

Bombay HC nixes fact check Rules

SETBACK TO CENTRE AS COURT HOLDS AMENDED IT RULES UNCONSTITUTIONAL

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Mumbai, Sept 20: The Bombay High Court Friday held as unconstitutional and struck down the amended Information Technology (IT) Rules which sought to identify fake and false content on social media against the government.

The matter was assigned to Justice AS Chandurkar as 'tie-breaker judge', after a division bench in January delivered a split verdict on the petitions challenging the amended IT Rules.

Justice Chandurkar Friday held that the Rules violated constitutional provisions.

"I have considered the matter extensively. The impugned Rules are violative of Article 14 (right to equality), 19 (freedom of speech and expression) and 19(1)(g) (freedom and right to profession) of the Constitution of India," the judge said. The expression "fake, false and misleading" in the Rules was "vague and hence wrong" in the absence of any definition, he added.

With this ruling, the HC allowed the petitions filed by stand-up comedian Kunal Kamra and others challenging the new Rules, including the provision to set up a Fact Checking Unit (FCU) to identify fake or false content about the government.

The petitions against the IT Rules were referred to Justice Chandurkar after a division bench of Justices Gautam Patel and

Neela Gokhale delivered a split verdict in January. While Justice Patel struck down the Rules, Justice Gokhale upheld them.

Justice Patel had said the Rules amounted to censorship, but Justice Gokhale had opined they did not have any 'chilling effect' on free speech as argued. Justice Chandurkar Friday said he agreed with the opinion given by Justice Patel (now retired).

The Union government April 6, 2023 promulgated amendments to the IT Rules, 2021, including a provision for an FCU to flag fake, false or misleading online content related to the government. Under the Rules, if the FCU comes across any posts that are fake, false, and contain misleading facts about the business of the government, it would flag the same to social media intermediaries.

IRREGULAR by MANJUL



It's becoming a challenge to invent fresh lies during every election. One Nation, One Election makes perfect sense!

SC's YouTube channel hacked

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, Sept 20: The Supreme Court's YouTube channel was hacked Friday and showed videos promoting a cryptocurrency developed by US-based company Ripple Labs.

A blank video with the title "Brad Garlinghouse: Ripple Responds To The SEC's \$2 Billion Fine! XRP PRICE PREDICTION" was shown on the hacked channel. "This is to inform all concerned that the YouTube channel of Supreme Court of India has been taken down. The serv-

ices on YouTube channel of Supreme Court of India will be resumed shortly," a notice posted on the apex court website said.

The apex court has been using YouTube to stream live hearings of cases listed before Constitution Benches and matters involving public interest.

In a unanimous decision taken by the recent full court meeting headed by the then CJI UU Lalit, the top court decided to live-stream proceedings of all constitution bench hearings following a path-breaking verdict on the matter in 2018.

National outrage over Bharatpur horror

POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar, Sept 20: The alleged sexual assault of an Army officer's female friend at the Bharatpur police station here sparked nationwide outrage Friday with Opposition parties slamming the government, while Chief Minister Mohan Charan Majhi vowed to take stringent action against the culprits.



Suspended IIC Dinakrushna Mishra



The Crime Branch registered a case against five police personnel, including the IIC of Bharatpur police station, allegedly involved in the assault. They have already been suspended.

The woman's father, a retired Brigadier, demanded the arrest and dismissal of the cops, while the National Commission for Women, which took suo motu cognisance of the incident, sought an action taken report from the state DGP.

The incident took place September 15 when the Army officer and his female friend approached the police station to lodge a complaint of road rage in which they were allegedly harassed by some local youths. However, a verbal altercation took place between the couple and some policemen following which the officer and his friend

were allegedly assaulted at the police station.

The woman spoke to the media Thursday to narrate her ordeal. She said, "A male officer kicked on my breasts several times. He lowered down my pants and his as well. Showing his private part, he asked me how much time I want to remain silent."

Meanwhile, Congress leader Priyanka Gandhi Vadra said the entire country is shocked by the way Odisha Police committed brutality and sexual violence against the victim. "BJP governments across the country are working on the policy of turning the police from protectors to predators. In BJP governments, the criminal attitude of the police towards crimes against women actually flourishes by getting

protection from those in power. In such a situation, what should the women of the country do for safety and justice, where should they go?" she posted on X.

In a post in Hindi on X, Congress leader Rahul Gandhi said, "An Army officer who went to seek help from police was brutally beaten up and his fiancée harassed in custody. This heinous incident is a shame on the entire humanity."

The CM said that his dispensation would not hesitate to take strong action against the cops. "The government has been taking all steps required in the case. There should be no worries over it. The government is fully aware about the incident and will take strong action in the case," Majhi said.

Condemning the incident, for-

The government has been taking all steps required in the case. There should be no worries over it. The government is fully aware about the incident and will take strong action in the case



MOHAN CHARAN MAJHI | CHIEF MINISTER

BJP governments across the country are working on the policy of turning the police from protectors to predators. In BJP governments, the criminal attitude of the police towards crimes against women actually flourishes by getting protection from those in power. In such a situation, what should the women of the country do for safety and justice, where should they go?



PRIYANKA GANDHI VADRA | CONG LEADER

mer CM Naveen Patnaik said it shows 'incompetence' of the BJP government in the state.

Meanwhile, Deputy CM Pravati Parida met the woman at AIIMS Bhubaneswar where she is being treated.

Israel launches airstrike on Beirut

REUTERS

Beirut, Sept 20: The Israeli military targeted a top Hezbollah military commander in an airstrike on Beirut's southern suburbs Friday, two security sources in Lebanon said, sharply escalating the year-long conflict

between Israel and the Iran-backed group.

The target was Hezbollah's operations commander Ibrahim Aqil, who serves on the group's top military body, two security sources in Lebanon and Israeli Army Radio reported. The strike killed eight people and

wounded 59 others, Lebanon's health ministry said, in a preliminary toll.

Lebanon's civil defence said its rescue teams were searching for missing people under the rubble after two residential buildings collapsed.



Odisha Kheliba Duniya Dekhiba

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leisure



KATY PERRY WANTS TO MENTOR YOUNG STARS

Katy Perry has offered to be a mentor to the next generation of pop stars and help them navigate the 'wild ride' of life in the spotlight. The 39-year-old singer doesn't think there's a lot of people in her position and is keen to help others navigate the 'wild ride' of fame.

DREW'S HILARIOUS TAKE ON NAPPING

Hollywood star Drew Barrymore has spilled her napping secrets and it is hilarious as she says it is "unproductive daytime craziness." Barrymore shared a video of herself on Instagram, where she is seen napping in almost everything she does.



FORTUNE FORECAST

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ARIES
Positive thinking can change the world, and you could do with some today. No matter how tough the going gets, take it in your stride, says Ganesh. If you think you can do it, you will. You have the magic touch today to initiate a new business strategy.

TAURUS
The time you previously spent on certain activities may not yield results as expected, predicts Ganesh. You will be reluctant to travel today. Your may find yourself wanting more space and freedom of expression. A stroll with your sweetheart, hand in hand, may be the highlight of your day, says Ganesh.

GEMINI
Today, it's time to meet those who are close to you, and maybe even those who were close to you at some point of time. Also, it's time to revive old friendships, old memories and sink into nostalgia. You may want to buy a valuable historic artefact, says Ganesh.

CANCER
It is about time that you cultivated healthy eating habits. Today, you will be prone to doing everything in excess. You may overeat or get swept away by emotions. You must keep a check on your emotions, or it may lead to unwanted complications.

LEO
You sure love playing a team sport, but that does not diminish the fact that you are a tough player to compete with, says Ganesh. If only they had a rugby team at the local club! You derive a sense of completion from the fact that you have given your best effort to any endeavour. You take on challenges with a nonchalant air of 'come as they may'.

VIRGO
A shadow grows large in your mind today. An unknown fear will haunt your day, warns Ganesh. But be ready to take a hike. You are most likely to end up spending on your foreign associates. Be careful of those expenses, says Ganesh.

LIBRA
Sometimes, you lend a helping hand and people end up taking the entire arm. Well, that's kids for you! So beware, because young ones around you may try to take undue advantage of your sympathetic nature today, hints Ganesh. Minor issues and problems may dampen the high spirits that you are in today. But fret not, just keep a cool head and get back on track to being your charismatic self.

SCORPIO
Today, there are chances that you would be disturbed by continuous flow of negative thoughts in your mind. Try to divert your mind and look for positive people or friends who would cheer you up. Understanding needy people and living up to their expectations would bring some respite to your disrupted mind, says Ganesh.

SAGITTARIUS
It's time for you to sit back, relax and let your actions do the talking. After all, actions speak louder than words, they say. You will also wrap up with all the pending tasks today, says Ganesh. You play an important role in resolving troubles, either for yourself or for others.

CAPRICORN
Success never comes easy, but in your case, it will make an exception, says Ganesh. You will meet with success in social as well as professional life, and this will also make heavy your treasure box. At work, prepare to get loaded with new assignments and simultaneously deal with existing work pressure. But it won't be as fatiguing as it sounds; evening recreations will charge you up for the next day.

AQUARIUS
Things barely move today. But just like the proverbial tortoise, you seem to be winning the race, for many opportunities will come your way. There won't be any cash crunch, so you needn't lose sleep over that, says Ganesh.

PISCES
The apple of your eye is what you will have your sights set on today. It is likely that you will find yourself attending a Parent-Teacher meet, says Ganesh. However, fortunately, it is likely only to receive news about how proud your children are making you.

Ananya vocal about what she stands for

Mumbai: Actress Ananya Panday reminisced about her initial years as a woman in the film industry and shared that she has become a lot more vocal about what I stand for.

"I've become a lot more vocal about what I stand for. What keeps me going is seeing change; knowing that speaking up or even through cinema you can actually make an impact."

Even if one young girl comes up to me and says I am myself because you are yourself and I feel comfortable in my skin, for me that's where I have done my job. I think seeing change is a huge reason why I keep going," Ananya shared.

Ananya, who made her debut in 2019 with *Student of the Year 2* and her most recent work is *Call Me Bae*, was speaking at Prime Video's *Maitri: Female First Collective*.

She stressed on the importance of building a supportive environment for her contemporaries and shared her thoughts on the power of female friendships in the world of glitz and glamour.

She added: "They keep pitting women against each other, actresses against actresses, but with Sara (Ali Khan) and Janhvi (Kapoor) it's not a very conscious attempt, we constantly try to be there for each other and support each other very publicly, so that we are showing people this is how female friendships are supposed to be like, don't believe any other way."



TAAPSEE DEFINES DIVA ENERGY

Mumbai: Taapsee Pannu has decoded diva energy and said it is all about being bold and unapologetically yourself.

Taapsee took to Instagram, where she shared a picture of herself dressed in a white formal suit. To complete her look, she chose to go soft with her make-up and tied her beautiful curly hair into a ponytail.

"Div energy: Bold moves, big dreams, and being unapologetically yourself," she wrote as the caption.

Earlier this month, it was announced that the actress is joining hands with writer Kanika Dhillon once again for the action thriller christened *Gandhari*, which will be helmed by Devashish Makhija, who made *Joram*.

According to variety.com, the film has a riveting storyline filled with relentless determination and intense personal stakes, set against the backdrop of gripping mystery and high-powered action. Audiences will see Taapsee Pannu as a fierce mom on a mission," reads the plot description from streaming giant Netflix.

After Anurag Kashyap's *Manmarziyaan*, Haseen Dillruba and its sequel *Phir Aayi Haseen Dillruba*, *Rashmi Rocket* and Rajkumar Hirani-directed hit *Dunki*, *Gandhari* marks the sixth instance of Taapsee and Dhillon's partnership.



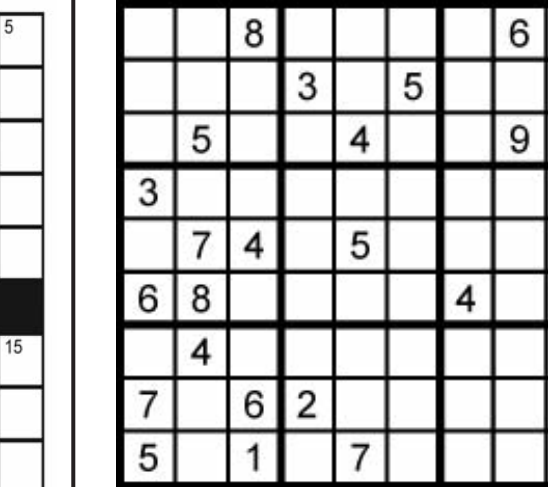
Nora to bring her A-game to IIFA

Mumbai: Dancing diva and actress Nora Fatehi will be seen setting the stage on fire with her performance at the 24th edition of International Indian Film Academy Awards (IIFA) and said that she cannot wait to bring her A-game forward. Nora said in a statement that she is absolutely exhilarated to be performing at the grand IIFA Weekend!

"The sheer energy of the crowd, the mesmerizing performances, and the celebration of Indian cinema create an atmosphere that's truly unforgettable. "I can't wait to bring my return to the IIFA stage at the stunning Yas Island, Abu Dhabi, and share this extraordinary moment with fans and fellow artists."

The actress called it an absolute honour to be part of the spectacular showcase of creativity and stardom. She added: "Get ready, because this experience is going to be nothing short of spectacular – fans are in for an unforgettable treat!"

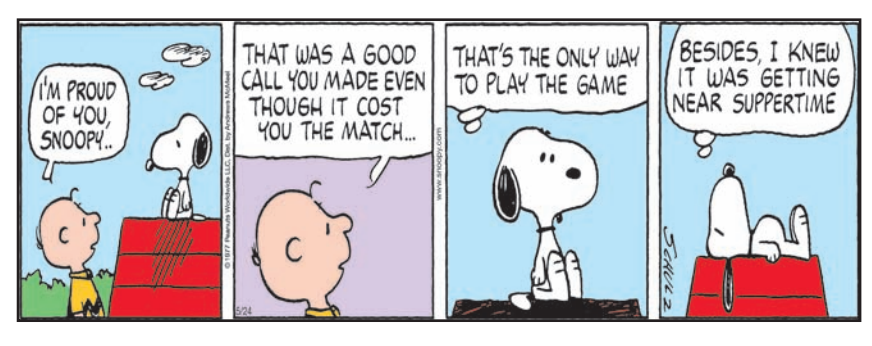
Nora, who has worked in Hindi, Telugu and Malayalam films, made her acting debut with the Hindi movie *Roar: Tigers of the Sundarbans*.



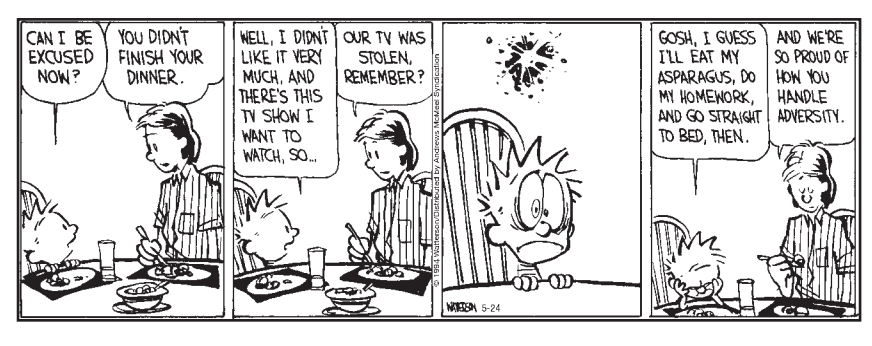
Samman', given every year by IMPaCT for lifetime excellence in the field of art, has also been announced for the year 2024. Sculptor Sudarshan Sahoo and famous singer Tansen Singh will be given the award this year. Both of them will receive a certificate, a plaque and Rs 2 lakh each as part of the award.

The Sarala Puraskar, instituted by eminent Odia industrialist Dr Bansidhar Panda and his wife Ila Panda in 1980, has been continuously awarded by the IMPaCT.

PEANUTS



CALVIN AND HOBBS

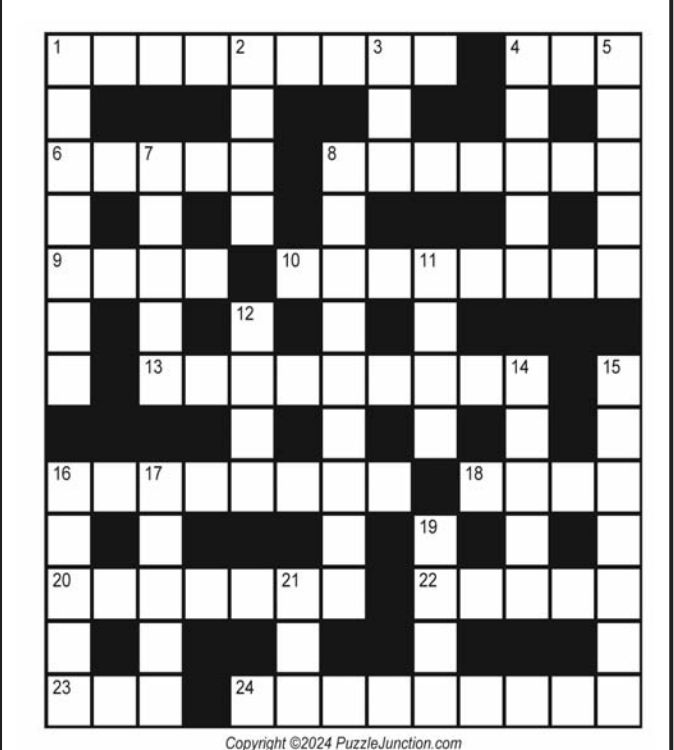


BREVITY



FUN post

CROSSWORD



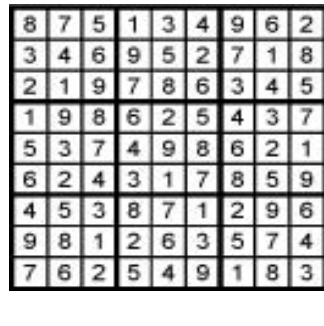
- Across**
- 1 Jeans
 - 4 Silent
 - 6 Brilliant
 - 8 Theory type, in physics
 - 9 Cockeyed
 - 10 Opium, e.g.
 - 13 Kind of oil or gum
 - 16 Friendly and pleasant
 - 18 Eager
 - 20 Suffer
 - 22 Scoped out
 - 23 Lady lobster
 - 24 Burial chamber
 - 5 Copycat
 - 7 Computer woe
 - 8 Square dance
 - 11 Lower jaw
 - 12 Greek cheese
 - 14 Braid
 - 15 Realm
 - 16 Reduce greatly, as a price
 - 17 Jester
 - 19 Canyon effect
 - 21 Health club

SUDOKU

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



SOLUTIONS



CHECK FOR SOLUTIONS OF THE PUZZLES TOMORROW

Bharatpur shocker: Oppn slams govt

Top Army official seeks HC CJ's intervention

POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar, Sept 20: The General Officer Commanding and Colonel of the Mechanical Infantry Regiment, Lieutenant General PS Shekhawat Friday urged the Chief Justice of Orissa High Court to take suo motu cognizance of the Bharatpur incident in which Major Gurvansh Singh and his female friend were subjected to custodial torture and sexual assault by the cops.

In a three-page letter to the Chief Justice, Shekhawat noted that the actions of the police personnel have deeply shaken the faith of the victims and also the military fraternity as a whole in the law enforcement system.

'Shameful & horrendous'

AGENCIES

Bhubaneswar, Sept 20: Expressing deep concern over the alleged torture of an Armyman and 'sexual assault' on his fiancée at Bharatpur police station, former Chief of the Army Staff VK Singh described it as 'shameful and horrendous'.

In a post on X, Singh demanded that the Chief Minister take immediate action against the police personnel and all who are trying to shield 'the criminals in police uniform'.

Several other retired Army officers also criticised the state government over the issue in social media posts.

NAVEEN DEMANDS COURT-MONITORED SIT PROBE & JUDICIAL INQUIRY; CONG MLA SOFIA FIRDOUS TERMS THE INCIDENT UNFORTUNATE, DEMANDS ARREST OF IIC

PNN & AGENCIES

Bhubaneswar, Sept 20: As outrage over the alleged torture of an Army officer and sexual assault on his female friend in the custody of Bharatpur police station poured in Friday, Opposition parties slammed the BJP-led state government over its 'failure' to ensure safety to women.

They have demanded an impartial investigation into the allegations to ensure justice to the victim, and strict action against the cops involved in the alleged horrific crime.

Former chief minister and BJD president Naveen Patnaik demanded a court-monitored SIT probe and a judicial inquiry into the alleged incident.

Patnaik, the Leader of Opposition (LoP) in the Assembly, condemned the incident and termed it as 'very shocking'.

"All have heard of what re-



WOMEN STAGE DHARNA: A group of women activists staged a dharna in front of the Police Seva Bhavan here Friday, demanding arrest of the accused police personnel involved in the alleged sexual assault on the Army officer's female friend.

cently happened to an Army Major and his fiancée at a police station here. This is very very shocking news of violence that was meted out to both of them and the alleged sexual assault on the Major's fiancée. We demand a full judicial inquiry into this matter and action must be taken very quickly," Patnaik said.

"The way an Army Major and a lady were treated at Bharatpur Police Station is shocking and beyond comprehension. The man-

IIC, 4 cops booked

The Crime Branch Friday registered a case against former Bharatpur Police Station inspector-in-charge (IIC) Dinakrushna Mishra, sub-inspectors Baisalini Panda, Salilamayee Sahoo, Sagarika Rath and constable Balam Hansda in connection with alleged sexual assault of an Army officer's female friend in police custody, a senior officer said.

ner in which police have allegedly treated them has shaken the conscience of the country. This has happened to a serving Army Officer and a lady within #Odisha," Patnaik wrote on X.

"During our government we had the system of #MoSarkar in which Chief Minister, Ministers and Senior Officers would call the citizens to take feedback on their visits to government offices, in-

Pujari counters

Launching a counter attack on LoP Naveen Patnaik, Revenue Minister Suresh Pujari Friday said the present BJP government has adopted a zero-tolerance policy towards atrocities against women.

"If Naveen Patnaik had understood women's safety when he was in power as CM, women atrocities would not have happened in the state. What happened in Nayagarh Pari case or Beбина case? Hundreds of women were tortured and allegations were levelled against BJD leaders, but no action was taken then," said Pujari.

Stating that the law will take its own course, Pujari said all the culprits will be punished.

cluding police stations and hospitals, whether they were treated with dignity and professional conduct.

"This BJP government has immediately stopped the pro-people initiative of Mo Sarkar and the consequences are visible," Patnaik claimed.

He said the incident indicates 'incompetence' of the BJP government in the state.

Referring to the 'assault' on an Odia officer allegedly by

7 detained over road rage incident

POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar, Sept 20: The Chandaka Police Friday detained seven men who had allegedly misbehaved with Major Gurvansh Singh and his female friend early Sunday when they were confronted for driving rashly.

The development came a day after DGP YB Khurana ordered the Crime Branch to bring the miscreants to book.

IIC Chandaka police station, Pradeep Kumar Jena, said the miscreants were tracked down on the basis of CCTV footage retrieved from the locality where the incident had happened. "They are all B.Tech graduates who live in and around the locality," he said.

A source at the police station said a Crime Branch team grilled the detainees for few hours over the incident. "A car has been seized from their possession," it added.

Rapes increasing in state under BJP rule: Congress

PNN & AGENCIES

Bhubaneswar, Sept 20: The state Congress Friday alleged that women are not feeling safe in Odisha as the law and order has collapsed under the BJP rule and more incidents of rape are taking place.

Addressing a press conference here, Congress' women's wing leader Sonali Sahu alleged that crime against women, especially rape and gangrape, has increased in the state during the new BJP government's tenure.

"During the previous BJD government, one rape case was reported in every 2.30 hours. Now, at least one rape case is being reported every hour. More gang rape cases were reported in the past 100 days of the BJP government," she alleged.

Citing an example of a recent case, she said, seven youths 'gang-raped' a 22-year-old woman in Dhenkanal while similar cases were reported in Bargarh, Sundargarh, Nabarangpur and Balasore districts.

"Just two days ago, a 10-year-old tribal

girl was gang-raped and murdered in Nabarangpur district. The girl was studying in Class V. Before she could understand the world, such a tragic incident happened to her," Sahu said.

She said the government has taken such a sensitive issue very lightly. Neither anyone from the government including district administration nor any BJP leader reached to the victim's family, she alleged.

"All have become mute spectators and they behave like nothing has happened. If any small incident would take place in any non-BJP-ruled state, the chief minister immediately posts something on X. But, in this case, he remained silent," the Congress leader alleged.

As women have lost faith in the BJP government, they are forced to commit suicide, which is unfortunate, she further alleged.

Atrocities against women, including rape and gangrape, have increased in the state. It seems that Odisha is competing with Uttar Pradesh in crime against women, she added.

Dy CM inaugurates Wonderla Bhubaneswar

Wonderla Holidays Limited MD Arun K Chittilappilly says plans are afoot to set up a big amusement park in Chennai with an investment of over ₹500 crore



POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar, Sept 20: Deputy Chief Minister Pravatī Parida inaugurated Wonderla Bhubaneswar, an amusement park of Wonderla Holidays spread over 50-acre area at Kumbharbasta, on the outskirts of the City here, Friday.

Wonderla Bhubaneswar is the fourth such facility set up and operated by Wonderla Holidays after the ones in Kochi, Bengaluru and Hyderabad.

Speaking on the occasion, Parida said the park will inspire young

minds, enhance the state's recreational offerings, and contribute to the growth of tourism.

With its modern rides and adherence to the safety standards, Wonderla would provide a unique experience for families and visitors, she said.

It offers children the opportunity to stay away from mobile screens and engage in outdoor activities that promote both physical and mental development, Parida, who is the in-charge of the Tourism department, said.

By fostering such environments, the amusement park will play a key role

in enriching lives and supporting the holistic growth of youth, she added.

The Deputy Chief Minister said that the state government is committed to support Wonderla as it wants to attract more numbers of such players to Odisha.

Wonderla Holidays Limited MD Arun K Chittilappilly said though the park was opened for visitors in May, it was formally inaugurated Friday.

"Since its soft launch, Wonderla Bhubaneswar has created more than 400 employment opportunities and contributed significantly to the local economy," he added.

"The park was constructed within 13 months, with an investment of ₹190 crore and we expect a business of ₹35 crore in the current financial year," Chittilappilly said.

"As Bhubaneswar is prone to cyclones, we made the park cyclone proof," he said.

Stating that the last year's total turnover of the company was around ₹500 crore, Chittilappilly said he is now planning to set up a big amusement park in Chennai with an investment of over ₹500 crore.

Among others, Tourism director Samarth Verma and Wonderla Bhubaneswar head Kalpataru Nayak were present.



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- ୬୦ ବର୍ଷରୁ ଉର୍ଦ୍ଧ୍ୱ ସମସ୍ତ ବ୍ୟକ୍ତି
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 - ବିଗତ ୩ ବର୍ଷ ମଧ୍ୟରେ ଯକ୍ଷ୍ମା ରୋଗୀର ସଂସ୍ପର୍ଶରେ ଆସିଥିବେ,
 - ମଧୁମେହ ରୋଗୀ ହୋଇଥିବେ,
 - ଧୂମପାନ କରୁଥିବେ କିମ୍ବା
 - କୁପୋଷଣର ଶିକାର ହୋଇଥିବେ

ଏହି କାର୍ଯ୍ୟକ୍ରମ ପାଇଁ ଆମ ରାଜ୍ୟର ୧୫ଟି ଜିଲ୍ଲା (ବଲାଙ୍ଗୀର, ବାଲେଶ୍ୱର, ବୌଦ୍ଧ, କଟକ, ଡେ଼ଙ୍କାନାଳ, ଗଜପତି, ଝାରସୁଗୁଡ଼ା, କଳାହାଣ୍ଡି, କନ୍ଧମାଳ, କେନ୍ଦ୍ରାପଡ଼ା, ମୟୂରଭଞ୍ଜ, ନବରଙ୍ଗପୁର, ନୟାଗଡ଼, ରାୟଗଡ଼ା ଓ ସୁନ୍ଦରଗଡ଼) ଚିହ୍ନଟ ହୋଇଛି ।

କାର୍ଯ୍ୟକ୍ରମର ସଫଳ ରୂପାୟନ ପାଇଁ ଆପଣମାନଙ୍କର ସହଯୋଗ ଏକାନ୍ତ କାମ୍ୟ ।

ଆସନ୍ତୁ ସମସ୍ତେ ମିଶି ଏହାକୁ ସଫଳ କରିବା, ଦେଶକୁ ଯକ୍ଷ୍ମାମୁକ୍ତ କରିବା

ସ୍ୱାସ୍ଥ୍ୟ ଓ ପରିବାର କଲ୍ୟାଣ ବିଭାଗ, ଓଡ଼ିଶା

OIPR-10003/13/0069/2425

Technical survey of Ratna Bhandar from today: SJTA



first phase of preliminary inspection of Ratna Bhandar. The team also comprised experts from the Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR) and National Geophysical Research Institute (NGRI), Hyderabad.

They carried out laser scanning during the inspection, said sources, adding that the team had used hi-tech gadgets and other scientific equipment to conduct a detailed assessment of the Ratna Bhandar.

Apart from the ASI team and SJTA chief administrator, chairman of Ratna Bhandar Inventory Committee Justice Biswanath Rath was also present during the inspection Wednesday.

Previously, as per the state government's standard operating procedures (SOPs), all ornaments from the inner and outer Ratna Bhandar have been relocated to a strongroom temporarily while empty almirahs and chests have been shifted out of the temple treasury.

It took about seven hours and 30 minutes to complete the shifting of the valuables from the inner chamber. The inner chamber had three wooden almirahs, one steel almirah, two wooden chests, and one iron chest. "Those were opened and the ornaments were transferred in the same order they were into the strongroom," said Biswanath Rath, chairman of a 16-member committee set up by the govt to oversee the repair and inventory of the Ratna Bhandar.

There will be restrictions on devotees visiting the temple. The temple gates will remain closed for devotees during the survey work between 1pm to 6pm

tion of Ratna Bhandar's technical survey by September 24 in view of special rituals of the deities during Dussehra and Kartika month. He also requested ASI to submit the survey report within the stipulated time, sources said.

A 17-member technical team of ASI led by its additional director general Jahnnavi Sharma had conducted the



RAISING VOICE: Opposition councilors create a ruckus at CMC council meeting in Cuttack, Friday

OP PHOTO

Wage hike for spinners & weavers from Oct 2

PNN & AGENCIES

New Delhi, Sept 20: From October 2 - the birth anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi - spinners and weavers in the country will receive a wage hike of 25 per cent and 7 per cent, respectively. This was announced by Khadi & Village Industries Commission (KVIC) chairman Manoj Kumar on the occasion of Prime Minister Narendra Modi's birthday September 17 and completion of 100 days of the Modi 3.0 government at the Centre.

Addressing the programme, Kumar said that the wages of spinners and weavers has been increased for the second time during his tenure. "From October 2, spinners will get wages of ₹12.50 per hank, instead of ₹10. Earlier, April 1, 2023, it had been increased from ₹7.50 to ₹10 per hank," he added.



He further stated that the 'khadi kranti' under the leadership of Modi has brought about a big change in the lives of spinners and weavers. The khadi turnover has surpassed ₹1.55 lakh crore in the last financial year. In line with the PM's vision to extend benefits to khadi family artisans, the commission has decided to increase their wages. Kumar said, "There are ap-

proximately 3,000 registered khadi institutions across the country, through which 4.98 lakh khadi artisans are employed. Out of these, about 80 per cent are women. The increased wages will give them new economic strength."

He further said that till now the wages has been increased by around 213 per cent under the Modi government, "which is

a symbol of the fact that rural India is getting economically empowered through khadi."

During the programme, margin money (subsidy) worth ₹101 crore was also disbursed to the accounts of 3,911 beneficiaries across the country under PMEGP. Through this, 43,021 new jobs have been created. Along with this, 1,100 new PMEGP units established across the country were also inaugurated by the KVIC chairman. On this occasion, a 26-ft long and 13-ft wide stainless steel 'memorial charkha' installed on Asmavati riverfront was also unveiled.

Addressing the beneficiaries, Kumar said that the PMEGP has emerged as a new energy and power for the cottage industry of the country. "Through this, 83.48 lakh people have got employment through 9.58 lakh new projects in the last 10 years," he said.

Research institute named after Samanta in New York

POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar, Sept 20: The City University of New York (CUNY) Friday announced the establishment of a research institute on its premises in the name of KIIT and KISS founder Achyuta Samanta. The university will provide opportunity to the students to engage in research about Odisha's rich art and heritage, as well as exploring Samanta's contributions to the socio-economic development of indigenous communities and his success in the field of education.

The centre, titled 'The Achyuta Samanta India Initiative of The CUNY CREST Institute (ASI-ICCI)' at CUNY will be inaugurated by Samanta next month, announced Bronx Community College, City University of New York President Milton Santiago. He also extended an invitation to Samanta to inaugurate the new research institute.

CUNY, a public institute, comprises of 25 colleges and serves a diverse student body from 122 countries. The idea for setting up the institute in the name of Samanta emerged after a visit by



CUNY officials to KIIT and KISS, where they drew inspirations from Samanta's achievements in education and his commitment to serving marginalised populations.

Accepting the invitation, Samanta said, "This institute is a testament to the work we've done at KIIT and KISS. I believe it will encourage more research and understanding of Odisha's culture and my journey."

Santiago highlighted the university's mission and said, "Education is the key to lifting people out of poverty, and we strive to never turn anyone away." At the event, US Consulate General in Hyderabad public affairs officer Alexander McLaren noted the importance of fostering educational ties between the US and India.

2 drug peddlers get 20-yr RI

POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar, Sept 20: A local court Friday awarded 20 years of rigorous imprisonment (RI) to two drug peddlers after convicting them of charges of possessing 1.05 kg brown sugar in 2022. The market value of the seized contraband was stated to be ₹2 crore, said an official.

The convicts were identified as Umesh Behera and Deepak Kumar Nayak, said Special Public Prosecutor Rashmi Ranjan Brahma.

"The Additional Sessions Court Judge Bandana Kar has convicted Umesh and Deepak under Sections 21 (c) and 29 of NDPS ACT, 1985. A penalty of

₹1 lakh each has been imposed on the duo. Failure to pay the fine will attract an additional RI for 1 year," Brahma said.

The prosecutor said the officials of Special Task Force (STF), CID and Crime Branch (CB) received a tip-off from an informer on September 27, 2022, stating that two peddlers are planning to deliver a bulk-quantity of brown sugar in a four-wheeler near Hi-Tech Plaza at Sundarpada. The STF sleuths laid a trap near the area and intercepted the vehicle as they neared the spot. Upon searches, the sleuths found the contraband inside the vehicle. They were soon rounded up and taken into custody.

Dy CM unveils Mission Shakti auditorium, call centre in City

POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar, Sept 20: Deputy Chief Minister Pravati Parida, also the Mission Shakti Minister, inaugurated a Mission Shakti auditorium and Mission Shakti call centre on the premises of Mission Shakti Bhawan at Pokhariput here, Friday.

The auditorium, a state-of-the-art facility with a seating capacity of 400, was constructed by IDCO with an expenditure of ₹7.59 crore. The auditorium is designed to host a wide range of events including training and capacity-building programmes, seminars, workshops and product launches that would benefit the self-help groups (SHGs) and their federations.

The Deputy CM also inaugurated the Mission Shakti call centre on the same premises that will serve as a centralised support hub for all SHGs. The call centre is equipped to handle queries related to Mission Shakti programmes, provide personalised assistance to SHG members and gather feedback on on-



going programmes and initiatives ensuring a streamlined communication channel between SHGs and the government. A toll-free number '155276' has been issued that will be operational from 10am to 5:30pm every working day.

Parida lauded the efforts of Mission Shakti department for its unwavering commitment to fulfil the aspirations of women across the state, highlighting the department's success in exceeding its 100-day targets including interest subvention of ₹175 crore to SHGs across the state, providing government business worth of ₹530 crore to SHGs and bank linkage worth of

over ₹2,340 crore to SHGs. Creation of over 2.2 lakh lakshpati didis and 750 producer groups, establishment of 100 Mission Shakti retail marts are some of the achievements in 100 days of the formation of the government.

Among other dignitaries, Ekamra-Bhubaneswar MLA Babu Singh was also present.

On this occasion, commissioner-cum-secretary to Mission Shakti, Shalini Pandit, State Mission director-cum-CEO of Odisha Livelihoods Mission Vineet Bhardwaj, additional secretary of Mission Shakti Sumit Patnaik and other officials of Mission Shakti and IDCO were present.

Country's largest blast furnace at Kalinganagar

PNN & AGENCIES

Bhubaneswar, Sept 20: Tata Steel Friday commissioned country's largest blast furnace at its Kalinganagar plant, which will help increase the production capacity to 8 million tonne per annum from 3 million tonne per annum, the company said in a release.

The company commenced the ₹27,000-crore second phase of expansion of its Kalinganagar project in November 2018.

Odisha has become Tata Steel's largest investment destination

in the country with a total cumulated investment of over ₹1,00,000 crore in last 10 years, the steel major said in a statement.



Blast furnace is a key component of an integrated steel manufacturing unit which is essential to produce hot metal at a temperature of up to 1,500 Celsius. "The commissioning of India's largest blast furnace at Kalinganagar is a momentous occasion for the steel in-

dustry, setting new benchmarks in capacity, technology, and sustainability," Tata Steel CEO-cum-MD TV Narendran said. Tata Steel said the new blast furnace, with a volume of 5,870 cubic metre of inner volume, is equipped with an eco-friendly design to optimise the steel-making process.

The expansion project includes raw material capacity expansion, upstream and mid-stream facilities, infrastructure and downstream facilities including a cold rolling mill complex.

Assistant director of National Archives Satyanarayan Mishra presided over the programme. He highlighted the importance of monthly talk programme at the Archives and its research aspect and delivered the welcome address. He said that history is the mirror of a nation which is visible through archives. "Proper archival data can help stabilise to history, uncovering the truth about our past to help build a cultured society," Mishra added.

On the occasion, Ramachandra Karan proposed the vote of thanks.

MARKET WATCH

INDEX	VALUE	CHANGE	PERCENTAGE
SENSEX	84544.31	↑	1.3951
NIFTY	25790.95	↑	375.15
DOLLAR	83.48	↓	₹0.13
EURO	93.14	↓	₹0.19
GOLD	₹74,087	↑	₹649
SILVER	₹90,242	↑	₹274

WEATHER

	BBSR	CTC
Max Temp	35.7°C	35.0°C
Min Temp	26.2°C	25.0°C
Humidity	84%	80%
Rainfall	Nil	Nil
FORECAST	PARTLY CLOUDY SKY	

CLASSIFIED

AFFIDAVIT

I, Prasant Kumar Dash, S/o- Managobinda Dash, resident of At-Chunabhathi Sainagar, P.O.- College Square, P.S.- Chauliaganj, Dist.- Cuttack, PIN-753003, Odisha declare by this affidavit No.-7244, Dtd.- 19.09.2024, that now onwards I shall be known as PRASANTA KUMAR DASH for all future purposes.

I, Haraprasad Das, my daughter is Mehek Das, In my daughter's Birth Certificate my name is Hara Prasad Das whereas it should be Haraprasad Das. I did Magistrate affidavit No.- CF No.- 121/19.09.2024 for this change.

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234 posts of doctors lie vacant in Jagatsinghpur

Despite remaining vacant for more than a month, no step has been taken to fill the post of CDMO



SORRY STATE OF HEALTHCARE		
POSTS	SANCTIONED	VACANT
Nursing Officers	718	472
Pharmacists	69	25
Laboratory technicians	44	21
Radiographers	12	05
MPHW-Women	258	91
MPHW-men	142	40
Group D employees	99	23

POST NEWS NETWORK

Jagatsinghpur, Sept 20: Healthcare services in Jagatsinghpur district have gone for a toss as 234 posts of doctors out of sanctioned 385 are lying vacant in various hospitals of the coastal district.

Similarly, out of 718 sanctioned posts of nursing officers 472 are vacant. The numerous vacancies have often sparked outrage among the residents but are yet to be filled up. Locals have warned of an agitation if the vacant posts are not filled up soon.

What is more surprising is that the post of the Chief District Medical Officer (CDMO) has been vacant for more than a month, but no step is being taken to fill the vacancy.

The sorry state of healthcare in the district is not limited to inadequacy of doctors and nursing officers as many other posts of healthcare personnel are also lying vacant.

Sources said 25 out of 69 sanctioned posts of pharmacists, 21 out of 44 sanctioned posts of laboratory technicians and five out of 12 sanctioned posts of radiographers are vacant.

Similarly the district has vacancy in 91 out of 258 sanctioned posts of multi-purpose health workers (MPHW-Women), 40 out of 142 sanctioned posts of MPH (Men), and 23 out of 99 sanctioned posts of Group-D employees.

A quick visit to the district headquarters hospital will reveal the actual healthcare scenario in the district.

The district headquarters hospital has a total of 400 beds including that in the mother and child health centres. The hospital has 123 sanctioned posts of doctors, out of which 81 posts are still lying vacant. Similarly, there are vacancies in 159 out of 211 sanctioned posts of nursing officers, two out of seven sanctioned posts of pharmacists, three out of six sanctioned posts of radiographers, two out of six sanctioned posts of MPH (Women), three out of four MPH (Men) and three out of six sanctioned posts of Group-D posts.

Moreover, 19 out of total 33 posts of district medical officer (medical services)-cum-superintendent, additional district public health officer

(VBD), additional district public health officer (leprosy), additional district public health officer (disease control), paediatric consultant, senior consultant, medicine, orthopaedic consultant, skin and VD consultant, psychiatric consultant, three GDMO, BBO have been filled up while 14 posts are lying vacant.

Residents alleged that proper healthcare services are not available even in the district headquarters hospital, let alone other small hospitals of the district.

Patients have to wait for a long time at the outdoor units to get checked up by the doctors. The wait further gets longer if the doctor arrives late in the hospital. Majority of the times non-serious patients are referred to Cuttack even without primary treatment at the district headquarters hospital while some of the doctors allegedly try to refer patients to nursing homes or private hospitals, locals alleged.

Efforts to contact the CDMO (in-charge) over phone for his version on the issue failed as he did not respond to the call of this correspondent.

POST NEWS NETWORK

Baripada, Sept 20: Forest personnel recovered the carcass of a female elephant near Similipal sanctuary in Mayurbhanj district, Friday. The elephant is estimated to have been around 45 years old.

Although the exact cause of the jumbo's death is unclear, poaching is suspected to be the reason.

According to information received, Forest personnel found the carcass near a stream in Baliadhipa forest area of Bangiriposhi range under Baripada Forest Division and informed the Divisional Forest Officer (DFO). Soon, a medical team arrived at the scene and launched an investigation.

According to the Forest de-



partment, the autopsy will be conducted and videographed Saturday in the presence of a veterinary team, forest officials, Assistant Conservator of Forests

(ACF), rangers, a scientific team and independent witnesses. Blood samples will be sent to the lab to determine the exact cause of death through examination and

analysis, they added.

Two months ago, a six-year-old elephant had died after coming in contact with electric wires in Chiakhai area under Nakichua section of Rasgovindpur range in this district. Similarly a female elephant had died due to electrocution in Jamshuli village of Saitpur Panchayat under Betnoti range, September 12.

Animal lover Bibhudatta Das expressed concerns that authorities are trying to cover up their failures by citing diseases like anthrax as the cause of pachyderms' death. Former wildlife caretaker Bhanumitra Acharya stressed that the Forest department's responsibility and commitment to elephant protection are highly essential. No communication could be achieved with the Baripada DFO.

Three die of diarrhoea in Mayurbhanj; 30 infected

POST NEWS NETWORK

Baripada, Sept 20: Three persons have reportedly died of diarrhoea at Bathudi Sahi of Alabandha village under Gudialbandha panchayat and Badasahi police limits in Mayurbhanj district.

More than 30 others have been afflicted by the disease and are currently receiving treatment at PRM Medical College and Hospital here.

The deceased have been identified as Rajkishore Nayak, 62, from Alabandha village, Nidrabati Naik, 50, from Karanjia area, and a minor from Chauliasol village.

In response, Health department officials have arrived at the village to begin an investigation and take swift action, according to District Chief Medical Officer (CDMO) Dr Abhay Kumar Das. It is noteworthy that over a hundred people from the village attended a community feast on the funeral (Shradha) rites of a local resi-



dent, September 17.

However, several of them began experiencing stomach pain followed by diarrhoea and vomiting the next day.

As the illness spread, around 40-50 villagers became infected, according to Dharanidhar Nayak, Sujit Kumar Nayak, and Hemant Shekhar Nayak, who are among those receiving treatment.

Serious patients have been admitted to the diarrhoea ward at PRM Medical College and Hospital. Although the exact cause of the outbreak is yet to be determined, a medical team has collected food and water samples for testing.

Fire breaks out at SBI branch

GHASIPURA: A fire broke out at the Ghasipura branch of the State Bank of India (SBI) in Keonjhar district late Thursday night. The matter came to the fore after some passers-by noticed the blaze in the wee hours of Friday and informed the fire services department. On being informed, fire personnel arrived at the scene and managed to douse the flame with the help of two fire tenders. Though there was no major damage in the blaze, some important documents and a computer kept inside the chamber of field officer burnt to ashes, informed the branch manager Harekrishna Sutar. While the exact cause of the fire was yet to be ascertained, initial reports suggest that it may have been triggered by an electrical short circuit.

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For registration, please contact: Manas Ranja Mishra, Mobile: 93384 83842.

Registration is compulsory.
The registration time will be from 9:30 am to 5:00 pm.
No walk-ins will be allowed.

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Police arrest one for bid to loot jewellery

POST NEWS NETWORK

Rourkela, Sept 20: Police here arrested one person involved in the attempted robbery on one of the leading jewellers of the city and said that other members of the gang will be arrested soon.

The accused person has been identified as one Golu Giri, in his twenties, from Aurangabad district of Bihar. Police seized one pistol and a bike from the accused, while search is on for the rest of the gang members.

Speaking about the arrest, Zone 1 SDPO Niramla Chandra Mohapatra said, "We could identify the miscreants through the CCTV footage. Though they had their faces covered, our local intelligence helped us in unearthing their identity."

Golu was arrested from Kalunga industrial area. Four youths tried to rob Radhika Jewellers, one of the reputed jewellery shops of the city, on gunpoint September 6. However, it was the sheer courage and quick thinking by the owner Rajesh Prasad that saved the day for him.

Sardega-Bhalumuda rail project to streamline coal transport from mines of Vedanta Aluminium



PNN & AGENCIES

New Delhi, Sept 20: Vedanta Aluminium Friday said the 37-km long Sardega-Bhalumuda rail project will streamline coal transport from the company's mines, ensuring consistent quality of the dry-fuel and seamless logistics through rapid loading systems.

The Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs (CCEA) under the chairmanship of Prime Minister Narendra Modi recently approved three railway projects which includes Sardega-Bhalumuda New Double Line.

Vedanta Aluminium has welcomed the government's decision to facilitate the Sardega-Bhalumuda rail line connectivity project between Odisha and Chhattisgarh, an initiative aimed at

streamlining coal transportation sustainably and efficiently, the company said in a statement.

By replacing road transport with 100 per cent rail-based coal evacuation from Vedanta's Jamkhani and Ghogharpalli captive mines in state, the project will significantly reduce the carbon footprint and expenditure associated with coal logistics.

The development marks an important step in the company's broader strategy towards achieving its Net Zero carbon emissions goal by 2050.

This rail-based approach is a key driver in advancing the company's broader environmental, social and governance (ESG) strategy, focused on decarbonising operations and enhancing supply chain efficiency, as the company works towards a greener, more resource-efficient future. This development will also help reduce road congestion, emissions, and fuel consumption.

"This project marks a significant milestone in our ongoing efforts toward Net Zero by 2050. More importantly, this infrastructure will support regional industrial growth, benefiting local industries and creating meaningful economic opportunities for nearby communities," Vedanta Aluminium CEO John Slaven said.

Schoolgirls visit NIT Rourkela under Vigyan Jyoti Programme

POST NEWS NETWORK

Rourkela, Sept 20: The girl students of Class XII of Jawahar Navodaya Vidyalaya (Zinc Nagar, Sundargarh), Kendriya Vidyalaya, Sundargarh and Eklavya Model Residential School, Sundargarh (EMRS) along with their teachers recently visited NIT Rourkela for an exposure tour under the Vigyan Jyoti Programme.

JNV Sundargarh is the nodal school for conducting programmes under the Vigyan Jyoti Scheme in collaboration with other regional schools of the district.

As NIT Rourkela is the knowledge partner of the JNV Sundargarh, it facilitated the team with science laboratories, centres and departmental visits for a day. SN Dash from the Dept of Physics and Astronomy is the nodal officer of Vigyan Jyoti Programme from NITR. A total of 49 female students attended this one-day educational tour of NITR.



Welcoming the students, and guests, Dash said, "Under this prestigious programme, this is the third visit of the school students to NIT Rourkela. Under-representation of women is a multi-dimensional problem and we need to address the problems from all angles and give a little push to get the desired result and Vigyan Jyoti Programme can also increase the number of women in science."

Chief guest NIT R Director K Umamaheshwar Rao joined the session and said, "It is heartening to see a group of young girls participating in the Vigyan Jyoti Programme. As we stand in a world where women

are breaking barriers in every field, I encourage each of you to dream big and work hard for it. I hope at the end of the day after the exposure visit many of you will explore different science streams and find your career possibilities."

TK Chattopadhyay, principal, JNV Sundargarh said, "It is indeed a great opportunity for students to explore one of the country's premier institutes where they can explore the vast possibilities in science and technology, state-of-the-art facilities, laboratories, and resources that an engineering college of this stature offers."

Addressing the event, Rohan Dhiman, Registrar of NITR, emphasised the importance of STEM subjects, encouraging students to make the most of initiatives under DST India's programmes.

After the interactional session, the students' team visited departmental labs, central research facility, student activity centre, innovation cell and other units at NITR.

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First Prize/Gold Medal (01 No.)	₹ 50,000/-	₹ 50,000/-	₹ 1,00,000/-	₹ 1,00,000/-
Second Prize/Silver Medal (01 No.)	₹ 30,000/-	₹ 30,000/-	₹ 50,000/-	₹ 50,000/-
Third Prize/Bronze Medal (01 No.)	₹ 20,000/-	₹ 20,000/-	₹ 30,000/-	₹ 30,000/-
Appreciation Prize (10 Nos.)	₹ 7,500/-	₹ 7,500/-	₹ 15,000/-	₹ 15,000/-

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THE MOTHER



Disregard for Law

The suspension of three senior IPS officers in Andhra Pradesh over the wrongful arrest of actor-model Kadambari Jethwani has sparked a debate about the misuse of power and the need for accountability. P. Sitharama Anjaneyulu, Kranti Rana Tata, and Vishal Gunni, each holding high-ranking positions in the state police, were suspended following an internal inquiry that revealed disturbing procedural failures.

At the centre of the controversy is the fact that Anjaneyulu allegedly instructed the arrest of Jethwani even before an FIR had been filed. The FIR was registered on February 2, but the arrest orders were reportedly given two days earlier—an obvious violation of due process. This disregard for legal procedure raises a red flag about how some officers wield authority.

Jethwani's complaint, filed in August, accused the officers of conspiring with YSR Congress Party leader and film producer KVR Vidyaasagar, who had previously lodged forgery and extortion charges against her. She claims that these charges were politically motivated, further complicating an already murky situation.

This case highlights the deeper problem of political influence in policing. When law enforcement officers become entangled in political games, it erodes public confidence in the justice system. The fact that senior officials are involved only amplifies the seriousness of the issue.

While the Naidu government's decision to suspend the officers is a step in the right direction, it also begs the question: how many more such cases go unnoticed?

Union concerns or strategic merger move?

The sudden decision for Rashtriya Ispat Nigam Ltd (RINL) CMD Atul Bhatt to proceed on leave has sparked widespread speculation, creating quite a buzz in babu circles. Some connect this development to the ongoing talks around the proposed merger of RINL with SAIL. They believe that Bhatt's departure, ahead of his retirement, is meant to smooth the way for this merger.

But there are still those who are sceptical about this explanation. Mergers require patient and consistent leadership, yet Bhatt has been sent on leave before his retirement in November. This has fueled other theories. Some speculate that labour unions, unhappy with his management style, might have had a role in his exit. Others hint at potential procurement issues that could have triggered his departure.

There's also talk among insiders that Bhatt's exit may be linked to dissatisfaction from the newly appointed Union Steel Secretary, Sandeep Poundrik, who is known for his tough stance. His recent visit to RINL might have been a factor.

Regardless of the reason, Bhatt's sudden exit has caught the attention of stakeholders across industries. This situation also echoes a recent event at SAIL, where several top executives were suspended for months, only to be reinstated after the 2024 general elections when a new ministerial team took charge.

Govind Mohan's appointment triggers significant AGMUT reshuffle

The Union Home Ministry has carried out a major reshuffle of IAS and IPS officers in the AGMUT cadre, affecting 33 IAS officers and 45 IPS officers. This comes on the heels of Govind Mohan's appointment as the new Union Home Secretary, succeeding Ajay Bhalla, which set the stage for significant changes at the Secretary level.

While the reshuffle was expected, insiders have shared with DKB that many officers in the AGMUT cadre, particularly those posted in Union Territories like Andaman & Nicobar, Puducherry, Arunachal Pradesh, and Mizoram for over three years, were feeling uneasy. The reason? Concerns about how transfers and tenure are being handled.

One of the biggest gripes is the perceived preferential treatment when it comes to rotational transfers. These policies are designed to create structure and fairness, but it's often the exceptions that cause the most chatter. For instance, some officers have remained in Delhi with the Delhi Police or Central Police Organizations for five, seven, or even over ten years—far exceeding the usual tenure.

While in some cases these long postings are within policy, in many others they seem to sidestep the rule, which has only added fuel to the fire. This inconsistency raises questions about transparency and fairness in the system. Hopefully, this reshuffle will address some of those concerns and bring about a more equitable and transparent approach.

Share a babu experience! Follow [dilipthecherian@twitter.com](https://twitter.com/dilipthecherian). Let's multiply the effect

WISDOM CORNER

Faith is the bird that feels the light when the dawn is still dark. **RABINDRANATH TAGORE**

Nothing ever becomes real till it is experienced. **JOHN KEATS**

Genuine poetry can communicate before it is understood. **TS ELIOT**

THIS DAY IN HISTORY

1435: In the French kingdom, the Treaty of Arras was signed, ending the long quarrel between Duke Philip of Burgundy and King Charles VII.

1840: While experimenting with gallic acid, a chemical he was informed would increase the sensitivity of his prepared paper, William Henry Fox Talbot discovered that the acid can be used to develop a latent image on paper, leading to a revolution in photography.

1931: The Bank of England dropped the gold standard, and the pound sterling promptly lost 28 percent of its value, undermining the solvency of countries in eastern Europe and South America.

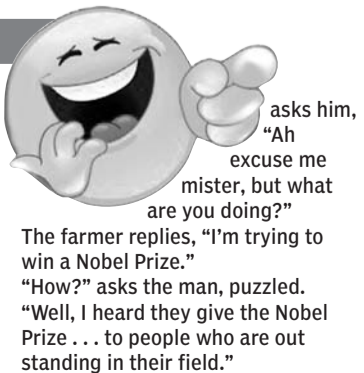
1957: The American TV series Perry Mason, which was based on a mystery series by Erle Stanley Gardner, debuted and became hugely popular, especially noted for Raymond Burr's portrayal of the title character.

1972: Philippine President Ferdinand Marcos imposed martial law in the Philippines, beginning a period of harsh authoritarian rule.

LOL

WINNING NOBEL PRIZE

A man is driving down a country road, when he spots a farmer standing in the middle of a huge field of grass. He pulls the car over to the side of the road and notices that the farmer is just standing there, doing nothing, looking at nothing. The man gets out of the car, walks all the way out to the farmer and



asks him, "Ah excuse me mister, but what are you doing?" The farmer replies, "I'm trying to win a Nobel Prize." "How?" asks the man, puzzled. "Well, I heard they give the Nobel Prize . . . to people who are out standing in their field."

FOCUS KASHMIR POLLS

FROZEN TURBULANCE

Kashmir never ceases to surprise and the 2024 state Assembly elections are no exception. We are on the way to Bijbehara in Anantnag district, tracking the campaign of Peoples Democratic Party leader Iltija Mufti. As we approach the town, we get caught in a traffic jam and hear loud, animated voices. Large crowds are running in one direction. Our first instinct is to worry that there has been a blast or a terror attack which has suddenly disrupted life. Our driver smiles: "Don't worry; the people are rushing to watch the final of the Bijbehara Premier League between the home side and Srinagar!" A local ground full of cricket-crazy fans is perhaps the most striking visual of a 'Naya' Kashmir.

There are other stand-out images too. We are at the historic Lal Chowk in the heart of Srinagar where excited shopkeepers tell us how a Burger King and Dominos franchise may soon be coming up in the area. Previously, shops in Lal Chowk, commercial hub of the capital city, would down their shutters whenever the separatist Hurriyat called for a bandh. In the last five years, shops have remained open till way past sunset. At our hotel in Srinagar, the owner proudly tells us how 2023-24 has been his best business year yet. During Covid, he had planned to sell off his property but now is delighted with the tourist windfall. From better highway connectivity to improved power supply, Kashmir seems on the right track.

It doesn't take long to snap out of the joyful reverie. We are at Jama Masjid in downtown Srinagar. It's Friday and namaaz has just ended. In the past, stone-pelting after Friday prayers was a recurrent feature here. Not anymore. Amidst a strong police bandobast, people are filing out quietly from the mosque. This too is a reassuring sight. All seems well until I switch on the camera and begin talking to the crowd. Within minutes, angry voices start hectoring me. "Tell us, why is Mirwaiz Farooq (the Hurriyat leader) under house arrest if all is well in Kashmir," says one elderly man. "Just because we are silent, doesn't mean we accept what is happening. Delhi



While the BJP has only a token presence in the Valley, the Congress is hoping that Rahul Gandhi's 'Mohabbat Ki Dukan' message will resonate strongly in a political milieu in genuine need of a healing touch

has tried to punish us by reducing our state to a union territory," says another enraged voice. "We live in fear, if we speak out we will be jailed," screams a burly-looking man. Before matters slip totally out of control, a helpful Jammu and Kashmir police officer escorts us out. The officer reminds us that while the separatist groups have been politically marginalized, the separatist mindset is still alive.

It is against this backdrop of colliding images that the Kashmir Valley is voting in an Assembly election for the first time in a decade. It's a much anticipated election, one which could well see record turnouts. It is almost as if those who saw stones and bullets as the only resolution to the Kashmir dispute have realized the power of a vote is a far more effective way to register their protest. Political parties too have understood that there is little space for rigid positions in the altered post-Article 370 abrogation scenario which might explain why an Omar Abdullah has finally decided to contest from two constituencies after initially claiming that he would stay away from the race. While another former chief minister, Mehbooba Mufti may have opted out of the poll battle, but she has pushed her feisty daughter Iltija into contesting for the first time. While the BJP has only a token presence in the Valley, the Congress is hoping that Rahul Gandhi's

'Mohabbat Ki Dukan' message will resonate strongly in a political milieu in genuine need of a healing touch.

But it isn't just the mainstream Valley parties, dominated by political dynasts, who are being watched closely this time. The real headline-grabbers are the smaller parties and independents who are looking to disrupt the rules of the political game. In May this year, Sheikh Abdul Rashid, better known as Engineer Rashid, a maverick independent candidate, pulled off a shock win in the Baramulla Lok Sabha seat in North Kashmir by defeating the more fancied Omar Abdullah and Sajjad Lone by more than two lakh votes. Rashid has been in Tihar jail since 2019, charged under the Unlawful Activities Prevention Act (UAPA) in a terror funding case. "Tihar Ka Badla Vote Se," was his war-cry during the Lok Sabha election campaign. Now, Rashid, who insists he is innocent, has been granted bail for three weeks to campaign and his Awam Ittehad Party (AIP) is contesting 34 seats. He has even stitched a 'strategic' alliance with the banned Jamaat-e-Islami, a move that has raised several eyebrows. Independent candidates backed by Jamaat in partnership with a UAPA detenu. Is this an attempt to muddy the Dal Lake waters by challenging the dominant players, especially the National Conference-Congress alliance? The Centre would like us to

believe that fierce multi-cornered contests are a sign of a robust democracy in action. In a sense, this is arguably Kashmir's most participatory election since 1977 when Sheikh Abdullah made a triumphant comeback against the odds. The decades of poll boycotts, low voter turnouts, allegations of rigging are being replaced by a far more energized and competitive election.

And yet, the outward enthusiasm conceals an inner turmoil. India's only Muslim majority state downsized to a union territory, an Assembly with powers even less than a municipality, a delimitation process that has increased Jammu's representation at the cost of the Valley, an administration that is controlled by an unelected Lieutenant-Governor who is an agent of the Centre. Kashmir is still trapped in a frozen turbulence where no one really wants to break the status quo and unleash true democratic fervor for fear of the uncontrollable.

In 2003, Atal Bihari Vajpayee's rousing slogan of 'Kashmiriyat, Insaniyat, Jamhooriyat' (inclusivity, humanitarianism, democracy) had enthused many Kashmir-watchers. Kashmiriyat was buried when Pandits were forced to flee their homes in the 1990s. Insaniyat died when so many innocents were trapped between the guns of the terrorists and the excesses of state power. Jamhooriyat has been in ICU for years with little space for free expression. Unfortunately, one high-decibel election won't change the realities of a blood-soaked Valley.

Post-script: Since I started the column with a story of hope revolving around cricket, here is another cricket nugget from Kashmir. We are talking to the crowd in Bijbehara and ask them who their favorite cricketer is. Some of them mention Virat Kohli, a few plump for Jasprit Bumrah and Rohit Sharma. But more than a few mention Pakistani batsman Babar Azam. In Kashmir, the lines do cross beyond the Line of Control!

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SPECTRUM ECONOMY

World needs bigger financial firefighters



Marina Zucker-Marques and Kevin P Gallagher

THE IMF PROGRAMMES OFTEN IMPOSE STRINGENT CONDITIONS ON COUNTRIES, FORCING THEM TO EMBRACE AUSTERITY MEASURES

It is now conventional wisdom that global capital flows to the developing world are pro-cyclical, increasing when advanced economies ease monetary policy and retreating when their interest rates rise. A case in point is the growing number of developing countries experiencing liquidity and solvency crises in the wake of the recent tightening cycle, which began in 2022.

The Bretton Woods institutions were established 80 years ago precisely to support developing countries. Similarly, The International Monetary Fund was intended to help with short-term liquidity, while the World Bank was supposed to focus on funding long-term growth.

These institutions still exist, but they are out of step with global economic realities. The world's financial firefighters—the IMF, the World Bank, and other multilateral development banks (MDBs)—are trying to extinguish conflagrations in developing countries with buckets

rather than hoses.

To ensure adequate liquidity for emerging market and developing economies (EMDEs), the international financial architecture must be transformed to make the IMF, the World Bank, and other multilateral institutions larger, more equitable, and less focused on austerity. There should be coordinated regulations to direct private capital toward productive growth and structural change in EMDEs during booms, and incentives to keep capital in these countries during busts.

Net transfers to EMDEs, excluding China, turned negative in 2022, meaning that debt-servicing costs exceeded new disbursements.

Even though IMF programmes have increased in size by a factor of four since the 2008 global financial crisis, the adequacy of Fund resources remains below historical levels.

While advanced economies have access to a network of un-

limited currency swaps, most EMDEs can turn only to the IMF for liquidity support. This worsens the inequality of the global financial safety net, the source of emergency finance comprising the IMF, regional financing arrangements, and central-bank swaps. To compensate such global inequality, the IMF would need to increase lending capacity.

On the other hand, IMF programmes often impose stringent conditions on countries, forcing them to embrace austerity measures. The myth of the "confidence fairy"—the belief that austerity will restore market confidence and boost economic growth—refuses to die, despite many studies showing that IMF loan conditions increase poverty, inequality, and social unrest, rather than improving economic stability.

The recent social upheaval in Kenya is a prime example. Despite hopes that IMF and World Bank loans would encourage private-sector re-financing, new bond issuances carried an exorbitant

interest rate of 10.37%, exacerbating debt vulnerabilities.

Financially distressed developing countries need a growth-focused approach that stabilizes the economy without cutting essential public spending.

The global financial system must allow EMDEs to implement counter-cyclical policies without austerity, or else the current crisis could very well end in massive debt relief, outright default, or widespread social unrest.

The health of the world economy, and the livelihoods of billions of people, depend on bigger and better financial firefighters. If their capacity remains constrained, progress on global challenges such as climate change will remain elusive.

Marina Zucker-Marques is a senior academic researcher at the Boston University while Kevin P. Gallagher is a Professor of Global Development Policy at the same varsity.

PROJECT SYNDICATE 2024

Letters

TO THE EDITOR

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

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Penny wise but pound foolish

Sir, 'The One Nation, One Election' can be a theory while it's not as easy as one reading about it on paper for implementation. For this kind of vast population the election at the same time may not be feasible when considering the peculiarity of states on many things. The government must have adequate police force for manning the state and CRPF in numbers to handle the situation. The transportation of EVM to and from and the manpower involved calls for a larger network for safe conduct of the election. The weather and various problems facing the community at large need careful scrutiny. Festivals at different time periods which are sensitive in nature can't be overlooked. Besides, there are situations which may crop by by-polls on occasions and at times there are chances the government may fall to create the need for fresh elections. Periodicity of conducting elections hence ruled out and the 'One Nation One Election' can only become fashionable to talk and in real sense can create a terrible mess if in a hurry to implement. Repercussions on account of this move can become irreparable as this may bring in new problems for the Centre and for the people who are eligible for votes.

AP Thiruvadi, CHENNAI

For women's safety

Sir, When we flip through the pages of a newspaper, we come across many incidents of sexual assaults, molestation, sexual harassments, rapes, trafficking, ill treatment of women and violence against women in remote areas. The crime comes amid heightened concerns about sexual violence in India. It seems that criminals are no longer afraid of the law. It is also evident that many cities in India can no longer claim to be safe for the growing number of working women. We must have remedial or curative measures such as fast track courts especially dedicated to deal only with these offences and crimes. These can be made responsible to clear the cases on a day to day basis with fair trial as its core principle. The law should be strong enough so that nobody could ever imagine of doing such things. It is time the government undertakes drastic measures to put an end to crime against women.

Jubel D'Cruz, MUMBAI

HARYANA ASSEMBLY POLLS

Kejriwal joins AAP campaign

Accompanied by AAP's Haryana unit chief Sushil Gupta, Kejriwal held a road show in the Jagadhri constituency in Yamunanagar district in favour of his party candidate Adarsh Pal



What did BJP give you? Corruption, unemployment, inflation and drugs to your children. Nothing else

ARVIND KEJRIWAL | AAP NATIONAL CONVENOR

I calculated after reaching here. We are getting so many seats that the next government in Haryana cannot be formed without AAP's support. In entire Haryana, the first seat which we will win is Jagadhri," said Kejriwal.

Among the 15 candidates in the fray from Jagadhri, Adarsh Pal is pitted against BJP's sitting MLA Kanwar Pal.

Elections to the 90-member Haryana Assembly will be held October 5 and counting of votes will be undertaken October 8.

Kejriwal resigned as Delhi chief minister after being released from Tihar jail last week in the excise policy case. Delhi minister Atishi is set to take oath as chief minister Saturday.

The AAP supremo waved at the crowds from the sunroof of his vehicle during the road show.

Hitting out at ruling BJP in the state, he said, "Wherever you go, you don't come to know that people don't allow them to enter villages, streets."

He alleged that corruption, unemployment, inflation and drug menace has increased under the BJP rule in Haryana.

"What did BJP give you? Corruption, unemployment, inflation and drugs to your children. Nothing else," Kejriwal said.

Kejriwal said when he came out of jail, had he wanted, he could have sat on the chief minister's chair.

"But I said no. When Lord Ram had returned after 14 years in exile, Sita mata had to give 'agnipariksha'. Kejriwal will also give 'agnipariksha'," he said.

Further targeting BJP, he said they allege that he is dishonest, corrupt and a thief. "I told the people of Delhi that I am resigning and if they feel I am dishonest, don't vote for me. "Vote for me only if you feel I am honest. And when they give their certificate only then will I sit on the CM's chair otherwise I won't," he said.

Kejriwal had announced Sunday that he would resign as Delhi chief minister after two days and sought early polls in the national capital while vowing not to sit in the chief minister's chair till people give him a "certificate of honesty".

Governor stresses need to improve basic education

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Jaipur, Sept 20: Rajasthan Governor Haribhau Bagde Friday expressed the need to improve basic education and give a better shape to primary education in the state.

The governor chaired a meeting of district level officers in the conference hall of Govind Guru Tribal University Banswara and issued these instructions, according to a statement from the Raj Bhawan. Bagde said the role of awareness and educational development is important for the all-round upliftment of tribes. He directed the education department to make meaningful efforts to this end.

He reviewed various schemes and activities related to regional development and gave necessary guidelines to the officers. The governor emphasised on achieving complete success in Swachh Bharat Mission and said for this, while fulfilling 100 per cent targets, it should be ensured that no house is deprived of clean toilets. The achievement of their utility should come to the fore in every house, he added. He reviewed various schemes and programmes point-wise and gave instructions to speed up public welfare activities and regional development works. He emphasised providing the benefits of the schemes of the central and the state government to the officially eligible people.



Rajasthan Atomic Power Project-7 goes critical

INDO-ASIAN NEWS SERVICE

Mumbai, Sept 20: The Rajasthan Atomic Power Project's Unit 7 (RAPP-7) achieved the significant milestone of 'criticality', or the start of controlled fission chain reaction, at the indigenously designed plant, officials said here Friday.

The RAPP-7 - of the twin RAPP-7/8 units with a 2x700 MW capacity - attained criticality at 10.42 pm Thursday, after clearing the First Approach to Criticality by the Atomic Energy Regulatory Board (AERB), the Nuclear Power Corporation of India Ltd (NPCIL) said.

The RAPP-7 is the third in the series of 16 indigenous Pressurised Heavy Water Reactors (PHWR) of 700 MW each, being set up by the nuclear plant operator NPCIL in the country.

The first two 700 MW PHWRs are operational in KAPS 3/4 at Kakrapar in Gujarat, followed by the RAPP-7, coming up at Rawatbhata in Rajasthan.

Criticality for the first time on the project timeline marks the completion of the construction phase and commencement of the operation phase, the official said.

Now, it will undergo various important experiments and tests before it is connected to the grid and the power level will be raised in steps to full power, as per the clearances from the AERB.

After these steps, the RAPP-7 is expected to start power generation this year, followed by RAPP-8 during the next year. For the RAPP-8, the erection



of equipment and components is currently in progress, feeder erection is completed, and the start-up transformer is charged.

The RAPP-7/8 are India's second pair of indigenous nuclear power plants of 700 MW unit size each. The successful Criticality of RAPP-7 - after the smooth operation of the first two 700 MW PHWRs in Kakrapar - demonstrates the maturity achieved by NPCIL in the design, construction and operation of the indigenous 700 MW PHWRs.

RAPP-7/8 are coming up at Rawatbhata (near Kota) where already 6 units with a total capacity of 1,180 MW are in operation, and are part of the NPCIL's 24 reactors with a total capacity of 8,180 MW, besides 8 units including RAPP-7, with a total capacity of 6,800 MW under construction.

NOTICE FOR LOSS OF DOCUMENTS

Notice is hereby given from Suraili Sethi that, he has applied for loan to LIC HFL. But at present, he has lost the Original ROR of Khata No. 61 at Baulanga village, which was kept with him and inspite of his best efforts, failed to trace the same. Therefore, notice is hereby given to general public that if anybody has got any right, title interest over the property on the missing document, or on the above property, he/she has to claim before the LIC HFL AT-Chandrasekharpur, Bhubaneswar within 15 days from the date of publication. And after that the documents will lose its legal force and LIC HFL, Bhubaneswar will not be responsible for any claim. Whatsoever on the property after 15 days. Address for Communication LIC HFL, Chandrasekharpur, Bhubaneswar, B. K. Pattanaik, Advocate, Mob. No. 9337395558

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The registration time will be from 9:30 am to 5:30 pm.
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 DIRECTOR



Indian military personnel during the 20th edition of India-USA joint military exercise 'YUDH ABHYAS', at Foreign Training Node in Mahajan Field Firing Ranges, Rajasthan, Friday PTI PHOTO

Rahul meets family of youth injured in accident abroad



On his recent visit to the US, Congress leader had met Amit Mann, who was injured in a truck accident, and promised to meet his family back home

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Chandigarh, Sept 20: Congress leader Rahul Gandhi Friday reached a village in Haryana's Karnal district to meet with the family of a young man who was injured in an accident abroad.

According to the family, Gandhi had met the injured youth, Amit, during his recent US visit. When contacted, local Congress leaders in Karnal said there was no prior intimation of Gandhi's visit and they came to know about it only after he reached Ghogripur village.

Gandhi's sudden visit to Haryana to meet the family comes at a time when the Assembly polls are a fortnight away.

In the October 5 Haryana polls, the Congress, which is eyeing to wrest power from the ruling BJP, has made farmers and unemployment key poll issues. Speaking to media persons in the village, Amit's brother Ajit said Gandhi reached their home around 6 am. A few families from the neigh-

Stone Age rock paintings found in Chittorgarh



PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Jaipur, Sept 20: Historians have recently uncovered Stone Age rock paintings, cup marks and sharp-edged artefacts in a village in Rajasthan's Chittorgarh district, offering fresh evidence of the region's ancient human history.

Located approximately 50 kilometres from the Aalaniya river in Kota, the findings add to the region's significance as a hub for Stone Age carvings, further underlining the prehistoric importance of Hadauti and Chittorgarh.

Last week, three locals stumbled upon unusual markings on a rock in a forested area near Amarpura village, Rawatbhata. Historian Tej Singh from the Maharishi History Institute in Kota visited the site with his team after receiving information.

Cup-shaped engravings and a mortar, likely used by early humans for grinding food, was discovered at the site, Singh said, explaining that the

cup marks and circular indentations on rocks are characteristic of early Stone Age humans.

The markings possibly date back between 35,000 and 2,00,000 years, he said.

Singh also suggested that this might be the oldest evidence of human habitation in present-day Rajasthan, comparing the site to a similar discovery made in 2003 just 200 metres away.

The mortar, weighing 2.4 kilograms, along with sharp-edged stones found at the site, indicates that early inhabitants may have used these tools to process wild grains, nuts and legumes.

The findings have been shared with the Archaeological Survey of India (ASI) in Jodhpur and the Department of Archaeology and Museology (DAM) for further examination.

Jafarullah Khan, a former superintendent archaeologist with DAM, highlighted that the Hadauti and Malwa regions in neighbouring Madhya Pradesh were key centres for Stone Age settlements.

"This discovery aligns with previous findings along the Aalaniya and Chambal rivers," Khan said, calling on the government to protect the area and begin major excavation efforts to uncover more about early human life.

THE MARKINGS POSSIBLY DATE BACK BETWEEN 35,000 AND 2,00,000 YEARS

national

of the day quote

BJP is lagging behind in both Haryana and J&K in the upcoming assembly polls so they are constantly targeting the Congress party and Rahul Gandhi in frustration

SACHIN PILOT | CONGRESS LEADER

We have never implemented Pakistan's agenda. It is regrettable that those who accuse us are implementing Pakistan's agenda. What can we do to them?

FAROOQ ABDULLAH | NC PRESIDENT

There should be no middlemen in the farmers' journey from field to market. They are a powerful group that unjustly profits from farmers' hard work. Empowering farmers means freeing them from middlemen

HEMANT SOREN | JHARKHAND CM

SHORT TAKES

Dalit gangraped in moving car

Mathura (UP): A Dalit girl was allegedly gangraped by three persons here in a moving car, after which she was thrown out on the side of a road, police said Friday. An FIR has been lodged against the accused following a complaint from the minor's father and efforts are on to arrest the trio, they added. Superintendent of Police (Rural) Trigun Bisen said the girl, who is around 13-year-old, has been sent to the district women's hospital for a medical examination, after which her statement will be recorded before the magistrate.

BJP to intensify J&K poll campaign

Jammu: Ahead of the second of the three-phased poll process for the J&K Assembly elections, covering 26 seats in five districts of both the Jammu region and the Kashmir Valley, the BJP has decided to intensify its poll campaign in the former, with Union Home Minister Amit Shah slated to address a spate of rallies across the area Saturday, party sources said. The second phase of the elections, September 25, covers the constituencies in Reasi, Rajouri, and Poonch districts in the Jammu region, and Srinagar and Budgam districts of the Valley.

6 killed in bus, truck collision

Jalna: Six persons were killed and 17 injured when a state transport bus and a private truck collided in Maharashtra's Jalna district Friday morning, police said. The accident occurred near Shahapur on the Wadigodri-Jalna route. Many of the injured were pulled out by breaking the windows of the bus, run by the Maharashtra State Road Transport Corporation (MSRTC), an official said.

Light rain drenches parts of Himachal

Shimla: Light rain was recorded in some parts of Himachal Pradesh till early Friday, with Bharmour in Chamba district registering the highest precipitation, the local Met office said. Bharmour received 10 mm rainfall, followed by Kukumseri at 4.6 mm, and Manali, Keylong and Dharamshala at 1 mm each between 5:30 pm Thursday and 8:30 am Friday. A total of 29 roads -- 10 in Kangra, nine in Mandi, five in Shimla, four in Kullu and one in Sirmour districts -- are closed for traffic and nine power supply schemes have been affected, the State Emergency Operation Centre said.



Jharkhand's lac production is a vital source of income for the tribal community
DROUPADI MURMU | PRESIDENT OF INDIA

DON'T WANT BOEING RERUN: ISRO
Although Gaganyaan is ready for launch by the end of the year, we should proceed with caution, said Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) Chairman S Somanath Friday. Gaganyaan, which is among the projects approved by the Union cabinet Wednesday, is India's first human mission



INS Vikrant, India's indigenous aircraft carrier, joins the Indian Navy's 'Sword Arm' during a multi domain exercise and twin Carrier fighter operations in the Arabian Sea

Trucks stranded along J'khand-Bengal border

Dhanbad/Kolkata, Sept 20: Thousands of trucks are stranded along NH-2 and NH-4 near the Jharkhand-West Bengal border after the Mamata Banerjee government allegedly restricted entry of heavy vehicles from the neighbouring state, an official said Friday.

Trucks from Jharkhand were stopped at Dibudih check-post in West Bengal, Dhanbad deputy commissioner Madhvi Mishra told reporters. "We have gathered reports from the block development officer. Senior officials and Chief Minister Hemant Soren have been informed about it. Negotiations at the government level are underway," Mishra added. "Thousands of trucks are stranded on NH 2 and NH-6. Around 10 trucks from Maharashtra are stuck due to closure of the border;" All India Transporters Welfare Association (East) head Sunil Agarwal said. Federation of West Bengal Truck Operators Association (WBTOA) senior office bearer Subhash Bose claimed that Bengal shut all the borders with neighbouring Jharkhand since morning. Bengal police officials posted at Debudih check-post claimed that entry of trucks has been restricted on the directives of senior authorities.

The Bengal government allegedly restricted entry of trucks from Jharkhand in protest against the continuous release of water from Maithon and Panchet dams operated by the Damodar Valley Corporation (DVC), a central government entity, which has resulted in flooding in parts of Paschim Bardhaman and Medinipur districts.

Coaching centre deaths

SC sets deadline for panel report on prevention steps

New Delhi, Sept 20: The Supreme Court Friday directed a Union government-appointed committee probing the death of three civil services aspirants at a coaching centre here in July due to the flooding in the building's basement to submit an interim report about the measures it wanted to be taken to prevent recurrence of such incidents within four weeks.

Three civil services July 27 taspitrants drowned in the basement library of Rau's IAS Study Circle in the Old Rajinder Nagar area here after it was flooded following heavy rain. A bench of Justices Surya Kant and Ujjal Bhuyan directed the Haryana, Uttar Pradesh and Delhi governments to apprise the court of the policy and legislative and administrative changes made to prevent a repeat of such incidents. It said uniform initiatives should be taken in the entire National Capital Region (NCR) to prevent another Old Rajinder Nagar-type incident from happening.

KOLKATA HORROR Junior docs call off 'cease-work'

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Kolkata, Sept 20: Junior doctors agitating over the RG Kar incident called off their 'cease work' Friday evening, announcing partial resumption of duties entailing attending essential services in state-run hospitals from Saturday. Ending the logjam persisting for 42 days in the wake of the rape and murder of a young doctor at RG Kar hospital, the agitating medics withdrew the 'cease work' after holding a march to the CBI office in Salt Lake from the state health department's headquarters, where they had been demonstrating for over a week.

The procession, seeking a speedy wrap-up of the probe by the CBI into the case, covered a distance of around 4 km from the 'Swasthya Bhawan' to the CGO Complex. The medics have said they would not work in the Outpatient Department (OPD), but partially function in emergency and essential services. "Today, we are calling off our 'cease work'. From tomorrow, we will partially join duties concerning the emergency and essential services," one of the junior doctors said. He said the medics would rush to the flood-affected southern districts of the state, as well as set up 'Abhaya'

The West Bengal Medical Council has cancelled the registration of RG Kar Medical College's former principal Sandip Ghosh

clinics in memory of the RG Kar doctor. "However, if the assurances and promises (by the government) are not fulfilled, we will again start our agitation programme," another protesting doctor said. The decision to call off the 'cease work' comes shortly after Chief Secretary Manoj Pant, following up on issues discussed in Wednesday's meeting between the agitating junior doctors and the state task force, issued a list of directives on the safety, security and conducive environment for healthcare professionals, saying those orders need to be implemented immediately. Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee had earlier transferred Kolkata Police chief Vineet Goyal and appointed Manoj Kumar Verma in his place, while also removing the directors of medical education and health services. The West Bengal Medical Council has also cancelled the registration of RG Kar Medical College's former principal Sandip Ghosh. Ghosh, an orthopedic surgeon currently in CBI custody, has been removed from the list of registered medical practitioners maintained by the WBMC.

Laddu row gets bigger

The Centre too weighed in, with Union Health Minister JP Nadda seeking a report on the matter from Andhra Pradesh government and promising suitable action after examining it

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Amaravati, Sept 20: As the Tirupati Laddu row snowballed into a major national controversy, the temple body managing the super-rich shrine Friday revealed it has come across sub-standard ghee and presence of lard in samples tested for quality, echoing claims first made by Andhra Chief Minister N Chandrababu Naidu two days ago. With the fingers of accusation being pointed at his led previous regime over the issue, former CM and YSRCP president YS Jagan Mohan Reddy described the matter as "diversion politics," and slammed it as a "concocted story."

On Friday, Tirumala Tirupati Devasthanams (TTD), which manages the Sri Venkateswara Swamy temple, asserted there was presence of 'Lard' (pig fat) and other impurities in the ghee, citing a lab report. TTD Executive Officer J Shyamala Rao said lab tests had revealed the presence of animal fat and lard in chosen



samples and the board was in the process of blacklisting the contractor who supplied 'adulterated' ghee. A lab value indicated the sample was adulterated with lard also, Rao said while addressing a press conference in Tirupati. "All the four reports of samples gave similar results. So we immediately stopped (receiving) the supplies. And the blacklisting of the contractor was initiated and the procedure to impose penalties would also be initiated. Now, the legal process will start," he said.

The EO highlighted that the suppliers took advantage of a lack of in-house testing facility. The TTD administers the popular hill shrine that attracts lakhs of devotees throughout the year. CM Naidu had earlier expressed concern over the quality of ghee as well as Laddu and highlighted complaints of the presence of animal fat in the sweet, Rao said.

During an NDA legislative party meeting Wednesday, Naidu, chief of the ruling TDP, claimed that the previous YSRCP government did not even spare Sri Venkateswara Swamy temple and used substandard ingredients and animal fat for making the popular sweet, known for its unique taste. According to a Gujarat-based lab report, the ghee samples sent to it by the TTD has the presence of "beef tallow", 'lard' and 'Fish Oil.'

Responding to the allegations, Jagan Mohan Reddy said the adulteration issue was taken up to divert the public attention from the state government's 100 days of rule. Addressing a press conference, he said Naidu is such a person who will use God also for political gains. "This is diversion politics. On the one hand, people are expressing their anger at Chandrababu Naidu's 100 days' rule. They are demanding what happened to their 'Super six' (poll promises). Under these circumstances, in order to divert the public attention, this concocted story," he lambasted.

Delhi Police EOW arrests Ashneer's family member

NEW DELHI: Delhi Police Economic Offences Wing (EOW) has arrested a family member of BharatPe co-founder Ashneer Grover in connection with the alleged misappropriation of funds with the fintech company, police said Friday. Deepak Gupta, who is a brother-in-law of Grover, was arrested Friday and produced before the court from where he was sent to police custody for five days, they said. Gupta was named in the FIR which was registered against Grover, his wife Madhuri Jain and their family member in May 2023 in the Rs 81-crore fraud case, a police officer said. During investigation, it was revealed that Gupta was the procurement head at in the complainant company during the period in which the alleged misappropriation of funds took place, according to a police statement.

Hill districts alerted: Manipur security advisor

IMPHAL: Manipur security advisor Kuldip Singh Friday said security forces have taken a number of steps in the wake of reports that militants might carry out violence in peripheral villages. Addressing a press conference, Singh said reports of movement of these militants have been circulating for the past three to four days. He indicated that the attacks could occur any day around September 28.

Court remands Jani Master to judicial custody

HYDERABAD: A city court Friday remanded cinema choreographer Jani Master to 14-day judicial custody after he was arrested for allegedly sexually assaulting a woman who worked with him. Jani Master, whose real name is Shaik Jani Basha, was apprehended in Goa by the Cyberabad police Thursday and he was produced before a local court in Goa and a transit warrant was obtained. He was brought here Friday and produced before a city court which remanded him to 14-day judicial custody, a senior police official told PTI adding he was lodged in the Chanchalguda central prison.

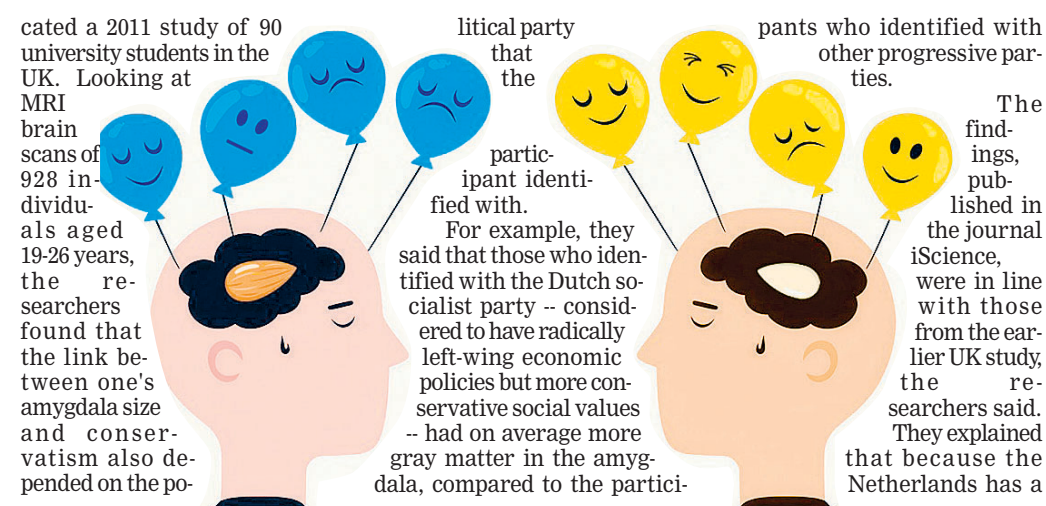
Conservative voters exhibit larger fear centres: Study

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, Sept 20: Conservative voters have slightly larger amygdalas, or fear processing centres, compared to progressive ones, according to a new study. "The amygdala controls for the perception and the understanding of threats and risk uncertainty, so it makes a lot of sense that individuals who are more sensitive towards these issues have higher needs for security, which is something that typically aligns with more conservative ideas in politics," first author Diamantis Petropoulos Petalas, from the University of Amsterdam, said. Researchers from the Netherlands, which is known to have a multi-party system, repli-

Researchers from the Netherlands, which is known to have a multi-party system, replicated a 2011 study of 90 university students in the UK

Looking at MRI brain scans of 928 individuals aged 19-26 years, the researchers found that the link between one's amygdala size and conservatism also depended on the political party that the participant identified with



multi-party political system, the team was also able to compare brain structures along the continuum from left- to right-wing, in contrast to the two-party system in the UK. "The Netherlands has a multi-party system, with different parties representing a spectrum of ideologies, and we find a very nice positive correlation between the parties' political ideology and the amygdala size of that person," Petropoulos Petalas said. "That speaks to the idea that we're not talking about a dichotomous representation of ideology in the brain, such as Republicans versus Democrats as in the US, but we see a more fine-grained spectrum of how political ideology can be reflected in the brain's anatomy," Petropoulos Petalas said. A participant's ideology, in-

cluding political identity and stance on socioeconomic issues, was analysed by their responses to a questionnaire. The responses revealed varied aspects such as the political parties that the participant identified with and how they stood on women's and LGBTQ rights. However, in contrast to the UK study, the authors did not find any link between conservatism and a smaller volume of gray matter in the anterior cingulate cortex, a brain region which helps manage impulses and regulate emotions. Depending on a person's economic and social ideology -- which aren't necessarily aligned -- both the amygdala and anterior cingulate cortex physically differed, indicating that relationships between political ideology and brain structure are nuanced and multidimensional, they added.

national

of the day quote

Sanatan Dharma's greatness lies in its ability to face invaders with resilience and bid them farewell with goodwill

YOGI ADITYANATH | UP CM

Infiltrators are the vote bank of Lalu Prasad's RJD. Rahul Baba's Congress and Hemant Soren's JMM. I promise to drive out illegal immigrants. The time has come to show the corrupt JMM dispensation the exit door... We want to change Jharkhand

AMIT SHAH | UNION HOME MINISTER

Several news channels did a fact check of the incident. Despite that, the BJP is indulging in spreading a fake narrative

NANA PATOLE | MAHA CONG CHIEF

X POST OF THE DAY

Fixing our electoral bond system. And, high real estate prices. Would fix several issues that we face as Indians.

Now here is the kicker: both the problems can be easily solved: - [1] Make political fund transparent and non-cash based [2] Put all real estate data on Blockchain (the way Dubai government has done) Solves: high prices, corrupt politicians, land grabbers, and whatnot.

@Akshat_World

SHORT TAKES

NIA conducts raids in Punjab

New Delhi: The National Investigation Agency (NIA) conducted searches at four locations in Punjab Friday as part of its probe in a terror-conspiracy case involving designated terrorist Gurbatwint Singh Pannun and the Sikhs for Justice (SFJ), a banned organisation associated with him. NIA teams swooped down at one location in Moga, two locations in Bathinda and one location in Mohali, at premises connected with suspects in the case, an official statement said.

PMLA case: ED makes 10th arrest

Patna: The Enforcement Directorate said Friday that it has made its 10th arrest in a money laundering case linked to a probe into the alleged illegal sand mining in Bihar. Punj Kumar Singh, a former director and syndicate member of Broadson Commodities Pvt. Ltd., was taken into custody Thursday under the provisions of the Prevention of Money Laundering Act (PMLA), it said.

ED raids ex-NOIDA CEO, builders

New Delhi: The ED has seized cash, gold and diamond jewellery worth more than ₹42 crore after it raided multiple locations linked to retired NOIDA Authority CEO Mohinder Singh and builders in a money laundering case linked to the alleged duping of home buyers' funds. The federal probe agency searched premises in Delhi, Noida and Meerut in Uttar Pradesh as well as Chandigarh and Goa September 17-18 as part of an investigation into alleged fraud by Hacienda Projects Private Limited, its promoters and directors and related entities.



The reports about the defilement of the Prasad at Sri Venkateshwara temple in Tirupati are disturbing

RAHUL GANDHI | LOP, LOK SABHA

CBI GETS NOD TO PROSECUTE LALU

The CBI told a Delhi court Friday that it has obtained requisite sanctions from authorities concerned to prosecute former railway minister Lalu Prasad in a corruption case related to the alleged land-for-jobs scam. The CBI filed the sanctions before Special Judge Vishal Gogne



WB floods: Mamata writes to PM

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Kolkata, Sept 20: West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee Friday wrote to Prime Minister Narendra Modi, saying that her state would sever all ties with the Damodar Valley Corporation (DVC) for "unilaterally releasing water", which led to floods in south Bengal districts.

In a four-page letter to Modi, she claimed that five million people in Bengal have been affected by the floods, and urged him to immediately sanction and release central funds to address the widespread devastation caused by the deluge.

Sharply retorting to her remarks, senior BJP leader Suwendu Adhikari "challenged" the chief minister to execute her ultimatum by the end of the day and warned that if Banerjee severed ties with the DVC, several districts in southern Bengal would plunge into darkness.

"I would like to draw your kind attention to the fact that as a result of an unprecedented, unplanned, and unilateral release of an enormously huge volume of water at nearly five lakh cusec from the combined system of Maithon and Panchet dams owned and maintained by the DVC, all districts of South Bengal have been plunged into devastating floods, causing severe miseries to the common people," Banerjee wrote.

"If this unilateral approach



A woman carries a gas stove through an area flooded due to overflowing of Hooghly river following heavy rains in Nadia

The state is now facing the biggest flood in Lower Damodar and adjoining areas after 2009. More than 1,000 sq km stands affected and nearly five million people of the state have been drawn into the vortex of miseries for loss of crops, damages to public infrastructure and private assets, including houses, cattle... I am compelled to call it a man-made flood

MAMATA BANERJEE

continues, bringing hardship to the people of my state, we will be left with no option but to disengage entirely from DVC and withdraw our participation. We cannot allow this ongoing injustice to affect our people year after year," she asserted.

The flood-hit South Bengal districts include Purba Bardhaman, Paschim Bardhaman, Birbhum, Bankura,

Howrah, Hooghly, Purba Medinipur and Paschim Medinipur, she said.

In his response, Adhikari said: "Is the CM even aware that DVC powers seven-eight districts in southern and western parts of the state? She hasn't been able to build facilities to generate one additional unit of power in her tenure; she depends on the DVC for power and now wants to snap

ties with it? I challenge her to execute her threat and plunge eight districts in darkness."

Taking to X, the BJP leader later said, "The cumulative power generation capacity of the DVC in West Bengal is 4,306 MW; a staggering 69 per cent of 6,687 MW, which is the total power generation capacity of the DVC... A large number of workers are associated as government/private employees in organised & unorganised sectors in the 8 hydro, thermal and solar plants of DVC located in West Bengal."

Lambasting the CM for "talking like a prime minister who seems to consider West Bengal a separate nation", Adhikari further wrote, "Does Mamata Banerjee feel that West Bengal is a separate country? How can she even utter these words? How does she plan to generate/substitute the 4,300 MW shortage if she snaps ties with DVC? Or is she planning to take Bengal back to the dark ages?"

Banerjee, on her part, elucidated the expanse of the devastation caused by the floods, calling it "man-made".

The chief minister said information about the critical condition of downstream rivers, already flowing close to or above the extreme danger level, was provided to the DVC authorities by the state's officials along with the request to defer the release of water that is made from time to time.

WB POST-POLL VIOLENCE PLEA

SC pulls up CBI



PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, Sept 20: The Supreme Court Friday rapped the CBI for making "scandalous allegations" against the courts in its plea seeking transfer of cases relating to the 2021 post-poll violence cases outside West Bengal.

A bench of Justices Abhay S Oka and Pankaj Mishal said the agency cannot cast aspersions on the entire judiciary in West Bengal.

"Mr Raju what kind of grounds are taken in this? How can you cast aspersions on entire judiciary? You are showing as if there is a hostile environment in whole West Bengal."

"Your officers may not like the judicial officer or a particular state but don't say that the entire judiciary is not functioning. The judges the district judges and civil judges and sessions judges can't come here and defend themselves," the bench told Additional Solicitor General SV Raju, appearing for the CBI.

Defending the averments in the petition, the law officer told the apex court that there is no intention to cast aspersions and it is a case of loose drafting.

Raju withdrew the transfer petition after scathing observation from the apex court.

The top court recorded in its order, "Scandalous allegations have been made against all the courts in general in West Bengal. It has been repeatedly averred that there is a hostile environment prevailing in the courts. It is very unfortunate that the central agency has chosen to cast aspersions on courts in West Bengal."

"ASG states that there was no intention to cast aspersions. However the averment are to the contrary. He seeks permission to withdraw," the bench said.

The CBI had filed the petition in December 2023 seeking directions to transfer the cases outside of West Bengal due to alleged concerns of witness intimidation.

COURT CORNER

SC seeks info from Centre on non-appointment of judges



NEW DELHI: The Supreme Court Friday asked the Centre to provide information about the numbers and names reiterated by the apex court Collegium for appointment as judges in higher judiciary with reasons why they were not considered so far and at what level they were pending. The direction was passed by a

bench headed by Chief Justice D Y Chandrachud while hearing a PIL seeking a direction that a time limit be fixed for the Centre to notify the appointment of judges recommended by the Supreme Court Collegium. "The Supreme Court Collegium is not a search committee (for judges) whose recommendations can be stalled," said the bench which also comprised Justices J B Pardiwala and Manoj Misra.

Apex court dismisses SpiceJet's plea

NEW DELHI: The Supreme Court Friday upheld an order of the Delhi High Court which directed low-cost airline SpiceJet to ground three aircraft engines for defaulting on payments to lessors. A bench comprising Chief Justice D Y Chandrachud and Justices J B Pardiwala and Manoj Misra dismissed the appeal filed by SpiceJet against the high court verdict of September 11. "We will not interfere. It's a correct order," the bench said. After the apex court order, a SpiceJet spokesperson said the company is currently in discussions with the aircraft lessor to reach an amicable settlement.



Pawar faction moves SC for new symbols



NEW DELHI: Ahead of the Maharashtra Assembly elections, veteran leader Sharad Pawar led faction moved the Supreme Court on Friday seeking that both factions of the Nationalist Congress Party (NCP) be given new poll symbols. A bench of Justices Surya Kant and Ujjal Bhuyan listed the plea for hearing on September 25 after senior

advocate Abhishek Manu Singhvi, appearing for Sharad Pawar faction submitted that they want urgent listing of the matter in view of the assembly elections in Maharashtra. Singhvi said that till the matter is finally decided, both the groups should be given new symbols ahead of the Maharashtra Assembly elections.



Congress workers with farmers stage a protest during 'Kisan Nyay Yatra', demanding an increase in the minimum support price, adequate compensation of their damaged crops and other issues, on the outskirts of Bhopal

3 BSF personnel dead, 32 injured in road mishap

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Srinagar, Sept 20: At least three BSF troopers were killed and 32 others injured when a bus carrying the forces' personnel for election duty fell into a gorge in Jammu and Kashmir's Budgam district Friday, officials said.

The bus was hired to carry BSF jawans for duty in the second phase of polling in the Jammu and Kashmir Assembly polls. The second phase of polling will be held September 25.

Around 35 jawans were injured in the accident and they were rushed to a hospital, officials said, adding that three of the in-

jured troopers succumbed to injuries. The other were being treated and their condition was stated to be stable, they added. Meanwhile, Jammu and Kashmir police chief R R Swain expressed deep sorrow over the incident and extended heartfelt condolences to the bereaved families and the colleagues of the deceased.

"We mourn the loss of these dedicated soldiers who tirelessly served the nation. We pray for the speedy recovery of the injured and assured them of all necessary support and assistance by the Jammu and Kashmir Police," he said.

OBJECTIONABLE REMARKS

Top court raps K'taka HC judge

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, Sept 20: A five-judge Supreme Court bench Friday took suo motu cognizance of a Karnataka High Court judge's alleged controversial and objectionable comments against a woman lawyer during the court proceedings in a case and his reference to a Muslim-majority area in Bengaluru as "Pakistan" in another.

Before the commencement of the day's proceedings in the apex court, the five senior-most judges - Chief Justice D Y Chandrachud, Justice Sanjiv Khanna, Justice B R Gava, Justice Surya Kant and Justice Hrishikesh Roy - assembled to take a judicial note of the comments made by Justice Vedayasachar Srishananda of the Karnataka High Court during the judicial proceedings Thursday.

In video clips, which went viral on social media, Justice Srishananda was seen reprimanding a woman lawyer and reportedly made some objectionable comments when she intervened in an ongoing hearing.



The judge, in another case related to landlord-tenant dispute, referred to a Muslim-dominated locality in Bengaluru as "Pakistan".

Taking suo motu (on its own) cognizance of the reported observations, the bench, at the outset, said, "The reason why we have come in a combination of five judges is that our attention has been drawn to certain video clips

about certain gratuitous remarks by a Karnataka High Court judge during the court of hearing."

"We will ask the Register General of the High Court to send us a report and perhaps with your assistance lay down some guidelines on observations in the course of hearings and draw the issues now that social media is now so prominent in observing proceedings in court, commenting on that."

The bench also sought the assistance of Attorney General R Venkataramani and Solicitor General Tushar Mehta in dealing with the case and said it may lay down certain guidelines on this aspect.

"At this stage, we request the Registrar General of the High Court of Karnataka to submit a report to this court after seeking administrative directions of the Chief Justice of the High Court of Karnataka, in regard to the subject matter which has been referred to above," the order said.

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Date and Venue:

Wednesday, 25th September 2024; 12:00 p.m. onwards, at Hotel Kalyani, Dahaganadia Chhak, Bhadrak - 756 101, Odisha. For registration, please contact: Sandipta Kar Mobile: 91784 66814. Registration is compulsory. The registration time will be from 9:30 am to 5:30 pm. No walk-ins will be allowed.



An Investor Education and Awareness Initiative

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



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POSSESSION NOTICE (For Immovable Property)

Issued under (Rule 8(1)) of Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002. Whereas, The undersigned being the Authorized Officer of THE KARUR VYSYA BANK LIMITED, under the Securitisation & Reconstruction of Financial Assets And Enforcement of Security Interest (Second) Act, 2002 (Act 54 of 2002) and in exercise of powers conferred under Section 13(12) read with Rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 issued a demand notice dated 04.11.2023 calling upon (1). M/s Ganesh Trading Co., Deoki Nandan Agarwal (Proprietor), Opp Jagda Petrol, Jagda Main Road Jhirpani Rourkela - 769042. (2). Mr. Prakash Agarwal (Guarantor), Opp Jagda Petrol, Jagda Main Road Jhirpani Rourkela - 769042. (3). Mr. Gopi Ram Agarwal (Guarantor) Opp Jagda Petrol, Jagda Main Road Jhirpani Rourkela - 769042, to repay the amount mentioned in the notice being Rs.75,16,857.00 (Rupees Seventy-Five Lakh Sixteen Thousand Eight Hundred Fifty-Seven and Paise Zero Only) together with further interest within 60 days from the date of receipt of the said notice. The Borrower/Guarantor have failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to the borrower/Guarantor and the public in general that the undersigned has taken possession of the property described herein below in exercise of powers conferred on him under sub-section (4) of section 13 of Act read with Rule 8 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 on this 19th day of September of the year 2024. The Borrower/Guarantor in particular and the public in general is hereby cautioned not to deal with the property and any dealings with the property will be subject to the charge of THE KARUR VYSYA BANK LIMITED for an amount of Rs.75,16,857.00 (Rupees Seventy Five Lakh Sixteen Thousand Eight Hundred Fifty Seven and Paise Zero Only) and interest thereon, cost and expenses. The borrower's attention is invited to provisions of sub-section (8) of section 13 of the Act, in respect of time available, to redeem the secured assets.

Description of the Immovable Property	
All that piece and parcel of land & building situated at Mouza: Rourkela Town Unit No.29, Jagda, PS-Township, PS No.25, at present PS-Jhirpani, Tahasil -Panposh, Tahasil No.342, at present Tahasil-Bisra, Sub-Registry Office- Panposh at Uditnagar, Dist-1 Sundargarh, Odisha, under Khata No. 319/386 (Three hundred nineteen oblique three hundred eighty six), However present Khata number 319/1865 (As per Patta in the name of Prakash Agarwal (Title Holder) appertaining to plot No. 138/1177 (One hundred thirty eight oblique one thousand one hundred seventy seven) KISSAM- Gharbari-1, measuring an Area to the extent of ACO.050 res (Five Decimal) with house standing thereon, standing in the name of Mr. Prakash Agarwal and the land is butted and bounded by:-	South : House of Darsana Devi Agarwal West : Plot No.138 (P)

Place: Rourkela Date: 19.09.2024 Authorized Officer The Karur Vysya Bank Limited

international

of the day quote

The relationship between Australia and India is a very strong one. I'll be talking with Prime Minister Modi about our Comprehensive Economic Partnership, we want to see concluded. We have had increased economic relations between our two great nations

ANTHONY ALBANESE | PM, AUSTRALIA

Most of the decisions from the (victory) plan depend specifically on him (Biden). On other allies too, but there are certain points which depend on the goodwill and support of the United States

VOLODYMYR ZELENSKY | PRESIDENT, UKRAINE

The scale of conflict which started because of the West risks becoming completely different, which could bring dangerous consequences for the whole world

MARIA ZAKHAROVA | FOREIGN MINISTRY SPOKESWOMAN, RUSSIA

SHORT TAKES

Indian embassy official found dead

Washington: An Indian embassy official was found dead under mysterious circumstances inside the mission premises here, officials here said. Local police and the Secret Service are currently investigating the incident that occurred two days ago, including the possibility of suicide. "With deep regret, we wish to confirm that a member of the Embassy of India passed away in the evening of 18th September 2024.

Iran top leader pardons prisoners

Tehran: Iran's top leader has pardoned thousands of prisoners, including foreigners and people accused of anti-state crimes, the state-run IRNA news agency reported Friday. IRNA reported that Ayatollah Ali Khamenei agreed to pardon and commute the sentences of 2,887 prisoners following a proposal from judiciary Chief Gholamhossein Mohseni Eje. The death sentences of 59 people were commuted to imprisonment, it said. Those pardoned included 39 people who were convicted of anti-state crimes and 40 foreign nationals, it said.

Japan, China reach deal

Tokyo: Japan and China announced Friday that they have reached a deal resolving their disputes over the discharge of treated radioactive wastewater from the tsunami-hit Fukushima Daiichi nuclear power plant into the Pacific Ocean and Beijing's subsequent ban on Japanese seafood. Japan's Prime Minister Fumio Kishida said that the two sides have reached "a certain level of mutual understanding" that China will start working toward easing the import ban and will join the expanded monitoring of wastewater discharges from Fukushima Daiichi.

Pak suspends policemen

Karachi: Family members of a doctor accused of blasphemy and shot dead by a policeman have alleged that they were attacked by a mob that snatched his body from them and burned it in the Sindh province of Pakistan. Pakistani authorities Friday suspended policemen who had opened fire and killed a blasphemy suspect Shah Nawaz in Mirpur Khas earlier this week, only to be applauded and showered with rose petals by local residents after the killing.



If I don't win this election and the Jewish people would really have a lot to do with that if that happens because if 40%, I mean, 60% of the people are voting for the enemy, Israel, in my opinion, will cease to exist within two years

DONALD TRUMP | FORMER PRESIDENT, US

2 RUSSIANS SET RECORD

Two Russians, Oleg Kononenko and Nikolai Chub, Friday set a record for the longest continuous stay (370 days, 21 hours and 22 minutes) on the International Space Station



Israel kills top Hezbollah figure

Israel launches airstrike in Beirut that kills Hezbollah's operations commander Ibrahim Aqil, who serves on the group's top military body

REUTERS



Beirut, Sept 20: Israel killed a top Hezbollah commander in an airstrike on Beirut's southern suburbs Friday, two security sources in Lebanon said, sharply escalating the year-long conflict between Israel and the Iran-backed group.

The target was Hezbollah's operations commander Ibrahim Aqil, who serves on the group's top military body, two security sources in Lebanon and Israeli Army Radio said. Aqil was killed alongside members of Hezbollah's elite Radwan Unit as they were holding a meeting, one of the security sources said.

The strike killed eight people and wounded 59 others, Lebanon's health ministry said, in a preliminary toll. The strike inflicted another blow on Hezbollah after the group suffered an unprecedented attack earlier this week in which pagers and walkie talkies used by

its members exploded, killing 37 people and wounding thousands. That attack was widely believed to have been carried out by Israel, which has neither confirmed or denied its involvement.

The civil defence said its rescue teams were searching for people under the rubble of two buildings hit in Friday's strike. The Israeli military said it had conducted a "targeted strike" in Beirut, without giving further details. It marks the second time in less than two months that Israel has targeted a leading Hezbollah

military commander in Beirut. In July, an Israeli airstrike killed Fuad Shukur, the group's top military commander.

Aqil has a \$7 million bounty on his head from the United States over his link to the deadly bombing of Marines in Lebanon in 1983, according to the US State Department website.

The Israeli military reported warning sirens sounded in northern Israel following the Beirut strike. Israeli media reported heavy rocket fire in northern Israel. Hezbollah said it had fired

Israeli raid deepens in Rafah; kills 27

Cairo: Israeli forces killed at least 27 Palestinians in tank and air strikes on north and central areas of the Gaza Strip Friday, medics said, as tanks advanced further into northwest Rafah near the border with Egypt. The unrelenting fighting between the Israelis and Hamas militants in the enclave carried on even as a parallel conflict in the Lebanon-Israel border area involving Hamas' allies Hezbollah intensified. Meanwhile some Palestinians displaced by the Israeli assault on Gaza said they feared their temporary beachside camp would be inundated by high waves. Palestinian health officials said shelling by Israeli tanks killed eight people and wounded several others in the Nuseirat refugee camp in the central area of Gaza, and six others were killed in an airstrike on a house in Gaza City. In the northern town of Beit Hanoun, an Israeli strike on a car killed and wounded several Palestinians, medics said. It was not clear how many of the casualties were combatants and how many were civilians.



Katyusha rockets at what it described as the main intelligence headquarters in northern Israel "which is responsible for assassinations".

White House national security spokesman John Kirby said he was not aware of any Israeli notification to the United States before the Beirut strike, adding that Americans were strongly urged not to travel to Lebanon, or to leave if they are already there.

"War is not inevitable up there at the Blue Line, and we're going to continue to do everything we can to try to prevent it," said Kirby, referring to the frontier between Lebanon and Israel.

RUBBLE AND BURNT OUT CARS

"The IDF (Israel Defence Forces) conducted a targeted strike in Beirut. At this moment, there are no changes in the Home Front Command defensive guidelines," the Israeli military said.

Footage showed a badly damaged building and the street strewn with rubble and burnt out cars.

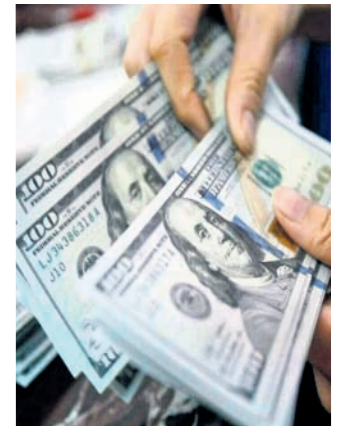
Ignited by the Gaza war, the conflict has intensified significantly this week.

On Thursday night, the Israeli military carried out its most intensive airstrikes in southern Lebanon since the conflict erupted almost a year ago.

Pak faces \$100bn loan repayment in 4 years

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Islamabad, Sept 20: Cash-strapped Pakistan is facing a daunting task of repaying a staggering \$100 billion external debt over the next four years, the government has said, an amount which is nearly 10 times its current \$9.4 billion foreign exchange reserves.



The \$100 billion external debt repayments from 2024 to 2027 are exclusive of any payments on account of the liabilities booked at the balance sheet of the central bank and the requirements for financing the current account deficit, according to a report published in The Express Tribune newspaper Friday. "Pakistan's external debt repayments for four years are \$100 billion," Minister of State for Finance Ali Pervaiz Malik said at

a meeting of the National Assembly Standing Committee Thursday.

However, "the debt stock can easily be financed through rollovers or replacement of the existing debt with new one," Malik was quoted as saying by the newspaper.

Malik's statement underscores that the government does not have a viable plan of paying back these loans except requesting the lenders every year to defer the payments for one more year, it said.

The \$100 billion external debt repayments by the federal government are 10 times more than the current \$9.4 billion gross official foreign exchange reserves, the paper said.

Director General Debt, Mohsin Chandna, told the Committee that the rollovers are mainly from Saudi Arabia (\$5 billion), China (\$4 billion), UAE (\$3 billion) and Kuwait (\$700 million).

The government's strategy to remain afloat by securing the rollovers has already started backfiring and also led to a significant delay in securing the International Monetary Fund (IMF) board meeting date, according to the paper.

The International Monetary Fund (IMF) board is now scheduled to approve a 37-month Extended Fund Facility programme worth \$7 billion to Pakistan September 25 after these creditors finally assured to rollover the debt but only for one year.



Election officials work at a polling material distribution centre ahead of the upcoming presidential election, in Colombo, Sri Lanka, Friday

India is a leader within Quad, says US

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Washington, Sept 20: The US sees India as a leader within the Quad and is grateful for New Delhi's role in the four-nation grouping, a top White House official has said.

The remarks by Mira Rapp-Hooper, White House National Security Council Senior Director for East Asia and Oceania, came two days ahead of the Quad summit, comprising leaders from Australia, India, Japan

and the US.

"When it comes to the role that we expect India to play, we expect and indeed see India as a leader within the Quad," she said Thursday.

The best encapsulation of the way the US thinks about India's role is captured in Washington's Indo-Pacific Strategy, she added.

Since the release of the Indo-Pacific Strategy in February 2022, the US has taken historic strides to advance its vision for an Indo-Pacific region that is



free and open, connected, prosperous, secure, and resilient.

"We say that the United States seeks an India that is increasingly a leader in the region and increasingly a partner with the

United States," Rapp-Hooper said. "Through the Quad, we are increasingly working on projects in South Asia, which, of course, is a huge strategic priority for the government in Delhi, and we're grateful for India's leadership," she added.

US President Joe Biden will host Prime Minister Narendra Modi, Prime Minister Anthony Albanese of Australia and Prime Minister Kishida Fumio of Japan for the fourth in-person Quad Leaders' Summit Saturday.

'SIKH SACRED MUSIC' UK music exam board officially recognises kirtan

London-based Music Teachers' Board will now offer Sikh Sacred Music as part of its globally recognised eight-grade music exams, providing students the opportunity to earn Universities and Colleges Admissions Service points

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

London, Sept 20: For the first time in the UK, kirtan is recognised as part of the graded music examination system, with students able to access a formal curriculum and texts for "Sikh Sacred Music" starting Friday. Birmingham-based musician and academic Harjinder Lallie has devoted years towards kirtan taking its rightful place alongside Western classical music and ensuring the traditional musical skills are preserved for generations to come.

Kirtan, the singing of shabads or scriptures from the holy 'Guru Granth Sahib', is a fundamental method of devotion and praise

in the Sikh faith.

London-based Music Teachers' Board (MTB) will now offer Sikh Sacred Music as part of its globally recognised eight-grade music exams, providing students the opportunity to earn Universities and Colleges Admissions Service (UCAS) points for the higher Grades 6-8 which are then recognised for university admissions.

"Our goal throughout all this is to ensure that we preserve our heritage for generations to come," said Lallie, a teacher at the Gurmat Sangeet Academy in the UK.

"It's taken 10 hard years of work to get the curriculum accepted and launched. It is deeply humbling but still fills me with pride that all that hard work has



now paid off. That a Western audience is paying a lot of attention to what we have done and, most importantly, can appreciate that Sikh kirtan is no less than say the violin, piano or any other Western contemporary music genre," he said.

The Sikh Sacred Music curriculum comes alongside recognition of five Indian string instruments, dilruba, taus, esraj, sarangi and saranda.

As Lallie explains, almost 550 years ago kirtan was performed

on tanti saaz or with stringed instruments. Over time, particularly in the last 150 years, stringed instruments became replaced by the harmonium.

"We lost a lot of our heritage during this time. In the last 25 years, there has been a huge drive pioneered by groups such as the Gurmat Sangeet Academy in the UK to bring back traditional instruments. This examination system requires the candidate to do kirtan on traditional stringed instruments

As one of the main UK exam boards with schools, teachers and learners using us across 50 different countries, including India, a big part of our mission is to diversify music and we're doing lots of cutting-edge things in trying to promote musical diversity and learning

DAVID KESEL | MANAGING DIRECTOR OF MUSIC TEACHERS' BOARD

and not the harmonium. By doing this, we will be encouraging more children to connect back with their roots and heritage," said Lallie.

The MTB's development of the new exam has been in collaboration with a South Asian Music Committee, made up of representatives and organisations who are at the forefront of Sikh Sacred Music tuition around the world.

"It's really nice to see that the people that learn Sikh Sacred Music will now be actually recognised for their hard work and receive qualifications for what they're learning; just like people learning other musical instruments like the piano, violin or guitar," said David Kesel, Managing Director of MTB.

For the exam board, which has been pioneering innovation in musical exams, this project is an important step in a wider mission to culturally diversify music education to celebrate the musical traditions across all cultures.

Kesel explained "As one of the main UK exam boards with schools, teachers and learners using us across 50 different countries, including India, a big part of our mission is to diversify music and we're doing lots of cutting-edge things in trying to promote musical diversity and learning."

business

of the day quote

We face a complex area of challenge from persistent foodborne illness and emerging concerns such as nutraceutical safety, novel foods and microplastics in our food chain while striving for sustainability

JP NADDA | HEALTH MINISTER

With over 60 per cent of Indian consumers viewing income falsification as acceptable or justified, banks face a very real problem of 'liar loans' that could skew risk assessment and increase bad loan rates

AASHISH SHARMA | APAC SEGMENT LEADER, FICO

India's robust GDP growth, rapid urbanization, the growing middle-class population, the government's export incentives and policy initiatives like PLI scheme and 'Make-in-India' are driving demand for manufactured goods

RK JHA | MD AND CEO, LIC MUTUAL FUND

SHORT TAKES

Reliance Infra gets Rs 1,100cr infusion

New Delhi: Anil Ambani's flagship firm, Reliance Infrastructure Ltd is set to receive ₹1,100 crore equity infusion from the promoters and another ₹1,910 crore from two Mumbai-based investment firms, according to a filing by the company. The board of the company had Thursday approved ₹6,000 crore fundraise plan, of which ₹3,014 crore was to be raised through preferential allotment of shares and ₹3,000 crore share issue to institutional buyers. In the first phase, the company is launching ₹3,014 crore preferential placement under which 12.56 crore equity shares or convertible warrants will be issued at an issue price of ₹240 per share, according to the company's postal ballot seeking shareholder nod for share issue.

GeM cuts charges levied on sellers

New Delhi: Public procurement portal GeM has significantly slashed transaction charges levied on sellers and service providers on its portal, a senior government official said Friday. Government e-marketplace (GeM) Additional CEO Ajit B Chavan said that this "bold" move was part of the government's 100 days initiative. "Aligning with the government's ongoing commitment to foster ease of doing business and build a more inclusive economy, Government e-Marketplace has recently announced a significant reduction in the transaction charges levied on sellers, service providers transacting on its platform," he told reporters here. Accordingly, GeM has announced a New Revenue Policy of the portal with effect from August 9.

PW raises \$210mn

New Delhi: Edtech unicorn PhysicsWallah said Friday it has raised \$210 million in a funding round led by Hornbill Capital at a 2.5 times higher valuation of \$2.8 billion. Lightspeed Venture Partners, along with existing investors GSV and WestBridge, also participated in the funding round. "PhysicsWallah Pvt Ltd (PW) has closed its series B funding round, raising \$210 million. This investment brings the company's post-money valuation to an impressive \$2.8 billion, 2.5x (times) jump over its last valuation of \$1.1 billion," the company said in a statement. There has been a long dry spell of significant funding in the Indian edtech sector with a significant dip in the valuation of large edtech firms.



I have conveyed my deepest condolences to the family, although nothing can fill the void in their lives. I truly regret the fact that we missed being present at Anna's funeral. This is completely alien to our culture. It has never happened before; it will never happen again

RAJIV MEMANI | CHAIRMAN, EY INDIA

'MAKE IN INDIA' IPHONE 16 HITS MARKET

It was a 'wow moment' for thousands of Apple lovers in India Friday as they started receiving 'Make in India' iPhone 16 at Apple BKC in Mumbai and Apple Saket in New Delhi - along with at other Apple Authorised resellers stores amid long queues



'NO WORK, NO PAY'

Samsung warns striking workers as row heats up

Chennai, Sept 20: Samsung Electronics has warned its striking workers in southern India they will not receive wages if they continue protesting and also face the risk of termination, a company email showed, escalating a dispute between the company and its employees. Hundreds of Samsung workers have since September 9 disrupted work and protested in a nearby makeshift tent close to its home appliances factory near the city of Chennai. They have been demanding higher wages and recognition of a union at the plant, which contributes roughly a third of



Samsung's annual India revenue of \$12 billion. Samsung last week sued the protesting union in a district court, seeking a temporary injunction to restrain sloganeering and making speeches in and around the factory. But the judge Thursday only called for a swift resolution. Samsung India's HR team wrote an email to some strik-

Company warns striking workers of potential termination
Hundreds of workers have boycotted work since Sept 9
Judge calls for swift resolution after Samsung sues workers

ing workers Friday, saying they were engaging in an "illegal strike" and will not be entitled to wages for the period of protest. "You shall not be entitled to wages from 09.09.2024 to the date you report back to work on 'No work No Pay' basis," said the email, sent by Reuters. The email also warned that if employees don't join work within four days, they will need to explain why they "should not be dismissed from service." Samsung did not respond to a request for comment. Last week, the company told Reuters in a statement it had initiated discussions with workers at the plant "to resolve all issues at the earliest".

At least three striking Samsung workers confirmed to Reuters they received Friday's warning email from the HR team. The email also said Samsung management had indicated all issues can be resolved by discussions. Samsung workers are earning ₹25,000 on average per month, according to powerful labour group CITU that has helped mobilize the factory workers. They are demanding a raise of ₹36,000 over three years. Samsung is not keen to recognize any union backed by a national labour group like CITU, and talks with workers and state officials have not yielded a resolution.

HIT BY TARIFF HIKE

Jio, Airtel, Vi record customer loss, BSNL only gainer in July

New Delhi, Sept 20: The impact of mobile phone service tariff hike was evident in July with Reliance Jio, Bharti Airtel, Vodafone Idea reporting loss of customer base, which resulted in an overall decline in telecom subscribers in the country. Reliance Jio, Bharti Airtel and Vodafone Idea increased their mobile service plan rates in the range of 10-27 per cent in the first week of July. Airtel and Vodafone Idea have more than doubled their entry-level mobile rates in the last 2-3 years to ₹199 that comes with 28 days validity. State-run BSNL was the only player that added new subscribers and led the market in terms of new net customer addition, according to a monthly subscribers report released by the Telecom Regulatory Authority of India on Friday. According to the report, BSNL added over 2.94 million mobile subscribers in July. Bharti Airtel lost 1.69 million mobile subscribers which was highest among its peers. Vodafone Idea and Reliance Jio lost 1.41 million and 758 thousands mobile subscribers, respectively. Overall, the telecom subscriber base in the country declined marginally to 1,205.17 million in July from 1,205.64 million in June. North East, Maharashtra, Rajasthan, Mumbai, Kolkata, Tamil Nadu, Punjab, Bihar, West Bengal, UP East, Haryana, Andhra Pradesh telecom circles recorded decline in mobile customer base post the hike in mobile services rates. The wireline or the fixed line connections segment increased by about one per cent to 35.56 million in July from 35.11 million in June. Reliance Jio led the fixed-line segment with addition of over 480 thousand new subscribers. It was followed by Bharti Airtel which added over 136 thousand new subscribers, VMPL 12,413, Vi 11,375, Tata Teleservices 3,971 and Quadrant added 12 new fixed line customers. BSNL was the biggest loser in the segment. The state-run firm lost 134 thousand fixed line customers and its sister concern lost 56,454 customers. The broadband customer base in the country increased to 946.19 million at the end of July from 940.75 million in June.

Forex reserves rise for 5th week, close in on \$700 billion

Mumbai, Sept 20: India's foreign exchange reserves extended their winning run for a fifth straight week to hit a record high of \$689.46 billion as of September 13, data from the central bank showed Friday. The reserves rose by \$220 million in the reporting week, after having risen by a total of \$19.1 billion in the prior four weeks. Changes in foreign currency assets are caused by the Reserve Bank of India's intervention as well as the appreciation or depreciation of foreign assets held in the reserves. The RBI intervenes on both sides of the foreign exchange market to prevent undue volatility in the rupee. Foreign exchange reserves also include India's reserve tranche position in the International Monetary Fund. In the week ending September 13, the rupee strengthened nearly 0.1% week-on-week, its best weekly performance since the week ended June 25. The domestic currency settled at 83.5625 Friday, and gained nearly 0.4% week-on-week, its strongest weekly rise this year.

INDICES AT HISTORIC HIGHS

Sensex, Nifty soar to close above record levels on global stocks rally

Mumbai, Sept 20: Benchmark Sensex closed above the historic 84,000-mark for first time while Nifty settled at a new record high Friday, powered by a rally in frontline bank stocks along with upbeat trends in the US and Asian markets. The 30-share BSE Sensex jumped 1,359.51 points or 1.63 per cent to settle at an all-time high of 84,544.31. During the day, it soared 1,509.66 points or 1.81 per cent to hit the momentous intra-day peak of 84,694.46. The NSE Nifty surged 375.15 points or 1.48 per cent to close at a record 25,790.95 level. During the day, the gauge zoomed 433.45 points or 1.70 per cent to reach an all-time intra-day peak of 25,849.25. From the 30 Sensex firms, Mahindra & Mahindra jumped over 5 per cent. JSW Steel, ICICI Bank, Larsen & Toubro, Bharti Airtel, Nestle, Adani Ports, Hindustan Unilever, HDFC Bank, Tech Mahindra, Maruti, Kotak Mahindra Bank and Tata Steel were the other big gainers. State Bank of India, IndusInd Bank, Tata Consultancy Services and Bajaj Finance were the lag-



Indian markets hit an all-time high as they cheered the Fed's rate cut. The 50 basis points rate cut was a positive surprise for global markets

KRISHNA APPALA | SR RESEARCH ANALYST, CAPITALMIND RESEARCH

The BSE smallcap gauge jumped 1.37 per cent and midcap index climbed 1.16 per cent. Realty soared 3.21 per cent, capital goods (2.32 per cent), auto (2.12 per cent), industrials (2.08 per cent), metal (1.82 per cent), consumer discretionary (1.78 per cent), financial services (1.55 per cent), bankex (1.44 per cent) and healthcare (1.10 per cent). A total of 2,442 stocks advanced while 1,502 declined and 115 remained unchanged on the BSE. Last Thursday, the 30-share BSE benchmark hit the 83,000-level for the first time.

gards. "The Indian market has joined the rally following the 50bps Fed rate cut and super accommodative monetary policy. It is expected to bring positivity to the economy and foreign inflows in the short

to medium-term as the global economy continues to be robust," Vinod Nair, Head of Research, Geojit Financial Services said. All key sectors contributed with realty, auto, and metal stocks leading the gains.

India outperforms most global markets, behind only Wall Street

India's NSE Nifty 50 and S&P BSE Sensex are trailing only Wall Street's Nasdaq and S&P 500 as top-performing indexes this year, with analysts expecting the rally to extend into 2025. The Nifty and Sensex have gained 18.7% and 17% respectively in 2024, securing the third and fourth spots among major global bourses. The Nasdaq and S&P have added approximately 22% and 20.5%, slightly ahead of the Indian benchmarks. Japan's Nikkei 225 and Germany's DAX follow India, rising 13% and 12%, respectively. Earlier this week, India's weightage in a key MSCI index topped China for the first time. Foreign portfolio inflows, which had moderated in August, are on course for to hit a six-month high in September. The rally has pushed the 12-month forward price-to-earnings ratios of the Sensex and Nifty to 23.6 and 24.4, respectively—the highest among emerging markets. Technical indicators show both indexes are now in overbought territory. Domestic institutional investors picked up shares worth a net of ₹3.23 trillion since the start of the year, according to provisional data from National Stock Exchange. Mutual funds too have remained net buyers since February 2021 with contributions through the systematic investment plan hitting record highs for 14 months in a row.

BIZ BUZZ

Dalmia Bharat arm bags Pollution Control Appreciation Award



Bhubaneswar: Dalmia Cement Bharat Ltd (DCBL), a subsidiary of Dalmia Bharat Ltd, one of India's leading cement manufacturing companies, has been awarded the prestigious 'Pollution Control Appreciation Award - 2024' by the Odisha State Pollution Control Board (OSPCB). The recognition was awarded for the company's continued efforts in implementing effective pollution control measures and sound management practices at its Lanjiberna Limestone and Dolomite Mines in Odisha. The award was presented by the Minister of Forest, Environment & Climate Change, Labour & Employees State Insurance Ganesh Ram Singh Khuntia in the presence of esteemed government officials, including Chief Secretary Manoj Ahuja, IAS, Satyabrata Sahu, IAS, Additional Chief Secretary, and Dr K Murgesan, IFS, Member Secretary, OSPCB. Om Prakash Rao Khelkar, AED and Head - Mines, received the award on behalf of DCBL.

Tata.ev celebrates 'Festival of Cars'

Mumbai: Tata.ev, the pioneer of India's electric mobility revolution, has announced never-before prices on its bestselling models, Tiago.ev, Punch.ev and Nexon.ev, as part of its 'Festival of Cars' celebrations. Focused on making electric vehicles more accessible to mainstream customers, prices have been reduced by up to ₹3 lakh for the Nexon.ev and up to ₹1.20 lakh for the Punch.ev. Tata.ev has been passing on the benefits of localization and technology improvements to customers, and has been able to bring ICE price parity with Curvv.ev launched last month. Customers can additionally enjoy 6-month free of cost charging at any of the over 5,500 Tata Power charging points across the country, making both inter- and intra-city journeys hassle free as well as cost free. The festive offer is available only for a limited period, till 31st October 2024.



Union Bank inaugurates 57th branch at Nischintakoili



Cuttack: Union Bank of India opened its 57th branch at Nischintakoili under Cuttack Region which was inaugurated by Sarada Prasad Pradhan, MLA of Mahanga and Sarvesh Ranjan, Zonal Head & GM of Union Bank of India, Bhubaneswar Zone in presence of Saroj Kumar Rout, Regional Head, Cuttack Region. Besides, Deputy Regional Head Dilip Kumar, Bishnu Charan Behera, Chief Manager Chinmaya Behera and Branch Manager of Nischintakoili Branch, Debarata Sahoo along with other officials were also present in the function. Sarvesh Ranjan informed to the gathering that Union Bank is committed to give its best service to the public of Nischintakoili and will be a part in financial progress of the region.

Star Health Insurance official sold data of 3.1 crore customers

New Delhi, Sept 20: Personal data like mobile numbers, addresses and pre-existing medical conditions of more than 3.1 crore customers of Star Health and Allied Insurance Company have been allegedly sold by a senior company official, a UK-based cyber security researcher has claimed. A query sent to Star Health Insurance over the claims did not elicit any reply till the filing of the news report. However, the company has sent emails to its customers alerting them about the possibility of fraudulent activity by third parties. According to the details shared by the UK-based researcher Jason Parker Friday, a hacker by the name of xenZen has published a website with sample data of Star Health Insurance Company and an email communication with a top official responsible for handling and managing digital network of the company. "I am leaking all Star Health India customers and insurance claims sensitive data. This leak is sponsored by Star Health and Allied Insurance Company, who sold this data to me directly," xenZen claimed. The hacker has created Telegram bots to access data of 31,216,953 customers updated till July 2024 and 5,758,425 claims of the company available till early August.

Food price volatility remains contingent risk: RBI Bulletin



Mumbai, Sept 20: India's headline inflation may average 4.5% in the second half of the fiscal year, aided by weaker crude oil prices, although volatility in food prices can pose a challenge, the central bank said in its monthly bulletin Friday. "Some vegetable price shocks have begun to reverse, and if this continues and broadens, the persistence that characterised food inflation developments in the first quarter of 2024-25 may be behind us," the Reserve Bank of India said. India's retail inflation was at 3.65% in August, higher than the revised 3.60% in July, as vegetable prices soared. Food prices, which account for nearly half of the retail inflation, rose 5.66% in August, compared with a 5.42% climb in the previous month. The RBI targets inflation at 4% with a tolerance band of two percentage points on either side. An unfavourable base effect may "haunt" September's inflation print, the RBI said. Household consumption, how-

ever, is poised to grow faster in July-September period as headline inflation eases, it added. The RBI, which kept its key interest rate unchanged for the ninth straight meeting in August, is expected to proceed cautiously with monetary policy easing. Its next monetary policy meeting is scheduled for October 7-9. The gap between banks' credit and deposit growth is beginning to narrow, with lenders continuing to rely heavily on certificates of deposit to meet funding needs, the central bank noted. "Non-banking financial companies (NBFCs) are increasingly turning to offshore bonds," it added. "Microfinance institutions are facing some asset quality issues, warranting slowing down the pace of loan growth." NBFCs need to remain mindful of the rapidly evolving financial landscape and risks pertaining to cyber-security and climate risks, the RBI said in a separate article in the bulletin. It is "incumbent" upon NBFCs to proactively identify and manage risks as well as bolster their assurance functions to ensure financial stability, it said.

Bumrah magic sinks Bangladesh

FORMS OF ROHIT SHARMA AND VIRAT KOHLI WHO FAIL FOR 2ND TIME IN THE GAME A CAUSE OF CONCERN



TOO HOT TO HANDLE: Taskin Ahmed's stumps go flying to a Jasprit Bumrah special; the bowler celebrates with teammates



PTI PHOTOS

Jadeja sets sight on 300-wicket mark

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

It is important for us to bat well for the remaining part of the second innings and put Bangladesh under pressure

RAVINDRA JADEJA

Chennai, Sept 20: Hoping to claim his 300th Test wicket at the iconic Chepauk, seasoned all-rounder Ravindra Jadeja said Friday all the five Indian bowlers 'will be in play' when Bangladesh come out to bat in their second innings of the series opener here. Jadeja picked up two wickets in Bangladesh's first innings to take his overall tally to 296 in Tests. "I got out early today but it is part and parcel of the game. Now we have to put up a good score on the board in the second innings. I am very happy with my bowling, the way I went through today. It's a good opportunity to take my 300th wicket on this ground," Jadeja told the official broadcaster. Jadeja said that all the batters in the team will have to contribute in the second innings. "First we have to bat very well, we have to put somewhere around 120-150 from here on. We'll then be in a good position. We'll come out and bowl and try

and get them out as early as possible," said Jadeja, who knows the ground like the back of his hand thanks to his long stint with Chennai Super Kings. Jadeja pointed out that there is something in the pitch for the pacers. "It's pretty good for batting but there's still something in the wicket for the fast bowlers. The odd ball was seaming and swinging, it's not that easy for batters. If fast bowlers bend their backs, they can get something out of the wicket," Jadeja opined. Jadeja was asked about his partnership with Ashwin in the middle and the 'advice' he offered to the 'local boy'. "First of all, Ashwin doesn't need any advice. I was just telling Ash(win) that we should not play rash shots and get out," Jadeja said.

Highlights

- Jasprit Bumrah becomes 10th Indian bowler to capture 400 international wickets
- Bumrah has 163 wickets in Tests, 149 in ODIs and 89 in T20Is
- Ashwin's 113 is the highest score by an Indian batting at No. 8 beating the 73 by Salim Durani against England in 1964

However, the beginning of India's second innings was not really bright as they lost Rohit and Yashasvi Jaiswal (10) with only 28 on board. They were resurrected somewhat by Kohli and Gill who put on 39 runs for the third wicket.

Gill played some delectable shots either side of the pitch, generating immense power and timing from his typical minimum-follow through of the bat method. A short-arm jab through covers off Nahid Rana for a boundary was the standout shot from

the right-hander on the day.

Earlier Bumrah slipped into his elements straightway and fetched India the first breakthrough dismissing in-form Shadman Islam, who shouldered arms to an in-cutter with disastrous consequences. Most of the batters failed to read Bumrah and the indecisiveness was there for everyone to see. During the course of the Bangladesh innings he added the wickets of Mushfiqur Rahim (8), Taskin Ahmed (11) and Hasan Mahmud (9) to his collection.

Centurion Ravichandran Ashwin endured a rare wicketless innings but others stepped in for him, and Bangladesh too contributed with their timorous approach. It was reflected in the dismissals of Litton Das (22) and the vastly experienced Shakib Al-Hasan (32). They were looking comfortable in the middle during the course of their 51-run alliance for the sixth wicket.

However, Litton chose to play a rather needless uppish slog

ASHWIN'S UNIQUE FEAT

Chennai: Ravichandran Ashwin has become the first-ever cricketer in history to have scored 20-plus scores of 50 or more along with 30-plus five-wicket hauls in the longest format of the game. He is thus the first cricketer in the 147-year history of Test cricket to achieve the feat. Ashwin scored 113 in India's first against Bangladesh to rescue his side from a precarious situation after the hosts had slipped to 144 for six. Ashwin, who has 36 five-wicket hauls, the third-most by a Test bowler, also has scored six hundreds and 14 fifties in the longest format of the game.

sweep off Jadeja that was grabbed by substitute fielder Dhruv Jurel. Shakib's dismissal was even more bizarre. The left-hander went for a reverse sweep off a Jadeja full delivery and the ball took a deflection off his boots en route to the big gloves of Rishabh Pant. Pacer Akash chipped in with two wickets in as many balls to oust Zakir Hasan (3) and Mominul Haq (0) which hastened Bangladesh's downfall.

Before they collapsed in a heap, Bangladesh had a few moments of delight as they managed to price out the last four Indian wickets, including Ashwin (113) and Jadeja (86), to put a quick end to the hosts' first dig. Hasan Mahmud (5/83) added a fifth wicket to his kitty in the form of Bumrah.

BRIEF SCORES

India 376 (Ravichandran Ashwin 113, Hasan Mahmud 5/83 and 81 for 3 (Shubman Gill 33 batting) versus Bangladesh 149 (Shakib Al Hasan 32, Jasprit Bumrah 4/50, Akash Deep 2/19, Mohammed Siraj 2/30). Match to continue.



SHORT TAKES

Lifter Dhanush creates history

Leon (Spain): Indian lifter Loganathan Dhanush claimed the bronze medal here Friday in the 55kg category at the IWF Junior World Weightlifting Championships. This achievement marks the first-ever medal for an Indian male lifter in the junior championships. The 17-year-old lifted a total of 231 kg, also securing a bronze in the snatch event with a lift of 107kg.

Chahal picks up 2nd 5-wicket haul

Northampton (England): Leg-spinner Yuzvendra Chahal worked his magic to grab five wickets in his second successive match as Northamptonshire resisted a Leicestershire fight-back to secure a nine-wicket win in the English County Championship. Following up on his 4/82 in the first innings, Chahal claimed 5/134 as Northants bowled out Leicestershire for 316 to set an easy target of 137 in the Division Two County Championship here Thursday. Northants romped home in 30.3 overs, losing just the wicket of Gus Miller (11). In the previous match, Chahal had claimed 5/45 and 4/45 in Northants' 133-run win over Derbyshire.

AIFF allows Ali to play for EB

New Delhi: India defender Anwar Ali was Thursday cleared to play for East Bengal after the All India Football Federation's (AIFF) Players Status Committee (PSC) issued him a No Objection Certificate (NOC). The decision came after the Delhi High Court ordered a rehearing of his case, overturning a previous suspension imposed by the AIFF. "The player's subsequent conduct of signing with East Bengal FC be given effect to pursuant to Article 9.5 and the CRS be updated by treating this order as the requisite release letter/NOC," the PSC stated while granting Ali the requisite NOC.

Konark Suryas Odisha stun Manipal Tigers

POST NEWS NETWORK

Jodhpur, Sept 20: Konark Suryas Odisha scripted a thrilling two-run win over defending champions Manipal Tigers as the Legends League Cricket (LLC) got off to an exciting start here Friday. After posting a not-too-rosy 104 for the loss of nine wickets in 20 overs, the bowlers of Konark Suryas did an admirable job to restrict the opposition to 102 for eight.

Skipper Irfan Pathan bowling the last over got rid of the well-set Obus Pienaar (344, 24b, 2x6) to seal victory for Konark Suryas Odisha. Earlier bowling the 19th over R Vinay Kumar (2/21) dismissed Dan Christian (30) to give the Odisha side a sniff of a chance. Shahbaz Nadeem (2/25) and Dilshan Munaweera (2/9) also played an important in scripting the win for Konark Suryas Odisha.

Earlier, after being put in, Konark Suryas could not im-

press much. Had it not been for a late flourish by Navin Stewart (17, 12b, 1x4, 1x6) and Kumar (11 n o, 5b, 1x4, 1x6), the Odisha side wouldn't have reached the three-figure mark.

A number of batters consumed more deliveries than the runs they scored. New Zealander Ross Taylor was the worst offender taking 28 deliveries to score just 14, while Yusuf Pathan could only manage three off eight deliveries.

In the end, however, the Konark Suryas Odisha bowlers rose to the occasion and utilised the pitch which had something to offer in the form of uneven bounce. They bowled a tight line and did not allow the opposition batters to dictate terms.



Malvika's dream run ends in China

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Changzhou (China), Sept 20: Talented Indian shuttler Malvika Bansod could not stand up to the challenge of two-time World Champion Akane Yamaguchi, going down to the fourth-seeded Japanese in straight games in the quarterfinals of the China Open here Friday.

Malvika, ranked 43rd in the world, found the going tough against the World No. 5 losing 10-21, 16-21 in just 35 minutes as India's challenge in the Super 1000 tournament came to an end. This was the third successive loss for Malvika against Yamaguchi, the former world No. 1. The Nagpur shuttler was no match for Yamaguchi in the opening game as the Japanese took a massive eight-point lead at 12-4 before closing out the game at 21-10.

The second game was a more even affair with the Indian going neck-and-neck till 15-all before Yamaguchi showed her class to leave Malvika behind.

The loss comes just a day after the 22-year-old Malvika had defeated two-time Commonwealth Games medallist and World No. 25 from Scotland Kristy Gilmour in a round-of-16 clash.

Indian men cruise, but women lose to Poland

IT WAS THE 8TH SUCCESSIVE WIN FOR MEN AT THE CHESS OLYMPIAD



STEELY GAZE: Viduth Gujrathi awaits to make the next move during his game against Iran's Idani Pouya

PHOTO CHESS.COM

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Budapest, Sept 20: The Indian men's team scored yet another thumping 3.5-0.5 point victory over Iran to stake claim for the gold medal in the Open section but the women suffered a shock 1.5-2.5 points defeat at the hands of Poland in the eighth round

of the 45th Chess Olympiad currently underway here.

With their eighth victory Friday in as many matches, the Indian men took their tally to 16 points and stretched their lead to a massive two points over nearest rivals Hungary and Uzbekistan with just three rounds left in the biggest chess event on the planet.

World No. 4 Arjun Erigaisi started the rampage with black pieces and crashed through the defences of Bardiya Daneshvar who proved no match for the Indian. World Championship challenger D Gukesh then put it across Parham Maghsoodloo with black pieces, swindling the Iranian towards the end of the first time-control.

R Praggnanandhaa played out a draw with Amin Tabatabaei to ensure an Indian victory and Vidit Gujrathi added to the team's tally as he outclassed Idani Pouya in all departments of the game to give another huge victory to the team.

For Arjun, this was another step towards the 2,800-rating mark as he took his personal tally to a remarkable 7.5 points from eight games. In live ratings, Arjun is now at 2,793 points, and if he does cross the 2,800 mark, he will be the 16th player in history - and only the second Indian after Viswanathan Anand - to do so.

Cuttack, Odisha Police emerge champs

POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar, Sept 20: Cuttack won the overall title in the 70th State Senior Athletics Championships 2024 which concluded at the Kalinga Stadium here Friday. Cuttack finished with 312 points while Sundargarh were a distant second with 200 points. In the girls' under-20 segment Sundargarh emerged victorious with 86 points while in the boys' under-20 category Cuttack were declared champions with 61 points. In the girls' under-23 category Sundargarh won the title with 37 points, while in the boys' segment of the same age group, Cuttack finished on top with 80 points.

Odisha Police teams emerged as champions in the men's and women's segment, but it was not sufficient for them to win the over title.

The championships held over



Overall team champions Cuttack

OP PHOTO

three days saw some remarkable performances with 22 meet records being created. Among those who created new meet records on the last day of the event were Jita Patra (girls' under-23, Sonepur, 400m hurdles) who finished the race with

a time of 1:11.77 seconds and Panchanan Bibar (boys' under-23 Cuttack, 400m) who won the race with a time of 48.51 seconds. Susmita Tigga of Odisha Police won the women's 3,000m steeplechase event with a new meet time of 11.08.23 seconds.

Madhuri to lead senior T20 squad

POST NEWS NETWORK

Cuttack, Sept 20: Madhuri Mehta will lead a 16-member Odisha team that will participate in the Senior Women's T20 cricket tournament which will be played in Vadodara, Gujarat. Odisha will start their campaign against hosts Gujarat October 17. The other teams in Odisha's group are J&K (October 18), Tamil Nadu (Oct 20), Mizoram (Oct 22), Goa (Oct 24), Mumbai (Oct 26) and Andhra (Oct 28). The squad: Madhuri Mehta (captain), Sushree Dibyadarshini Tanmayee Behera, Sangeeta Khadia, Kajol Jena, Sarita Meher, Silpa Swain, Pragyan Paramita Mohanty, Rashmita Chinhara, Janaki Reddy, Rasanara Parwin, Bhabani Dhada, Rameswari Nayak, Reemalaxmi Ekka, Subhra Nirjharini Swain and Taranna Pradhan.

OFC suffer 2nd consecutive loss



Nihal Sudheesh (left) celebrates after scoring against OFC

PHOTO ISL

POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar, Sept 20: Odisha FC (OFC) suffered their second successive defeat Friday going down to Punjab FC in their first away match of the ISL at the Jawaharlal Nehru Stadium in New Delhi. Nihal Sudheesh (28th) and Leon Augustine (89th) scored

for the winners and Odisha FC got on the scoresheet thanks to an own goal by R Kumar of Punjab in added on time.

Punjab FC controlled the game, creating multiple opportunities courtesy of their front-line comprising Nihal, Filip Mrzljak, Mushaga Bakenga and Ezequiel Vidal breaching the OFC backline and time and again and posing a huge threat to goalkeeper Amrinder Singh.

Punjab FC head coach Panagiotis Dilmeris was a relieved man as his side took an early lead this time in the contest. It started with Vidal storming ahead on the left flank before chipping in a pass for Mrzljak inside the box. The latter showed great awareness to back-heel the ball in the path of Nihal, who dropped a shoulder, got past OFC full-back Amey Ranawade and sent the ball into the back of the net on the far right corner.