoiding certain areas. However, in January 2024, we observed that langur groups began using the ladder bridges regularly when crossing that part of the road.

Artificial canopy bridges to prevent golden langur deaths THE ANIMAL IS A CANOPY-DWELLING A comprehensive study on caused by road accidents. traffic behaviour was PRIMATE SPECIES ENDEMIC TO THE conducted to understand the

INDO-BHUTAN BORDER, PRIMARILY FOUND IN FOUR DISTRICTS OF WESTERN ASSAM, AND SIX **DISTRICTS OF SOUTH-CENTRAL BHUTAN**

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Guwahati, Sept 11: Increased deaths and injuries of endangolden langur (Trachypithecus geei) due to road accidents has led the primate research centre to construct wildlife passages as linear corridors and artificial canopy

The animal is a canopydwelling primate species endemic to the Indo-Bhutan border, primarily found in four districts of western Assam, India, and six districts of south-central Bhutan.

'The species is threatened by habitat loss and population decline. In India, the golden langur has experienced substantial habitat loss, with over half of its habitat disappearing over recent decades, particularly in Assam's Kokrajhar and Bongaigaon districts", Senior Primatologist of Primate Research Centre NE India Dr

Jihosuo Biswas said Wednesday. Habitat loss is mainly due to deforestation, exacerbated by conversion of forests into farmland and human settlements. which has threatened the survival of the Golden langur population in these regions.

As an arboreal primate, golden langurs may need to engage in terrestrial behaviours to cross disconnected areas within their home ranges, with lack of connectedness due to recent infrastructure development has led to high mortality due to road

accidents. "We have been recording road kills, electric hazards, and high parasitic prevalence in golden langurs in Nadangiri Resere Forest, Nayekgaon, Rubber Gardens in the Baxamara-Amguri area, and in



Chakrashilla Wildlife sanctu-

ary", Biswas said. A comprehensive study on traffic behaviour was conducted to understand the patterns and trends of vehicular movement along State Highway 14, alongside observing the locomotor behaviour and the pattern adopted by golden langurs during road crossings, he said.

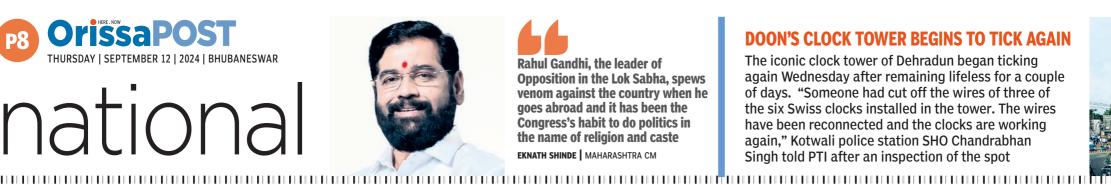
According to the study, golden langurs for 71 per cent of the time opted to cross the road at ground level, disregarding the traffic while in 29 per cent of cases, they opted to utilize existing canopy connectivity, altering their route to avoid vehicles.

"We have successfully developed some alternatives to mitigate mortality and restore landscape connectivity in some areas. such as the construction of wildlife passages as linear corridors and artificial canopy bridges are a recent innovation that aims to provide functional connectivity", he said.

Initially, the project involved constructing artificial canopy bridges (ACB) at the NayekgaonRubber Garden-Baxamara-Amguri forest complex to minimize accidents under the Nayekgaon Range of Kokrajhar

ACB's were designed and constructed while necessary measurements and data were collected for bridge construction, including bridge length, anchor trees, canopy height, angle of the bridges, owner of the area, bridge type, and bridge viability along the State Highway -14 (SH-14), where the majority of golden langur deaths were

national



Rahul Gandhi, the leader of **Opposition in the Lok Sabha, spews** venom against the country when he goes abroad and it has been the Congress's habit to do politics in the name of religion and caste

EKNATH SHINDE MAHARASHTRA CM

DOON'S CLOCK TOWER BEGINS TO TICK AGAIN

The iconic clock tower of Dehradun began ticking again Wednesday after remaining lifeless for a couple of days. "Someone had cut off the wires of three of the six Swiss clocks installed in the tower. The wires have been reconnected and the clocks are working again," Kotwali police station SHO Chandrabhan Singh told PTI after an inspection of the spot





long as there is inequality in the society, Scheduled Tribes and Other Backward Classes are deprived. reservation should continue. Baba Saheb also had the same view

HARISH RAWAT | SENIOR CONG LEADE





MP farmers are worried about



UNION AGRICULTURE MINISTER

SHORT TAKES

Mysterious fever kills 11 in Kutch

Bhuj: The Gujarat government has deployed specialist doctors and 50 medical teams in and around seven villages of two talukas in Kutch district after an undiagnosed fever has claimed the lives of 11 persons in a week, a state minister said Wednesday. Health Minister Rushikesh Patel held a review meeting in Bhuj town of Kutch over the steps being taken in the region. Talking to reporters after the meeting Wednesday, Patel said 48 new cases of fever have been detected in seven villages of Lakhpat and Abdasa where 11 persons, including four children, died earlier due to an undiagnosed fever between September 3 and 10.

ED attaches fresh assets of Nirav

New Delhi: The Enforcement Directorate Wednesday said it has attached fresh assets worth ₹29.75 crore of fugitive diamond trader Nirav Modi under the anti-money laundering law. A provisional order has been issued under the Prevention of Money Laundering Act (PMLA) to attach these assets that are in the form of bank deposits, land, and buildings. Modi, 53, is presently lodged in a UK jail and has lost his extradition plea to India in connection with this alleged bank loan fraud case.

I will continue as **CM: Siddaramaiah**

Bangalore: Making it clear that the Chief Minister post in the state is not vacant for anyone to weigh in to occupy it now. Karnataka CM Siddaramaiah Wednesday asserted that there are no doubts in this regard and he will continue in the position. As Siddaramaiah's petition challenging the Governor's sanction for his prosecution in a site allotment case is being heard in the High Court, some Congress leaders seem to be preparing for a race to become CM in the event of leadership change, with several of them openly expressing their desire.

2 orchestra dancers gangraped; 8 held

Gorakhpur (UP): Police have arrested eight men in connection with abduction and gang-rape of two orchestra dancers at gunpoint in Uttar Pradesh's Kushinagar district. The accused perpetrators forced the victims into their vehicles and took them to a house where the crime was committed, police said. The victims were abducted at gunpoint from a house under the Ramkola police station jurisdiction Monday night, according to police.

RG KAR STANDOFF DEEPENS

WB govt dismisses junior docs' precondition for talks

The protest has entered its 33rd day as the doctors continue to demand justice for Abhaya, the postgraduate trainee whose body was discovered at RG Kar Hospital August 9

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Kolkata, Sept 11: The West Bengal government Wednesday rejected junior doctors' demands for Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee's presence and a live broadcast as pre-conditions for talks to resolve the month-long 'cease work' and standoff over the alleged rape-murder of a woman medic at RG Kar Medical College and Hospital

Amid the 33rd day of protests and a sit-in outside Swasthya Bhawan for the second day, Minister of State for Health Chandrima Bhattacharva said the government remains open to discussions but suggested that "political forces" might be influencing the protests.

This led to a quick rebuttal from the medics, who dismissed the claims as baseless

The minister urged the doctors to rejoin work by respecting the Supreme Court's direction to them, but refrained from giving a direct reply on whether the state government would take any punitive action for violating the apex court's order.

Meanwhile, TMC leaders and MLAs issued veiled threats to the agitating junior doctors by calling them "anti-nationals" and



A civic volunteer was arrested the following day in connection with the case. The Central **Bureau of Investigation** is conducting the probe under a Calcutta High

Court order

The junior doctors have emphasised the need for transparency in the ongoing investigation and have called for better security measures in hospitals and government healthcare centres

■ Meanwhile, TMC leaders issued veiled threats to the agitating doctors by calling them "antinationals" and saying the party too might conduct counter-protests against the agitating medics

duct counter-protests against the agitating medics.

The government had invited the doctors to a meeting at state secretariat Nabanna at 6 pm Wednesday but the invitation did not confirm whether Baneriee would attend it.

Chief Secretary Manoj Pant, in an email sent at 3.49 am Wednesday, urged the doctors to send a delegation of 12 to 15 members and stressed the importance of resuming work, citing a Supreme Court order directing them to return to duty by 5 pm Tuesday. "You will, no doubt, appreci-

ate and agree that as a law-abiding citizen, it is everyone's bounden duty to adhere to these directions. Unfortunately, it has

wrote, emphasising the need for doctors to return to their duties to provide necessary care to the public. Despite the invitation, the junior doctors insisted on several preconditions before agreeing to the meeting.

The government, however, stood firm on its stance, refusing to accept any pre-conditions for the meeting. Bhattacharya, alongside Pant and DGP Rajeev Kumar, urged doctors to resume duties stressing the urgent need to restore healthcare services disrupted by the prolonged agitation. The protests began after the body of a postgraduate trainee was found at RG Kar Hospital August 9. A civic volunteer was arrested the following day, and the CBI is conducting a probe after a Calcutta High Court order.

Shimla mosque dispute: Protesters, police clash

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Shimla, Sept 11: Protesters demanding the demolition of an illegal portion of a mosque in Shimla's Sanjauli area clashed with security personnel Wednesday, breaking barricades and pelting stones as police used water cannons and baton charged to disperse them.

About 10 people including police and women were injured. Public Works Vikramaditya

Singh said the government was seriously concerned over escalation of the situation and keep-Thursday, Hindu ing a close groups staged massive watch on all the develprotests at the Chaura opments. Maidan in the vicinity of "We are in

touch with the Vidhan Sabha and the central Saniauli to press for leadership and Chief Minister their demands Sukhvinder Singh Sukhu and myself

have talked to party president Mallikarjun Kharge and party in-charge Rajiy Shukla and they are also concerned that there was no deterioration in law and order situation," he said. Raising slogans of "Jai Shri

Ram" and "Hindu Ekta Zindabad", hundreds of protesters gathered at the Sabzi Mandi Dhalli and marched towards Sanjauli market, defying prohibitory orders and ignoring warnings by the administration. They broke barricades erected near the Dhalli tunnel while another crowd gathered at Sanjauli Chowk.

As the protesters gathered on the call of some Hindu groups entered Sanjauli and broke a second barricade near the mosque, police baton charged and used water cannons to disperse them.

Police detained some protesters as well, including Hindu Jagran Manch secretary Kamal Gautam, and erected the barricade near the mosque

again but the protesters refused to leave and continued raisslogans

against the administration. The outbreak of the

left clash students Sanjauli, Dhalli and adjoining areas stranded in schools.

Residents vented their anger at the administration for not ordering the schools to remain closed for the day despite being aware of the demonstration. They said several school managements are awaiting directions from the district administration to send the children back home. As a protest against the baton charge on the demonstrators, the Shimla Beopar Mandal has called for a

Er Rashid walks out of Tihar jail



New Delhi, Sept 11: Baramulla MP Engineer Rashid walked out of Tihar Jail Wednesday, a day after a court here granted him interim bail till October 2 in a terror funding case so that he can campaign in the upcoming Jammu and Kashmir

Talking to reporters outside the jail, he said that he would continue to fight for his people. Rashid's sons and supporters welcomed him after he walked out of the prison. Sheikh Abdul Rashid, popularly known as Engineer Rashid, has been in iail since 2019 following his arrest by the National Investigation Agency (NIA) under the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act in the 2017 terror funding case.

"He was released from jail at 4.15 pm." said a senior prison official. He defeated former Jammu and Kashmir Chief Minister Omar Abdullah in the 2024 Lok Sabha polls in Baramulla. Rashid's outfit Awami Ittehad Party (AIP) is contesting the Assembly elections. "I was in jail for five-and-a-half years. I am committed to fighting for my people. I am coming back to unite people and not divide them," he told reporters outside Tihar.

Vinesh Phogat files nomination

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Chandigarh, Sept 11: Wrestlerturned-politician and Congress candidate for Haryana Assembly polls Vinesh Phogat filed her nomination from the Julana seat Wednesday and appealed to people for their support so that her party could form a government under Bhupinder Singh Hooda's leadership.

The Congress has not declared its chief ministerial candidate for Harvana and has maintained that if it comes to power, the party's legislators and the high command will take a call on the matter. Addressing a gathering in Julana after filing her nomination, Phogat said, "Give your love and blessings to Congress so that it forms government under Bhupinder Hooda ji's leadership and the development works that were stalled for the 10 years resumes." The Congress' Rohtak MP Deepender Singh Hooda and Sonipat MP Satpal Brahmachari accompanied the Olympic wrestler when she filed her nomination. During her address, Phogat also said, "Satpal Brahmachari sir has said Bhupinder Singh Hooda has to be made chief minister. You will have to work hard for that." Phogat and Bajrang Punia, who were at the forefront of the wrestlers' protest last year against then Wrestling Federation of India chief and former BJP MP Brij Bhushan Sharan Singh, recently joined the Congress

2013 PATNA SERIAL BLASTS

HC commutes four convicts' death verdict to 30 yrs in Jail



PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Patna, Sept 11: The Patna High Court Wednesday commuted the death sentences of four persons convicted for the 2013 serial blasts in Patna that targeted the inaugural rally of Narendra Modi, who was then the BJP's Prime Ministerial candidate, in Bihar.

A division bench comprising Justices Ashutosh Kumar and Jitendra Kumar disposed of the Death Reference moved by state government on the order of a special NIA court. and ruled that the four convicts shall serve "30 years in prison". In October 2021, the trial court convicted nine persons in total,

sentencing two to life imprisin jail each, and one to seven years in prison, while acquit-

Haider Ali, Numan Ansari, and Mujibullah Ansari, a 30-year prison sentence "would suffice and would meet the ends of jus-

series of low intensity blasts had rocked the historic Gandhi Maidan October 27, 2013, when Modi was addressing the "Hunkar Rally"

In the ensuing stampede, at least six persons were killed

contacts"

ting one of the accused. In a 63-page order, the High

Court said for Imtiyaz Alam, tice." Incidentally, Alam, Ali and Mujibullah

Ansari are also serving life sentence in Bodh Gaya serial blasts of July, 2013. The court noted that

the four convicts, all residents of Ranchi in Jharkhand, were "persons of young age with no established trans-border

Although no terrorist organisation claimed responsibility, investigating agencies suspected the involvement of SIMI and Indian Mujahideen.



A man stacks jute sticks after retting in a water body, in Nadia, West Bengal

SC advocates for Gram Nyayalayas to enhance access to justice

An Act passed by Parliament in 2008 provided for the establishment of Gram Nyayalayas at the grassroots level for providing access to justice to the citizens at their doorsteps and to ensure that opportunities for securing justice are not denied to anyone because of social, economic or other disabilities

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, Sept 11: The Supreme Court on Wednesday said establishment of Gram Nyayalayas across the country would help improve access to

A bench headed by Justice B R Gavai was hearing a plea seeking a direction to the Centre and all states for taking steps to set up 'Gram Nyayalayas' under the supervision of the apex court. During the hearing, advocate Prashant Bhushan, appearing

for petitioner NGO National Federation of Societies for Fast Justice and others, said only about five to six per cent of Gram Nyayalayas have been set up till now. "Some of the states are saying we don't need Gram Nvavalavas because we have Nyaya Panchayats," Bhushan told the bench, which also comprised Justices PK Mishra and K V Viswanathan. He said Nyaya Panchayats were not really the same as Gram Nyayalayas, which

have judicial officers The bench appointed a sen-

ior advocate to assist it as an amicus curiae in the matter. "Sooner these Nvavalavas are established... it's better for access to justice," the bench observed.

An advocate appearing for the Himachal Pradesh High Court told the bench that the high court has been writing to the state government since 2009 requesting for establishing Gram Nyayalayas. The bench noted that the counsel appearing for the Himachal Pradesh High Court has stated that in spite of repeated reminders to the state



for establishment of Gram Nyayalayas, no steps have been taken in the matter. The apex court directed the Himachal Pradesh government to respond before the next date of hearing. It posted the matter for hearing

after four weeks.

The bench asked states or high courts that have not yet filed their affidavits in the matter to

file those within three weeks. While hearing the matter July 12, the apex court had observed, would. apart from providing access to justice at affordable price and providing justice at door steps, also de-clog the huge pendency of matters before the trial courts.' It had directed the chief secretaries of states/Union Territories and registrar generals of the high courts to file affidavits within six weeks giving

"In our view, the establishment

of more Gram Nayayalayas

details regarding establishment and functioning of Gram Nyayalayas, including infrastructure made available for them. Bhushan had earlier argued that directions were needed to be issued to all states to notify and establish Gram Nyayalayas as statutorily provided for under the Gram Nyayalays Act of 2008.





national

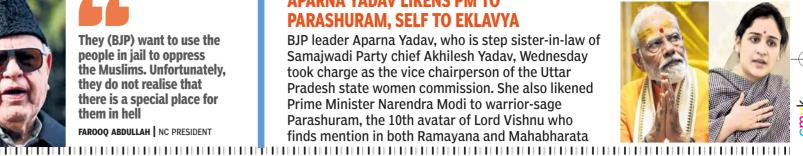


They (BJP) want to use the people in jail to oppress the Muslims. Unfortunately, they do not realise that there is a special place for them in hell

FAROOO ABDULLAH NC PRESIDENT

APARNA YADAV LIKENS PM TO PARASHURAM, SELF TO EKLAVYA

BJP leader Aparna Yadav, who is step sister-in-law of Samajwadi Party chief Akhilesh Yadav, Wednesday took charge as the vice chairperson of the Uttar Pradesh state women commission. She also likened Prime Minister Narendra Modi to warrior-sage Parashuram, the 10th avatar of Lord Vishnu who finds mention in both Ramayana and Mahabharata





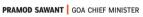
should assess how you were looted for 20 years under the previous regimes and what rights you got in the last four-and-a-half years under this government

HEMANT SOREN | JHARKHAND CM

We will not only harness power from these projects but also regulate water flow downstream and harness water for

irrigation purposes and fisheries CHOWNA MEIN ARUNACHAL DEPUTY CM

A series of proactive measures have been introduced to ensure the protection and sustainable management of these critical assets







Shah are busy with BJP's election campaigning but have no time for Manipui Where is their

Both Modi & Amit

- Powerful by Sanjay Raut

SHORT TAKES

Dwarka: Snacks seller mowed down by bus

New Delhi: A snacks seller was killed after a cluster bus hit him while he was pushing his cart in southwest Delhi's Dwarka, police said Wednesday. According to police, the incident took place on Monday night when Vijay Kumar (20) and his cousin Dharmender (34) were returning home after selling snacks at a weekly market. "A PCR call was received at 11 pm September 9, regarding an accident near Baba Haridas Nagar area," a senior police officer said.

Govt okays scheme to promote EVs

New Delhi: The Union Cabinet Wednesday approved the PM E-Drive Scheme with an outlay of ₹10,900 crore for two years to boost adoption of electric vehicles in India, replacing the flagship FAME programme that ran for nine years till March. The decision on PM **Electric Drive Revolution In** Innovative Vehicle **Enhancement (PM E-DRIVE)** Scheme was taken at the meeting of the Union Cabinet chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, Information and Broadcasting Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw told reporters here

ED books 4 **GST officials**

Bangalore: The Enforcement **Directorate Wednesday** registered a money laundering case against four arrested **Goods and Services Tax** (GST) officials who allegedly extorted ₹1.5 crore from a businessman here by impersonating as ED sleuths, official sources said. Sections of the Prevention of Money Laundering Act (PMLA) have been pressed against the accused taking cognisance of the FIR filed by the Bangalore City Crime Branch against them, the sources said. The four went to the businessman for a "fake" raid claiming that they were from the ED and allegedly extorted ₹1.5 crore from him by "threatening" him, the agency sources said.

Ayushman Bharat to cover all above 70 yrs

THE COVERAGE AIMS TO BENEFIT SIX CRORE SENIOR CITIZENS FROM 4.5 CRORE FAMILIES WITH ₹5 LAKH FREE HEALTH INSURANCE COVER

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, Sept 11: The Union Cabinet Wednesday approved health coverage to all persons aged 70 years and above under the Ayushman Bharat Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana irrespective of their income, benefiting around six crore senior citizens. Union Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw said.

The ₹5 lakh free health insurance cover would benefit senior citizens of around 4.5 crore families. Eligible beneficiaries would be issued a new distinct card under the scheme, the government said.

'Senior citizens of the age 70 years and above belonging to families already covered under AB PM-JAY will get an additional top-up cover up to ₹5 lakh per year for themselves (which they do not have to share with the other members of the family who are below the age of 70 years).

"All other senior citizens of the age 70 years and above will get a cover up to ₹5 lakh per vear on a family basis," an official statement said.

Actor Malaika

dies by suicide

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Arora's stepfather

Mumbai, Sept 11: Actor-model

Malaika Arora's stepfather Anil

Mehta allegedly committed

suicide by jumping from a build-

ing in Mumbai Wednesday

morning, a police official said.

sixth floor of the building,

"Ayesha Manor", in upscale Bandra's Almeida Park area,

where he stayed with his wife, at

around 9 am, he said, adding

Malaika Arora was in Pune at the

Later in the day, Mehta's fam-

ily in a joint statement, co-signed

by Malaika Arora, her mother

Joyce and her sister Amrita,

after his demise. "We are deeply

saddened to announce the pass-

ing of our dear father. Anil

Mehta. He was a gentle soul, a de-

voted grandfather, a loving hus-

band, and our best friend. Our

family is in deep shock by this

loss." "And we kindly request pri-

vacy from the media and well-

wishers during this difficult

time. We appreciate your un-

derstanding, support and re-

spect," read the statement shared

on Arora's official Instagram

page. A Bandra police team

rushed to the spot and shifted him

to a hospital, where he was de-

clared dead before arrival, the of-

ficial said. Just before ending

his life, Mehta had called Malaika

Arora and her sister Amrita,

also an actor, and said he was

"sick and tired", said the offi-

cial without elaborating.

said they are "in deep shock"

time of the incident.

Mehta (62) jumped off the



State Insurance scheme will be eligible to avail benefits under the the Ayushman Bharat Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogva Yojana (AB PM-JAY).

However, those already availing benefits of other public health insurance schemes such as the Central Government Health Scheme (CGHS), Ex-Servicemen Contributory Health Scheme (ECHS) and Ayushman Central Armed

ther choose their existing scheme or opt for AB PM-JAY. the statement said.

According to the government, AB PM-JAY is the world's largest publicly funded health assurance scheme which provides health cover of ₹5 lakh per family annually for secondary and tertiary care hospitalisation to 55 crore individuals corresponding to 12.34 crore families.

All members of the eligible families irrespective of age are covered under the scheme.

The scheme has covered 7.37 crore hospital admissions, including 49 per cent women beneficiaries. The public has benefited to the extent of over ₹1 Lakh crore under the scheme, the statement said. AB PM-JAY scheme has

witnessed continuous expansion of the beneficiary base, it said, adding that initially, 10.74 crore poor and vulnerable families comprising the bottom 40 per cent of India's population were covered under the scheme.

In January 2022, the Union government revised the beneficiary base from 10.74 crore to 12 crore families considering India's decadal population growth of 11.7 per cent over the 2011 population.

The scheme was further expanded to cover 37 lakh ASHAs/AWWs/AWHs working across the country and their families for free healthcare benefits.

"Taking the mission ahead. AB PM-JAY would now provide free healthcare coverage of ₹5 lakh to all citizens of the age group of 70 years and above across the country," the statement said.





The BIP has come down heavily on Rahul over his remarks in the United States about Sikhs, saying the Congress

leader is trying to create a "dangerous narrative" by speaking on "sensitive issues" abroad

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, Sept 11: Members of the Delhi BJP's Sikh cell staged a protest against Rahul Gandhi near his 10, Janpath residence here Wednesday, demanding an apology from the Congress leader over his remarks in the US concerning the community.

Raising slogans and carrying placards, the protesters, including women, tried to approach Rahul's residence from . Vigyan Bhawan, but were stopped by police at a barricade.

Addressing a gathering of several hundred Indian Americans in Washington DC Monday, Rahul accused the Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh (RSS) of considering some religions, languages and communities inferior than others and said the fight in India is about this and not about politics.

Asking the name of a turbaned person in the gathering, Rahul said, "The fight is about whether a Sikh is going to be allowed to wear his turban in India or a kada in India. Or he, as a Sikh, is going to be able to go to a gurdwara. That is what the fight is about. And not just for him, for all religions.

The protesters raised slogans against the leader of Opposition in the Lok Sabha, demanded his apology for "humiliating" Sikhs and held the Congress responsible for the 1984 anti-Sikh riots in the country.

Bharatiya Janata Party's (BJP) national spokesperson R P Singh alleged that Rahul has "insulted" Sikhs through his statement.

"Under Prime Minister Narendra Modi's leadership, the Sikh community is witnessing progress and the members of the community feel safe in India. The 1984 massacre, where Sikhs were beaten up and killed, occurred during the Congress rule," he said. Delhi BJP's Sikh cell convenor

Charanjeet Singh Lovely said Rahul's "small-mindedness is evident from his statement, claiming that Sikh turbans are not safe in India and that Sikhs lack religious freedom". "The Congress has historically been the political party that caused the most harm to Sikhs," he said, citing the 1984 riots.

Delhi BJP's Sikh cell in-charge Tarvinder Marwah said Rahul should learn the history of his family and acknowledge the atrocities inflicted on Sikhs by his grandmother and father. "No other political party has wronged the Sikh community as much as the Congress," he said.

Devotees immerse a Ganesh idol at Hussainsagar Lake during ongoing Ganesh Utsav in Hyderabad, Telangana ртирното

■ RELIGIOUS CONVERSION CASE

Islamic preachers among 12 get life imprisonment

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Lucknow, Sept 11: A special NIA-Anti-Terrorist Squad (ATS) court in Uttar Pradesh Wednesday awarded life sentence to 12 people, including Islamic preacher Maulana Kalim Siddiqui and Islamic Da'wah Centre founder Mohammed Umar Gautam, in a 2021 case of an illegal religious conversion racket.

Special Judge Vivekanand Sharan Tripathi, in his order, gave a 10-year jail sentence to four others, while imposing heavy fines the convicts and awarding compensation to the

victims. The accused were running an outfit involved in converting students with hearing disabilities and poor people to Islam in Uttar Pradesh with suspected funding from Pakistan's intelligence agency ISI, officials said.

Gautam lived in the Batla House of Jamia Nagar in Delhi and had converted to Islam from Hinduism. During interrogation. he boasted to the police of having converted "at least 1,000 people to Islam", luring them with marriage, money and jobs, Director General Police Prashant Kumar, who was at the time holding charge of the ATS also, had said

SNIPPETS

Customer sets OLA showroom ablaze, held

Bangalore: A 26 year old man has been arrested for allegedly setting fire to an Ola Electric showroom in the southern Indian state of Karnataka over unsatisfactory servicing of a recently-purchased e-scooter, a police official said Wednesday. The incident comes amid growing public ire over servicing at Ola Electric, India's no.1 e-scooter maker. Several mechanics have said Ola service centres face significant backlog and are seeing facing difficulty in dealing with the volume of complaints. Mohammad Nadeem, a mechanic by profession, bought the two-wheeler last month, a few days after which he brought it back for servicing on facing trouble with the scooter, the commissioner of police for Kalaburagi, a city some 570 kilometres from the tech capital of Bangalore, said by telephone.

AAP releases names of 30 more candidates

New Delhi/Chandigarh: The Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) Wednesday released the names of 30 more candidates for the Haryana Assembly polls, fielding Kavita Dalal from Julana against the Congress's Vinesh Phogat and the BJP's Yogesh Bairagi. After releasing the names of 21 candidates in the afternoon, the party came out with another list in the evening containing the names of nine more nominees for the October 5 election. Joga Singh has been pitted against Chief Minister Nayab Singh Saini from Ladwa while Nisha Deshwal will contest the election from Safidon.

Two JeM terrorists killed in gunfight

Jammu: Two terrorists affiliated with Jaish-e-Mohammad (JeM) outfit were killed in an ongoing operation in the upper reaches of Basantgarh in Jammu and Kashmir's Udhampur district Wednesday, officials said. They said bodies of the two terrorists, believed to be from Pakistan, along with an M-4 carbine, an AK assault rifle, a pistol and large quantity of ammunition and eatables were recovered from the scene. This was the first successful operation against the terrorists in the dense forest which witnessed over halfa-dozen encounters in the past six months, claiming the lives of a village defence guard April 28 and a CRPF inspector August 19.

Govt approves ₹12,461cr for hydropower boost

The Union Cabinet, chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, has approved the proposal of the Ministry of Power for modification of the scheme of budgetary support for the cost of enabling infrastructure for Hydro Electric Projects (HEP) with a total outlay of ₹12,461 crore, an official statement said

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, Sept 11: The Union Cabinet Wednesday approved an outlay of ₹12,461 crore to support the development of 31,350 MW hydropower projects to be implemented over the next eight years.

According to the statement, the scheme will be implemented from FY2024-25 to FY2031-32. The limit of the budgetary support for the cost of enabling infrastructure has been rationalised to ₹1 crore per MW for projects up to 200 MW capacity and ₹200 crore plus ₹0.75 crore per MW for projects above 200 MW

For exceptional cases the limit of budgetary support may go up to ₹1.5 crore/MW provided sufficient justification exists. The scheme has a total outlay of ₹12,461 crore for cumulative generation capacity of about 31,350 MW to be implemented from FY 2024-25 to FY 2031-32, the statement said.

The scheme will be applicable to all hydro power projects of more than 25 MW capacity, including the private sector projects which have been allotted on a transparent basis. This scheme will also be applicable to all pumped storage projects



(PSPs) including captive/merchant PSPs, provided the project has been allotted on a transparent basis. A cumulative PSP capacity of

about 15,000 MW would be sup-

The statement said that the move would widen the ambit of the budgetary support for cost of enabling infrastructure by including four more items apart from construction of roads and bridges. These four items include the cost incurred for the construction of transmission line from power house to the nearest pooling point including upgradation of pooling substation of state/central transmission utility, ropeways, railway sid-

ported under the scheme. The

projects whose Letter of Award

of first major package is issued

up to June 30, 2028 would be con-

sidered under this scheme.

ing, and communication infra-

The strengthening of existing roads/bridges leading to the project will also be eligible for central assistance under this scheme. The budgetary support for cost of enabling infrastructure will be provided after appraisal of the cost of enabling infrastructure by the DIB/PIB and approval of the competent au-

thority as per extant guidelines. The government has been taking several policy initiatives to address the issues impeding hvdro power development, viz., remote locations, hilly areas, lack of infrastructure etc.

international



The position remains quite clear: the US, irrespective of the candidate's party, continues to maintain an unfriendly attitude towards Russia DMITRY PESKOV | KREMLIN

ROBOT IN PLACE OF SOLDIER

Australian Army has begun trials of an uncrewed robot, nicknamed GUS (Ground Uncrewed System), which can potentially replace soldiers in risky areas and do the required observation in near future





I will continue to support policies that hold all extremists Israelis and Palestinians alike, accountable for obstacles to peace

stoking violence and serving as

JOE BIDEN | PRESIDENT, US

I will urge the



rights will remain at the core of our **General Assembly** PHILEMON YANG | PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED

NATIONS GENERAL ASSEMBLY





MUHAMMAD YUNUS INTERIM GOVERNMENT HEAD, BANGLADESH

SHORT **TAKES**

Malaysian police rescue 400 minors

Kuala Lumpur: Malaysian authorities rescued more than 400 children and teenagers Wednesday suspected of being sexually abused at charity homes run by a prominent Islamic business organisation with links to a banned religious sect, the top police official said. Police arrested 171 adults, including 'ustazs' or Islamic religious teachers. during coordinated raids on 20 premises across two Malaysiar states, Inspector-General of Police Razarudin Husain said. Those rescued included 201 boys and 201 girls, aged between one and 17.

Khan's PTI members face terrorism charges

Islamabad: Several lawmakers and leaders of jailed former Pakistani Prime Minister Imran Khan's party arrested after a rally they held to demand his release will face terrorism charges, according to police charge-sheets seen by Reuters Wednesday. They have been in police custody since the arrests were made after Sunday's rally turned violent Islamabad police spokesman said the charges included law and order violations and attacking law enforcement officials. He did not give the number of those held in custody or elaborate further.

Five Houthi drones destroyed in Yemen

Sanaa: The US Central Command said Wednesday that its naval forces destroyed five Houthi drones and two missile systems in Houthi-controlled areas of Yemen in the past 24 hours. "It was determined these (equipment and) systems presented a clear and imminent threat to US and coalition forces, and merchant vessels in the region," it said. The Houthi group, which has controlled much of Yemen since late 2014 after the outbreak of a civil war with the Yemeni government, has not yet made any comment, Xinhua news agency reported.

China plans to train foreign law officials

Beijing: China plans to train 3,000 foreign law enforcement officials to tackle global security issues besides protecting Chinese interests beyond its borders as part of efforts by Beijing to take a bigger role in global governance and security. China will take concrete actions to contribute Chinese wisdom and strength to global public security governance, Chinese State Councilor and Minister of **Public Security Wang Xiaohong** told the 2024 Conference of Global Public Security Cooperation Forum in Lianyungang in China's eastern Jiangsu province.

Trump vows to end Russia-Ukraine war

Former President. Donald trump, blames the Biden-Harris Administration for not preventing the war in Ukraine and asserts that he wants the war to stop

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Washington, Sept 11: Republican presidential candidate Donald Trump has said he will end the Russia-Ukraine war if he wins the November presidential elections, an assertion dismissed by his Democratic rival Kamala Harris who said the former US President would "just give up"

Trading barbs with Vice President Harris Tuesday at their first presidential debate in Pennsylvania ahead of the US general elections November 5, Trump said the war would have never started had he been the President.

"I'll get the war with Ukraine

Hanoi, Sept 11: Vietnam's cap-

ital of Hanoi evacuated thou-

sands of people living near the

swollen Red River as its waters

rose to a 20-year high, flooding

streets days after Typhoon Yagi

battered the country's north,

this year, Yagi brought gales and

heavy rain as it moved west-

wards after landfall Saturday,

causing the collapse of a bridge

this week while it scythed

through provinces along the Red

river," said Nguyen Van Hung,

56, who lives in a neighbour-

hood on the banks of the Red

phoon and subsequent landslides

and floods have killed 179 people

while 145 were missing, the gov-

utility EVN said Wednesday it

had cut off power from some

flooded parts of the capital due

Vietnam's state-run power

ernment estimated.

Across the country, the ty-

"My home is now part of the

River, the area's biggest.

Asia's most powerful typhoon

killing at least 179 people.

TYPHOON YAGI

Vietnam faces worst

flooding, 179 die



and Russia ended. If I'm President-elect, I'll get it done before even becoming President," Trump, 78, said in response to a question during the debate.

Asserting there was no threat of war in the four years he was President from 2017 to 2021. Trump said, "I know (Russian President Vladimir) Putin very well. He would have never, and there was no threat of it either, by the way, for four years, gone into Ukraine and killed millions of people when you add it up"

Trump blamed the Biden-Harris Administration for not preventing the war in Ukraine

to safety concerns.

Mai Van Khiem, director of

the National Center for Hydro-

Meteorological Forecasting, said

in a statement that the Red River

was at its highest in two decades

and that more rain was expected

Some schools in Hanoi have

told students to stay home for the

rest of the week, while thou-

sands of residents of low-lying

areas have been evacuated, the

government and state media

said. Nearer the city centre, char-

ity Blue Dragon Children's

Foundation evacuated its office

Tuesday, after authorities warned

cally, moving their motorbikes,

relocating items," said spokesper-

son Carlota Torres Lliro, ex-

pressing concern for dozens of

children and families living in

makeshift houses by the river.

EVN said Wednesday it had

stopped discharging water from

Hoa Binh hydropower dam, the

second largest in northern

Vietnam, into Red River tributary,

the Da River, to reduce water flows.

"People were moving franti-

of flood risks.

over the next two days.

and said, "If I were President, it would have never started."

The former President asserted that he wanted the war to stop and claimed that millions were being killed in it.

"I want to save lives that are being uselessly people being killed by the millions. It's the millions. It's so much worse than the numbers you're getting, which are fake numbers," he said. "I know Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy very well and I know Putin very well. I have a good relationship They respect me, they don't reDONALD TRUMP | FORMER PRESIDENT, US

would have never

(Russia-Ukraine war)

If Donald Trump were President, Putin would be sitting in Kyiv right now and understand what that would mean because **Putin's agenda is not just** about Ukraine

KAMALA HARRIS | VICE PRESIDENT, US

Biden," he said.

"How would you respect him (Biden)? He hasn't even made a phone call in two years to Putin. He hasn't spoken to anybody. That is a war that's dving to be settled. I will get it settled before I even become President if I win when I'm President-elect,'

Trump said. Disagreeing with him, Vice President Harris said, "I believe the reason that Donald Trump says that this war would be over within 24 hours is because he would just give it up. And that's

Harris said she met Zelenskyy and shared "American intelligence about how he could defend himself" a few days before the Russian invasion and went to NATO's eastern flank to Poland and Romania days later, bringing 50 countries together to support Ukraine in its "righteous defence'

"Because of our support, because of the air defence, the ammunition, the artillery, the javelins, the Abrams tanks that we have provided. Ukraine stands as an independent and free country," she said.

"If Donald Trump were President, Putin would be sitting in Kyiv right now and understand what that would mean because Putin's agenda is not just about Ukraine," she said.

Addressing Trump, she said, "Understand why the European allies and our NATO allies are so thankful that you are no longer President and that we understand the importance of NATO. And what we have done to preserve the ability of Zelenskyy and the Ukrainians to fight for their independence. Otherwise, Putin would be sitting in Kyiv with his eyes on the rest of Europe, starting with Poland.

Protest against Adani deal grounds flights at Kenva airport



ASSOCIATED PRESS

Nairobi, Sept 11: Hundreds of workers at Kenya's main international airport demonstrated Wednesday against a planned deal between the government and India's Adani Group.

Planes have remained grounded, with hundreds of passengers stranded at the airport.

The government has said that the build-and-operate agreement with the Adani Group would see the Jomo Kenyatta International Airport modernised, and an additional runway and terminal constructed, in exchange for the group running the airport for

Kenya Airport Workers Union, in announcing the strike, said that the deal would lead to job losses and "inferior terms and conditions of service" for those who will remain.

Kenya Airways Wednesday announced there would be flight delays and possible cancellations because of the ongoing strike at the airport, which serves Nairobi. The strike has affected local

flights coming from the port city of Mombasa and the lake city of Kisumu, where delays have been reported by local media. At the main airport, police of-

ficers had taken up security check-in roles with long lines seen outside the departure terminals and worried passengers unable to confirm if their flights would depart as scheduled. The Kenya Airports Authority

said in a statement that it was "engaging relevant parties to normalise operations" and urged passengers to contact respective airlines to confirm flight status. The Central Organisation of

Trade Unions' secretary-general, Francis Atwoli, told journalists at the airport that the strike would have been averted had the government listened to__

not who we are as Americans. spect (incumbent President Joe)

Firefighters establish a defense perimeter around a house threatened by the Bridge Fire in Wrightwood, California

Two Maldivian mins resign



Colombo: Two junior ministers Maldivian government, who were suspended for disparaging Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi

this year, have resigned ahead of a proposed visit by President Mohamed Muizzu to New Delhi, an official said Wednesday. Malsha Shareef and Mariyam Shiuna in the Ministry of Youth Empowerment, Information and Arts were disciplined along with fellow minister Abdulla Mahzoom Majid in January for comments they made on social media platform X. They labelled Modi a "clown", "terrorist" and "puppet of Israel" in response to his promotion of tourism in the Indian islands of Lakshadweep, viewed as a signal to pro-China Muizzu who had pledged to end Maldives' "India first" policy.



Iran President visits Iraq

Bagndad: Iranian President Masoud Pezeshkian visited Iraq Wednesday on his first foreign trip, signalling the clerical establishment's intention to strengthen ties with a strategic ally of both Tehran and Washington as regional tensions rise. Pezeshkian, a relative moderate who was elected in July, met Iraqi Prime Minister Mohammed Shia al-Sudani at the start of a three-day visit that Tehran and Baghdad said would include the signing of a number of agreements and discussion of the Gaza war and the situation in the Middle East.

Driverless bullet trains in Japan

Tokyo: Shinkansen bullet trains could be whizzing around Japan without drivers from the mid-2030s, one of its main rail operators said, motivated in part by the country's demographic crisis. East Japan Railway (JR East) will first introduce trains where many of the driver's tasks are automated, but they will remain in the cab, on parts of one route from 2028, the firm said Tuesday. The following year, the company hopes to trial driverless trains on a short stretch of out-ofservice track before rolling them out in the mid-2030s.



US commemorates 9/11 attacks but politics in view

The date, September 11, falls in the thick of the presidential election season every four years, and it comes at an especially pointed moment this time

ASSOCIATED PRESS

New York, Sept 11: The US remembered the lives taken and those reshaped by 9/11, marking an anniversary laced with presidential campaign politics as President Joe Biden, former President Donald Trump and Vice President Kamala Harris stood together Wednesday at ground zero.

September 11, the date when hijacked plane attacks killed nearly 3,000 people in 2001, falls in the thick of the presidential election season every four years, and it comes at an especially pointed moment this time. The

anniversary ceremony at the World Trade Centre brought Harris and Trump, the Democratic and Republican nominees, face-to-face just hours after their first-ever debate Tuesday night.

Trump and running mate Senator JD Vance arrived at the trade centre site around 8 am and posed for photographs with some in the audience. Harris arrived with Biden about a halfhour later, to cheers of "Kamala!" from some audience members.

Biden and Trump shook hands, and former New York Mayor Michael Bloomberg appeared to facilitate a handshake between Harris and Trump. Then the presidential rivals stood only a few feet apart, with Biden and Bloomberg between them, as the observance began with the tolling of a bell and a moment of si-

The political backdrop wasn't top-of-mind for victims' relatives such as Cathy Naughton, who came to honour her cousin



Michael Roberts, one of hundreds of firefighters killed in the attack.

Twenty-three years later, "it's just so raw," she said. "We want to make sure people remember always, and say the names al-

"Every year, it just doesn't get easier," she added.

cians have been only observers at ground zero observances, with the microphone going instead to relatives who read victims' ways and never forget. names aloud.

If politicians "care about what's actually going on, great. Regardless of the campaign Be here," said Korryn Bishop, calendar, organisers of anwho lost her cousin John F

niversary ceremonies have long

taken pains to try to keep the

focus on victims. For years, politi-

The communities around the country have developed remembrance traditions that range from laying wreaths to displaying flags, from marches to police radio messages

McDowell Jr "If they're just here for political clout, that upsets me.

Biden, on the last September 11 of his term and likely his half-century political career, was headed with Harris later to ceremonies in Pennsylvania and at the Pentagon, the three sites where commercial jets crashed after al-Qaida operatives took them over September 11, 2001. Trump also was due at the Flight 93 National Memorial near rural Shanksville, Pennsvlvania.

Officials later concluded that the aircraft that crashed there

was headed toward Washington. It went down after crew members and passengers tried to wrest control from the hijackers.

The attacks killed 2,977 people and left thousands of bereaved relatives and scarred survivors. The planes carved a gash in the Pentagon, the US military headquarters, and brought down the trade centre's twin towers, which were among the world's tallest

The catastrophe also altered US foreign policy, domestic security practices and the mindset of many Americans who had not previously felt vulnerable to attacks by foreign extremists.

Effects rippled around the world and through generations as the US responded by leading a "Global War on Terrorism," which included invasions of Afghanistan and Iraq. Those operations killed hundreds of thousands of Afghans and Iraqis and thousands of American troops, and Afghanistan became the site of the United States' longest war.





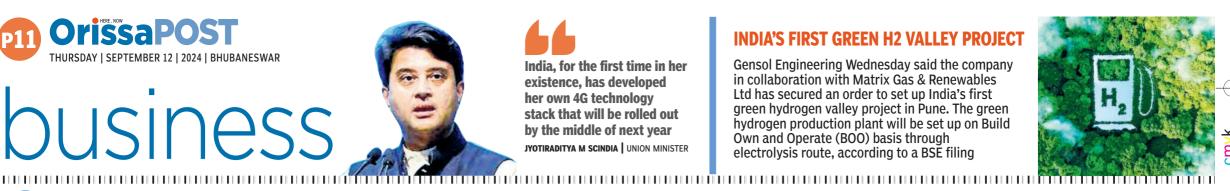
business



India, for the first time in her existence, has developed her own 4G technology stack that will be rolled out by the middle of next year JYOTIRADITYA M SCINDIA UNION MINISTER

INDIA'S FIRST GREEN H2 VALLEY PROJECT

Gensol Engineering Wednesday said the company in collaboration with Matrix Gas & Renewables Ltd has secured an order to set up India's first green hydrogen valley project in Pune. The green hydrogen production plant will be set up on Build Own and Operate (BOO) basis through electrolysis route, according to a BSE filing



meet its climate targets under the 2015 Paris

committed to achieving net zero emissions target by 2070, even though less than 4 per cent carbon emission is from India

BVR SUBRAHMANYAM | CEO, NITI AAYOG

The automotive industry is at the cusp of the revolution, and as we is critical that the sector continues to innovate, especially in areas like customer service, after-sales and quality assurance

NITIN GADKARI UNION MINISTER

Had a very engaging discussion with the team from Ford Motors. Explored the feasibility of renewing Ford's three decade partnership with Tamil Nadu, to again make in Tamil Nadu for the world

MK STALIN CM, TAMIL NADU

SHORT TAKES

FADA gets new prez

New Delhi: The Federation of **Automobile Dealers** Associations (FADA) Wednesday announced the appointment of CS Vigneshwar as its President for 2024-26 period. The decision was taken at the 315th Governing Council Meeting, held immediately after the 60th annual general meeting, FADA said in a statement. Vigneshwar is the Managing Director of Anaamalais Toyota based out of Coimbatore, Tamil Nadu, and has other dealerships of Volvo **Eicher Commercial Vehicles** (VECV) and Ather Energy, it added. He has been a council member of FADA for the last 12 years. Besides, Vigneshwar has been a member of the Apex Consultative Committee of VECV for the last 16 years and a part of the Toyota Dealer Council for 11 years and served as the Head of the Toyota India Service Dealer Council for 7 years, the statement said.

Trade portal unveiled

New Delhi: The government Wednesday launched a trade portal to provide all kinds of information related to exports and imports, a move which would help new as well as existing entrepreneurs. The Trade Connect ePlatform is developed in collaboration with the Ministry of MSME, EXIM Bank, TCS, Department of Financial Services (DFS), and the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA). Launching the portal, Commerce and Industry Minister Piyush Goyal said that it would act as a one-stop solution for all kinds of information such as customs duties, rules and regulations. The portal is set to address information asymmetry by offering exporters comprehensive support and resources.

IIT-D, Honda ink MoU

New Delhi: Indian Institute of Technology, Delhi, has signed an MoU with Honda Cars India Limited to further advance Honda Cooperative Intelligence, an AI that enables mutual understanding between machines and people through cooperative action and communication using environment, scene and intention understanding. "The mobility industry is experiencing significant change, driven by a growing demand for sustainable and functional products powered by AI technologies that are shaping its future. This partnership aims to leverage IIT-Delhi's advanced research and Honda's expertise in practical applications to fasttrack innovation and create solutions that benefit both customers and society across a wide range of applications," said Preeti Ranjan Panda the dean of corporate relations at IIT-Delhi.

ONE OF BIGGEST RECENT INDUSTRIAL CLASHES

Samsung workers on strike

THE WORKERS WANT **SAMSUNG TO RECOGNISE THEIR UNION, AS WELL AS INCREASE THEIR WAGES AND IMPROVE THEIR WORKING HOURS**

Sriperumbudur, Sept 11: Workers at Samsung Electronics' southern India plant will remain on strike until their demands for better wages and working conditions are met, union leaders said, as output at the consumer appliances unit was disrupted for a third straight day.

The industrial unrest at the plant in Sriperumbudur, near the city of Chennai, is one of the biggest such strikes in recent vears in India.

The plant, which makes products such as televisions, refrigerators and washing machines, contributes between 20% and 30% of Samsung's annual \$12 billion revenue in India, a key growth market for the company

'The strike will continue until a settlement is reached, with the next round of talks (planned) on Friday evening," union leader E Muthukumar told Reuters. "As things stand, the strike will continue till Friday.'

The Samsung factory is next to units of other global giants such as Foxconn and Dell in an area popular for automobile and electronics manufacturing.

On the first day of the strike Monday, 50% of daily production was disrupted, while 30% was hit Tuesday as some temperary workers have been roped in to keep production going, said a source with direct knowledge



THIRD DAY IN A ROW

BETTER SALARIES

RESOLVE MATTER

of the matter.

The workers want Samsung to recognise their union, as well as increase their wages and improve their working hours. Samsung Southwest Asia CEO, JB Park, and other senior executives have travelled to the factory to try to resolve the protests.

'They (Samsung) will soon have to talk to us, just like they had to engage with the Korean union there," Muthukumar said.

In July and August, the 36,500 members of Samsung Electronics' biggest worker union in South Korea demanded higher wages and benefits, striking for several days, but there was no impact on production

South Korea-based Samsung, which is India's biggest consumer electronics company, did not respond to a request for comment. A spokesperson for Samsung India said Monday that it actively engaged with workers "to address any grievances they may have and comply with all laws and regulations"

The strike comes ahead of a critical festive season when consumers step up purchases and companies dole out discounts.

According to Samsung employees outside the factory, the company has so far not agreed to recognise the union backed by the local labour group, the Centre of Indian Trade Unions (CITU).

Many workers wearing Samsung's blue uniform shirt, and red CITU caps, were seen sitting inside a makeshift tent put up near the factory, which employs roughly 1,800 people.

Earlier in the morning, employees chanted together outside the factory: "We will stand together and secure a win.'

There has been no labour unrest at Samsung's other Indian plant in the northern state of Uttar Pradesh, which makes

LABOUR WOES HIT INDIA OPS

Oct 2023: Workers of General Motors India staged protests after the plant in western Maharashtra state was acquired by Hyundai Motor India leading to a halt in production for five days, media reported. The workers wanted Hyundai to absorb them

Dec 2021 - Jan 2022: Foxconn, which makes chargers for Apple, shuttered a factory for over three weeks in southern Tamil Nadu state due to protests over workers falling sick with food

May 2021: Automakers including Renault-Nissan, Hyundai, and Ford Motor Co shut down operations at their Tamil Nadu facilities after workers threatened to or staged protests over Coronavirus-related safety concerns. Ford stopped work for two days, while the other two suspended operations for five davs each.

Dec 2020 - Feb 2021: Another Apple supplier Wistron Corp's factory in Karnataka was shut for two months after contract workers angry over unpaid wages destroyed property, equipment and iPhones.

Nov 2020 - Dec 2020: For roughly two months, Toyota Motor Corp sporadically halted operations at its manufacturing plant in Karnataka amid protests against the suspension of a worker.

Nov 2019: Protests at Honda Motorcycle and Scooter India's plant in Harvana led to the facility being closed for 18 days. per media reports. Protesters said several workers had been forced to go on indefinite leave. The unrest lasted for about five months, even after the plant was re-opened.

Shares fall on profit booking



Sensex declines by 398 pts, Nifty ends below 25K on profit taking in Tata Motors, RIL

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Mumbai, Sept 11: Benchmark Sensex reversed its early gains to close lower by 398 points

while broader Nifty slipped below the 25,000 mark due to/ selling in Tata Motors, Reliance Industries and L&T\ amid weak global trends. In a volatile trade,

the 30-share BSE Sensex dropped 398.13 points or 0.49 per cent to settle at 81,523.16.

The index opened higher and touched the day's high of 82,134.95 points in the mid-session. However, selling pressure emerged in the pre-close session and the index tanked 498.15 points or 0.60 per cent to hit a low of 81,423.14.

The NSE Nifty declined 122.65

FIRM DRAWS

BIDS WORTH \$39BN

INVESTORS BID

FOR 64 TIMES THE

SHARES ON OFFER

OVERSUBSCRIBED

BY 209 TIMES

points or 0.49 per cent to 24,918.45. Among the 30 Sensex firms, Tata Motors was the biggest loser, tumbling nearly 6 per cent, followed by NTPC, Adani Ports, Larsen & Toubro, State Bank of India, JSW Steel, Mahindra & Mahindra, IndusInd

Bank and Titan. In contrast, Asian Paints, Bajaj Finance, Hindustan Unilever and Bajaj Finserv were among the gainers.

"The domestic mar-**Investors** ket experienced a booked profits on minor consolidathe day at near record tion in line with high levels as they Asian peers due remained cautious ahead to correction of of the US inflation data /commodity prices like crude

KRANTHI BATHINI | DIRECTOR, which has collapsed SECURITIES to \$70 per barrel. Market sentiment remained

cautious due to the slowdown in the Chinese economy. Investors await the release of the US CPI and domestic inflation data. said Vinod Nair, Head of Research, Geojit Financial Services.

Foreign Institutional Investors (FIIs) bought equities worth ₹2,208.23 crore Tuesday, accord ing to exchange data.

BIZ BUZZ

PNB gives ₹81L to nominee of deceased loan account holder

Bhubaneswar: On Wednesday, the Zonal Manager of Punjab National Bank (PNB), Rajesh Kumar, handed over a cheque of ₹81 lakh to Sujata Khamari, the nominee of the late Javanta Khamari, a home loan customer from Puniab National Bank's Kalinga Ashoka



Branch under Bhubaneswar circle. This settlement was made under PNB Metlife's Credit Life Insurance scheme (Met Loan & Life Suraksha) after Jayanta Khamari tragically passed away in a road accident June 12. Rajesh Kumar explained that the Credit Life Insurance scheme provides loan protection to the borrowers at Puniab National Bank. In the event of the borrower's death, the nominee is entitled to the insured amount, which covers the outstanding loan. This ensures that the family is not burdened with loan repayment. In this case Javanta Khamari had taken a housing loan September 2023 of ₹90 lakh and covered his loan in March 2024. The insurance coverage resulted in a settlement of ₹81 lakh for the nominee. Suiata Khamari. The handover event was attended by several senior officials, including Deputy Zonal Head Kshetrabasi Mishra, Bhubaneswar Circle Head Laxmikanta Mishra, Deputy Circle Head Gurupada Pradhan, and Branch Manager Sasanka Sekhar Dash, Sanjay Panda, Circle Marketing Head, Bhubaneswar, Representatives from PNB MetLife India Insurance Co Ltd, including Senior Regional Head Pankaj Kumar, Regional Manager Goutam Ghosh, Avishek Rov, Area Manager Bhubaneswar and Debashish Pattanaik, Territory Manager (Sales) were also present.

Bajaj Housing Finance hottest IPO this year

Bangalore, Sept 11: India's Bajaj Housing Finance attracted bids worth about \$38.60 billion, or nearly 64 times the shares on offer, making it the most sought-after major public listing this year in a red-hot IPO market.

The interest in the company's public offer -- the most this year among mainboard IPOs worth more than \$500 million -- was due to the lender's prospects in a booming home loan market and came during the busiest week for Indian IPOs in 2024.

Bajaj Housing Finance, a unit of non-bank lender Bajaj Finance will become India's largest listed home loan financier, with its \$782 million IPO valuing the company at \$7 bil-

Analysts attribute the rush for the lender's offering to strong de-





mand for loans for luxury homes, attractive IPO pricing and confidence in the pedigree of the nearly 100-year-old Baja group, which also has auto and consumer goods businesses. Bajaj Housing Finance is rais-

ing \$424 million in the float by

ANALYSTS EXPECT SHARP **GAINS IN SEPT 16** ■ INDIAN IPOS FETCH \$7BN, TWICE VS SAME PERIOD YOY

issuing new shares, while Bajaj Finance is selling shares worth \$357 million. It set a price band of `66-70 a share

Analysts expect the interest to sustain after the company lists on the exchange Monday, September 16.

"Given the demand of the___ IPO and the oversubscription levels, the stock should see a substantial premium and list at `100," said Asutosh Mishra, research head at Ashika Stock Broking.

The shares set aside for large institutions, including foreign institutional investors, banks and mutual funds, were oversubscribed by 209 times, while retail investors bid for about seven times the shares on offer.

About 200 companies have raised more than \$7 billion this year, more than double the amount raised during the same period last year, in a booming stock market that has hit record highs more than 50 times this year, LSEG data showed.

The last IPO from a home loan financier was by Aadhar Housing Finance in May and was oversubscribed by about

India's bid to match China's factory heft gets reality check

New Delhi, Sept 11: India's push to become a factory titan has hit a snag: To become a credible alternative to China for global firms, it first needs to warm up to its long-time rival.

Ties between the world's two most populous countries have been strained since a deadly Himalayan border clash in 2020, slowing the exchange of capital, technology and talent, despite exploding demand for electric vehicles, semiconductors and artificial intelligence.

The Modi government's heightened vetting of all Chinese investment over this period effectively turned away billions of dollars from the likes of BYD, Great Wall Motor and created new layers of red tape for Indian firms with Chinese stakeholders.

But now, New Delhi is looking to loosen some of these restrictions as businesses struggle to scale up manufacturing, even with a host of government subsidies designed to boost local production.

■ INDIA CONSIDERS EASING CHINESE INVESTMENT RULES TO **BOOST MANUFACTURING**

■ VISA ISSUANCE FOR CHINESE

NATIONALS HAS BEEN EASED TO SUPPORT LOCAL MAKING ■ INDIA'S TRADE DEFICIT WITH

CHINA HAS NEARLY DOUBLED Even businesses that have

supported barriers on Chinese imports acknowledge the need for key inputs from up north. Naveen Jindal, head of one of the countrys largest steel firms Jindal Steel & Power and

a federal lawmaker, has backed tariffs on Chinese steel but also sees the need for a pragmatic approach to trade. "A lot of steel companies import equipment and technology from China," Jindal said. "China

very good, but not in every area." Now, after four years of restrictions on Chinese investments and visas, Prime Minister Narendra Modi's government is

is the world's largest producer of

steel and in certain areas they are

There is a realisation that

looking to pivot closer to the Asian rival and breathe new life into his ambitions to "Make in India"

"The government is considering easing investment rules that were introduced in 2020 for government discussions told Reuters

countries that India shares land border with as we need more

investments," an official privy to

you cannot be part of any major supply chains, especially in high technology products and certain areas like solar cells, EVs, where it is not possible for you to do anything without being part of Chinese supply chains SUSHANT SINGH | LECTURER, YALE UNIVERSITY

to add a clause that investments from firms with up to 10% Chinese shareholding will no longer remove that could help global companies that have supply chain partnerships with Chinese firms easily invest in India. To address security concerns,

the government is also planning

to set up a post-investment monitoring framework driven by crime and fraud investigation agencies and the banking regulator. The move would encourage greater Chinese investment.

which analysts say is critical to India joining global supply chains in high-technology sectors such as solar cells, EVs and battery manufacturing. The proposed easing is still

being pushed by Modi's office with various sticking points between government ministries being ironed out, a second official, with direct knowledge of the matter said.

Following industry lobbying, India has already eased visa issuance for Chinese nationals and is expediting visa approvals to Chinese engineers for sectors that get federal subsidies to manufacture locally.

2.000 short-term visas to Chinese professionals, who accounted for most applications between November last year and July this year, another government

official said. Indian foreign minister Subrahmanyam Jaishankar said this week the country is not "closed to business from China" but noted the issue was rather in which sectors and on what terms Beijing did business, with-

out elaborating. After the 2020 clash with China, to lure Apple, the Indian government gave quick approvals to joint ventures between the US giant's Chinese suppliers and Indian firms.

The move has led to the phone maker moving 14% of its global iPhone assembly to India in the fiscal year 2023/24. In the same year, India's mobile exports increased

42% to a record \$15.6 billion. However, even with such a shift there are doubts India's factories were big enough to match the investment or achievethe productivity gains of their

It has likely approved nearly New Delhi is now planning quire government approval, a Chinese counterparts.

THURSDAY | SEPTEMBER 12 | 2024 | BHUBANESWAR

OrissaPOST

SHORT TAKES **Champions Trophy talks**

Karachi: An ICC delegation, which is due to visit Pakistan this month to ascertain the preparations for the Champions Trophy, will also discuss the tentative schedule of the event with the Pakistan Cricket Board, A source aware of developments said the PCB had still not been informed how many ICC officials were coming and which departments they would be representing but indications were that the schedule would be discussed in detail. The PCB had sent a tentative schedule to the ICC sometime back in which they had suggested making Lahore the base of the Indian team. "The schedule has now been seen by the participating boards in the Champions Trophy and there is still some work to be done before it is finalised and announced," the source said. "Obviously a final decision on whether the Indian team would be permitted by its government to play in Pakistan is one major reason for the schedule still being under consideration," he added.

Day 3 of Test washed off

Greater Noida: There was no end to the rain woes that have plagued the one-off Test between Afghanistan and New Zealand here with the third day's play also called off without a ball being bowled amid concerns that the entire match would be washed out. The first two days of the game were called off due to a wet outfield, raising serious questions over the preparedness of the venue. Considering the inclement weather, the match officials did not take long to rule out any possibility of play on Wednesday. The toss is yet to take place for the game. "Afghanistan versus New Zealand Day 3 is called off due to persistent rains. The match will commence with 98 overs from tomorrow if the skies get clear." said the Afghanistan Cricket Board in a release.

Oz player suspended

Sydney: Field hockey player Tom Craig has been suspended for 12 months by the sport's Australian governing body for attempting to purchase cocaine at the Paris Olympics. Craig was arrested but released without charge after trying to purchase the drug in Paris August 7 during a night out after his Olympic campaign ended. He faced Australian media in Paris after French prosecutors issued a statement confirming the now 29-year-old Olympian - a silver medalist at Tokyo three years ago - was given a criminal warning and released after spending a night in custody

Colombia stun Argentina

Bogota: James Rodríguez scored from the penalty spot and had an assist to help Colombia edge defending champion Argentina 2-1 Tuesday in a South American World Cup qualifier. The Argentina attack missed Lionel Messi, who was sidelined because of injury for the between the teams since the Copa America final. Yerson Mosquera opened the scoring in the 25th minute but Argentina equalized in the 48th when Nico Gonzalez capitalized on a defensive blunder from the

INDIA STORM INTO SEMIS



PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Hulunbuir (China), Sept 11: Young striker Raj Kumar Pal struck a hat-trick as title-holders India sealed a semifinal spot after thrashing Malaysia 8-1 for their third consecutive win in the Hero Asian Champions Trophy, here Wednesday.

Apart from Raj Kumar (3rd, 25th and 33rd minute), Araijeet Singh Hundal (6th and 39th minute), Jugraj Singh (7th minute), skipper Harmanpreet Singh (22nd minute), and Uttam Singh (40th minute) sounded the board for India.

For Malaysia, Akhimullah Anuar (34th minute) managed the solitary strike.

India are currently on top of the standings with nine points from three wins.

The six-team tournament is being played in a round-robin format and the top four will advance to the semifinals September 16 followed by the final September 17.

India had earlier defeated hosts China 3-0 in their tournament-opener before getting the better of Japan 5-1.

Paris Olympics bronze-medallists India will next take on Korea Thursday before finishing their league engagements against arch-rivals Pakistan Saturday.

Against Malaysia, the odds were against India going by recent results. The last match between these two sides was the final of the 2023 Asian Champions Trophy where India were trailing 1-3 at half-time.

In that game, the Indians came roaring back to eventually regINDIA ARE CURRENTLY ON TOP OF THE **STANDINGS WITH**

NINE POINTS FROM

THREE WINS

ister a 4-3 win to claim the title. The Indian strikers continued their fine form in the tournament and scored five field goals and three penalty corners, converted Jugraj,

Harmanpreet and Uttam. Against Malaysia, the Indians started on the front foot with relentless attacks in the first quar-

And Raj Kumar didn't take long to hand India the lead, scoring a solo goal displaying ining a mockery of the Malaysian back-line.

Three minutes later, Araijeet

doubled India's lead by finding the corner of the Malaysian A minute later, Jugraj ex-

tended the lead with a perfect penalty corner conversion with a powerful drag-flick. The team headed into the first quarter with a dominant 3-0 lead.

Down by three goals, Malaysia started on an aggressive note in the second quarter and soon earned a penalty corner but the Indian defence stood tall.

India secured back-to-back penalty corners in the 22nd minute and Harmanpreet, one of the best drag-flickers globally. buried the ball into the Malaysian goal with a vintage flick to extend

ICC unveils tickets for

Minutes later, Raj Kumar scored his second goal after being set up by Araijeet and Uttam as India went into half-time with a commanding 5-0 lead.

Three minutes after the change of ends, Raj Kumar scored his first hat-trick at the senior level from a rebound after vice-captain Vivek Sagar Prasad's initial strike was saved by the Malaysian goalkeeper.

Malaysia managed to pull a goal back soon through Anaur.

But there was no stopping India as Araijeet scored a field goal, tapping in Nilkanta Sharma's pass and then a minute later, Uttam scored from a rebound from a penalty corner.

In the first match of the day. Pakistan beat Japan 2-1 to improve their chances of reaching the semifinals.

Nitesh cites BAI apathy, wants badminton to be placed under PCI be placed under PCI

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, Sept 11: Frustrated with the lack of recognition and administrative wrangling within the Badminton Association of India (BAI), Paralympic champion Kumar Nitesh has called for para badminton to be transferred under the aegis of Paralympic Committee of India (PCI) for the sport's betterment and progress.

The 29-year-old from Haryana, who secured a historic gold medal in the SL3 class at the Paris Paralympics, said para shuttlers needed to be treated on par with their able-bodied counterparts.

"We have won 21 medals at the Asian Para Games, around 14-15 medals at the World Championships, and 5 medals at the Paralympics, but we don't receive basic appreciation from BAI," Kumar told PTI.

"This isn't a new issue; it's a recurring problem. Their attention remains solely on ablebodied athletes, with minimal effort to promote para badminton.' Kumar also expressed his dis-

satisfaction on social media after BAI congratulated the para shuttlers on their Paris performance via Twitter.

"Despite the occasional social media appreciation from @BAI_Media, we, the athletes, are highly dissatisfied with BAI's lack of interest in para badminton. We sincerely request @Media_SAI and BAI to hand over para badminton to PCI, which has a better track record of supporting para sports, Kumar wrote.

Kumar, an IIT Mandi alumnus, outlined several administrative issues affecting para shuttlers.

"There are significant administrative delays and inefficiencies. Often, only 1 or 2 people manage everything, and it's kind of too much for them, they

Vinesh blames Usha of doing 'politics'

New Delhi, Sept 11: Wrestler Vinesh Phogat, who had a heartbreaking exit from Paris Olympics 2024 over failed weighin, has made an explosive revelation from her meeting with PT Usha, the president of Indian Olympics Association (IOA).

Vinesh had fallen ill after her disqualification from the Paris Olympics 53kg freestyle wrestling final, over increased weight, and was admitted to a poly-clinic in the Olympics village. PT Usha shared a picture on social media where she could be seen interacting with Vinesh in the clinic, but the wrestler has claimed that the photo was clicked without informing her.

Vinesh, who recently joined politics by signing up with the Indian National Congress, claims that she received no support from PT Usha, although the latter claimed that she stood with the heartbroken wrestler during that tough time on social media.

"I don't know what support I got there," Vinesh said during a chat with a local news channel. "PT Usha madam visited me at the hospital. One photo was clicked...Like you said, in poli-



tics a lot happens behind closed doors. Similarly, politics happened there (in Paris) as well. That's why I was heartbroken. Otherwise a lot of people are saying 'don't leave wrestling'. For what should I continue?

There is politics everywhere." Vinesh, furious with PT Usha's decision to share the picture on social media claiming that she stands in support of the wrestler, said that this wasn't the right way to show support, and was mere

"You are on a hospital bed, where you don't know what's happening in life outside, you are going through one of the worst phases of your life. At that place, just to show everyone you are standing with me, clicked a photo without telling me and then putting it on social media to say you are standing with me. That's not how you show support (pretending to). What was

women's T20 WC 2024

INDO-ASIAN NEWS SERVICE

Mumbai, Sept 11: With just over 20 days to go until the ICC Women's T20 World Cup 2024, the ICC has made an exciting announcement: Match tickets will start at just five dirhams (Rs 114.28), and entry will be free for fans under 18.

This initiative, aimed at boosting attendance and creating a lasting legacy for the tournament in the UAE, was revealed alongside a stunning laser show on the iconic Burj Khalifa.

"One of the exciting things bout the UAE is its diversity said ICC Chief Executive Geoff Allardice Wednesday.

The tournament, set to begin October 3, will see 10 teams competing across 23 matches over 18 days, all vying for the coveted Women's T20 World Cup trophy. The teams are divided into two groups: Group A, featuring Australia, India, New Zealand, Pakistan, and Sri Lanka, and Group B, which includes Bangladesh, England, South Africa, West Indies, and Scotland.

Before the tournament, teams will participate in warm-up matches from September 28 to

A record-breaking 1.25

million spectators attended

the mega event, of which

Kane marks 100 caps with brace



PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

London, Sept 11: Harry Kane marked his 100th game for England with two goals and celebrations with his family in a 2-0 win over Finland in the UEFA Nations League Tuesday.

Presented with a golden cap before kickoff and playing in gold boots at Wembley Stadium, the England captain was swarmed by his teammates after scoring his first goal in true Kane style. He beat a Finnish defender before unleashing a powerful shot which was still rising as it clipped the underside of the crossbar.

The Bayern Munich star's second goal came with an assist from one of England's new faces as Noni Madueke played the pass for Kane to hit a shot that took a slight deflection — not that it mattered to the crowd which gave Kane a standing ovation when he was substituted off soon after.

It was the second straight 2-0 win for interim England manager Lee Carsley, who took over on a temporary basis after Gareth Southgate stepped down following England's loss to Spain in the Euro 2024 final. Carsley could yet remain in the

position for a while longer if the search for Southgate's permanent successor extends beyond the next international break in October.

England is playing in the second tier of the Nations League and is level on six points at the top of its group with Greece, which beat Ireland 2-0.

AKE INJURED

Nathan Ake went off with an apparent muscle injury shortly before halftime while playing for the Netherlands in a 2-2 draw with Germany. That could be a blow for City ahead of games against Brentford in the Premier League Saturday and Inter Milan

and Arsenal next week. Denzel Dumfries' goal helped salvage a draw for the Netherlands, which had started well when Tijjani Reijnders' goal gave the Dutch the lead after just one-and-a-half minutes in Amsterdam after being left in plenty of space by the German defense.

However, Germany had a 2-1 lead at halftime thanks to goals from Deniz Undav and Joshua Kimmich, before Dumfries leveled in the 50th.

Germany and the Netherlands were familiar foes who have played seven times since 2018, and

most recently in March. For the Netherlands, it was the first game since coach Ronald Koeman ruled forward Steven Bergwijn out of his plans following the forward's move to the Saudi Arabian league. Koeman suggested

Bergwijn, who was on the team at Euro 2024, lacked ambition because of the move. Germany was without Niclas Füllkrug after the West Ham striker struggled with an Achilles

tendon problem and was replaced in the lineup by Stuttgart's Undav. In the same group, Hungary

and Bosnia-Herzegovina drew 0-0 in the other top-tier game. Also Tuesday, Pavel Sulc scored

twice to lift the Czech Republic to a 3-2 win over Ukraine, and Georgia beat Albania 1-0.

2023 ODI WC in India generated \$1.39bn: ICC THE MEGA-EVENT HELD IN OCT-NOV LAST YEAR WAS THE BIGGEST EVER ODI WORLD CUP

ICC MEN'S CRICKET WORLD CUP

INDIA 2023

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Dubai, Sept 11: The 2023 ODI World Cup in India created an "economic impact" of \$1.39 billion with tourism among the biggest beneficiaries, according to a report released by the International Cricket Council (ICC) Wednesday. The Economic Impact

Assessment conducted by Nielsen for the ICC, claimed that the mega-event held in October-November last year was the biggest ever ODI World Cup. 'The ICC Men's Cricket World

Cup 2023 has demonstrated the significant economic power of cricket, generating economic benefit of \$1.39 billion (Rs 11,637 crore) for India," ICC Chief Executive, Geoff Allardice said.

Australia ended India's unbeaten run in the tournament to win the trophy for a record-ex-



the host cities amounted to \$861.4

"The impact of tourism across

tending sixth time.

million of revenue generation, through accommodation, travel, transportation and food and beverage because of a massive influx of domestic and foreign tourists attending the matches,' read an ICC statement.

'The secondary and incre-

omy was a key driver, generating \$515.7 million, which was approximately 37 per cent of the total impact." However, the ICC did not specify whether the massive figure cited in the report is

"Nearly 55 per cent of the in-

actual revenue.

nearly 75% were attending an ICC 50-over match for the first time ever viously visited India regularly, whilst an injection of new visitors thanks to the World Cup

saw 19% of international attendees making their first ever visit to the country. International travellers visited multiple tourist destinations during their stay which amounted to an economic impact of \$281.2 million and nearly 68 per cent of international attendees said that they would recommend India as a tourist destination to friends and family in the future further enhancing India's global image,' read the statement from the governing body.

Over 48,000 full and part time jobs were created by the event through direct involvement in delivering the tournament, as well as other organisations across the hospital

ternational respondents had pre-Manchester City defender mental spends within the econity sector, added the report. Printed and published by Tathagata Satpathy on behalf of Navajat Printers and Media Pvt. Ltd. and printed at Navajat Printers, B-15 Industrial Estate, Rasulgarh, Bhubaneswar -751010, Odisha; Phone: 7894447142 (Marketing). Editor: Tathagata Satpathy, RNI No. ORIENG/2011/37159