



Reel actor
Actor Kriti Sanon, who recently turned producer, says she is not a good actor in real life

LEISURE | P2



Hezbollah's new chief
Hezbollah announces Tuesday that it has chosen cleric Naim Qassem to lead the Lebanese militant group

INTERNATIONAL | P10



Muted sales
Gold sales on Dhanteras are estimated to drop 10% in volume terms y-o-y on sharp 33% annual rise in rates of the yellow metal

BUSINESS | P11



Rodri gets Ballon d'Or
Manchester City and Spain midfielder Rodri gets the Ballon d'Or award after being chosen the best footballer of the world

SPORTS | P12

Majhi flags off 'Run for Unity'

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Bhubaneswar, Oct 29: Chief Minister Mohan Charan Majhi Tuesday flagged off the 'Run for Unity' organised here to celebrate the birth anniversary of Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel.

The CM also participated in the marathon.

Majhi along with Deputy Chief Minister Pravati Parida, Revenue and Disaster Management Minister Suresh Pujari and Sports Minister Suryabanshi Suraj joined the programme held at the Kalinga Stadium here.

Participants ran from Kalinga Stadium to Raj Bhavan Square, sending a message of national unity on Sardar Patel's birth anniversary. The chief minister also administered oath to participants which also included students.

The birth anniversary of Sardar Patel is observed as 'Rashtriya Ekta Diwas' October 31. As this time Diwali falls October 31, the Central government has decided to organise the 'Run for Unity' on the occasion of Dhanteras Tuesday.

IRREGULAR by MANJUL



We don't burst crackers. We play speeches of our favourite politician

MARKET WATCH	
INDEX	VARIATION
SENSEX	80,369.03 ↑ 363.99
NIFTY	24,466.85 ↑ 127.70
DOLLAR	84.08 ↑ ₹0.01
EURO	90.85 ↓ ₹0.08
GOLD	₹79,054 ↑ ₹488
SILVER	₹98,449 ↑ ₹1,025

WEATHER		
	BBSR	CTC
Max Temp	33.2°C	31.6°C
Min Temp	25.6°C	24.0°C
Humidity	88%	94%
Rainfall	0.1mm	Nil

FORECAST
Light to moderate rain/thundershower very likely



OFF TRACK: Emergency workers at the scene of a derailed tram that crashed into a building in downtown Oslo, Norway, Tuesday

AP PHOTO

PM inaugurates 2 health projects

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Bhubaneswar, Oct 29: Prime Minister Narendra Modi Tuesday virtually inaugurated and laid the foundation stones of three health projects in Odisha.

He inaugurated the Central Drugs Testing Laboratory at Gothapatna here and a 50-bed critical care block at the District Headquarters Hospital (DHH) in Bargarh.

He also laid the foundation stone for the Central Research Institute in Yoga and Naturopathy at Jatni, on the outskirts of the City.

Chief Minister Mohan Charan Majhi and Health Minister Mukesh Mahaling attended the inauguration of the Central Drugs Testing Laboratory, while local MPs and MLAs participated in the events at Jatni and Bargarh. Addressing the gathering, Majhi said the Odisha government will implement Ayushman Bharat scheme soon and added that the left-out eligible beneficiaries will get the benefits of the scheme.

The Gopabandhu Jan Arogya Yojana will also continue in the state, he said. The state government has allocated ₹3,556 crore for health coverage schemes during this year's budget (2024-25), the CM said.

Majhi said the health department received an allocation of ₹21,000 crore to strengthen health-care services in the state, which represents a 32 per cent increase

Doc rapes patient in Bengal hospital

INDO ASIAN NEWS SERVICE

Doctors in West Bengal continue their protest demanding safety of on-duty medics following the rape and murder of a junior doctor at RJ Kar Medical College and Hospital in Kolkata August 9. While BJP leader Suwendu Adhikari October 28 decided to intensify the strike once again after Diwali saying that the agitation died a premature death because protesting medics trusted Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee, the Bengal police Tuesday arrested a doctor in North 24 Parganas district on charges of raping a female patient by tranquillising her. The doctor allegedly took pictures of the sedated patient in awkward positions and demanded ₹4 lakh from her by threatening her to make the pictures viral. The incident is a crude reminder of the arrest of a doctor at the SCBMCH in Cuttack on charges of raping two elderly female patients just days after the RG Kar incident. These instances nevertheless, call for measures regarding patients' safety at medical facilities, apart from that of doctors.

Kolkata, Oct 29: The West Bengal Police Tuesday arrested a doctor in Hasnabad in North 24 Parganas district on charges of raping a female patient after injecting her with a tranquillizing serum.

District police sources said the doctor was arrested on the basis of a complaint filed by the victim and her husband, who is working in a different state.

In her complaint, she alleged that a few days back when her husband was out of the state, she went to the accused doctor for treatment.

As per her complaint, the doctor first tranquillized her and then raped her. However, that was not the end. As per the complaint, the accused doctor also captured some snaps of the victim in awkward positions while she was in a tranquillized stage and then blackmailed her, threatening to make those pictures viral.

The victim also alleged that by blackmailing her, the accused



doctor thereafter raped her more than once. She has also accused the said doctor of extorting an amount of around ₹4,00,000 from her by threatening to make her pictures viral on social media.

Initially, as per her complaint, she was not able to confide the developments to anyone out of fear of loss of social prestige. She also said that she was feeling helpless as her husband was out of the station during that period.

However, recently when her husband returned home she confided everything to him. The husband consoled her and pursued her to file a police complaint so that the accused doctor could get arrested.

Thereafter, on receipt of the complaint, the police arrested the accused doctor.

COW DUNG CAKES FOR CREMATIONS

The state government Tuesday proposed to use cow dung cakes, instead of firewood, for cremating bodies at Puri's Swargadwar, a move it said will help reduce pollution and save a lot of trees from felling. Fisheries and Animal Resources Development Minister Gokula Nanda Mallik said discussions are in progress with the Swargadwar managing committee before a plan is finalised for implementation at the most sacred crematorium for the people of Odisha. Around 70 bodies are received at Swargadwar for cremation on a daily basis which requires 1.5-2 tonne of firewood. Nevertheless, the use of cow dung for cremation has been in practice at various crematorium across the country, including Kolkata, Pune, Nagpur and Varanasi, following approval from environmentalists and Vedic scholars.



Development Minister Gokula Nanda Mallik said Tuesday.

The proposed change aims to reduce pollution due to burning wood, Mallik said, adding, using cow dung cakes also aligns well with Hindu religious practices.

According to the minister, officials have already started discussions on the proposal and sought inputs in this regard from the Swargadwar managing committee. The government is likely to finalise its plans and implement it soon.

Moreover, a committee, chaired by a Deputy Chief Minister and comprising five ministers and an equal number of secretaries, will be formed to look into ways to utilise cow dung and cow urine aiming to promote cow protection, expand cattle shelters, and enhance dairy production, Mallik added. The Kamadhenu scheme has already been launched to back these initiatives.

AGENCIES

Bhubaneswar, Oct 29: The state government is planning to create an eco-friendly environment at the Swargadwar crematorium in Puri by ensuring the use of cow dung cakes (ghasi) in place of firewood to cremate bodies, Fisheries and Animal Resources

Orchestra in bars with riders

POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar, Oct 29: The state government Tuesday amended the Odisha Excise Rules, 2017, allowing conditional engagement of women above the age of 21 in musical programmes and orchestras at bars authorised to sale foreign liquor or IMFL.

According to the Odisha Excise (Amendment) Rules, 2024, the performances will be allowed on these premises with 21 conditions. Sources said the new rules have incorporated certain provisions while omitting a few mentioned in the existing norms.

"The premises should have round-the-clock CCTV coverage at appropriate places including the performance stage.

The recorded CCTV footage shall be made available to the IIC of the local police station as well as the OIC of Excise Station. If the CCTVs do not function, it shall be immediately reported to the Excise as well as the Police Station. The musical programme or orchestra shall be stopped forthwith as and when the CCTV cameras become dysfunctional," it said, adding, the associated hard disk must have the capacity to store data for a minimum period of three months.

The provisions also make it mandatory for the performers to wear decently. They shall not be awarded by the customers directly, either by paying money or by showering anything which can be converted into money, the rules stated.

'Phantom' dies trying to protect troops

Born in May 2020, the Belgian Malinois sniffer dog was posted to the region in August 2022 and had been a vital part of multiple high-stakes missions

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, Oct 29: The Indian Army's four-year-old sniffer dog Phantom who was killed during a counter-ambush operation in Jammu and Kashmir's Akhnoor sector played a critical role in ensuring the containment of terrorists, officials said Tuesday.

It sustained fatal bullet injuries Monday while attempt-

ing to protect the troops from the terrorist assault.

Born in May 2020, the Belgian Malinois sniffer dog was posted to the region in August 2022 and had been a vital part of multiple high-stakes missions. The canine warrior was issued from the Remount Veterinary Corps (RVC) Centre of the Indian Army.

Security forces Tuesday morning gunned down two terrorists holed up in a forest area near a village in the Akhnoor sector in Jammu and Kashmir, taking the number of militants killed in the 27-hour gunfight near the Line of Control (LoC) to three, officials said.

One of the three terrorists who fired at an ambulance that was part of an army convoy mov-



ing near the LoC Monday morning was killed by evening in the operation that also witnessed action by special forces and NSG commandos and the use of BMP-II infantry combat vehicles.

"Reacting swiftly, troops engaged the terrorists, pushing

them back into the dense forest. Reinforcements, including special forces and a mechanised column conducting training nearby, were deployed to reinforce the cordon.

"Tracking the terrorists' trail amid the challenging jungle terrain. As the operation progressed, Phantom detected hidden explosives and identified potential escape routes, enabling troops to tighten the cordon," a senior official said.

Tragically, during a close encounter, Phantom sustained fatal injuries while attempting to protect the troops from a terrorist's assault, the Army said.

"His actions were critical in ensuring the containment of the terrorists, underscoring the bravery, loyalty, and vital contributions of the Army's canine warriors. Phantom's sacrifice is a stark reminder of the high costs borne in the pursuit of national security and peace," the official said.

leisure



BRADLEY COOPER 'SHOCKED' TO BE NAMED SEXIEST MAN ALIVE IN 2011

Hollywood star Bradley Cooper was shocked when he was given the title of Sexiest Man Alive in 2011, revealing his close friend and actor Dax Shepard. Shepard revealed that Cooper initially thought the organisers were 'pulling a prank' on him.

CAN'T IMAGINE RETURNING TO ACTING: NIKKI REED

American actress Nikki Reed doesn't see herself returning to acting in the near future. The 36-year-old beauty - who is best known for playing Rosalie Hale in the *Twilight* film franchise - is currently focused on her business interests.



FORTUNE FORECAST

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ARIES
You are likely to remain careful and watchful today, foretells Ganesh. And because you'll be invited to parties and other social events, your enthusiasm will remain buoyant. You will also strike the right balance between business and pleasure, says Ganesh.

TAURUS
In all probability, you will discuss certain sacred issues with your beloved today, predicts Ganesh. In the evening, you will be possibly visiting holy places. You had better make up for the lost time to finish pending work in the afternoon. Think twice before you act, warns Ganesh.

GEMINI
The idea of being with your family will keep you motivated throughout the day. In business, your inquisitive approach will do you a lot of good. In fact, you will have the proverbial Midas touch - whichever venture you put your hands on will turn into a glittering success.

CANCER
Today, you will shift your entire focus on the problems plaguing your personal life, feels Ganesh. Your ability to nip a problem in the bud has helped you to have a good personal life so far. And today, you will have to use your skills to mend the strain in your relationship with your loved ones.

LEO
Even slender shoulders gain the strength when the time comes to handle responsibilities. And so shall you, says Ganesh, as today brings with it an increased amount of responsibility. You may find yourself drained of all your energy by the end of it. After all, handling important tasks is a tough thing.

VIRGO
A cocktail of business and pleasure is on the house today. Parties will run till dawn. You will also take the correct route to success by making important decisions. People will stand to gain if they involve you in their do, says Ganesh.

LIBRA
"Efforts made are never in vain, even when they may seem otherwise". Let this be your motto for the day. Today may not seem to be the most productive day, especially when it comes to interviews. You may feel like the rook in the chess set - sometimes coming back to square one despite making many moves forward to the ultimate checkmate! So remember, persistence is the key, says Ganesh.

SCORPIO
The day just went from bad to worse today, says Ganesh. Troubles are coming in faster and thicker than a locust swarm. But keep a leash on yourself, says Ganesh, and steer clear of it all. Take criticism in your stride today and pay attention to what is being said, not who is saying them.

SAGITTARIUS
Hedge your bets carefully, says Ganesh. Solving problems will come naturally to you. But, beware, as you may face the music from certain disgruntled individuals. Worry not, and keep the spring in your step.

CAPRICORN
Ganesh can hear the wedding bells. There is all the likelihood that you will find your perfect match today and will let him/her know about your feelings, says Ganesh. Your family means the world to you and you will be more expressive about this today than you have been in the past few years.

AQUARIUS
Meditate, and tune in to your inner sanctum. As you do this, you will realise you don't need others' advice all the time. Your boss will cooperate with you, while your loved ones will encourage you.

PISCES
A highly productive day awaits you. You will be driven to succeed, and filled with energy and enthusiasm to achieve your goals. Meetings with your superiors ought to yield some much anticipated results, says Ganesh.

'I'm not good actor in real life'

Mumbai: Kriti Sanon has completed a decade in the industry as an actor and she recently turned producer with *Do Patti*. Asked, how she manages to not get bogged down by the pressure, the actress laughed, "I do get bogged down." She also added that she is not a good actor in real life.

She further elaborated, "I can be calm in a chaotic situation but I'm not someone who shouts or gets angry or impulsive. But, I'm a leo and I can be a bit of a control freak and I want everything to happen well. I get extremely involved, even in things where it's not needed. That's something which bogs me down which I need to control."

Kriti was accompanied by her co-star Shaheer Sheikh and co-producer Kanika Dhillon, who is also the writer of *Do Patti*. In this chat, Kanika recalled how Kriti wasn't convinced about doing a scene in the movie, but it was quite sweet that she eventually did it based on Kanika's conviction. Kanika appreciated Kriti for not getting angry during such instances or not allowing disagreements or anything to reflect in her work or show on her face.

The *Heropanti* actress reacted, "I cannot get angry, but you will know what I'm feeling from my face. I'm not a good actor in real life."



Mumbai: For actress Anushka Sen, fashion is beyond just clothing and is a beautiful way to express.

Anushka flaunted a black and white ensemble accentuating her toned figure. She completed the look with a free-flowing bohemian shrug at the Entreprenaari by Navya Nanda x Gulabo by Abu Sandeep showcase in Mumbai.

"I was excited and incredibly grateful as I walked the ramp for the first time for the Entreprenaari showcase by Navya Nanda and Gulabo by Abu Sandeep. Fashion has gone beyond just clothing; it is a beautiful way to express who we were," said Anushka.

The actress said that she was waiting for the perfect opportunity and moment.

"And this event was a dream come true, especially because it was to support all the women entrepreneurs and also walking for Abu Jani Sandeep Khosla, designers I personally admire, was just perfect," she added.

Anushka Sen is an Indian television actress popularly known for acting on-screen as a child actress. She has recently been appointed as the official brand ambassador for South Korean tourism.

She recently worked on an international project titled *Crush*, where she starred alongside Olympic silver medalist Kim Ye Ji and played an assassin.



Anushka: Fashion is beyond just clothing



Nimrat urges for cracker-free Diwali

Mumbai: Actress Nimrat Kaur wished everyone a Happy Dhanteras on Tuesday and urged her fans to have a cracker-free Diwali for the sake of animals.

Nimrat took to Instagram, where she shared some pictures of herself posing with her two cats. The actress looked stunning navy blue Indian-wear as she posed with her four-legged friends.

Alongside the caption, she wrote: "Agar aap apne furry-friends se karte hain pyaar... Toh is Diwali pataakho se please karein inkaar. Aur isi baat par humaari taraf se aapko HAPPY DHANTERAS yaar."

Nimrat added: "Not so fun fact : Dogs and cats can hear 3 and 4 times louder than us humans respectively. Fun fact : No humans were harmed during this photoshoot. #happydhanteras #saynotopatakas #crackerfreediwali #fourleggedfriends."

On the professional front, Nimrat Kaur, who began her career as a model, is known for her work in films such as *The Lunchbox*, *Airlift*, and *Dasvi*.

She was last seen in the mystery thriller *Sajini Shinde Ka Viral Video*, which also stars Radhika Madan, Bhagyashree, and Subodh Bhawe.

Shabana spills beans on Kaka's 'lies'

Mumbai: Shabana Azmi has worked with many stars in the course of her decades-long career. The actor also worked with Rajesh Khanna, known Kaka among his fans, in a number of films, including *Amar Deep*, *Autaar*, *Thodisi Bewafaii* and *Nashat*. In an interview with Faye D'Souza on her YouTube channel, Shabana shared a hilarious incident involving the veteran star when he lied to a journalist about his foot injury.

During the chat, Shabana started talking about funny incidents from film sets and shared one revolving around Rajesh Khanna. She said, "So, Rajesh Khanna and I were working on

lots of films. For some reason, he used to like me. One day he came limping on the set and he had hurt himself. A curious journalist came by and asked about his injury. He told him that he injured him while shooting a horse riding scene yesterday and I immediately said, 'But you were

shooting with me for the whole day. When did you shoot this horse riding scene?' He kicked my foot under the table. Then when the journalist had left, he said, 'Why do you always have to become Raja

Harishchandra in these situations?'"

Shabana then shared how she was confused and asked him how it happened. He explained that he had actually tripped on his lungi as it was wrapped around his foot, after which he fell down the stairs. He added, 'She thinks I'm this big star; should I really tell her that?'"

Shabana was last seen in Karan Johar's *Rocky Aur Rani Ki Prem Kahani*, which starred Ranveer Singh and Alia Bhatt in lead roles. For her performance, she won Filmfare and IIFA awards.

PEANUTS



CALVIN AND HOBBS

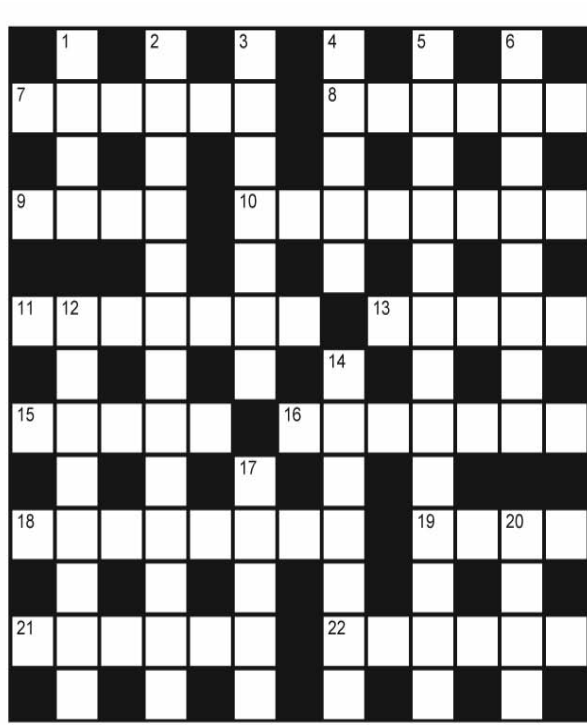


BREVITY



FUN post

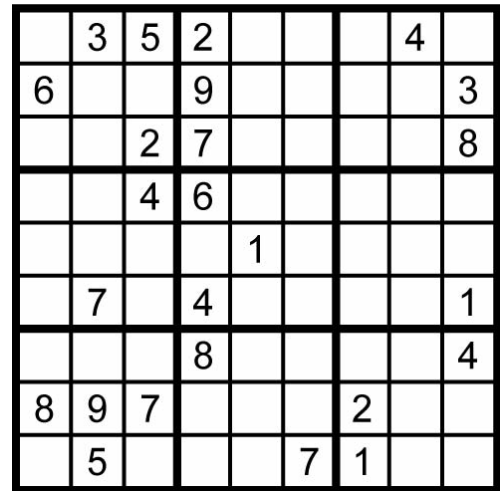
CROSSWORD



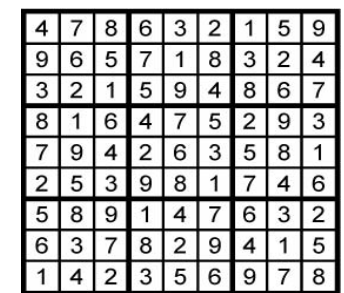
- Across**
- 7 Picture house
 - 8 Family relation
 - 9 Captain of the Nautilus
 - 10 Phnom Penh locale
 - 11 Ennu
 - 13 Soiled
 - 15 Man-made fibre
 - 16 Japanese dish
 - 18 Food turners
 - 19 Seaweed
 - 21 Agreement
 - 22 Escort
- Down**
- 1 Ocean motion
 - 2 Oft-missing TV device (6,7)
 - 3 Idyllically calm and peaceful
 - 4 Little rascal
 - 5 Black Death (7,6)
 - 6 Evil
 - 12 Athletic competition and going
 - 14 Keep going and going
 - 17 Glasgow's river
 - 20 Wise guy

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

Burst crackers during 7-9pm

ARINDAM GANGULY, OP

Bhubaneswar, Oct 29: The State Pollution Control Board (SPCB) Tuesday issued an advisory for Diwali celebrations by saying that bursting of firecrackers must be completed between 7pm and 9pm.

As per the guidelines, the pollution watchdog instructed the citizens to celebrate Diwali by burning diyas (earthen lamps). The SPCB also advised the people to avoid bursting of series fire crackers and crackers generating a peak noise level of 125 dBA.

Guidelines also said that firecrackers must not be burst near gardens/parks and in silence zones like areas comprising 100 metres around hospitals, educational institutions,

courts and religion places.

Only green crackers are allowed in open spaces, the advisory said. The SPCB also advised the people to avoid bursting crackers near slum and structures that are easily flammable. It also asked not to fire crackers on road and busy traffic areas. "Children below 10 years are not allowed to burst sound generating fire crackers," said the pollution control board, while instructing all concerned to wear cotton clothes during bursting of firecrackers.

The SPCB said that Supreme Court has banned production and sale of crackers except green crackers. Use of barium and banned chemicals in crackers has also been prohibited.

SPCB ADVISORY

Bahanaga: HC grants bail to 3 rly officials



PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Cuttack, Oct 29: The Orissa High Court Tuesday granted conditional bail to three railway persons arrested by the CBI for their alleged involvement in the Bahanaga triple train tragedy, which resulted in nearly 300 passenger deaths and left over 1,200 injured in June 2023.

Single-judge bench of Justice Aditya Kumar Mohapatra, hearing the bail applications of senior section engineer (Signal) Arun Kumar Mahanta, section engineer Md. Amir Khan, and technician Pappu Kumar, ordered their release on bail. They are required to

furnish a bail bond of ₹50,000 each, along with two local solvent sureties of the same amount.

The HC also imposed six additional conditions stating that the railway authorities shall not post or assign them to their headquarters in the same division where the accident occurred.

The other bail conditions include that the accused shall appear before the trial court on every date of the case is posted, shall appear before the investigating officer (IO) for further investigation and shall not tamper with evidence in any manner.

Additionally, they are required to notify the court of any change in their address and must not leave the country without prior permission from the court.

"Violation of any of the conditions shall entail cancellation of bail," the High Court said.

SHILPA AT LINGARAJ

Show-cause notice served on servitor

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Bhubaneswar, Oct 29: The Lingaraj Temple administration here has issued a show-cause notice to a servitor and an official, after photos and videos of actor Shilpa Shetty visiting the shrine, where photography is prohibited, went viral.

The move came following an outrage among devotees over how pictures and videos were allowed to be captured on the temple premises, officials said. Shetty was in the state capital Monday to attend an event, and had visited the temple in the evening, sources said.

"It has come to our notice that Shilpa Shetty's pictures have gone viral. We have served show-cause notice on a servitor and a supervisor in connection with the matter. They need to give an explanation within seven days," Bhubaneswar Additional District Magistrate (ADM) Rudra Narayan Mohanty, who is also in charge of the temple administration, said.

Mohanty said the duo was seen in pictures along with the actor. Local MLA Babu Singh, too, raised concern over how cameras or mobile phones were allowed inside the temple premises despite a ban. "Even when the Prime Minister or the

Servitor held for misbehaviour

Lingaraj police Tuesday arrested a 34-year-old servitor for allegedly misbehaving with devotees. IIC of Lingaraj police station Purna Chandra Pradhan said the accused, Hemanta Sahoo, a resident of Garage Chhak Road, is a habitual offender. On the basis of a complaint lodged in 2023, Hemanta allegedly misbehaved with a woman visitor to the shrine, under the influence of alcohol, and verbally abused her when she refused to give him a tip. He was evading police when a complaint was lodged against him but later the cops laid a trap near the temple Tuesday morning, and apprehended him.

Hemanta has been booked under Sections 294, 506, 386 and 34 of IPC, and produced him before a local court Tuesday.

President visits the temple, no camera is allowed inside. The celebrities who visit the shrine are also instructed not to carry mobile phones inside the premises. But still, these mistakes are happening. Strict action needs to be taken against those involved in such incidents," Singh said.

500 MORE MULTI-PURPOSE CYCLONE SHELTERS SOON

PNN & AGENCIES

Bhubaneswar, Oct 29: Chief Minister Mohan Charan Majhi Tuesday said the state government has decided to construct 500 more multi-purpose buildings to accommodate people during natural calamities in coastal districts.

Addressing the state-level function marking 'Odisha Disaster Preparedness Day and National Day for Disaster Reduction 2024' here, he said Odisha and its people have now learnt how to tackle the situation arising out of cyclones even though the 1999 Super Cyclone



and subsequent violent tropical storms in the last 25 years have left

painful memories.

"The state had only 21 cyclone

shelters when the Super Cyclone struck Odisha coast in 1999. Now, the state has 844 cyclone shelters and the government has decided to construct another 500 buildings to accommodate people during natural calamities," Majhi said.

He said human lives are saved due to the timely evacuation of the people from the disaster zones.

"The government will construct new buildings which could be used for multiple purposes like schools, halls and shelters during disaster," he said. Majhi said that his government has decided to raise 10 more teams of the ODRAF.

The mangrove forest in the Bhitarkanika National Park could effectively counter and reduce the wind speed during the recent severe cyclone Dana, Majhi said.

The CM said his government has decided to grow more such mangrove forests along the state's coast.

He also announced that the state government would soon set up a natural disaster management centre in Bhubaneswar.

Majhi said the state presently has only 26 tsunami-ready villages on the coast. "We have decided to prepare at least 381 tsunami-ready villages located on the coastline," he said.

रिपु रन जीति सुजस सुर गावत ।
सीता सहित अनुज प्रभु आवत ॥

दीपो का महाकुम्भ
दीपोत्सव
28-30 अक्टूबर, 2024 | श्रीअयोध्या धाम

Witness the divine Deepotsav, a momentous celebration since the consecration of Prabhu Shri Ramlalla idol at the sacred Shri Ayodhya Dham

Glorious Ayodhya - Divine Deepotsav

25 Lakh+
Diyas will illuminate Shri Ram Nagri

- Symbolic homecoming of Maryada Purushottam Prabhu Shri Ram, along with Mata Sita and Lakshman ji
- Arrival of Prabhu Shri Ram, Mata Sita and Lakshmanji by symbolic Pushpak Viman and Bharat Milap
- Worship and Aarti of Prabhu Shri Ram and Mata Janaki, followed by symbolic coronation of Prabhu Shri Ram

Aarti of Mata Saryu amidst Vedic Chanting

In the August Presence of

Revered Saints and Spiritual Leaders

Yogi Adityanath Chief Minister Uttar Pradesh	Gajendra Singh Shekhawat Minister, Culture and Tourism Government of India		
Keshav Prasad Maurya Deputy Chief Minister Uttar Pradesh	Brajesh Pathak Deputy Chief Minister Uttar Pradesh	Surya Pratap Shahi Minister, Agriculture, Agricultural Education and Agricultural Research Uttar Pradesh	Jayveer Singh Minister, Tourism and Culture, Uttar Pradesh

And Other Dignitaries

Divine-Grand-Revived Shri Ayodhya Dham

- Revival of Shri Ayodhya Dham's splendor with development projects worth ₹31,000 crore
- 200-bed hospital at Rajarshi Dashrath Autonomous State Medical College with an investment of ₹195 crore
- 110-bed trauma centre at Rajarshi Dashrath Autonomous State Medical College with ₹33 crore
- Transforming Shri Ayodhya Dham into a solar city with the establishment of a 40 MW solar power plant in Sarai Rasi
- Maharishi Valmiki International Airport, Ayodhya Dham operational
- Upgradation of Shri Ayodhya Dham railway station
- Atal Awasiya Vidyalaya and free coaching centers under the Chief Minister Abhyudaya Yojana
- Construction of Central Institute of Petrochemicals Engineering & Technology (CIPET)

Date : 30th October, 2024 | Time : 5:00 PM | Venue : Ram Ki Paidi, Ayodhya

Live Telecast DD NEWS & Youtube.com/DDNEWS and UPGovtOfficial CMUttarpradesh CMOfficeUP Information & Public Relations Department, Uttar Pradesh

Special summary revision of voters' list begins in state



ARINDAM GANGULY, OP

Bhubaneswar, Oct 29: The state celebrated the festival of democracy in the form of a state-level walkathon and Patha Utsav in the City signalling the beginning of Special Summary Revision of Electoral Rolls 2025. The revision process, which started from Tuesday, will continue till November 28.

The walkathon, flagged off by Chief Electoral Officer RS Gopalan, saw a huge participation of students, who enthusiastically marched towards Ram Mandir from Master Canteen Square in the City. They held various placards showing their commitment

zen who has attained the age of 18 years must register their name in the voters' list. Our main objective is to strengthen democracy by creating widespread awareness among voters and 100 per cent participation in elections.

Rana expressed his opinion by stating that democracy and elections are like two sides of the same coin and one is not possible without the other.

Bhagat said that it is really commendable to enrol more and more new voters during the special short revision programme of voter list.

Nayak said that the country's democracy can be strengthened if the voters are aware and vote fearlessly without any bias.

Transgender Sadhana Mishra said that there is no doubt that the number of voters especially women and youth will increase in the state due to proper guidance and awareness programmes by the Chief Electoral Officer.

On the occasion, a quiz competition related to the elections of the country was organised. Prizes were distributed to the students who answered the questions correctly. A folk drama and Rangoli competition were also organised.

to the process of preparation of final voters' list.

Later a Patha Utsav was held near the Capital High School. Among those who participated in the event include Khurda Collector and District Magistrate Chanchal Rana, Khurda ADM Pratap Chandra Beura Additional Chief Electoral Officers Shatrughna Kar and Mihira Prasad Mohanty, Tokyo Paralympics Badminton Champion Pramod Bhagat, Paralympics 2000 meter race Winner Kamalakant Naik, Deputy Chief Electoral Officers Laxmiprasad Sahu and Padmaja Dash among others.

Gopalan said that every citi-

TRAINING SESSION ON PISCICULTURE

'Tech dissemination will boost fish production'

POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar, Oct 29: Technology dissemination and optimum utilisation of skill development will help increase fish production in the state, said Fisheries and ARD, MSME Minister Gokulananda Mallik, while inaugurating a 4-day training programme for WSHDS on biofloc and pisciculture practices in GP tanks at Kausalyaganga here Tuesday.

Addressing the women trainees, Mallick said that they should be encouraged to adopt scientific pisci-culture practices to enhance fish production in the state in order to have improvement in socio-economic conditions. He also emphasised on empowering women through



more participation in economic activities and resource generation.

On the occasion, the minis-

ter also visited government fish seed farm and lauded the comprehensive and holistic development plan of the mega hatch-

ery for helping fish farming community.

He was also briefed on the artificial breeding and spawn production practices within the hatchery. Expressing pleasure on being informed about the record production of around 38 crore spawn during the current financial year, and breeding of approximately 31 varieties of ornamental fishes, the minister suggested for augmentation of State Fishermen Cooperative Federation.

Additional director of Fisheries (Technical) Debananda Bhanja, deputy director of Fisheries (Training) Jagadish Chandra Panda, deputy director of FISHCOPPED SS Singh, including the senior officers were present during the visit.

'Change in devpt paradigm needed'

POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar, Oct 29: Kalyan Chakravarty, an eminent administrator and public intellectual in India, gave an emphatic call Tuesday for rethinking our development paradigms as proposed by eminent anthropologist L K Mahapatra at the 4th Memorial Lecture held at the Utkal University here Tuesday.

In his lecture titled, 'Mission LK Mahapatra: Decolonising Development', Chakravarty said that it was high time for administrators and academics to follow the path laid down by Mahapatra. He discussed the continuing local and global relevance of Mahapatra's mission of decolonising community knowledge and development. He described Mahapatra's focus on liberating the developmental theory and practice of the state in independent India from colonial inhibitions in natural and human resource management. On the occasion, former vice chancellor of Utkal University of Culture and a student of Mahapatra, Kamal Kumar Mishra reminisced about his doctoral supervisor, called him as an extraordinary teacher and an outstanding scholar, who was also an activist fighting for the justice of tribals and marginalised sections of the society through his teaching and writings.

The memorial lecture was jointly organised by the LK Mahapatra Memorial Trust and the PG department of Anthropology Tuesday to commemorate the 95th birth anniversary of professor Mahapatra.



OUTR hosts blood donation camp

POST NEWS NETWORK



Bhubaneswar, Oct 29: The NSS Bureau of Odisha University of Technology and Research (OUTR), in collaboration with the Indian Red Cross Society and HDFC bank, organised a one-day voluntary blood donation camp Tuesday at the university campus.

The camp was inaugurated by the registrar of the university Renu Prabha Nayak, dean, research department Sribatsa Behera, and NSS programme coordinator Sabita Dash.

Guests present on the occasion were the programme officers of Unit II, III and V- Rosalin Dalai Twinkle Kisku and Jitendra Naik respectively. NSS Bureau programme coordinator Sabita Dash was also present.

The event witnessed enthusiastic participation from students, faculty, and staff who came forward to support the noble cause by donating blood. A total of 253 units of blood were collected, making a significant contribution to the local blood banks and hospitals.

Volunteers from NSS and the organising units played a key role in coordinating the event, assisting with the setup, and ensuring a smooth and safe donation process.

Participants received certificates of appreciation, and academic attendance was provided for donors and active volunteers. All the heads of schools and heads of departments extended their support by promoting the event among students, creating a widespread impact.

Similipal Tiger Reserve reopens for tourists

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Baripada, Oct 29: The Similipal Tiger Reserve (STR) was reopened for tourists Tuesday days after cyclone 'Dana' hit the state.

The Similipal National Park which included STR remained closed for visitors from October 23 due to the natural calamity.

"This is to inform all the visitors/tourists that Similipal Tiger Reserve will be reopened for tourists from 29.10.2024 through Jashipur (Kalikaprashad) gate only. As of now, no visitors/tourists are allowed through Pithabata gate. The exact date for entry through Pithabata gate will be notified on the official website," a notification said.

A senior official said that roads were damaged due to the cyclone and rain in Pithabata side. Once repair work is over, the gate on that side will be opened.

Cyclone 'Dana' made landfall in Odisha in the early hours of October 25. It also brought heavy rain to the state.

DIWALI WITH MYBharat

300 volunteers to spread cleanliness awareness



POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar, Oct 29: As many as 300 volunteers of MYBharat under Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports, Govt. of India will observe the upcoming Diwali in a unique way.

They shall undertake cleanliness drive at the crowded places like markets, hospitals and places of historical importance in and around Bhubaneswar as well as Khurda district. Additionally, they will spread awareness on Swachhata among general public.

Nehru Yuva Kendra, Khurda and Confederation of All India Traders (CAIT) will begin the drive by cleaning the front area of Ram Mandir in City.

The programme will be monitored by Nehru Yuva Kendra district youth officer Vipin Kumar, the organiser said.

WORLD STROKE DAY

Senior Consultant in Neurology at City Apollo Hospital tells the importance of stroke signs and symptoms and early diagnosis to prevent complications

What is a stroke?

A stroke is a serious medical condition that occurs when the blood supply to a part of the brain is cut off.

Like all organs, the brain needs oxygen and nutrients provided by blood to function properly. If the supply of blood is restricted or stopped, brain cells begin to die. This can lead to brain damage and possibly death.

Around 17 million people experience stroke each year. Six millions of these strokes are fatal. Every six seconds, someone dies from stroke. Stroke is the second commonest cause of mortality after coronary heart disease.

■ **Symptoms of strokes**
These are sudden and have an immediate effect. Strokes affect

people in different ways, depending on the part of the brain that is affected, how widespread the damage is and how healthy the person was before the stroke.

A stroke is always a medical emergency

It is important to be able to recognise the symptoms of stroke and to get help immediately

The main stroke symptoms can be remembered with the word Be Fast: Balance- Eye-Face-Arms-Speech-Time.

■ **Balance difficulty:** Can he able to walk properly?

■ **Eye/vision impairment:** Can the person see normally?

■ **Facial weakness:** Can the person smile? Has their mouth or eye drooped?

■ **Arm weakness:** Can the person

Every minute counts while treating brain stroke



raise both arms?

■ **Speech problems:** Can the person speak clearly and understand what you say?

■ **Time to call**
If a person fails any one of these tests, get help immediately

■ **Types of stroke**

There are two main types of stroke:

► **Ischaemic strokes** happen when something blocks an artery that carries blood to the brain.

► **Haemorrhagic strokes** happen when a blood vessel bursts and bleeds into the brain.

Risk factors for stroke

Some risk factors are beyond our control, such as old age and family history of strokes. Medical risk factors for stroke risk are high blood pressure, diabetes, high cholesterol, heart disease and carotid artery disease. These can be controlled and managed with appropriate medical treatment.

Life style risk factors include smoking, being overweight, drinking too much alcohol.

Treatment

Sooner a stroke victim gets to the hospital, the sooner he or she gets life saving treatment. A CT scan or MRI of the brain will help to identify whether one has ischemic or haemorrhagic stroke. If the person has ischemic stroke, a clot busting drugs, called tissue plasimogen activator (TPA) will improve the chance of recovery, but only if the patient reaches the hospital within first 4.5 hours.

Two million brain cells die each minute during stroke, in-

creasing the risk of permanent brain damage, disability or death. Hence with regard to stroke treatment, it is said that 'time is brain'. Unfortunately awareness regarding this is lacking in general population and many patients end up going to quacks for treatment out of ignorance, losing the crucial window of opportunity in stroke treatment.

Prevention of stroke

Proper treatment of the risk factors

Healthy eating helps keep your heart and bloodstream in good form. Regular physical activity lowers your blood pressure, helps balance fats in your body and help to lose weight.

Quit smoking, moderate your alcohol consumption

Reduce stress and regular health check up

Dr Subhransu Shekhar Jena, MD, DNB, MNAMS Senior Consultant in Neurology, Apollo Hospital, Bhubaneswar

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Interstate jewellery theft gang busted; 9 nabbed

ROURKELA: Police have busted an interstate gang, which was duping gullible persons of their gold in the name of cleaning those valuables and arrested nine people.

Denied leave, CDPO staffer loses baby



PNN & AGENCIES

Kendrapara, Oct 29: A 26-year-old state government employee claimed that she lost her child in the womb after allegedly being denied leave by a Child Development Project Officer (CDPO) while experiencing severe labour pain at her office in this district.

The complainant alleged that she had requested CDPO Snehalata Sahoo and other officials to take her to hospital as she was experiencing intense pain, but they ignored her pleas

had died. She claimed that "mental harassment and gross negligence" of the CDPO led to her loss and also filed a written complaint to the Collector, demanding strict action against Sahoo.

Nilu Mohapatra, additional district magistrate (ADM) of Kendrapara said, "After getting the complaint, the district administration has directed the District Social Welfare Officer (DSWO) to conduct an investigation into the matter and submit a report. Action will be taken after getting the report."

Expressing concern over the incident, Deputy Chief Minister Pravati Parida in a post on X said she discussed about the incident with Kendrapara Collector and directed him to immediately conduct a detailed investigation before submitting a report.

Salaries of 843 officers withheld in Mayurbhanj

POST NEWS NETWORK

Baripada, Oct 29: Dereliction of duty has cost 843 officers heavily in Mayurbhanj district. The state government has withheld their salaries due to their failure to complete the construction of houses in rural areas, sources said here Tuesday.

As per instructions of the Mayurbhanj District Collector Hema Kanta Say, letters in this regard has been issued to all the BDO's of the district. A departmental letter (No. 8459) dated October 28, 2024 was issued which directed that the salaries of the officers will not be disbursed till the work is completed.

According to information available, 1026 officers had been assigned with the rural housing construction projects in the district. After verification, it was found that only 173 of them had completed the work assigned to them while the performances of the remaining 843 were not satisfactory.

While examining the projects, it was found that these officers failed to complete their work due to lack of field visits and proper monitoring. Authorities discovered that 63 per cent of the houses were not completed. The district administration termed the entire development as 'unfortunate'.

The district collector has asked concerned officials to withhold the salaries of the 843 from October 2024 and it will only be released after the completion of the pending works. Giving utmost importance to achieve the objectives of the government, letters have been issued to 26 BDO's in the district for proper monitoring and completion of the pending works by the departmental officers as soon as possible.



Property seized by Central Bank of India



BHUBANESWAR: Authorities of Central Bank of India, along with Executive Magistrate-cum-Mahanga tehsildar Susant Kumar Mishra and Bhadreswar PS IIC Kabuli Barik seized a two-storied building of two brothers at Itamunduli under Mahanga tehsil in Cuttack district. The seizure was made in the presence of Balakrushna Swain, authorised officer of the regional office of the bank.

RSP union recognition election November 12

POST NEWS NETWORK

Rourkela, Oct 29: The election bugle for the union recognition of Rourkela Steel Plant (RSP) has been blown. Though this election is confined to some 9,000 workers, it still provides enough fodder for the atmosphere to get hot.

The last recognised union Rourkela Shramik Sangh (RSS), affiliated to INTUC and its partner Gangpur Mazdoor Manch (GMM) reached the regional labour office (RLC) in a big show of strength Wednesday. Over 2,000 supporters of the two participated in the nomination procession.

Speaking on the occasion, general secretary of RSS Prasant Behera said, "We are with the workers and will always remain so. We are not worried about our prospect in this election. We don't have political heavyweights with us but we have the support of those coming with us today for nomination."

George Tirkey, former MLA Bramitrapur and founder of GMM said, "We are fighting this election, like last one, together. We have our understanding in this regard. And this time again we are going to be the winner."

Both believed that they would have a fight directly with the BMS affiliated Rourkela Ispat Karmachari Sangh (RIKKS). RIKKS filed the nomination Tuesday and was confident of victory.

Indian Railway's Initiatives on Diwali and Chhath Puja-2024. OVER 7000 TRIPS OF SPECIAL TRAINS. SPECIAL TRAINS ON 30.10.2024

Table with 4 columns: Train No., From, Time of Departure, To. Lists various train routes and schedules for October 30, 2024.

Advertisement for Rourkela Steel Plant (RSP) union recognition election. Includes portraits of leaders and text in Odia: 'ପ୍ରାପ୍ତବୟସ୍କ ବ୍ୟକ୍ତିଙ୍କ ନିମନ୍ତେ ଯଶ୍ଚା ପ୍ରତିଷ୍ଠେଧକ ଟାକାକରଣ'.

Each new dawn brings the possibility of a new progress.

THE MOTHER



N Korea-Russia Axis

It's now over two and half years since Russia invaded Ukraine and the war between the two countries is now far more dangerously poised with far-reaching consequences for the rest of the world than what appeared before. The West's fear that other countries may be sucked into the vortex of the Russia-Ukraine war is getting confirmed with fresh reports of several thousand North Korean troops arriving in Russia for training to take part in the war. The US and NATO have claimed at least 3,000 North Korean troops have been deployed in Russia since the beginning of October 2024.

This is a major development in this war in the heart of Europe as it signals the first concrete internationalisation of the conflict not only for Europe but also for the Indo-Pacific region. Till now, both sides had only been getting help from their allies - Ukraine from the West and Russia from Iran, North Korea and indirectly China. The assistance has so far been restricted to supply of material and equipment. The arrival of North Korean troops changes the scenario altogether. In fact, French President Emmanuel Macron mooted the idea in February of sending military instructors to Ukraine, but had to backtrack after it caused intense controversy in Europe.

Now, the US has joined Ukraine and South Korea in confirming reports of North Korean troops being present in Russia for taking part in Vladimir Putin's war on Ukraine. South Korea's National Intelligence Service has said that Pyongyang has sent around 3,000 troops, including special forces, to Russia's far east for military training and acclimatising at the bases there before being deployed in the war. Ukraine released a video purportedly showing dozens of North Koreans lining up to collect Russian military fatigues. In the video, soldiers, believed to be from North Korea, are seen standing in line to pick up bags, clothes and other apparel from Russian servicemen.

From the beginning of Russia's February 2022 invasion, North Korea has expressed strong support for Putin and the two countries signed a mutual defence pact over the summer, promising to expand military cooperation. This is now being interpreted as a pre-planned move by Russia to insulate North Korea against possible attack from the West in the event of the latter getting directly involved in the war.

The Pentagon's threat that North Korea runs the risk of being considered "legitimate target" after sending its troops to Russia is no less alarming. Moscow and Pyongyang have repeatedly denied that there has been a deployment. A Russian Foreign Ministry spokeswoman has called it a "colossal work of media propaganda."

South Korea keeps a close eye on North Korean troop movements. This development also places China in a delicate position. Chinese President Xi Jinping has been projecting himself as a peace-maker in the conflict despite being a close ally of Putin. All the same, Beijing would not like the destabilising manoeuvres of North Korea's supreme leader Kim Jong-un in the region. Such an escalation in Europe by its two allies could work against Xi's international image.

Experts wonder what North Korea is getting from Moscow in return for its troops and weapons. According to some, Pyongyang's artillery aid volumes are nothing in comparison to those sent by Russia's other allies. What worries them is that North Korea aid will most likely be paid for in the transfer of Russian nuclear technology.

If that is really the deal, as reports strongly indicate, it would be bad news not only for Europe, but also for the entire Asia-Pacific region.

REMOTE WORK REVOLUTION

FOCUS TECHNOLOGY



Charles Ferguson

MUCH EDUCATIONAL AND ECONOMIC ACTIVITY CAN NOW BE DECOUPLED FROM PHYSICAL LOCATION, PROVIDING OPPORTUNITY TO THOSE WHO LACK ACCESS TO TRADITIONAL SCHOOLS OR WORKPLACES

A revolutionary opportunity for human development and economic growth has been emerging over the past 30 years. Modern information technology has the potential to enable large-scale remote work anywhere on the planet, and also to help countries gradually create entire technology sectors and ecosystems.

Much educational and economic activity can now be decoupled from physical location, providing opportunity to those who lack access to traditional schools or workplaces. But while this opportunity is well understood within the technology sector, it is insufficiently appreciated more broadly.

For most people in developed countries, the remote-work revolution was triggered by the COVID-19 pandemic in 2020. But an even broader revolution - still in its infancy - has been gathering force since the rise of commercial internet services in the mid-1990s.

This revolution wasn't immediately evident because, for the first 20 years of the internet revolution, technology still heavily favoured geographical co-location and concentration. Telecommunications bandwidth did not yet support high-quality videoconferencing, and computer hardware still needed to be located near its users ("on-prem"). Educational and business activity therefore still favoured physical proximity to universities, corporate campuses, office buildings, research and development facilities, computer systems, and even factories.

Over time, these requirements loosened. Cloud services removed the need for on-premises computer hardware and its associated costs. Faster broadband services paved the way for high-quality global videoconferencing and e-commerce systems, and enterprise SaaS (software as a service) platforms enabled remote-job searches, hiring, advertising, sales, payments, and purchasing. Mobile and satellite networks then extended internet connectivity to rural areas, where online education services allowed for remote learning of English, software engineering,



Modern information technology has the potential to enable large-scale remote work anywhere on the planet, and also to help countries gradually create entire technology sectors and ecosystems

and many other subjects.

Gradually, physical proximity became less important. Initially, this change was evident in the rise of Indian outsourcing industries (call centers, software), and in the first major startup ecosystem to emerge outside of the United States, namely in Israel. In time, others (including Taiwan, China, the Philippines, and Ukraine) also developed outsourcing sectors, startup ecosystems, or both. And even in countries without technology ecosystems, many smart, energetic young people around the world learned English and coding, began working for Western companies, and started their own.

But until COVID-19, a variety of cultural and psychological barriers still prevented the full exploitation of remote work. The pandemic, however, created an immediate, urgent need for it. In the first half of 2020, the share of US white-collar personnel working remotely skyrocketed from 6 per cent to 65 per cent. Suddenly, even startups - which had previously considered physical proximity essential - began hiring software engineers wherever they could find them, from Argentina to Ukraine. I speak from experience. The people I hired during this period had mostly learned English and coding online, working for managers they never met in person.

Smart, entrepreneurial individuals now can learn from almost anywhere through what has become a highly developed online infrastructure, much of it free, provided by the likes of

Khan Academy, YouTube users, LinkedIn Learning (formerly Lynda.com), Udacity (now owned by Accenture), and various universities (such as MIT's OpenCourseWare). There is now also a highly developed infrastructure for global remote work (think Stripe Atlas, Carta, Deel, AngelList), including use of "stablecoins" to pay remote workers even in countries with volatile or nonconvertible currencies.

Such tools are helping people around the world pursue the traditional Silicon Valley career path. After learning coding, they can advance through working for a technology company, joining a startup, founding a startup, and eventually becoming an angel investor or venture capitalist. But this process could go much further, with potentially profound benefits for many countries' educational, economic, and human development, and particularly for traditionally disenfranchised groups (the poor, women, rural communities, people lacking formal education).

To seize this opportunity, however, developing countries need to move from being merely a site for outsourced work to developing a full entrepreneurial ecosystem that includes startups, incubators, venture capital, and public markets. In many cases, the principal bottleneck is policy, not money. But the most urgent policy challenges vary according to nationally specific conditions - income and poverty levels, urbanisation, telecommunications infrastructure, educational levels, discrimination

against women and minorities, degree of protection afforded to incumbent industries, currency controls, immigration policy and the legal and tax environment.

As with every technological revolution, this one also brings risks. Given that traditional in-person education is one of only a few institutions that still promote social cohesion in the internet age, its disruption could have undesirable implications. Similarly, Silicon Valley engineers already fear losing their jobs to foreign workers; such job losses, if they occur on a large scale, could have profound social and political consequences.

These are legitimate concerns. But I and many others in the technology world believe that remote work represents an opportunity for global development that dwarfs the importance of traditional development aid. Moreover, its importance is about to grow, because artificial intelligence will amplify both the problems and the opportunities.

Consider the example of learning English, currently essential since it is the global language of science, information technology, and business. Within five or ten years, this skill may no longer be necessary, because AI will enable universal real-time translation, subtitling, and speech interpretation.

Similarly, AI will soon make it far easier to create legal documents for incorporation, hiring, and contracting, sharply reducing the real (appropriate) barriers to entrepreneurship. In the process, it may also threaten the entrenched positions of incumbents that currently have a chokehold on many national economies.

Will governments seize this opportunity? If they do, will they move wisely to mitigate the dangers that the remote-work revolution poses? While some appear to be well positioned for the moment, many others are not. They will need to move quickly to join a revolution that already has built up a powerful head of steam.

The writer, a technology investor and policy analyst, is Director of the Oscar-winning documentary Inside Job.

PROJECT SYNDICATE

WISDOM CORNER

I have learned silence from the talkative, toleration from the intolerant, and kindness from the unkind; yet, strange, I am ungrateful to those teachers. **KAHILIL GIBRAN**

Just as we develop our physical muscles through overcoming opposition - such as lifting weights - we develop our character muscles by overcoming challenges and adversity. **STEPHEN COVEY**

The whole difference between construction and creation is exactly this: that a thing constructed can only be loved after it is constructed; but a thing created is loved before it exists. **CHARLES DICKENS**

THIS DAY IN HISTORY

- 1340:** An allied force of Castilian and Portuguese Christians defeated the Muslim Mar nids of North Africa at the Battle of Río Salado.
- 1485:** Henry Tudor crowned king of England. Henry Tudor, who was crowned Henry VII on this day in 1485, founded the Tudor dynasty, ended the Wars of the Roses, used his children's marriages to build alliances, and signed treaties that increased England's power.
- 1905:** Russian Tsar issues the October Manifesto. The manifesto, which was issued by Nicholas II, was a response to the Russian Revolution of 1905 in which there were widespread strikes and protests directed towards the government. The key features of the manifesto included the creation of an elected legislative body called Duma and universal suffrage for men. It also paved the way for a new constitution in 1906.
- 1908:** First cross-country flight in Europe. French aviator Henri Farman flew from Bouy to Reims in France. The 14-mile journey took him about 20 minutes. Farman was also the co-founder of the Farman Aviation Works, an airline and engine manufacturing company.
- 1938:** Orson Welles's radio dramatization of H.G. Wells's War of the Worlds was broadcast, causing great alarm—though reports of a nationwide panic were unfounded—as some listeners feared a genuine invasion from Mars.
- 1961:** Biggest bomb in history is detonated. The Soviet Union detonated Tsar Bomba or Big Ivan over the Mityushikha Bay test range on the Novaya Zemlya Island in the Arctic Circle. The 57 Megatons nuclear bomb was one-of-a-kind and the flash of light when it exploded at a height of 13,000 feet was visible over 1000 kilometers away.
- 1974:** Muhammad Ali knocked out George Foreman in the "Rumble in the Jungle," regaining the world heavyweight boxing title.

LOL

THE PESSIMIST

An avid duck hunter was in the market for a new bird dog. His search ended when he found a dog that could actually walk on water to retrieve a duck. Shocked by his find, he was sure none of his friends would ever believe him. He decided to try to break the news to a friend of his, the eternal pessimist who refused to be impressed with anything. This, surely, would impress him. He invited him to hunt with him and his new dog. As they waited by the shore, a flock of ducks flew by, they fired, and a duck

fell. The dog responded and jumped into the water. The dog, however, did not sink but instead walked across the water to retrieve the bird, never getting more than his paws wet. This continued all day long; each time a duck fell, the dog walked across the surface of the water to retrieve it. The pessimist watched carefully, saw everything, but did not say a single word. On the drive home the hunter asked his friend, "Did you notice anything unusual about my new dog?" "I sure did," responded the pessimist. "He can't swim."

IN JEST THIS

Don't let your romance cause discomfort



Melvin Durai

SOME COUPLES MAY VIEW THE BACKSEAT OF A CAB AS A GREAT PLACE TO DEMONSTRATE THEIR LOVE FOR EACH OTHER. BUT IT'S NOT FAIR TO THE DRIVER

A man named Venkatesh recently tweeted a photo of a sign he spotted inside a taxi cab in Hyderabad. Here's what the sign said: "Warning!! No romance. This is a cab. Not your private place or OYO, so please keep distance and stay calm."

The photo was shared widely on social media, with people expressing varying opinions on it. "An ethical and essential message for cab passengers," one person commented. But another person didn't seem pleased: "Damn. Saw these in Bangalore and Delhi. Didn't expect this in Hyderabad so soon."

I have mixed feelings about this sign. Imagine a man named Rohit who has been married to his wife, Shweta, for 10 years. They were once romantic with each other, but the romance dwindled after the children arrived and disappeared after the mother-in-law arrived. The only trace of romance in their marriage these days is when they get in bed at night and Shweta opens

a Mills & Boon book.

Trying to rekindle some romance on their wedding anniversary, Rohit decides to take Shweta out to a fancy restaurant called Love Birds. After getting into a cab, Rohit is about to hold Shweta's hand when he sees a sign: "Warning!! No romance." The driver, looking through the rear view mirror, decides to recite part of the sign: "Please keep distance and stay calm."

Rohit shifts himself as far away from Shweta as possible. The gap between them is so wide and the traffic noise so loud that they have to communicate by texting.

Rohit: "I was going to hold your hand."

Shweta: "I was going to let you."

When they get to the restaurant, they sit in a quiet corner, away from everyone else. Rohit is about to hold Shweta's hand when he sees a sign on the wall: "Warning!! No romance! This is not a cab."

Rohit summons the manager. "You do not allow romance, but the cab driver didn't either. Where can we have romance?"

The manager shrugs. "For romance," he says, "you have to rent an OYO room."

Many restaurants do permit and even encourage romance, of course. They'd lose a lot of business if they didn't allow couples to show affection to each other. But they may frown if a couple's romantic gestures make other customers uncomfortable. A quick kiss may be okay, but touching each other in other ways may invite a visit from the manager.

But discomfort with romance can vary considerably from one individual to another, one community or culture to another. You can express your love very openly in Western countries, but if you try doing the same in Saudi Arabia, you'll soon be limited to writing love letters from prison.

Some couples may view the backseat of a cab as a great place

to demonstrate their love for each other. But it's not fair to the driver. He's supposed to keep his eyes on the road. He's being paid to provide transportation, not to ignore the love-dovey sounds from the back.

The same applies to other forms of transportation with captive audiences: planes, trains and buses.

Earlier this year, a passenger on a four-hour flight tweeted a photo of a couple lying across a three-seat row, cuddling each other. "It was like this the whole four-hour flight," wrote the man, who sat across the aisle from them.

Many of us would be just as uncomfortable as this passenger, especially if we wanted to watch an action movie in front of us, not a romance.

Perhaps the airline should hire the Hyderabad cab driver to make some signs for them: "Warning!! No romance. This is a plane. Not your private place or OYO, so please keep distance and stay calm."

Brainy game

Sir, Chess is a world class indoor game and is played by millions across the globe. Despite the game's long-standing history and popularity, it is hard to believe that this wonderful brainy game is still not considered an official Olympic sport. One reason, perhaps, is that chess does not involve physical exertion or athleticism in the same way as traditional Olympic sports. Ever since the International Olympic Committee recognised chess as a sport in 1999, there has always been a glimmer of hope that it would be included in the Olympics. For many people it seems an odd proposition, since the Olympics are all about physical activity. But it raises a question: how much physical exertion is needed for the Olympic sport of shooting a rifle while lying in a prone position?

Political greenhorn

Sir, With tens of thousands of cadres and fans of Tamil actor Vijay showing their unity and strength at the first political rally of the filmstar's TVK party and making it a huge success, the southern state is all set to witness some mega 'masala' packed scenes in the upcoming 2026 elections. Using the glamour and the large fan base of the filmstar may help him get votes and seats. Apart from his fans it has to be seen how is Vijay going to handle and get the support of a mass population that has always supported Dravidian ideology? By indirectly hinting that his party opposes those that get to power using religion and divisive politics and those who get to power using Dravidian ideology but are corrupt to the core shows that the actor turned leader on the block is bold enough to take his opponents by the horns. But Vijay has to understand that in today's politics nobody is clean. In the recent state elections even national parties with popular leaders who harangued anti-corruption slogans could not cause any ripples. Most parties who come to power either directly or indirectly use the gimmicks of religious and caste appeasement and blindly go in for freebies. It is here one has to see how is Vijay going to woo voters.

Letters

TO THE EDITOR

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

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

Ranganathan Sivakumar, CHENNAI

M Pradyu, KANNUR

NEW WORLD RECORD ATTEMPT

Ayodhya gears up for grand 'Deepotsav'

THE EVENT THIS YEAR HOLDS SPECIAL SIGNIFICANCE SINCE THIS IS THE FIRST DEEPOTSAV SINCE THE CONSECRATION OF THE RAM LALLA IDOL AT THE TEMPLE

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Ayodhya (UP), Oct 29: Preparations for the eighth edition of Deepotsav in Ayodhya are in their final stages with plans afoot to illuminate the city with 28 lakh earthen lamps October 30, officials said Tuesday. The police and civic administration have implemented robust security measures monitored by Director General of Police (DGP) Prashant Kumar for the celebrations. Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath's office, in a social media post, said, "The preparations for Deepotsav are in the final stages... the work of placing lamps is ongoing... trials for laser, sound, and drone shows are in progress." The event this year holds special significance since this is the first Deepotsav since the consecration of the Ram Lalla idol at the temple. The Deepotsav aims to show-

case the spiritual, traditional, and cultural essence of the holy city, with performances by artists from six countries - Myanmar, Nepal, Thailand, Malaysia, Cambodia, and Indonesia - along with a Ram Leela presentation from Uttarakhand. Additionally, various artists from different states will stage their performances at the event. In a notable initiative, the Animal Husbandry Department has pledged to light 1,50,000 "Gau Deep" during the festivities. This was symbolically presented to Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath by Animal Husbandry Minister Dharmapal Singh.

To ensure cleanliness and environmental awareness, special lamps that minimize soot and pollution will be used at the Ram Janmabhoomi temple. More than 30,000 volunteers will assist in decorating the ghats October 30. The state government's spokesperson emphasised that these specially designed lamps will protect the temple structure from stains and will provide long-lasting illumination. The entire temple complex will be adorned with flowers, and efforts will be made to convey a message of environmental protection during this year's Deepotsav. The state Information department has arranged a live broadcast of the entire event. LED walls and vans will be set up across Ayodhya to showcase



the celebrations, and the city will be adorned with flower garlands and attractive lighting. All events along Ram Ki Paidi will be broadcast live on Doordarshan and social media platforms. District Information Officer Santosh Dwivedi said arrangements for LED walls and vans have been made at 20 locations throughout the city, ensuring the grandeur of the festival is visible to all. Security measures are tight with 17 routes leading to Ram Ki Paidi being closed to the public, allowing access only to pass holders.

Ram Temple not to use Chinese Diwali decorative items: Trust

The Sri Ram Janmabhoomi Tirath Kshetra Trust, which manages the Ram Temple in the city, has decided not to use Chinese decorative items during Diwali to promote local craftsmanship, according to officials. The city of Ayodhya is preparing for a grand Deepotsav this year - it will be the eighth edition of the event and the first since the consecration ceremony at the Ram Temple in January. The temple premises will also be decorated with diyas and other items. "The Sri Ram Janmabhoomi Tirath Kshetra Trust has prohibited the use of Chinese decorative items during Diwali, promoting local craftsmanship and aligning with the 'Vocal for Local' initiative and the push toward self-reliance (Atmanirbhar Bharat)," according to a media statement. Police said there will be around 10,000 security personnel on duty to maintain security during the Deepotsav event and nearly half of them will be in plain dress.

be stationed along these routes to maintain order. Anil Mishra, a trustee of the Ram Janmabhoomi Trust, stated, "We've divided the temple complex into several sections, with

specific responsibilities for illuminating every corner." Retired Inspector General of Police Ashu Shukla has been appointed to oversee the decoration efforts and ensure that the lamps do not stain or damage the temple's structure. Mishra also mentioned that to maintain cleanliness, "we are using wax lamps outside the main building to minimize dirt and pollution." To ensure a safe and peaceful celebration, Senior Superintendent of Police Rajkaran Nair held a review

SAD's Dhambi reelected SGPC chief for 4th term

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Amritsar, Oct 29: Shiromani Akali Dal candidate Harjinder Singh Dhambi was Monday re-elected the president of the Shiromani Gurdwara Parbandhak Committee (SGPC) for a fourth consecutive term. He defeated his rival and former SGPC chief Bibi Jagir Kaur who was fielded by the Shiromani Akali Dal Sudhar Lehar, a rebel faction of the SAD. Out of the total 142 votes polled, Dhambi secured 107 while Kaur got 33. Two votes were declared invalid. The SGPC general house meeting was held in the presence of the Guru Granth Sahib at Teja Singh Samari Hall at the SGPC headquarters. During the general house meeting, Dhambi's name was proposed by former president Kirpal Singh Badungar, and was seconded by Bhai Gobind Singh Longowal and Alwinderpal Singh Pakhoke. Jagir Kaur's name was pro-

posed by Amrik Singh Shahpur, and seconded by Mithu Singh Kahneke and Satwinder Singh Tohra. Also, senior Vice President Raghuji Singh's name was proposed by Gurpreet Singh Jhabbar, and seconded by Ravinder Singh Khalsa and Phumman Singh. During the session, the 'head granthi' of Harmandar Sahib, Jathedar Akal Takht Giani Raghbir Singh, Jathedar of Takht Kesgarh Sahib Giani Sultan Singh, and 142 members of the SGPC were present. Raghuji Singh Virk was elected senior vice president, Baldev Singh Kalyan junior vice president, and Sher Singh Mandwala as general secretary. The 11-member SGPC executive members include Bibi Harjinder Kaur, Amrik Singh Vachhoa, Surjit Singh Tughalwal, Paramjit Singh Khalsa, Surjit Singh Garhi, Baldev Singh Kayampur, Daljit Singh Bhinder, Sukhharpreet Singh Rode, Ravinder Singh Khalsa, Jaswant Singh Purain and Paramjit Singh Raipur.



OFFICE OF THE MUNICIPAL COUNCIL, ANANDAPUR
 Mail Id: executiveofficer_andp@rediffmail.com
CORRIGENDUM NOTICE
 No.2622/ Dt.27.10.2024
 No.C-870: In reference to the e-procurement Notice No.2412/ Dt.05.10.2024 Date has been extended to Dt.06.11.2024 upto 5.30 PM and tender will be opened on Dt.07.11.2024 at 11 AM. Due to Sevier CYCLONE "DANA".
 Sd./- Executive Officer
 Anandapur Municipality
 OIPR-13049/11/0009/2425

INDIAN INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY, PATNA
 (An autonomous Institution of Ministry of Education, Govt. of India)
 Bihta, Patna - 801103
 Advt. No.: IITP/FACREC/2024/R0018 Dated: 16.10.2024
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 CBC-21366/12/0003/2425 Director, IIT Patna

EAST COAST RAILWAY
APPOINTMENT OF STATION TICKET BOOKING AGENTS (STBA)
 Notice No. C/SBP/STBA/NSG-4 Catg/Stn/KBJ/01/24/01 Date : 25.10.2024
 "Applications are invited for engagement of Station Ticket Booking Agents (STBA) to work throughout the day in all shifts for 01 (One) year on commission basis at 01 (One) NSG-4 Category station over Sambalpur Division of East Coast Railway for issuing unreserved tickets through Unreserved Ticketing System (UTS). Interested person fulfilling the stipulated conditions may apply in the prescribed format to Divisional Railway Manager (Commercial), Sambalpur Division".
NON-SUBURBAN GRADE - 4 CATEGORY STATION (NSG-4): KANTABANJ (KBJ)
 Address: 2nd Floor, Divisional Railway Manager (Commercial), East Coast Railway, DRM Office Complex, Sambalpur Division, Post - Modipara, Dist - Sambalpur, Pin - 768002 (Odisha)
 Commission payable: The applicants fulfilling the eligibility conditions, who have opted for the least commission on the slab-3 (i.e. on the 2% commission slab) will be selected as STBA. The commission payable shall be as follows:

Slabs	Monthly Sales Turnover (in Rs.)	Monthly Commission % payable on sales turnover
Slab - 1	1 - 20,000	25% (Minimum of Rs. 2,500/-)
Slab - 2	20,000 - 1,00,000	15%
Slab - 3	> 1,00,000	2% or the rate quoted whichever is lower

 a) Applicant has to quote the percentage of commission from 0% to 2% in the 3rd Commission slab. b) No negative bids will be considered. c) Applicants can quote commission in fraction up to two decimal points only.
 The details and the prescribed format for filling application may be obtained from website of East Coast Railway i.e. www.eastcoastrail.in, indianrailways.gov.in, up to 1800hrs of 13.11.2024 and from the office of The Divisional Railway Manager (Commercial), East Coast Railway, Sambalpur on any working day from 1000hrs to 1800hrs up to 13.11.2024. The last date for submission / dropping of duly filled application in the box is 1100hrs of dated 14.11.2024.
 Any application received after the above period or incomplete in any manner will not be entertained / considered and no correspondence in this regard will be entertained".
 PR-671/P/24-25 Sr. Divisional Commercial Manager/ Sambalpur

VIGILANCE AWARENESS WEEK
 28th October to 3rd November 2024
"CULTURE OF INTEGRITY FOR NATION'S PROSPERITY"
AN APPEAL TO CUSTOMERS
 > PLEASE DO NOT PAY ANYTHING OVER AND ABOVE THE LEGITIMATE CHARGES.
 > PLEASE INSIST ON RECEIPT/TICKET FOR THE PAYMENT MADE BY YOU.
 > IF YOU COME ACROSS ANY EMPLOYEE OF THE RAILWAY DEMANDING BRIBE OR INDULGING IN MALPRACTICE, PLEASE SEND YOUR COMPLAINT TO SR. DEPUTY GENERAL MANAGER (SDGM), EAST COAST RAILWAY, CHANDRASEKHARPUR, BHUBANESWAR-751017, TELEPHONE NO.: 0674-2300230, FAX NO.: 0674-2301328 AND E-MAIL ID: sdgm@ecor.railnet.gov.in
 > PLEASE SIGN THE COMPLAINT AND PROVIDE PROPER ADDRESS. THE EMAIL COMPLAINT SHOULD NECESSARILY ENCLOSE A SIGNED COPY WITH COMPLETE POSTAL ADDRESS.
 > IN CASE YOU WANT TO KEEP YOUR NAME SECRET, PLEASE MENTION THE SAME IN YOUR COMPLAINT AND SEND IT IN A CLOSED/SECURED ENVELOPE, ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY, CENTRAL VIGILANCE COMMISSION, SATARKATA BHAWAN, BLOCK-A, GPO COMPLEX, INA, NEW DELHI-110023, DULY SUPERSCRIBING "COMPLAINT UNDER THE PUBLIC INTEREST DISCLOSURE AND PROTECTION OF INFORMERS" OR "PIDP" ON THE ENVELOPE.
 > IF YOU HAVE ANY COMPLAINT REGARDING CORRUPTION IN RAILWAYS, YOU CAN RING UP & INFORM ON VIGILANCE HELPLINE NO.: 8455885031.
VIGILANCE Helpline No. 8455885031
EAST COAST RAILWAY
www.eastcoastrail.indianrailways.gov.in

New tech platform to aid budding women entrepreneurs

THE PLATFORM 'TITLED E-SHAKTI' HAS BEEN DEVELOPED BY CLASS 12 STUDENT TEJAS DAHIYA AND WOULD SOON BE LAUNCHED IN A MOBILE APPLICATION FORMAT

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Bahraich, Oct 29: In a significant step toward rural employment generation and women's economic empowerment, a new tech platform for e-commerce will on board local women entrepreneurs in a bid to help them connect with broader markets, officials said Monday.

The platform 'titled E-Shakti' has been developed by Class 12 student Tejas Dahiya and would soon be launched in a mobile application format, they said. "E-Shakti will allow 50,000 women in our district to engage in digital commerce," District Magistrate Monika Rani said. "This platform links rural communities with large markets, enabling artisans, farmers, and small-scale producers to showcase their products, equipping them with digital skills, and promoting self-reliance," she said. She said unlike big online platforms, this app and website would allow non-branded products to be sold. "We have a lot of artisans who make products using the stem of wheat, fibres of banana tree, bio



fertilizers etc. However, they are in the initial phase of entrepreneurial efforts and need support to showcase their products to a wider customer base," the DM told PTI. "The vendors on the platform would be SHGs which will be registered by us and only after that issued credentials to login to the system for sale of their

products," she said. The concept for this platform was floated by the Bahraich administration, the DM said, adding that while the website is ready, the mobile app is expected to be launched after Diwali. "The website also needs some refinement, which would be done eventually," she said. The platform, created in col-

laboration with the National Informatics Center (NIC), aligns with initiatives like the National Urban Livelihood Mission (NULM), National Rural Livelihood Mission (NRLM), and One District One Product (ODOP). "We envision this as an opportunity for women in remote areas to generate income and expand their businesses without needing significant capital or infrastructure," Rani added. Deputy Commissioner, National Rural Health Mission, Deepak Singh said the proposed app has come to the district through the National Information System (NIS). Singh said there are 20,197 women self-help groups here, with more than two lakh women associated.

Punjab announces free insurance for mid-day meal cooks, helpers



The plan includes insurance coverage of ₹16 lakh in case of accidental death, ₹1 lakh in case of natural death, and ₹2 lakh in case of the death of a spouse in an accident

INDO-ASIAN NEWS SERVICE

Chandigarh, Oct 29: Punjab Finance Minister Harpal Singh Cheema Monday announced that mid-day meal cooks and helpers would be insured free of cost. He said the Cabinet sub-committee has written a demi-official letter to the Union government, recommending an increase in the salary of mid-day meal cooks from ₹600 to ₹2,000. At a meeting with the Mid-day Meal Cooks Union Punjab (BMS) here, Cheema assured them that all mid-day meal cooks and helpers, who opened a zero balance account in Canara Bank, will be covered under this insurance scheme. The plan includes insurance coverage of ₹16 lakh in case of accidental death, ₹1 lakh in case of natural death, and ₹2 lakh in case of the death of a spouse in an accident. Addressing their salary issue, Cheema said in addition to the recommendation

letter by the Cabinet sub-committee to the Union government, their case will be further pursued by the Education Minister. He said the letter to the Union government also recommended providing one cook for every 50 students. Currently, the arrangement allows for one mid-day meal cook for one to 25 students, two for 25 to 100 students, and subsequently only one cook for every additional 100 students. He emphasised that increasing the number of cooks would address the challenges being faced in preparing mid-day meals. During the meeting, the minister asked the Secretary (School Education) KK Yadav to consider creating additional posts for mid-day cooks at the block level to ensure alternate arrangements are available when workers need leave. He also directed Mid-Day Meal Society Managing Director Varinder Singh Brar to ensure that needed dress items like aprons, caps, and gloves are provided to the mid-day meal workers at the earliest. Cheema said the government is committed to improving the working conditions and financial security of mid-day meal workers, ensuring their wellbeing and enhancing the quality of service provided to students.

GOVERNMENT OF ODISHA
OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER, RURAL WORKS DIVISION-II, SUNDARGARH
 Lt.No.4698//Dt.28.10.2024
1st Corrigendum to Bid Identification No. Online-SERKL-12/2024-25
 No.O-532: Due to some unavoidable circumstances in respect of the tender for Building Works invited in Tender Call Notice Bid Identification No. Online-SERKL-12/2024-25 by the Additional Chief Engineer, Rural Works Division-II, Sundargarh the date of Online for bidding and opening of the date which was scheduled to be uploaded from 23.10.2024 to 05.11.2024 is hereby extended as follows:

Availability of Tender On-line for Bidding	Last date & time of seeking tender clarification	Date & Time of opening of tender (Technical Bid)
From 30.10.2024 at 11.00 AM To 08.11.2024 upto 5.00 PM	07.11.2024 upto 5.00 PM	11.11.2024 at 11.00 AM

 OIPR-25193/11/0024/2425 Sd/- Additional Chief Engineer, R.W.Division-II, Sundargarh

GOVERNMENT OF ODISHA
DEPARTMENT OF P.R & D.W
INVITATION FOR BIDS (IFB)
 IDENTIFICATION NO. : AGLB-01/2024-25
 E-mail address : ori-bangul@nic.in
 The Block Development Officer, Angul on behalf of the Governor of Orissa invites Percentage rate civil bid in single cover system for the works as detailed in the table, from the class of eligible contractors as mentioned in Col.4 (four), registered with the State Government and contractors of equivalent grade / Class registered with Central Government / MES / Railway, to be eventually drawn up in PWD P-I form, for execution of Building (Civil Work). The proof of registration from the appropriate authority shall be enclosed along with the bid. If successful, the bidder who has not registered under State Government has to register under the State PWD in appropriate class of eligibility before signing the agreement. Bidders may submit bids for any or all the following works.

Sl. No.	Name of works	Approx. Value of work (Rs. in lakhs)	Class of contractor	Bid Security (Rs.)	Cost of documents (Non-refundable)	Period of completion
1	Construction of new Block Office Building Angul Block	29.89	'B' or 'C'	29889.00	Rs. 10,000/- (Only be downloaded from www.angul.odisha.gov.in)	Six Calendar months

 For detailed information, please visit the website <https://www.angul.odisha.gov.in>
 Sd./- 21.10.2024
 Block Development Officer
 Angul
 OIPR-19073/11/0001/2425

GOVT. OF ODISHA
OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER
RURAL WORKS DIVISION, KESINGA
 E-mail : eerwkesinga@yahoo.com
"e" Procurement Notice
BID IDENTIFICATION NO. SERWKSNG-online-01/2024-25
 1. Name of the Work : Road & Building works (As per annexure) 2. Total Number of Work : 47 Nos. 3. Estimated Cost : Rs. 0.84 Thousand to Rs. 35.29 lakhs (Approximately) 4. E.M.D : Please refer DTCN 5. Cost of Tender document : As per annexure 6. Class of Contractor : 'D, C & B' Class 7. Period of completion : As per annexure 8. Other details : As per DTCN

Procurement Officer	Bid Identification No.	Availability of Tender Online for bidding	Last Date & Time of seeking Tender Clarification	Date & Time of Opening of Tender
Additional Chief Engineer, Rural Works Division, Kesinga	SERWKSNG-online-01/2024-25	01.11.2024 at 11.00 A.M. To 18.11.2024 upto 15.00 P.M.	14.11.2024 upto 11.00 A.M.	19.11.2024 at 16.00 P.M.

 Further details can be seen from the Website i.e. www.tenderodisha.gov.in
 Sd./- Additional Chief Engineer, Rural Works Division, Kesinga
 OIPR-25153/11/0001/2425

national

of the day quote

I feel pain that CBG plants are increasing in the country, but here (Punjab) CBG plants are finding it hard to run. If a CBG plant is run, it will benefit farmers. If an ethanol plant is set up, it will benefit farmers as they are run on biomass



HARDEEP SINGH PURI | UNION MINISTER

Allegations were levelled against me in an irrigation scam. Attempts were made to defame me. It was decided to level an allegation of Rs 70,000 crore scam in an irrigation project. The total expenditure of salaries was Rs 42,000 crore in the project and allegation was made about irregularities of Rs 70,000 crore



AJIT PAWAR | MAHA DEPUTY CM

However, due to its coincidence with Diwali this year, it is being organised on October 29 as announced by Prime Minister Narendra Modi in his 'Mann Ki Baat' programme



PUSHKAR SINGH DHAMA | U'KHAND CM

SHORT TAKES

Manipur Police arrest 8 members of UNLF(P)

Imphal: The police have arrested eight members of the banned United National Liberation Front of Manipur (Pambei) for allegedly threatening residents and obstructing the land demarcation process in Thoubal district, police said in a statement Tuesday. Police recovered a substantial cache of arms and ammunition from the suspects, including five AK-47 assault rifles, one M-16 rifle, and a 9mm pistol, the statement said.

ED raids IAS officer, others

Ranchi: The Enforcement Directorate Tuesday raided premises linked to IAS officer Vinay Kumar Choubey, some state government officials and a number of liquor businessmen and middlemen as part of a money laundering investigation into an alleged excise scam in poll-bound Jharkhand. Officials said the searches are being undertaken at 15 premises in Ranchi and Raipur, the capital of neighbouring Chhattisgarh, after a criminal case was recently registered by the Jharkhand zonal office of the federal probe agency under the Prevention of Money Laundering Act (PMLA).

HC grants bail to 'aides' of Satyendar

New Delhi: The Delhi High Court Tuesday granted bail to two accused -- Vaibhav Jain and Ankush Jain -- in an alleged case of money laundering involving AAP leader Satyendar Jain. Justice Manoj Kumar Ohri granted the reprieve to the duo observing an accused in a money laundering case could not be equated with those involved in severe offences like murder, rape or dacoity. The high court highlighted Section 45 of Prevention of Money Laundering Act (PMLA), which imposes certain restrictions on the grant of bail -- could not be used as a tool for incarceration.

ED chargesheets Amanatullah Khan

New Delhi: The Enforcement Directorate (ED) Tuesday filed a chargesheet before a Delhi court against AAP MLA Amanatullah Khan in an alleged case of irregularities in the Delhi Waqf Board. The 110-page first supplementary chargesheet claimed Khan laundered money that was allegedly generated through corruption in the Delhi Waqf Board.



Over the past seven years, Uttar Pradesh has seen major changes that have improved its reputation both in India and around the world. As a result, investors from across the globe are now drawn to invest in the state

YOGI ADITYANATH | UTTAR PRADESH CM

OVER 38K PIGS CULLED AS ASF OUTBREAK CONTINUES

Even though over 14,310 pigs were killed and over 23,720 pigs culled in Mizoram after the outbreak of African Swine Fever (ASF) in eight-and-a-half-months ago, the number of pig deaths due to the contagious disease reasonably reduced during the past few days



Cong levels fresh charges against Buch, Adani & BJP

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, Oct 29: The Congress Tuesday levelled fresh charges against SEBI chief Madhabi Puri Buch, with Rahul Gandhi claiming a "Monopoly Bachao Syndicate" was at work, at the core of which was a "dangerous nexus" among the Adani Group, key regulatory bodies, and the BJP.

Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge accused Prime Minister Narendra Modi of "destroying" the SEBI's sanctity painstakingly created over the years, thereby jeopardising the hard-earned savings of crores of small and medium investors.

"Narendra Modi ji, you cannot shield the rot created in SEBI under the chairperson appointed by you. The continuing barrage of exposes makes her position untenable. You have destroyed the sanctity of SEBI -- India's market regulator, painstakingly created over the years, thereby jeopardising the hard-earned savings of crores of small and medium investors!" he said.

"It also unmasks how you engineered a monopoly for your dear friend Adani! A thorough JPC is required to probe every aspect of this syndicate!" Kharge said on X. The opposition party alleged that Buch rented out her property to a company associated with an individual connected to the IndiaBulls Group which was



under the stock market regulator's scanner. There was no immediate reaction from either Buch or the Adani group on the allegations. However, previously both the SEBI chief and the Adani group had separately dismissed allegations of any wrongdoing.

The opposition party also alleged that Buch has been associated with Credible Health Private Limited, holding equity in it, and she continued to hold shares in the company even after becoming a wholetime member of SEBI. The party further pointed out that Jacesa Investments Limited, which is based out of St Vincent and The Grenadines and invested in Credible Health Private Limited, is listed in offshore leaks by Paradise Papers shared by ICLJ. Addressing a press conference at the party headquarters here, the Congress' media and publicity department head Pawan Khhera also alleged that Ananth

Narayan, who became a Whole Time Member at SEBI on October 10, 2022, also rented out his property in Mumbai to a stockbroker hired by a brokerage firm called IMC India Securities, which is regulated by SEBI, and received Rs 64.8 lakh in rent.

Simultaneously, the party put out a video, the third in a series featuring Gandhi and Khhera, in which the leader of the opposition in the Lok Sabha talks about how the Adani Defence website allegedly reveals how the company profits by "merely re-branding" foreign-made weapons.

In his post on YouTube along with the video, Gandhi said, "The rot in India's institutional framework has reached alarming depths with the rise of a 'Monopoly Bachao Syndicate'. At the core of this syndicate is a dangerous nexus between Adani, key regulatory bodies, and the Modi-led BJP."

HARYANA POLLS

EC rejects Congress' irregularities claim

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, Oct 29: The Election Commission Tuesday rejected allegations levelled by the Congress over irregularities in the just-held Haryana Assembly polls, saying the party was raising "the smoke of a generic doubt" about the credibility of an entire electoral outcome like it did in the past.

"This is least expected of a national political party. The commission appreciates the criticality of the considered views of political parties in sustaining and strengthening electoral democracy in the country and assures that it will remain committed towards timely grievance redressal," it said in a letter to Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge.

The poll authority said that "once again", it was compelled to note that with "no evidence whatsoever" of any statutory electoral step being compromised, the Congress has "once again raised the smoke of a generic doubt" about the credibility of an entire electoral outcome "exactly in a similar manner as it has done in recent past".

The commission said that such "frivolous and unfounded" doubts have the potential of creating "turbulence" when crucial steps like polling and counting are in live play, a time when both public and political parties' anxiousness is peaking.

AYUSHMAN BHARAT SCHEME

PM Modi targets Delhi, WB govts

The Prime Minister Tuesday extended his government's flagship health insurance scheme Ayushman Bharat to all senior citizens aged 70 years and above



PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, Oct 29: Prime Minister Narendra Modi hit out at Delhi and West Bengal governments Tuesday for not implementing the Ayushman Bharat health insurance scheme due to "political interests" and said he was pained that the elderly in these places cannot avail free treatment under the expanded programme.

The prime minister Tuesday extended his government's flagship health insurance scheme Ayushman Bharat to all senior citizens aged 70 years and above. "I apologise to all the elderly aged 70 and above in Delhi and West Bengal that I cannot serve them. I would get to know about your pains and sufferings but I won't be able to help you," Modi said.

"The reason is that the governments in Delhi and West Bengal are not joining the scheme due to their political interests," he stated, adding the tendency to be oppressive against the sick people of one's own state for political interests does not align with the idea of humanity. People aged above 70 will get free treatment in hospitals and they will be given 'the Ayushman Vaya Vandana' card, Modi said. "I am able to serve the people of the country but the walls of the political profession are preventing me from serving the elderly people of Delhi and West Bengal," he said.

Elections in Delhi are due in 2025 and in West Bengal in 2026. Modi who launched development projects worth over Rs 12,850 crore on the occasion of the ninth Ayurveda Day and the birth anniversary of Dhanvantari, the

Hindu god of medicine, said that during this year's general elections, he had promised that people aged 70 years and above would be brought under the Ayushman Bharat health insurance scheme during the third term of his government.

"This guarantee is being fulfilled today," he said, adding he will not rest until the poor and middle class of the country are free from the burden of expensive treatment.

Modi informed that nearly four crore poor people have availed the benefits under the Ayushman Bharat Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana (AB-PMJAY).

Had the scheme not been there, they would have had to shell out around Rs 1.25 lakh crore from their own pockets.

Modi noted that more than 14,000 Pradhan Mantri Bhartiya Janaushadhi Kendras are operational across the country where medicines are available at an 80 per cent discount.

He informed that due to these Janaushadhi Kendras, the poor and middle class have managed to save Rs 30,000 crore due to the availability of cheap medicines.

Similarly, prices of devices like stents and knee implants have been reduced which led to savings of more than Rs 80,000 crore by the common citizens. He also mentioned that the free dialysis scheme and Mission Indradhanush campaign were preventing fatal diseases and saving the lives of pregnant women and newborn babies.

Modi emphasised the importance of timely diagnosis in reducing the risks and inconveniences associated with illnesses.

Lawyers clash with cops, set outpost on fire

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Ghaziabad, Oct 29: Lawyers and baton-wielding police personnel came to blows in a courtroom in Ghaziabad Tuesday after the judge called the force in to remove a group of protesting lawyers raising slogans against him over a disagreement.

Some of the lawyers claimed they suffered injuries as police personnel used batons on them, and police officials alleged that agitating advocates set a local police outpost on fire.

The ruckus broke out around 11 am in the district and sessions court complex located in the Raj Nagar area following a heated altercation between an advocate and the judge over the hearing of an anticipatory bail case.

Dramatic scenes of the clash in the courtroom surfaced on social media. Ghaziabad Police Commissioner Ajay Kumar Mishra told PTI that a group of advocates "tried to exert pressure" on the district judge during the hearing of a bail application and "attempted to assault" him.

Requesting anonymity, a lawyer told PTI that a group of advocates had demanded that District and Sessions Judge Anil Kumar should hear the case of anticipatory bail on priority, which he denied and stated that the case would be entertained as per the listing.



The Patna Metro tunnel construction site where two people died and many others injured after they were buried under soil, at Patna Science College NIT more, in Patna, Bihar

12 killed as bus rams into flyover wall in Rajasthan

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Jaipur, Oct 29: Twelve people died and around 30 passengers got injured after a private bus crashed into the wing wall of a flyover in Rajasthan's Sikar district Tuesday afternoon, police said.

District Superintendent of Police Bhuvan Bhushan Yadav said the bus coming from Salasar rammed into a part of the flyover in Laxmangarh while taking a turn. According to the police, the bus was speeding

and filled with passengers due to which the driver lost control and the vehicle rammed into the wing wall of the flyover.

The right side of the bus got completely crushed and the driver died on the spot. A crane was called to take out the passengers stuck inside, they said. Sikar IGP Satyendra Singh said some of the injured have been referred to Jaipur and others are undergoing treatment at SK Hospital here. Twelve people have died in the accident, he



said. Vinita, Seema, Kiran Kanwar, Kamla, Banarasi Meghwal, Aditya Meghwal and Pramod Singh are among those killed in the accident. Efforts are on to identify the rest, the police said. A team of doctors and administration has taken control of the situation and all arrangements have been made. Passengers are local residents. Their family members have been informed, the IGP said.

He said that the reason behind the accident is yet not known.

Chief Minister Bhajanlal Sharma has expressed grief over the accident. "The loss of life in the bus accident in Sikar's Laxmangarh area is extremely sad and heart-breaking. My deepest condolences are with the bereaved families of the deceased. The concerned officials have been directed to ensure proper treatment of the injured. I pray to Lord Shri Ram to give place to the departed souls in his feet and grant speedy recovery to the injured. Om Shanti," Sharma said on X.

CYBER ATTACKS

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, Oct 29: The cyber security experts Tuesday raised concern over the increase in cases of cyber attacks in India and stressed the need for stronger measures to tackle the problem.

The thoughts were shared during a release of a report titled 'The Invisible Hand' by PRAHAR, an NGO, which focuses on such issues in the public domain which, if not addressed, can cause helplessness among Indian citizens.

Expressing grave concerns on cyber attacks, Abhay Mishra, national convener and president of PRAHAR, said there are two types of cyber attacks. The first involves traditional hackers who exploit vulnerabilities in systems for financial gain or dis-

ruption, he said. "The second, the more insidious form, targets citizens, recruiting them to engage in anti-national activities through manipulation, coercion or threats. Such tactics are most likely to be used on illegal betting apps," he said.

The NGO's report stated that in 2023, the country experienced over 79 million cyber attacks, ranking it third globally in terms of the number of such incidents. This marked a 15 per cent increase from the previous year. The escalation continued into 2024, it added. In the first quarter, the report indicated a sharp rise in cyber attacks, with over 500 million incidents blocked in just three months, it added. Anuj Agarwal, a renowned

India needs stronger security measures: Experts



techno-legal expert and chairman of the Centre for Research on Cyber Crime and Cyber Law, said, "Communities must be involved to bear upon our youth to

deter them from falling prey to illegal social media platforms."

Former IPS officer Muktesh Chander, who specialises in cyber crime investigation and tech-

nology management and is a PhD in Cyber Security from IIT Delhi, said, "A situation has arisen where not only individual hackers or disgruntled people but also state-sponsored actors and states themselves are engaging in activities that sabotage important parameters of the economy."

Snehil Dhall, a distinguished criminologist and founder of

Crimophobia, said, "Today, the reactive part of cyber security measures is on display in India while the proactive part of cyber security measures is missing. Our strategy today is trying to diminish or neutralise a threat."

Prime Minister Narendra Modi has also flagged the issue of fraudsters targeting people with the cyber crime of "digital arrests" and urged people to adopt the mantra of "stop, think and take action" when faced with such a scam, asserting that these steps will provide digital security to them.

In his monthly 'Mann Ki Baat' broadcast Sunday, he said probe agencies are working with the states to deal with the issue but added that awareness is essential in protecting oneself from this crime.

ACCORDING TO PRAHAR'S STATISTICAL PROJECTIONS, INDIA WILL BE ATTRACTING NEARLY ONE TRILLION CYBER ATTACKS ANNUALLY BY 2033

BY THE TIME THE COUNTRY TURNS 100 IN 2047, IT WILL FACE A TARGET OF 17 TRILLION CYBER ATTACKS

national



India is the fastest growing major economy and is likely to become the third largest economy soon
DROUPADI MURMU | PRESIDENT OF INDIA

219 FRESH FARM FIRES IN PUNJAB

Punjab recorded 219 fresh farm fire incidents Tuesday, taking the season's count to 2,356, which is about 55 per cent less than the figure in the corresponding period last year, official data showed. From September 15 to October 29, Punjab has seen 2,356 farm fire cases as compared to 5,254 such incidents in the corresponding period last year, according to the Punjab Remote Sensing Centre data



of the day quote

It is with great pleasure that I would like to inform you that our state West Bengal has achieved remarkable success in preventing Hepatitis B
MAMATA BANERJEE | WEST BENGAL CM

When people will understand why the Manipur conflict broke out, new courage and confidence will emerge
N BIREN SINGH | MANIPUR CM

If you own a refrigerator, a motorcycle, or have an income above Rs 10,000, you cannot avail of Ayushman Bharat benefits
SANJAY SINGH | RAJYA SABHA MP

X POST OF THE DAY

Adani is selling Israeli Weapons to India through a Joint Venture with Israel Weapon Industries. Rebranded

- weapons:
• TAVOR assault rifle as ABHAY
• GALIL sniper rifle - ACHOOK
• NEGEV light machine gun - PRAHAR
• DAN sniper rifle - LAKSHYA
Rahul Gandhi hints Agniveer funds are being funneled into Adani's bank accounts via this Middle Man position, This is Seriously Compromising Our National Interest...???

SHORT TAKES

ABVP, Left members clash at JNU

New Delhi: A clash erupted between students from the Left outfits and the ABVP early Tuesday during a University Governing Body Meeting (UGBM) at the Jawahar Nehru University over alleged derogatory remarks against Lord Ram. The JNU Students' Union (JNSU) alleged that the ABVP members hurled casteist slurs at office-bearers of JNSU. The meeting was convened by the JNU Students' Union (JNSU) to discuss their participation in the Internal Complaints Committee (ICC) elections - a body established to address sexual harassment complaints on campus.

Jammu: 12 old quarters gutted

Jammu: Twelve quarters of displaced Kashmiri Pandits were gutted in a fire on the outskirts of Jammu city Tuesday. The fire reportedly started in one of the old quarters in the Purkhoo camp area and quickly spread, they said. Fire service personnel and equipment were rushed to the scene to extinguish the blaze. Though no one was reported hurt, most of the household goods and a two-wheeler was gutted.

Car catches fire

New Delhi: A car caught fire near the Ghazipur mandi in east Delhi Tuesday, Delhi Fire Services officials said. However, there were no injuries, they said. A call regarding the car catching fire was received at 7 pm and a water tender was rushed to the spot, the officials said. A video purporting to show the car ablaze was widely circulated on social media.

KERALA TEMPLE EXPLOSION

FESTIVAL TURNS TRAGIC

The incident occurred as hundreds of people, including women and children, had gathered to have a glimpse of the Theyyam performance at the shrine

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Kasaragod (Kerala), Oct 29: A fire accident during a Theyyam performance at a temple near Neeleswaram late last night left 154 people injured, eight of them seriously, when firecrackers stored in the vicinity exploded, police said Tuesday.

Kasaragod District Police chief D Shilpa announced the formation of a Special Investigation Team (SIT) to probe into the fire accident. The district administration said that the additional divisional magistrate has been directed to carry out an inquiry separately into the incident and submit a report.

The incident happened at Anjoottanbalam Veererkavu Temple near Neeleswaram in this northernmost district of Kerala, police said. Nileswaram police have registered a case into the firework accident under the Explosive Substance Act and various sections of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita (BNS).

The firecrackers were burst in the temple premises without any legal permission, and the accident happened due to its



careless handling and negligence by the accused, police said. Eight people were booked, and four of them were taken into custody, a senior police officer said. Though police earlier said that all those booked are temple committee members, they later clarified that one among them is a local man who burst firecrackers.

The incident occurred as hundreds of people, including women and children, had gathered to have a glimpse of the Theyyam

THE DISTRICT ADMINISTRATION SAID THAT THE ADDITIONAL DIVISIONAL MAGISTRATE HAS BEEN DIRECTED TO CARRY OUT AN INQUIRY SEPARATELY INTO THE INCIDENT AND SUBMIT A REPORT. THE INCIDENT HAPPENED AT ANJOOTTANBALAM VEERERKAVU TEMPLE NEAR NEELESWARAM IN THIS NORTHERNMOST DISTRICT OF KERALA, POLICE SAID

performance at the shrine. Theyyam is a centuries-old ritualistic performance held at temples and 'kavus' (sacred groves) in the Malabar (north Kerala) region of Kerala. The District Collector said Tuesday that those who were seriously injured had 80 per cent burns. He further said that according to a preliminary probe, the fireworks storage facility and the place where the crackers were being burst were close by. "The safety precautions were

not taken. The requirement of maintaining a minimum distance of 100 meters between the two was not followed. No permission was taken either for storage of fireworks," he added. As per the latest official update, of the total 21 people admitted to the intensive care units, seven are under ventilator support, and one person is critically ill. Eyewitnesses said sparks from firecrackers fell on the rest of the stocks stored nearby, leading to an explosion that scared away the people. The building also suffered serious damage.

Its walls and roof were found broken down. Mobile phone footage, broadcast by television channels, showed hapless people getting scattered and running in panic after a thundering explosion and a ball of fire happened on one of the premises of the shrine.

Over 154 people sustained serious and minor injuries in the accident, and at least 102 persons were seeking treatment in various hospitals in Kasaragod, Kannur, and Kozhikode districts and in Mangalore in neighbouring Karnataka, authorities said.

Nara Lokesh meets Satya Nadella in US

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

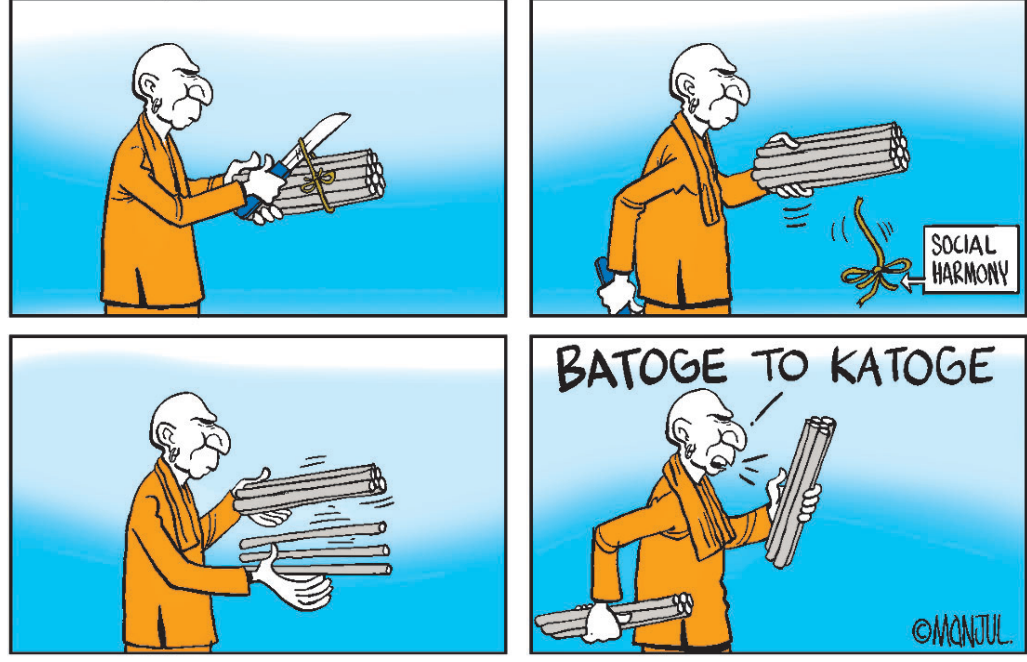
Amaravati, Oct 29: Andhra Pradesh Minister Nara Lokesh Tuesday said he met with the CEOs of Microsoft and Adobe, Satya Nadella and Shantanu Narayan respectively and requested them to explore possible collaborations in the state.

In a series of posts, Lokesh said he expressed his desire for collaborative efforts with Microsoft to drive digital transformation and opportunities in the state.



Lokesh, who is currently touring the US, in a social media post said he also sought Microsoft's guidance and support in advancing IT in the state. "Had an insightful meeting with @satyanadella, CEO of @Microsoft. Sought his valuable guidance and support in advancing IT, AI, and skill development in Andhra Pradesh. Looking forward to collaborative efforts to drive digital transformation and opportunities in the state," Lokesh said in the post. Later in a separate post, he said he visited Apple corporate headquarters in San Francisco and met with the Vice President (Operations) Priya Balasubramanian.

POLITICKLE by MANJUL



INDIA, CHINA COMPLETE DISENGAGEMENT PROCESS

AGENCIES

Srinagar, Oct 29: The disengagement process between India and China on the line of actual control (LAC) in Eastern Ladakh was completed Tuesday after which the two armies started verification of positions and dismantling of infrastructure by each other, defence sources said. The sources added that the dismantling of temporary structures in Depsang plains and Demchok is almost complete and a certain amount of verification has already taken place on both sides. The verification

process is being done physically as well as using unmanned aerial vehicles (UAVs). Troops on both sides have been withdrawn to be stationed at depth in the rear locations as part of the disengagement process. The patrolling, which will be undertaken to points hitherto inaccessible since April 2020, will be done by small parties of troops numbering around 10 to 15 soldiers. India and China have been locked in a military standoff along the LAC in Eastern Ladakh following Chinese incursions over four and half years ago.



Last week, four days after India announced that an agreement on patrolling in the Depsang Plains and Demchok had been reached with China, Beijing affirmed the same, saying that "the Chinese and Indian

frontier troops are engaged in relevant work, which is going smoothly at the moment". Sources in the Army said that following the completion of the verification process, the co-ordinated patrolling will begin within the next two days. Prior information will be given by both sides so that there is no danger of a face-off. In Depsang plains, Indian troops will now be able to patrol beyond the 'bottleneck' area as the Chinese had been preventing Indian troops from accessing the patrolling points that lay beyond.

About one-third of world's regions decoupled: Study

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, Oct 29: About 30 per cent of the world's regions have fully separated or "decoupled" - where the economy grows but carbon emissions decline - many of them in Europe, according to a study.

In contrast, North America and Asia have shown more fluctuating decoupling trends over the past decades, even as an improvement was seen in the last decade, researchers from the Potsdam Institute for Climate Impact Research (PIK), Germany, said.

Achieving net-zero emissions by 2050 is one of the goals of 2015's Paris Agreement and is aimed at striking a balance between carbon emitted and that absorbed. It is considered important to limit the increase in the global average temperature to between 1.5 to 2 degrees Celsius, more widely known as the 'temperature goals of the



Paris Agreement'. "A stabilisation of the global mean temperature is only possible with net-zero carbon emissions. That means that if economies want to grow they need to be decoupled from CO2 emissions," Anders Levermann, from PIK and co-author of the study published in the journal Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences, said. The researchers analysed economic outputs of 1,500 subnational (or below national level)

regions around the world where the observed per capita gross regional product (GRP) was increasing, accounting for 85 per cent of global emissions. The team then combined this with data on carbon emissions from due to production activities over the past 30 years. "Countries of the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) with greater spending on subnational climate actions show higher decoupling rates, as do

Achieving net-zero emissions by 2050 is one of the goals of 2015's Paris Agreement and is aimed at striking a balance between carbon emitted and that absorbed. It is considered important to limit the increase in the global average temperature to between 1.5 to 2 degrees Celsius, more widely known as the 'temperature goals of the Paris Agreement'

subnational regions in (the European Union) countries where climate policies have been implemented, highlighting the effectiveness of subnational policies," the authors wrote. Levermann said, "Regions with high incomes and a history of carbon-intensive industries, as well as those with significant shares of service and manufacturing sectors were particularly successful in reducing carbon emissions while still ex-

periencing economic growth." "Specifically, EU cities that have implemented climate mitigation plans and regions that have received increased financial support for climate actions tend to show higher rates of decoupling," lead author Maria Zioga, a PIK scientist, said. "Notably, Europe consistently outperforms other parts of the world, with many of its regions showing a continuous decoupling trend over the past 20 years. In contrast, North America and Asia have seen more fluctuating decoupling patterns over the decades, but there's been an improvement trend in the last decade," she said. Further, at current rates of decoupling carbon emissions from economic growth, under half the world's subnational regions will be able to achieve net-zero carbon emissions by 2050, according to corresponding author Maximilian Kotz, a PIK guest researcher.

'50 terrorists waiting to infiltrate into Jammu'



PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Jammu, Oct 29: Over 50 terrorists are likely present on the launching pads across the border to sneak into Jammu region, a senior Army officer said, asserting that the forces are fully alert to the challenge and will foil any infiltration attempt, which change especially during the winter months.

Speaking to reporters after the successful elimination of three terrorists in Akhnoor sector near here, General Officer Commanding of 10 Infantry Division, Major General Sameer Srivastava said the Army will not allow the terrorists a free run to harm civilians.

Security forces Tuesday morning gunned down two terrorists holed up in a forest area near a village in the Akhnoor sector, taking the number of militants killed in the 27-hour gunfight near the Line of Control (LoC) to three, officials said

Tuesday morning gunned down two terrorists holed up in a forest area near a village in the Akhnoor sector, taking the number of militants killed in the 27-hour gunfight near the Line of Control (LoC) to three, officials said.

"The pattern of infiltration changes with each passing year, especially during snowfall and we are ready for the challenge," the officer said.

Flanked by Brigadier Kapil Taneja, commander of 28 infantry brigade and Deputy Inspector General of Police, Jammu-Kathua-Samba Range, Shiv Kumar Sharma, Maj Gen Srivastava said the challenges re-

main the same - counter the infiltration and terrorist actions. "We are fully prepared as you have seen in the recent successful operations against terrorists. I am sure such successful operations will have an impact on terrorism," he said.

Asked about the number of terrorists likely present on the launching pads south of Pir Panjal, he said the inputs about the figure usually keeps varying with changing times. "As per the joint intelligence reports, there are 50 to 60 terrorists present there," the senior Army officer said.

Describing the killing of three terrorists in Akhnoor as a major success for the security forces, he said they were not part of the fresh infiltration group. Maj Gen Srivastava said, "This was a group which was present in the hinterland and we were tracking them for some time. They came here and got exposed." "The area (Akhnoor) will be kept under strict surveillance even as ground reports suggest that there were only three terrorists," he added.

He said the counter-infiltration grid has been strengthened and "no infiltration had taken place in this area". The terrorists present in the hinterland are moving in small groups and had moved to this area for a direct action, he said.

Over 100 flights get bomb threats Tuesday

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi/ Mumbai, Oct 29: More than 100 flights operated by various Indian airlines received bomb threats Tuesday, according to sources.

In 16 days, over 510 domestic and international flights have got the threats that later turned out to be hoaxes. The threats were issued mostly through social media. Air India received threats for around 36 flights and IndiGo for about 35 flights. Vistara received the threats for 32 flights, the sources in the know said.

"A number of Air India flights were subject to security threats received on social media 29 October 2024." "Following the laid down protocols, relevant authorities were immediately alerted, and all security procedures strictly adhered to, as per guidance from the regulatory authorities," an airline spokesperson said.

Meanwhile, the Mumbai police have registered a case against an unidentified person after three airlines received bomb threats on their X handle, an official said Tuesday.

IndiGo, Air India and Vistara had received the threats Monday and they turned out to be a hoax after verification, the official added.

The city police have registered 14 FIRs in October in connection with the bomb threats to airlines. Amid a spate of hoax bomb threats to airlines, the IT Ministry has asked social media platforms to observe due diligence obligations and promptly remove or disable access to misinformation within the strict timelines prescribed under IT rules.

international



We (Ukraine-South Korea) agreed to strengthen intelligence and expertise exchange, intensify contacts at all levels, especially the highest, in order to develop an action strategy and countermeasures to address this escalation, and to engage our mutual partners in cooperation
VOLODYMYR ZELENSKYY | PRESIDENT, UKRAINE

CHINA'S FOURTH MANNED MISSION

China announces plans to launch its fourth manned mission to replace the crew of its space station and named a three-member squad to man the low-orbit station for the next six months



of the day quote

If UNRWA is unable to operate, it'll likely see the collapse of the humanitarian system in Gaza
JAMES ELDER | UNICEF SPOKESPERSON

The 11 million is internally displaced within the country (Sudan), the 3.1 million are those who have crossed borders. So that's actually over 14 million people who are on the move right now
AMY POPE | DIRECTOR-GENERAL OF INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION FOR MIGRATION

Taiwan and Europe and the rest of the world are working together to defend the common interests of democracy and peace in the region
FRANCOIS WU | DEPUTY FOREIGN MINISTER, TAIWAN

US PREZ CANDIDATE

Washington Post in deep turmoil

The Post loses more than 200,000 subscriptions after the newspaper said it would not endorse a candidate between Kamala Harris and Donald Trump

ASSOCIATED PRESS

New York, Oct 29: More than 200,000 people have cancelled subscriptions to The Washington Post since the newspaper announced its decision last week not to endorse a candidate for President, a published report said Monday.

NPR reported the figure, citing "two people at the paper with knowledge of internal matters." The reported loss of subscriptions of that magnitude would be a blow to a news outlet that is already facing financial headwinds. The Post had more than 2.5 million subscribers last year, the bulk of them dig-

ital, making it third behind The New York Times and Wall Street Journal in circulation.

A Post spokeswoman, Olivia Peterson, would not comment on the report when contacted by The Associated Press.

The Post's editorial staff had reportedly prepared an endorsement of Democrat Kamala Harris before announcing instead Friday that it would leave it up for readers to make up their own minds. The timing, less than two weeks before Election Day, led critics to question whether Post owner and Amazon founder Jeff Bezos had been concerned about whether Republican Donald Trump might



retaliate if he were elected President.

The Post's retired former editor, Marty Baron, had denounced the decision on social media as "cowardice, with democracy as its casualty."

Some journalists, including Post columnist Dana Milbank, urged readers not to express their anger at the decision by cancelling subscriptions, for fear it could cost reporters or edi-

tors their jobs.

The Post's decision came only days after the Los Angeles Times also said it would not endorse a presidential candidate, which the newspaper has acknowledged has cost them thousands of subscribers.

An article on the Post's website about the fallout from the non-endorsement had more than 2,000 comments, many of them from readers saying they were leaving.

"I am unsubscribing after 70 years," wrote one commenter, claiming to have lost hope and belief that the Post would publish the truth.

The decision was denounced by Watergate era reporting leg-

ends Bob Woodward and Carl Bernstein. Columnists Robert Kagan and Michele Norris said they were quitting the newspaper in protest. Three of the nine members of the Post's editorial board said they were leaving that role.

Out West, a Los Angeles Times editorial writer, Karin Klein, wrote in the Hollywood Reporter that she was quitting the newspaper. Klein said that while Soon-Shiong had the right to impose his will on editorial policy, by making the non-endorsement so late in the campaign he was effectively expressing the opposite of the neutrality he claimed to seek.

Gunmen kill five dam workers in Balochistan

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Karachi, Oct 29: At least five workers were killed and two others injured Tuesday after unidentified gunmen opened fire at a dam construction site in the Panjur district of Pakistan's restive Balochistan province, officials said.

The militants attacked the security officials and workers who were busy in the maintenance work on the dam site in the Paroom area of Panjur district, spokesperson for the Balochistan government Shahid Rind said.

"Five people were killed and two others injured," Rind said but didn't confirm if any security officials had been killed in the attack.

Officials said that the victims were local people. "A search has been launched to arrest the attackers," a police official said.

No group claimed responsibility for the attack but rebels linked with various Baloch nationalist groups often attacked the security forces and government installations.

Levies police and district officials reached the site of the attack and shifted the injured to a nearby hospital where they were said to be in stable condition.

Putin kicks off nuclear training

REUTERS

Moscow, Oct 29: Russia test-fired missiles over distances of thousands of miles Tuesday to simulate a "massive" nuclear response to an enemy first strike.

"Given the growing geopolitical tensions and the emergence of new external threats and risks, it is important to have modern and constantly ready-to-use strategic forces," President Vladimir Putin said as he announced the exercise.

It took place at a critical moment in the Russia-Ukraine war, after weeks of Russian signals to the West that Moscow will respond if the United States and its allies allow Kyiv to fire longer-range missiles deep into Russia.

On Monday NATO said that North Korea has sent troops to western Russia, something Moscow has not denied.

In televised comments, Defence Minister Andrei Belousov told Putin that the purpose of the drill was to practise delivering "a massive nuclear strike by strategic offensive forces in response to a nuclear strike by the enemy".

The exercise involved Russia's full nuclear "triad" of ground, sea- and air-launched missiles.

A Yars intercontinental ballistic missile was launched from Plesetsk cosmodrome in north-west Russia to Kamchatka, a peninsula in the far east. Sineva and Bulava ballistic missiles were fired from submarines, and cruise missiles were launched from strategic bomber planes, the defence ministry said.

The 2-1/2-year-old war is entering what Russian officials say is its most dangerous phase as the West considers how to shore up Ukraine while Russian forces advance in the east of the country.

Putin said using nuclear weapons would be an "extremely exceptional measure".

"I stress that we are not going to get involved in a new arms race, but we will maintain nuclear forces at the level of nec-



essary sufficiency," he said.

He added that Russia was moving to new "stationary and mobile-based missile systems" which have a reduced launch preparation time and could overcome missile defence systems.

The drill follows an October 18 exercise in the Tver region, northwest of Moscow, involving field movements by a unit equipped with Yars intercontinental ballistic missiles, capable of striking US cities.

NUCLEAR SIGNALS

Since the start of the war, Putin has sent a series of pointed signals to the West, including by changing Russia's position on major nuclear treaties and announcing the deployment of tactical nuclear missiles to neighbouring Belarus.

Ukraine has accused him of nuclear blackmail. NATO says it will not be intimidated by Russian threats.

Last month the Kremlin leader approved changes to the official nuclear doctrine, extending the list of scenarios under which Moscow would consider using such weapons.

Under the changes, Russia would consider any assault on it supported by a nuclear power to be a joint attack, a warning to the United States not to help Ukraine strike deep into Russia with conventional weapons.

Putin has said that Russia does not need to resort to the use of nuclear weapons in order to achieve victory in Ukraine.

Hezbollah names Naim Qassem as new chief

ISRAEL SAYS THE NEW LEADER'S TENURE WILL BE 'TEMPORARY'

AGENCIES

Beirut, Oct 29: Hezbollah announced Tuesday that it has chosen cleric Naim Qassem to lead the Lebanese militant group after the killing of its longtime leader Hassan Nasrallah in an Israeli airstrike on a Beirut suburb in late September.

But Israel said his tenure would be "temporary", an apparent threat after it killed his predecessor Hassan Nasrallah in Beirut over a month ago.

In its official Arabic account on X, the Israeli government said: "His tenure in this position may be the shortest in the history of this terrorist organization if he follows in the footsteps of his predecessors Hassan Nasrallah and Hashem Safieddine."

"There is no solution in Lebanon except to dismantle this organization as a military force," it wrote.

The group said in a statement that Hezbollah's decision-making Shura Council elected Qassem, 71, as its new secretary-general and vowed to continue Nasrallah's policies "until victory is achieved."

Qassem's appointment shows Hezbollah is running its own affairs and not, as some have reported, that advisers from Iran's paramilitary Revolutionary Guard are now in charge of the group, Qassem added.

In an interview with The Associated Press in July, Qassem said he didn't believe that Israel had the capacity, or had yet made the decision, to launch a full-blown war with Hezbollah. But he warned that even if Israel intended to undertake a limited operation in Lebanon that stopped short of a full-scale war, it should not expect the fighting to remain limited.

"No one knows the consequences of igniting the war

in Lebanon, regionally and even internationally," Qassem said at the time, speaking from the group's political headquarters in Beirut's southern suburbs.

He said he was proud of Hezbollah's achievements in its "support front" for Hamas, saying it "required sacrifices on our part."

Born in 1953 in the town of Kfar Fila in southern Lebanon, Qassem studied chemistry at the Lebanese University before working for several years as a chemistry teacher. He simultaneously pursued religious studies and participated in founding the Lebanese Union for Muslim Students, an organization meant to promote religion.

In the 1970s, he joined the Movement of the Dispossessed, a political organization that pushed for greater representation for Lebanon's historically overlooked and impoverished Shiite community.

From 1991, Qassem served as the group's deputy, initially under Nasrallah's predecessor, Abbas Mousawi, who was killed by an Israeli helicopter attack in 1992.



This is a message to Lebanon and abroad that Hezbollah has reorganised itself
NAIM QASSEM | NEW LEADER OF HEZBOLLAH

His tenure in this position may be the shortest in the history of this terrorist organization
ISRAELI GOVERNMENT

by the United States, which considers Hezbollah a terrorist group. His appointment came as no surprise since he had served as Nasrallah's deputy for 32 years and had also long been Hezbollah's public face, giving interviews to local and foreign media outlets.

"This is a message to Lebanon and abroad that Hezbollah has reorganised itself," said Qassem, a Lebanese analyst close to Hezbollah.

Qassem's appointment shows Hezbollah is running its own affairs and not, as some have reported, that advisers from Iran's paramilitary Revolutionary Guard are now in charge of the group, Qassem added.

In an interview with The Associated Press in July, Qassem said he didn't believe that Israel had the capacity, or had yet made the decision, to launch a full-blown war with Hezbollah. But he warned that even if Israel intended to undertake a limited operation in Lebanon that stopped short of a full-scale war, it should not expect the fighting to remain limited.

"No one knows the consequences of igniting the war

in Lebanon, regionally and even internationally," Qassem said at the time, speaking from the group's political headquarters in Beirut's southern suburbs.

He said he was proud of Hezbollah's achievements in its "support front" for Hamas, saying it "required sacrifices on our part."

Born in 1953 in the town of Kfar Fila in southern Lebanon, Qassem studied chemistry at the Lebanese University before working for several years as a chemistry teacher. He simultaneously pursued religious studies and participated in founding the Lebanese Union for Muslim Students, an organization meant to promote religion.

In the 1970s, he joined the Movement of the Dispossessed, a political organization that pushed for greater representation for Lebanon's historically overlooked and impoverished Shiite community.

From 1991, Qassem served as the group's deputy, initially under Nasrallah's predecessor, Abbas Mousawi, who was killed by an Israeli helicopter attack in 1992.

China faces setback: Brazil rejects BRI

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Beijing, Oct 29: In a major setback to China's BRI, Brazil has decided against joining Beijing's multi-billion-dollar initiative becoming the second country after India in the BRICS bloc not to endorse the mega project.

Brazil, headed by President Lula da Silva, will not join the Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) and instead seek alternative ways to collaborate with Chinese investors, Celso Amorim, special presidential adviser for international affairs, said Monday.

Brazil wants to "take the relationship with China to a new level, without having to sign an accession contract", he told Brazilian newspaper O Globo.

"We are not entering into a treaty," Amorim said, explaining that Brazil does not want to take Chinese infrastructure and trade projects as "an insurance policy".

According to Amorim, the aim is to use some of the Belt and Road framework to find "synergy" between Brazilian infrastructure projects and the investment funds associated with the initiative, without necessarily formally joining the group, the Hong Kong-based South China Morning Post quoted him as saying.

The Chinese "call it the belt [and road] and they can give whatever names they want, but what matters is that there are projects that Brazil has defined as a priority and that may or may not be accepted [by Beijing]", Amorim said. The decision contradicts China's plans to make Brazil's joining of the initiative a centrepiece of Chinese President Xi Jinping's state visit to Brasilia November 20, the Post reported.

SHORT TAKES

New sanctions on Myanmar's military

London: The UK, EU and Canada Tuesday announced joint sanctions targeting the Myanmar military junta's access to military material, equipment and funds. The Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office (FCDO) said the UK's action will help to constrain the Myanmar military regime's ability to conduct airstrikes on civilians, which amount to gross human rights violations. The latest round of sanctions is against six entities involved either in providing aviation fuel to the Myanmar military or in the supply of restricted goods, including aircraft parts. "The human rights violations taking place across Myanmar, including airstrikes on civilian infrastructure, by the Myanmar military is unacceptable and the impact on innocent civilians is intolerable," said Catherine West, Minister for the Indo-Pacific in the FCDO.

Germany recalls envoy from Iran

Berlin: Germany protested to Iran Tuesday over the execution of Iranian German prisoner Jamsid Sharmahd, who lived in the US and was kidnapped in Dubai in 2020 by Iranian security forces, and recalled its ambassador to Berlin for consultations. The Foreign Ministry wrote on the social network X that Iran's charge d'affaires in Berlin was summoned to hear "our sharp protest" against Tehran's action and added that it reserves the right to take "further measures". At the same time, German Ambassador Markus Potzel "protested in the strongest terms against the murder of Jamsid Sharmahd" to the Iranian foreign minister, it said. Sharmahd, 69, was put to death in Iran Monday on terrorism charges, the country's judiciary said. That followed a 2023 trial that Germany, the US and international rights groups dismissed as a sham.

Philippines braces for another storm

Manila: The Philippines is bracing for heavy rainfall from the new typhoon, Kong-rey, which threatens to develop into a super typhoon as the death toll from the previous tropical storm Trami further rises to 125, with at least 28 still missing, authorities said Tuesday. While emergency workers continue to find the missing people and rehabilitate the damaged roads, bridges, and houses ravaged by Trami, the state weather bureau warned of heavy rainfall that will be dumped by Kong-rey, which developed into a typhoon Tuesday.

UN COP16 talks gridlocked as conservation funding trickles in

THE FUND WAS ESTABLISHED TO HELP REALIZE THE GOALS LAID OUT IN THE LANDMARK 2022 KUNMING-MONTREAL GLOBAL BIODIVERSITY FRAMEWORK, AIMED AT ENDING NATURE LOSS BY 2030

REUTERS

Cali, Oct 28: Countries were at an impasse over how to fund conservation and other key decisions as the UN COP16 biodiversity summit entered its second week Monday, with nations pledging millions of dollars rather than the billions needed.

Seven countries and one provincial government pledged an additional \$163 million to the Global Biodiversity Framework Fund Monday, dubbed the summit's "finance day."

The fund was established to help realize the goals laid out in the landmark 2022 Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework, aimed at ending nature loss by 2030. COP16 in the Colombian mountain town of Cali is tasked with implementing that agreement.

Advocacy groups said the

pledges, which brings the total raised by the fund to about \$400 million, fell far short of the billions of dollars envisioned for the fund.

"It's very little. We are talking about millions that have been pledged. But what we are expecting are billions," said Irene Wabiwa, a biodiversity advocate at Greenpeace.

"When looking at the increased rate of biodiversity loss, the way money is flowing is very, very slow. And we are very scared."

With nature in unprecedented decline and species going extinct faster than ever, scientists warned the world's governments that there is no time to waste.

Currently about 38% of the world's tree species, totaling 16,425 species, are at risk of extinction thanks to timber logging and clear-cutting to make way for farming, mining, road-



When looking at the increased rate of biodiversity loss, the way money is flowing is very, very slow. And we are very scared
IRENE WABIWA | BIODIVERSITY ADVOCATE AT GREENPEACE

building and other development efforts, according to the

Diversity (CBD), is debating how to implement 23 goals outlined in the 2022 Kunming-Montreal agreement.

Chief among those goals is having each country set aside 30% of its land and sea territory for conservation by 2030, a target known as the 30-by-30 goal.

As of Monday, only 17.6% of the world's land area and inland waters were under some form of protection, according to the UN Environment Programme (UNEP). Many countries have yet to submit pledges despite this month's deadline.

International Union for Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources (IUCN). "We need to take urgent action if we really want to keep these tree (species) alive," IUCN Director Gretel Aguilar told a news briefing in Cali.

The summit, which marks the 16th meeting of parties to the UN Convention on Biological

Commitments for protecting the open ocean were even lower, with only 8.4% of maritime and coastal areas now protected, the UNEP report said.

The UNEP chief urged countries to not only meet the 30% conservation goal, but also to target high-value lands and waterways for protection rather than favoring waste-

lands or other areas that already have little wildlife and small human populations.

"We cannot be seduced by just these numbers," UNEP Executive Director Inger Andersen said on the sidelines of the summit. "Nature cannot be put in a museum."

business

of the day quote

There is enough crude available in the market, there is enough refining capacity and we have a very good distributors network. We have a very good arrangement with them. So there is no apprehension there

HARDEEP SINGH PURI | UNION PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS MINISTER

India presents a tremendous opportunity for us, thanks to its dynamic and rapidly growing economy. Mumbai is an essential market for Virgin Atlantic, and we've witnessed significant demand for premium travel experiences on this route

SHIVANI SINGH DEO | COUNTRY MANAGER AT VIRGIN ATLANTIC

Going ahead, the focus will be on growing our key markets, further building our flagship brands, investing in the future pipeline as well as focusing on resolutions on the regulatory front

UMANG VOHRA | CIPLA MD AND GLOBAL CEO

Q2 RESULTS

Maruti Suzuki net profit dips 18%

New Delhi: Maruti Suzuki India Tuesday reported an 18 per cent year-on-year dip in consolidated net profit at ₹3,102 crore for the second quarter ended September hit by the withdrawal of indexation benefit and change in the tax rate on long term capital gains on debt mutual funds. The country's largest carmaker had posted a net profit of ₹3,786 crore in the July-September quarter of last fiscal. Total revenue from operations increased to ₹37,449 crore for the second quarter as against ₹37,339 crore in the year-ago period, Maruti Suzuki India (MSI) said in a regulatory filing. On a standalone basis, the company reported a net profit of ₹3,069 crore for the September quarter, down 17 per cent as compared with ₹3,716 crore in the same period last year.

Canara Bank profit rises 11%

New Delhi: State-owned Canara Bank Tuesday reported an 11 per cent rise in its net profit at ₹4,015 crore in the second quarter ended September 2024. The Bengaluru-based lender had earned a net profit of ₹3,606 crore in the same quarter in the previous financial year. Total income increased to ₹34,721 crore during the quarter under review against ₹31,472 crore in the same quarter last year, Canara Bank said in a regulatory filing. The bank reported an interest income of ₹29,740 crore during the quarter, higher than ₹26,838 crore in the same period a year ago. On the asset quality front, the bank witnessed improvement with gross Non-Performing Assets (NPAs) declining to 3.73 per cent of the gross loans by the end of September 2024 from 4.76 per cent a year ago.

APSEZ net profit rises 37%

New Delhi: Adani Ports and Special Economic Zone (APSEZ) Tuesday reported a 37 per cent rise in consolidated net profit at ₹2,413.54 crore for the quarter ended September 2024, mainly on the back of higher revenues. The consolidated net profit of the company stood at ₹1,762 crore in the quarter ended September 30, 2023, the company said in a regulatory filing. Total income in the July-September 2024-25 period increased to ₹7,372.37 crore, from ₹6,951.86 crore in the year-ago quarter. Total expenses in the period under review reduced marginally to ₹4,433.96 crore, from ₹4,477 crore in the year-ago quarter.



Certainly, the fact is that the market under ₹10 lakh is not growing. In fact, it is declining. That is a cause of some worry because unless that lower end of the market grows, there is going to be no feeders into the upper market

RC BHARGAVA | MARUTI SUZUKI INDIA CHAIRMAN

Banks face rising defaults from retail borrowers

REUTERS

Mumbai, Oct 29: A rise in defaults by over-leveraged small borrowers is hitting India's top lenders, with bank executives and analysts expecting higher levels of stress in the personal loans and micro-credit segments over the next year.

The rise in defaults marks a turn in the credit cycle for Indian lenders, whose bad loans dropped to a multi-year low of 2.8% of all assets as of end-March, according to central bank data.

In the September quarter, however, five of the eight largest private sector banks have reported an increase in bad loans.

HDFC Bank, Kotak Mahindra Bank, IndusInd Bank, RBL Bank and IDFC First Bank saw gross bad loans as a percentage of total assets rise between 2 basis points and 19 basis points during the quarter.

Most banks have also increased provisions, or funds set aside to cover bad loans, in anticipation of a rise in defaults.

The surge in retail loan defaults comes against the backdrop of a booming economy, which is seen expanding 7.2% in the current year to March 2025 with bank lending growing at twice that pace.

Segments such as personal loans and credit cards, in particular, saw much faster growth, in excess of 25% until earlier this year, forcing the central bank to step in to curb "exuberance" in retail lending.

Slippages, or the proportion



of good loans turning bad, would be elevated and stress could remain high "for the next 3-4 quarters at least," said Pranav Gundlapalle, senior research analyst at Bernstein.

Rising defaults, along with higher capital requirements imposed on banks last year, and series of actions against exuberant lending practices have slowed growth in segments such as personal loans and credit cards.

While a moderate worsening of asset quality may not be an immediate cause of concern for well-capitalised banks, the trend of rising bad loans and slowing retail loan growth could weigh on their profitability outlook, analysts said.

"We do see a general trend, particularly in unsecured (loans), where there is stress across multiple segments," said Arjun Chowdhry, group executive for segments including cards and retail loans at Axis Bank, the country's third-largest private lender.

Stress is being driven by "indebtedness" caused by over-leveraging, Chowdhry said on an analyst call.

The surge in bad loans is being seen mainly among borrowers who have three or more unsecured personal loans, said Rajeev Jain, managing director of Bajaj Finance, India's largest retail non-bank lender, due to easy access to funding amid extensive competition to gain market share.

For example, Harpal Singh, a 45-year old Mumbai resident whose annual income is 780,000 Indian rupees (\$9,278), racked up personal loans and credit card debt of five million rupees over the last six years and is now struggling with the repayments.

"Medical emergencies have completely wiped off my savings and the general cost of living in Mumbai is so high that there is hardly anything left to pay," Singh said.

Defaults have also risen in the microfinance segment, which includes loans given to low-income borrowers.

Climate-related disruptions to crops have eroded incomes in rural areas, said a banker with a state-run bank, declining to be identified as they are not allowed to speak to the media.

The central bank, which this month barred four non-bank lenders from fresh lending due to "usurious" pricing practices, has sought data from microfinance firms on loan spreads, said five sources familiar with the requests.

The sources declined to be identified as they are not authorised to speak to the media. An e-mail sent to the central bank was not answered.

Record gold prices mute Dhanteras sales



PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, Oct 29: Gold sales on Dhanteras are estimated to drop 10 per cent in volume terms year-on-year on sharp 33 per cent annual rise in rates of the yellow metal, according to industry players.

Since Dhanteras -- the most auspicious day in the Hindu calendar for buying items ranging from precious metals to utensils -- is celebrated on two days till 1.11 pm Wednesday, jewellers are expecting more footfalls in both online and offline stores.

Gold prices have surged 33 per cent to ₹81,400 per 10 gram in the national capital, as compared to ₹61,200 on Dhanteras last year, which was celebrated November 11, 2023.

Silver prices increased 35 per cent to ₹99,700 per kg Tuesday compared to ₹74,000 on Dhanteras day last year.

All India Gem And Jewellery Domestic Council Chairman Saiyamb Mehra said, "The buying trend is good despite high gold prices. In volume-wise, we are expecting 10 per cent less than last year, while in terms of value it will be 20 per cent more."

The sale of recycled jewellery also did well.

Gold coins in 2, 3, 4, 5, and 8 grams and light weight jewellery like chains, earrings and bracelets were selling more, he said.

The Dhanteras festival is spilled over to Wednesday afternoon, therefore, "We expect more business."

World Gold Council Regional CEO, India, Sachin Jain said, "I think the consumption of bullion will be much stronger than jewellery."

Kalyan Jewellers Executive Director Ramesh Kalyanaraman said, "Despite higher gold prices, demand has remained strong."

Conservative buyers favoured Shagun coins, while lightweight or 18k jewellery attracted younger shoppers. With the upcoming wedding season, there was interest in elaborate pieces, he said.

PNG Jewellers Chairman and Managing Director Saurabh Gadgil said, "We are expecting volume to decline 5-10 per cent due to high prices."

Senco Gold and Diamonds MD and CEO Suvankar Sen, "In the overall sales, 30-40 per cent purchases were wedding jewellery and the rest were those buying a token to mark the auspicious festival."

GST returns to become time-barred after 3 yrs from early 2025

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, Oct 29: GST Network Tuesday said beginning early next year, GST taxpayers will not be able to file monthly and annual GST returns after three years of the original filing due date.

In an advisory, Goods and Services Tax Network (GSTN) said GST outward supply returns, besides returns related to payment of liability, annual returns and tax collected at source, will become time-barred after the expiry of a period of three years from the due date of furnishing the said return.

"The said changes are going to be implemented in the GST portal from early next year (2025). Hence, the taxpayers are advised to reconcile their records and file their GST returns as soon as possible if not filed till now," GSTN said.

AMRG & Associates Senior Partner Rajat Mohan said the recent GSTN update concerning the barring of GST return filings post a three-year deadline introduces a significant compliance shift.

"This move aligns with a broader intent to ensure timely compliance, enhance data reliability, and potentially reduce the backlog of unfiled returns within the GST system. By capping the period for delayed filings, taxpayers are motivated to reconcile and rectify their records promptly. However, it may also create challenges for taxpayers with historically unfiled returns, especially those facing administrative or logistical constraints in consolidating older records," Mohan said.

Updated regulation on curbing spam calls likely by Jan

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, Oct 29: The Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) expects to finalise by January, updated and tighter regulations on curbing spam calls and messages after holding extensive discussions on its recent consultation paper, Chairman Anil Kumar Lahoti has said.

Lahoti further said based on a recent reference from Telecom Department, TRAI will prepare and float a consultation paper on regulatory framework for telemarketers.

The TRAI Chief said series of measures taken over the past months by the regulator to combat spam calls and malicious/fraudulent messages is leading to "significant and perceptible clean up of the system" but noted that "more needs to be done".

"Our consultation paper was floated in August-end...we have already received comments and counter comments on it and now we will be analysing all the views and hold an open house discussions. It will take about three months for regulations to be finalised... so around January, we will come out with updated regulations on curbing spam," Lahoti told PTI.

Sensex advances 364 points on late buying

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Mumbai, Oct 29: Benchmark Sensex recouped its early losses to close higher by nearly 364 points Tuesday, extending gains to the second day on the back of late buying in banking and oil shares.

The 30-share BSE barometer climbed 363.99 points or 0.45 per cent to settle at 80,369.03 with 16 of its components ending higher and 14 closing lower.

The index opened lower and fell by 583.69 points to 79,421.35 in late morning deals. However, buying in banking, financial and oil shares in the second half helped recoup losses and close the day higher. The index hit a high of 80,450.48 in day trade.

The NSE Nifty rose 127.70 points or 0.52 per cent to 24,466.85. Firm global trends and unabated buying by domestic institutional investors (DIIs) helped in the rebound, traders said.

From the 30 Sensex pack, State Bank of India jumped 5 per cent, followed by ICICI Bank, Bajaj Finserv, NTPC, Adani Ports, Bajaj Finance and Larsen & Toubro.

In contrast, Maruti, Tata Motors, Sun Pharma, Bharti Airtel, IndusInd Bank and Mahindra & Mahindra were among the laggards.

"Nifty extended its recovery for a second consecutive session Tuesday rebounding well from



morning lows. Banks (including PSU Banks) did well for the second consecutive session," Deepak Jasani, Head of Retail Research, HDFC Securities, said.

The BSE midcap gauge climbed 0.74 per cent and small-cap index went up by 0.71 per cent.

Among sectoral indices, bankex jumped 2.20 per cent, financial services (2 per cent), realty (1.46 per cent), capital goods (1.28 per cent) and utilities (1.26 per cent).

Consumer Discretionary,

telecommunication, IT and tech were the laggards.

A total of 2,242 stocks advanced while 1,623 declined and 126 remained unchanged on the BSE.

"The Nifty started on a negative note, but resilience in select heavyweights, particularly in the banking sector, spurred a steady rebound as the session advanced," Ajit Mishra - SVP, Research, Religare Broking Ltd.

Foreign Institutional Investors (FIIs) offloaded equities worth ₹3,228.08 crore Monday, while

DIIs bought equities worth ₹1,400.85 crore, according to exchange data.

In Asian markets, Seoul, Tokyo and Hong Kong settled in the green while Shanghai ended lower. European markets were trading higher.

Global oil benchmark Brent crude climbed 0.66 per cent higher at USD 71.89 a barrel.

The BSE benchmark jumped 602.75 points or 0.76 per cent to settle at 80,005.04 Monday. The Nifty soared 158.35 points or 0.65 per cent to 24,339.15.

RBI ups domestically-held gold by 102 metric tonnes

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Mumbai, Oct 29: The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) added another 102 metric tonnes to the domestically held gold in the April-September period, as per a disclosure made Tuesday.

The overall quantity of the precious metal stored in local safes stood at 510.46 metric tonnes as of September 30, which was up from over 408 metric tonnes as on March 31, 2024.

The central bank said it added another 32 metric tonnes of gold reserves in the six-month period to take the overall tonnage to 854.73 metric tonnes, as per the half yearly report on manage-

ment of foreign exchange reserves.

India has been gradually moving gold reserves to local vaults -- said to be located in the financial capital and Nagpur -- over the past few years. In FY24, it had moved 100 metric tonnes more from the UK to domestic locations.

The movement of the commodity, happening at time of increased geopolitical tensions globally, was said to be one of the biggest movements of gold undertaken by India since 1991, when it had to pledge a substantial part of the gold holding to tide over a foreign exchange crisis that resulted in its move-



ment out of vaults.

The RBI disclosure said 324.01 metric tonnes of gold were kept in safe custody with the Bank of England and the bank for international settlements (BIS) and 20.26 metric tonnes were held in the form of gold deposits.

In value terms, the share of gold in the total foreign exchange reserves increased from 8.15 per cent as at end-March 2024 to about 9.32 per cent as at end-September 2024 on the back of an increase in tonnage and also the surge in prices.

As of March this year, 413.79 metric tonnes of gold was held abroad, as per an RBI annual re-

port.

In late May, sources had indicated that a call was taken to reduce the holding abroad that is part of the standard review procedures.

In 2009, India had bought 200 tonnes of gold from the International Monetary Fund (IMF), after which it has been buying the precious commodity from the secondary market as part of its foreign exchange asset diversification efforts.

Typically, officials from the Ministry of Finance, the RBI and other agencies take care of the movement of gold in complete secrecy given the high value, as per the sources.

Rodri, Bonmati voted world's best

REAL MADRID BOYCOTT CEREMONY STATING VINICIUS JUNIOR SHOULD HAVE GOT THE AWARD

'Bronze medal much better than nothing'



Skipper of Indian junior hockey team laments loss against Australia

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Bangalore, Oct 29: Indian junior men's hockey team captain Amir Ali admitted that they were disappointed after failing to qualify for the final of the Sultan of Johor Cup but said a bronze medal was much better than returning home empty-handed.

India beat New Zealand in a tense shootout in the third-fourth place classification match to clinch the bronze medal in the junior tournament at Johor Bahru, Malaysia last Saturday. "We were very disappointed after missing out on the final due to goal difference. But as a team, we decided, there was no point looking back at what we could have done better. We decided to focus on the bronze-medal match and told ourselves that we can't go back home empty handed," Ali said after returning here.

India remained on top of the points table throughout the tournament with strong performances against Japan (4-2), Great Britain (6-4), Malaysia (4-2), and New Zealand (3-3). But the 0-4 loss against eventual winners Australia cost them dearly as they missed out on a spot in the final to Great Britain by one-goal difference.

It was the legendary goalkeeper PR Sreejesh's first assignment as coach of the Indian junior men's team.

"At least 12 players in the team

were playing a big tournament for the first time. They had earlier played a Test series but they were new to a tournament setup. Sree bhai (Sreejesh) is the best mentor we could have had," Ali said.

"He (Sreejesh) constantly spoke to us about enjoying the matches and we played without taking any pressure. This was largely why we bounced back even after conceding goals and ended up winning those matches too," Ali, who was a member of the Indian team that won the Sultan of Johor Cup in 2022, added. Ali however, lamented that the loss against Australia hampered their hopes. "It was only that match against Australia where we lost

by a huge margin that cost us dearly," Ali said.

Back to business at the SAI complex here, the Indian juniors have now set their focus on winning the Junior Asia Cup, a qualifying tournament for next year's FIH Junior World Cup. The tournament begins November 26 in Muscat, Oman.

"We are back in the camp and have begun our preparations for the Junior Asia Cup. The next few months are crucial for us as we prepare for the Junior World Cup on home soil," Ali said.

"Being in the same campus as the senior team helps us a lot. Even for me personally, the experience I gained playing with the senior team has helped in guiding the newcomers in the junior side. I have learnt a lot from Harmanpreet Singh and Manpreet Singh," Ali signed off.

(PR) Sreejesh bhai was the best mentor for us. He taught us how to absorb pressure and play freely
AMIR ALI

OTHER WINNERS

Men's Coach of the year:	Carlo Ancelotti
Best U-21 player	Lamine Yamal
Best men's team	Real Madrid
Best goalkeeper	Emiliano Martinez
Special award	Franz Beckenbauer

Messi and Cristiano Ronaldo had shared the award 13 times between them.

"Incredible night for me," said Rodri, who is out for the season after injuring his ACL last month and arrived on crutches to the ceremony "One of my key things is I always try to improve every game. I try to be a leader and try to improve every day from the best," Rodri added.

Despite the French organisers insisting that the identity of the winner was a closely-guarded secret this year, the news appeared to have leaked ahead of the festivities.

Barcelona and Spain star

Aitana Bonmati earlier won her second successive women's Ballon d'Or, after leading her club to a historic continental quadruple of titles and claiming the Nations League with her country.

The drama started hours before the ceremony as Spanish and European champions Real Madrid said if Vinicius was not the winner, then the award should go to

his teammate Dani Carvajal. Like the Brazilian, Carvajal scored in the 2-0 victory against Borussia Dortmund in the Champions League final at Wembley.

Vinicius scored 24 goals and made 11 assists in 39 matches across all competitions for Madrid as he led the club to three titles last season. "If the award criteria do not give it to Vinicius as the winner, then those same criteria should point to Carvajal as the winner," Real Madrid said.

"As this was not the case, it is clear that Ballon d'Or or UEFA does not respect Real Madrid. And Real Madrid do not go where it is not respected," the club added.

Man City manager Pep Guardiola described Rodri as 'in his position, the best'. "He can do everything. The quality, he reads the game, his mentality, he is always ready," Guardiola said.

In addition to his metronomic passing and ball-winning capabilities, Rodri has a knack of popping up with crucial goals for club and country. His goal won City their first Champions League in 2023 but he also scored vital goals for Spain, such as the equaliser in their last-16 Euro 2024 tie against Georgia.

Congratulations to Rodri and all his family and friends. It's incredible news. We're so proud of him. We could never have imagined years ago that our player would receive this prestigious award
PEP GUARDIOLA



MEMORABLE EVENING: Aitana Bonmati and Rodri are all smiles as they pose with their Ballon d'Or trophies Monday evening in Paris

AP PHOTO

SHORT TAKES

Bopanna seals spot in ATP Finals

New Delhi: Premier doubles player Rohan Bopanna and his Australian partner Matthew Ebden have clinched a spot in the prestigious season-ending ATP Finals, marking the Indian's fourth appearance in the tournament. The Indo-Aussie duo secured their place after Nathaniel Lammons and Jackson Withrow were eliminated at the Rolex Paris Masters, finalising the 2024 field. The ATP Finals, set for November 10-17 at the Inalpi Arena in Turin, feature only the top eight doubles teams globally. Bopanna and Ebden launched their season with a bang, winning the Australian Open as the Indian became the oldest man at 43 years, 331 days to become World No. 1.

Gujarat to retain Shubman, Rashid

New Delhi: Gujarat Titans (GT) are set to retain their captain Shubman Gill alongside star spinner Rashid Khan and left-handed batter Sai Sudharsan ahead of the IPL mega auction. Uncapped hitters Rahul Tewatia and Shahrulkh Khan are also expected to be retained by the franchise. "Shubman, Rashid and Sai will be retained by the franchise," said an IPL source here Tuesday. Gill had captained GT for the first time earlier this year when the side finished eighth out of 10 teams. GT had won the IPL on debut in 2022 before finishing runners-up the following year, both under Hardik Pandya's leadership.

East Bengal crush Bashundhara Kings

Thimpu: East Bengal produced an utterly dominant show to crush Bangladesh's Bashundhara Kings 4-0 in their AFC Challenge League match here Tuesday. The goal-scorers for East Bengal were Dimitrios Diamantakos, Souvik Chakrabarti, Nandhakumar Sekharand Anwar Ali. It was indeed a dominant performance by the Kolkata giants who are struggling in the ISL and are currently at the bottom of the points table in the 13-team tournament. All the goals came in the first half. The Bangladeshi side had a couple of chances, but failed to capitalise on those during the game.

Rookie pacer Harshit added to Indian team

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, Oct 29: Rookie pacer Harshit Rana will join the Indian squad Wednesday ahead of the third Test against New Zealand in Mumbai, BCCI sources stated here Tuesday. He was already in the reserves for the home series. However, it is still unclear if Rana's presence in the dressing room will be as a reserve or as a member.

The 22-year-old has been picked in the main squad for the five Tests in Australia beginning November 22 in Perth. "Harshit will join the team tomorrow (Wednesday)," said a BCCI source.

With Indian team management carefully monitoring the pacers' workloads ahead of the Australia tour, there is a possibility that spearhead Jasprit Bumrah will be rested from the third Test, raising the possibility of Rana's debut.

Rana, who plays for Delhi in domestic cricket, had taken five wickets against Assam in the first innings.

Delhi head coach Sarandeep Singh said Rana is ready for the grind of Test cricket. "He is



Kane still unfit

New Delhi: Senior New Zealand batter Kane Williamson will miss the third Test against India at Mumbai to ensure full recovery from a groin injury ahead of the home series versus England, starting November 28. Williamson did not play in the first two Tests against India for the same reason. "Kane continues to show good signs, but isn't quite ready to jump on a plane and join us," New Zealand head coach Gary Stead said in a media release Tuesday.

ready to play Test cricket. He is a positive guy, he knows what he is doing. He is ready for the high-level," Sarandeep, a former BCCI selector himself, stated Tuesday.

Man United close in on Amorim

Sporting Lisbon coach emerges top contender for post after manager Ten Hag's exit

AGENCIES

Manchester, Oct 29: Sporting Lisbon coach Ruben Amorim has quickly emerged as the leading contender to take over as Manchester United manager after Erik ten Hag was sacked Monday. According to multiple media reports Tuesday, United are already in talks with the 39-year-old Portuguese coach. However, Brentford's manager Thomas Frank and Fulham boss Marco Silva are also reportedly being considered.

Man U pulled the plug on Dutchman Ten Hag's two-year reign after a 1-2 defeat Sunday to West Ham. The loss left one of the world's wealthiest clubs 14th in the Premier League points table. Despite spending heavily in the transfer market in the summer, United have won only one of their last eight games in all competitions. Former United striker Ruud van Nistelrooy has been named interim boss.

According to multiple British media reports, Man United want to turn to Amorim, who is considered one of Europe's leading young coaches. Sky Sports reported United had al-



Ruben Amorim is expected to take over as manager of Manchester United

ready held discussions with Amorim. He was linked with the manager's role at Liverpool following the departure of Jurgen Klopp this year, but Dutch coach Arne Slot headed to Anfield instead.

The position of Ten Hag, 54, had been repeatedly called into question after Man U co-owner Jim Ratcliffe retained him following an internal review at the end of last season when the club finished eighth in the league but won the FA Cup with a shock victory over Manchester City.

The British media were dam-

ing Tuesday about Ten Hag, who repeatedly talked about having a 'plan' only for his teams to appear badly organised. "United have once again concluded that they have the wrong man leading their team," the BBC wrote on its website. "And a major reason for that is that Ten Hag's 'plan' was never in evidence," it added.

Former United captain Gary Neville said Ten Hag had paid the price for a 'unacceptable' league position. "The big shock for me is how bad they've been with the new signings that have come in," Neville said.

Sambit century props Odisha

POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar, Oct 29: A brilliant unbeaten century by Sambit S Baral (106 batting, 139b, 10x4, 2x6) and a fine half century by Om (92, 211b, 8x4) enabled Odisha to take a vital first innings lead against Kerala in their U-23 Col CK Nayudu Trophy match being played at the Krishnagiri Stadium in Wayanad. At stumps on the third day of the game, Odisha were 472 runs for the loss of eight wickets in reply to Kerala's first innings score of 319.

The first innings lead has already ensured three points for Odisha from the game. It remains to be seen whether they can swell the lead to over 200



SAMBIT S BARAL

runs in the first innings and then go for an outright win. An

outright victory will ensure at least four points for Odisha and if the victory margin is bigger, they can also get a bonus point.

Half centuries by Swapan Pahariya (76, 200b, 11x4), Saideep Mohapatra (64, 110b, 6x4, 1x6) and Asutosh Marndi (51, 99b, 9x4) also provided a big boost to the Odisha total. However, the standout performance was from Sambit who followed up his four-wicket haul with a fine century. He played shots all-round the wicket and gave the Odisha innings the momentum it need.

Tom Edhem (4/99) was the most successful bowler for Kerala while A Jishnu took two wickets. However, overall it was a day dominated by Odisha batters.

SMRITI SCRIPTS FACILE VICTORY

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Ahmedabad, Oct 29: Charismatic India batter Smriti Mandhana (100, 122b, 10x4) finally played a knock befitting her calibre as India defeated New Zealand by six wickets in the deciding game to seal the three-match women's ODI series 2-1 here Tuesday. This was Mandhana's eighth ODI century, the most by an Indian woman batter in ODIs.

Earlier after being put in, New Zealand had scored 232 for five wickets in their 50 overs. India reached scored 236 for four in 44.2 overs. Skipper Harmanpreet Kaur (59 n o, 63b, 6x4) also played a quality knock.

KIIT teams in final

POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar, Oct 29: The men's and women's team of KIIT University qualified for the finals of the East Zone Inter-University tennis tournament here Tuesday. The event, organised by KISS University, is being played at the Leander Paes tennis stadium inside the KIIT complex here.

In the men's category, KIIT University defeated Pandit Ravishankar Shukla University 2-0 to book their spot in the summit clash round. They will face Manipur University who defeated Jadavpur University from West Bengal by an identical margin.

In the women's segment semi-finals, KIIT University beat KISS University 2-0 while Pandit



Ravishankar Shukla University beat Jadavpur 2-0.

In the men's third-fourth position matches Pt Ravishankar Shukla University beat Jadavpur 2-0 while in the women's segment Jadavpur beat KISS 2-0. KIIT University (men & women) teams and KISS University (women's) squad also qualified for All India Inter-University Tennis Championships and the Vth Khelo India University Games.