



Rashmika's notes

Actress Rashmika Mandanna reflects on life, goals, and the importance of slowing down

LEISURE | P2



PM's Manipur visit

Leading Kuki-Zo groups welcome PM Modi's likely visit to Manipur September 13, and termed it as a "historic and rare occasion"

NATIONAL | P7



Games24X7 layoffs

Digital gaming company Games24X7 initiates the process to layoff. Around 70 per cent employees are under radar

BUSINESS | P11



India beat Korea

India continue unbeaten run with comfortable 4-2 win over Korea in their first Super 4 stage match of women's Asia Cup hockey

SPORTS | P12

In a first, NATO scrambles jets to down Russian drones in Poland

ASSOCIATED PRESS

Wohyn(Poland), Sept 10: Multiple Russian drones crossed into Poland in what European officials described Wednesday as a deliberate provocation, causing NATO to send fighter jets to shoot them down. A NATO spokesman said it was the first time the alliance confronted a potential threat in its airspace.

The incursion, which occurred during a wave of strikes by the Kremlin on Ukraine, and the NATO response swiftly raised fears that the war could spill over — a fear that has been growing in Europe as Russia steps up its attacks and peace efforts go nowhere.

Russia's Defence Ministry said it did not target Poland, while Belarus, a close ally of Moscow, said it tracked some drones that "lost their course" because they were jammed.

However, several European leaders said they believed the incursion amounted to an intentional expansion of Russia's assault against Ukraine.

"Russia's war is escalating, not ending," European Union foreign policy chief Kaja Kallas told reporters in Brussels. "What (Russian President Vladimir) Putin wants to do is to test us. What happened in Poland is a game changer," and it should result in stronger sanctions.

Polish airspace has been violated many times since Russia's full-scale invasion of Ukraine in 2022, but never on this scale in Poland or anywhere else in NATO territory.

Poland said some of the drones came from Belarus, where Russian and Belarusian troops have begun gathering for war games scheduled to start Friday.

It was not immediately clear how many drones were involved. Polish Prime Minister Donald Tusk told parliament 19 violations were recorded over seven hours, but he said information was still being gathered.

IRREGULAR by MANJUL



HITTING STREETS: A demonstrator kicks away a tear gas canister as people gather to block traffic at a roundabout at Pres d'Arenes in Montpellier, as part of a grassroots protest movement called "Bloquons Tout" ("Let's Block Everything") calling for nationwide all-day disruption in France, Wednesday **(Report P10)**

REUTERS

Cabinet okays New City Development project

POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar, Sept 10: The state Cabinet, in its 26th meeting chaired by Chief Minister Mohan Charan Majhi Wednesday, approved five major proposals across various departments. The decisions, aimed at reshaping urban planning, road safety enforcement, public recruitment, emergency health-care, and rural administration, mark a strategic push toward the state's long-term vision of "Vikshit Odisha 2036".

Chief Secretary Manoj Ahuja briefed the media following the meeting at Lok Seva Bhawan, confirming that all proposals from the departments of Housing and Urban Development, Health and Family Welfare, Commerce and Transport, General Administration, and Panchayati Raj and Drinking Water were approved unanimously.

The Cabinet granted in-principle approval to the "New City Development" project within the Bhubaneswar Development Plan Area (BDPA). The city will span approximately 800 acres across the Gothapatna, Malipada and Daspur mouzas. Designed as a transit-oriented development, the project emphasises reduced travel distances, integrated public transportation, and mixed land-



use planning. It also aims to ensure inclusive housing across income levels.

The city will feature convention and exhibition centres, innovation-based plug-and-play hubs, data centres, and environmentally sustainable infrastructure. Public open spaces, forest parks, and civic plazas are also planned. The Bhubaneswar Development Authority (BDA) will serve as the nodal agency, with planning support from Singapore-based Surbana Jurong Infrastructure Pvt. Ltd., following a memorandum of understanding signed in January 2025. The total investment is projected at ₹8,179 crore over 15 years, with an initial allocation of ₹1,342 crore over the first five years.

To clear a growing backlog of pending traffic fines, the Cabinet approved a one-time settlement scheme for all e-Challans issued before July 31, 2025. The scheme, valid for six months from its notification date, will allow vehicle owners to pay re-

duced fines. A committee led by the Law department's Principal Secretary will review cases already pending in courts. Authorities warned that non-payment after the scheme's deadline may lead to restrictions on vehicle-related services and stricter enforcement.

In another significant decision, the Cabinet approved the Odisha Payment of Recruitment Examination Fees and Refund Rules, 2025, to discourage absenteeism in recruitment exams. Examination fees will now be charged to general category candidates, while SC, ST and persons with disabilities will remain exempt. Candidates who appear for the exams will be eligible for a full refund, a move intended to reduce frivolous applications and ensure efficient use of public funds.

The Cabinet also approved the procurement of 428 ambulances under the Emergency Medical Ambulance Service (EMAS-108) initiative, with a total financial outlay of ₹118.98 crore. To streamline rural development administration, the Cabinet amended the Odisha Panchayat Samiti Accounting Procedure Rules, 2002. Block Development Officers (BDOs) can now clear bills up to ₹10 lakh without Chairman's countersignature.

US, India eye trade reset

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, Sept 10: India and the US are natural partners and teams from both sides are working to conclude negotiations on a bilateral trade deal, Prime Minister Narendra Modi said Wednesday in response to US President Donald Trump's remarks that efforts are on to address trade barriers between the two countries.

The exchange between the two leaders on social media is largely seen as part of efforts by both New Delhi and Washington to reset their ties that witnessed increasing stress in the last few weeks after Trump doubled tariffs on Indian goods.

The US president said he was looking forward to speaking to Modi in the upcoming weeks and sounded confident that



both sides would be able to seal the proposed trade deal.

"India and the US are close friends and natural partners. I am confident that our trade negotiations will pave the way for unlocking the limitless potential of the India-US partnership," Modi said on X.

"Our teams are working to conclude these discussions at the earliest. I am also looking forward to speaking with President Trump. We will work together to secure a brighter, more prosperous future for both our people," he said.

SHORT TAKES

Newly-elected VP to take oath tomorrow

New Delhi: Vice President-elect CP Radhakrishnan is likely to be administered the oath of office by President Droupadi Murmu Friday, officials said. The President is expected to administer the oath of office to Radhakrishnan at a formal ceremony at the Rashtrapati Bhavan September 12, they said. The 67-year-old Radhakrishnan won the vice presidential election Tuesday, defeating the joint Opposition nominee B Sudershan Reddy by a margin of 152 votes.

2 IS operatives held in joint operations

New Delhi: Delhi Police's Special Cell, Jharkhand Anti-Terrorism Squad (ATS), and Ranchi police have arrested two suspected ISIS operatives in a joint operation spread across different states Wednesday. The prime accused, identified as Bokaro native Ashar Danish, was arrested in Ranchi. Another suspect, Aftab, was apprehended from Delhi during coordinated action carried out simultaneously by the teams, according to police.

SUBHADRA YOJANA

Field inquiry for 2.85L excluded

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Bhubaneswar, Sept 10: The state government has decided to conduct a field-level inquiry into the eligibility of around 2.85 lakh beneficiaries who were excluded from receiving the third instalment of the Subhadra scheme, Deputy Chief Minister Pravati Parida said Wednesday.

Parida, who is also in-charge of the Women and Child Development department, reviewed the BJP government's flagship women's welfare programme.

Speaking to reporters, Parida said around 2.85 lakh beneficiaries have been excluded from the scheme for various reasons such as filing of IT returns, owning a vehicle and five acres of land, death declared in ration card list, etc.

Health, transport and other departments have been engaged to conduct field-level surveys of the beneficiaries, she said, adding that it will be completed in the next 15 days. Once the survey reports are compiled, the findings will be placed before Chief Minister Mohan Charan Majhi for a final decision, Parida said.

Nepali rapper-turned Kathmandu mayor Gen Z's favourite

REUTERS

Kathmandu, Sept 10: Kathmandu mayor Balendra Shah, an unusually youthful elected official in Nepali politics dominated by seasoned legislators, has emerged as a favourite among young people to represent them in an interim government.

The capital's 35-year-old mayor, a former rapper who often appears on Instagram and in public wearing a dark blazer and sunglasses, is in the spotlight after deadly protests prompted the resignation of Prime Minister Khadga Prasad Sharma Oli, 73.

"You should be our new prime minister," said Rewant Adhikari on X, one of many who have urged Shah to con-

test as prime minister and eventually replace Oli. "Long live Nepal!"

This week's anti-graft protests that killed 19 people were organised by the group "Gen Z Nepal", which draws support from more than half the country's 30 million people who are younger than 30, but often led by prime ministers twice their age.

Shah should be among the Gen Z representatives who hold talks with President Ram Chandra Poudel to chart the next steps for the Himalayan nation, said Balaram KC, a former judge of the Supreme Court and constitutional expert.

Shah has offered no detailed response to the calls. Reuters could not immediately contact him as his mobile telephone was

switched off, and his office declined a request to interview him.

Popularly known as Balen, the structural engineer by training won the 2022 mayoral election as an independent candidate, defying Nepal's traditional party system and becoming a symbol of political disruption.



Nepal limps to normalcy

Nepalese troops Wednesday patrolled the streets to restore order and to quell possible violence "under the guise of agitation" as the Himalayan nation slowly returned to normalcy, a day after violent demonstrations forced Prime Minister KP Sharma Oli to resign. The Nepal Army, which took control of security from Tuesday night after incidents of arson and vandalism across the country, imposed nationwide restrictive orders followed by a curfew until 6am Thursday. The national capital wore a deserted look as soldiers guarded the streets and ordered people to stay at home. There were no reports of violence Wednesday. **P10**

Among his rap tracks "Balidan", or "Sacrifice", released in 2020, stands out, with more than 11

million YouTube views for its critique of corruption, social justice, and governance failures.

On his Instagram account, followed by more than 800,000 people, the thickly-bearded Shah has consistently voiced his support for the protesters, calling Oli a "terrorist" who did not understand the "pain of losing a son or daughter".

A draft policy prepared by the Gen Z Nepal group names Shah as a potential representative of youth and protest movements on a Neutral Interim Authority Council proposed to restore law and order and guide Nepal toward elections in about 18 months.

He will sit on the body alongside technocrats and civil society leaders, according to the document seen by Reuters.

Shah has said he did not join the protests because they were mainly for people younger than 26, who saw him by comparison as an old man, but added it was necessary to hear them out.

On Tuesday, he warned the protesters of the challenges in store. "Now your generation will have to lead the country!" he said. "Be prepared!"

Born in 1990 in Kathmandu, Shah studied civil engineering in Nepal and completed a master's in structural engineering in India. Time magazine listed him among its Top 100 Emerging Leaders of 2023.

Analysts say Shah's tenure as mayor has been marked by anti-corruption efforts, urban reforms, and a strong social media presence.

New Delhi, Sept 10: The Election Commission will soon decide on the date to rollout special intensive revision on a pan-India basis and the exercise to clean up the voter list across states may take place before the end of the year, officials said Wednesday.

After a day-long meeting of EC's state chief electoral officers here, officials said with as many as five Assembly polls due next year, the all-India SIR could take place in the coming months in 2025.

While senior EC officials made a presentation on the SIR policy of the Commission, the chief electoral officer of Bihar shared the state's experience in implementing the special intensive revision of electoral rolls.

The CEOs were told to keep the electoral rolls of their states, published after the last SIR, ready. Some state CEOs have already put the voter list published after their last SIR on their websites.

The Commission has said that after Bihar, SIR will be carried out in the entire country.

Assembly elections in Assam, Kerala, Puducherry, Tamil Nadu and West Bengal are due in 2026.

The primary aim of the intensive revision is to weed out foreign illegal migrants by checking their place of birth.

leisure

FORTUNE FORECAST

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FOR ASTROLOGY DIAL 55181*

ARIES




Some decisions are hard to take, but a firm resolve will help you stay committed. Sentimentality may shake your purpose, but once decided, you must stick to it. Also, learn to take heartbreak in your stride, says Ganesha.

TAURUS




This day you will be compelled to be resigned to your fate. Ganesha does not see your own will power in operation today. Though you would be surrendering yourself to the whims of destiny, do not expect anything good to come out of it. You are likely to take wrong decisions and go of course.

GEMINI




You will try very hard to strike a balance between logic and emotions. Though you may succeed in doing so in front of the world, you may not be so discreet with your friends. You will have an excellent time with your sweetheart, but your physical appearance will be a cause of concern to you, says Ganesha.

CANCER



A string of domestic responsibilities awaits you; today, you are about to realise that it is a long, long string. Chances are that this sudden rise in work pressure may also lead to blood pressure problems. Ganesha advises you to stop presuming how people may react to everything; also, avoid being too proud to avoid excess heartache.

LEO




Nothing will overshadow your love for your kids today, and they will be the number one priority for you. It seems like a good day to take time out and monitor their progress in school; so, do not skip that PTA meeting. Remember, there are various ways to teach children, so consider taking them out on a small picnic or a field trip to help educate them better.

VIRGO



You will begin your journey on the long, hard road to success, predicts Ganesha. Hard work will be the key to any progress that you make. Avoid short cuts, and all the toil and trouble will pay off with rich returns as recognition and rewards will come your way.

LIBRA



Today promises a definite sense of pride and joy from children who bring home glory, says Ganesha. Fiscal gains are also on the cards, and you may consider it worthwhile to put your money into lucrative businesses. Money-lenders and stock brokers are likely to make handsome earnings on this charming and enchanting day.

SCORPIO



It is more than likely that you will be in high spirits today, says Ganesha. All your energy and exuberance may not yield expected results. That is no reason to lose heart though. Keep up the effort from your end and you will eventually taste success in the days to come.

SAGITTARIUS



You will find yourself rubbing shoulders will Lady Luck today. Sharpen your multi-tasking skills as you will keep busy and have only occasional moments of respite. Good will and green print, you might find them both with ease and in abundance, predicts Ganesha.

CAPRICORN




You have sacrificed a lot on enjoyment with friends and family, done some backbreaking work and kept your focus to reach where you are right now. Ganesha gives you a pat on your back for all the hard work you've put in. Now, it is time to watch the tree bear fruits.

AQUARIUS



You blessed with a very high level of patience and practicality, and you can easily untangle any problem. But, it gives an excuse to the people around you to wash their hands of any responsibility. It may put you in a tight spot at times leaving you frustrated.

PISCES



You could swing both ways today! Fortunately, this alludes to nothing more sinister than the mix of the introvert and the extrovert that you are. So, between a quiet evening out by yourself at a classical music concert, or performing on the dance floor at the local disc – take your pick, says Ganesha.



SELENA GOMEZ SHOWS NO SIGN OF SLOWING DOWN

Singer-actress Selena Gomez shows no intention of slowing down in the coming years as she said that she wants to keep getting better in every area of her life. Gomez, who has been open about her mental health struggles, said: “I want to keep evolving and getting better in every area of my life.”

ZETA-JONES' COMMENTS ON SHAH RUKH KHAN MOVIE

Hollywood sensation Catherine Zeta-Jones dropped a social media post about Shah Rukh Khan and Deepika Padukone's iconic film *Om Shanti Om*, and the netizens cannot keep calm. The Wednesday actress revealed that she was enjoying the Bollywood film *Om Shanti Om* while waiting at the US Open.



Zareen adopts ancient wellness technique

Mumbai: Actress Zareen Khan turned to fire cupping therapy as a natural way to relieve stress and anxiety. Sharing her experience, she highlighted how the ancient wellness technique helped her relax and rejuvenate amidst her busy schedule. Taking to her Instagram handle, the *Hate Story 3* actress shared a video where she is seen undergoing the fire cupping therapy. In her post, Zareen explained the benefits of fire cupping therapy, an ancient wellness technique known for promoting overall health. She high-

lighted that it can improve blood circulation and lymphatic drainage, helping the body eliminate toxins more efficiently. She explained that the therapy is also known to relieve muscle pain, stiffness, and inflammation, while supporting respiratory health by easing issues like cough, asthma, and congestion. Zareen also cautioned that fire cupping should be performed only by trained professionals, as incorrect technique may result in burns or skin damage.

In terms of work, Zareen had recently teamed up with actor-singer Pawan Singh for the romantic track, *Pyaar Mein Hain Hum*. Sung by Pawan Singh and Payal Dev, the romantic melody captured the magic of love in the rain. It was released on the T-Series YouTube Channel on August 20.



Rashmika opens up on life's race

Mumbai: Actress Rashmika Mandanna recently took to social media to share a thought-provoking note where she reflected on life, goals, and the importance of slowing down.

Taking to her Instagram stories, the *Animal* actress penned a note where she raised questions on the purpose behind our endless running. Mandanna pondered the meaning of slowing down and the challenge of finding the right path, admitting that despite having countless questions, clear answers often remain elusive.

She wrote, “Dear Diary, do you just sometimes stop and wonder...you are running and running and running...but where are we

running to? What's the goal? What's next? When are you supposed to slow down? Is there actually something like slowing down? What does that even mean? What is the right thing to do? What is the best for you to do? Who has these answers? Who are you supposed to ask for these answers? It's crazy how we have all these questions and more questions but not enough answers.”

The *Dear Comrade* actress, who is also the founder of fragrance line Dear Diary, went on to add, “September, let's make it about...slowing down, breathing in and just enjoying the little things..I wish I could make it a possibility for myself, but I want this for you!”

Fatima's 'default expression'

Mumbai: Actress Fatima Sana Shaikh humorously shared that her “default expression” is often perceived as grumpy.

She took to Instagram, where she shared a string of pictures from her shoot in Leh, where all her expressions in the images look intense.

For the caption, the actress wrote: “Default expression: khadoos!! Aur Tumhara?”

On August 29, Fatima shared a candid photo on her social media account with Bobby Deol and the

team of their upcoming project and gave fans a glimpse of their off-screen camaraderie.

The actress posted the group photo wherein Bobby Deol, director Priyanka Ghose, and the team of their upcoming project are posing for the picture with utmost swag. She captioned it as “@iambobbydeol has turned us into animals. @picsofpinks and I have turned him into a pookie.” With this smartly curated line, Fatima cheekily referenced Bobby's 2023

blockbuster film *Animal*” and connected his highly applauded on-screen persona with their behind-the-scenes fun.

Fatima was last seen in *Aap Jaisa Koi* opposite R Madhavan. She started her career as a child artist in such films as *Chachi 420* in 1997 and *One 2 Ka 4*. In 2016, she portrayed wrestler Geeta Phogat in the top-grossing sports film *Dangal*.

Big B shares his encounter with African elephant

Mumbai: Veteran Bollywood megastar Amitabh Bachchan once had a scary encounter with an elephant. The actor recently opened up about his jungle safari experience on his quiz based reality show *Kaun Banega Crorepati*.

A new promo of the show's latest episode was shared by the makers on Tuesday, and it shows the actor sharing his experience when his fellow tourists in Africa managed to irk and elephant.

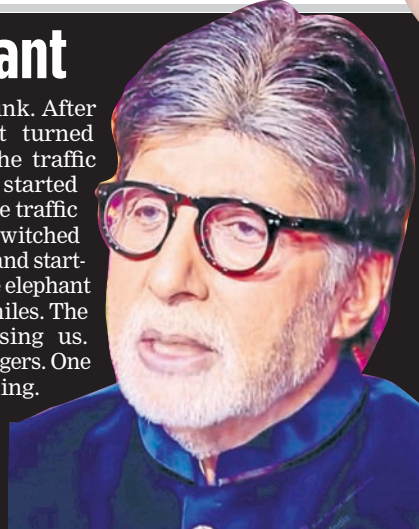
He said, “In Africa, there is a safari park. We went there to see wild animals. On the way, we saw that there was a traffic jam on the road. There

was a car behind the car. We asked why there was a traffic jam as it's a jungle and a traffic jam in a jungle is very unlikely. They told us, “There is an elephant on the road. We couldn't move ahead until the elephant moved. We sat quietly”.

However, one of the tourists in another car couldn't take it further, and sped his car in order to get past the elephant. The elephant didn't like it at all, and violently pushed the car of the same guy. He then started charging towards the other tourists.

Big B shared, “The car in front of us was in a traffic jam for a long time. The elephant turned around and hit

his car with his trunk. After that, the elephant turned around and saw the traffic jam. The elephant started running towards the traffic jam”. “All the cars switched to the reverse gear, and started driving back. The elephant kept running for 5 miles. The elephant was chasing us. Then there were rangers. One of them did something. The elephant went to meet his wife. We were saved”, the actor added.



PEANUTS



CALVIN AND HOBBS

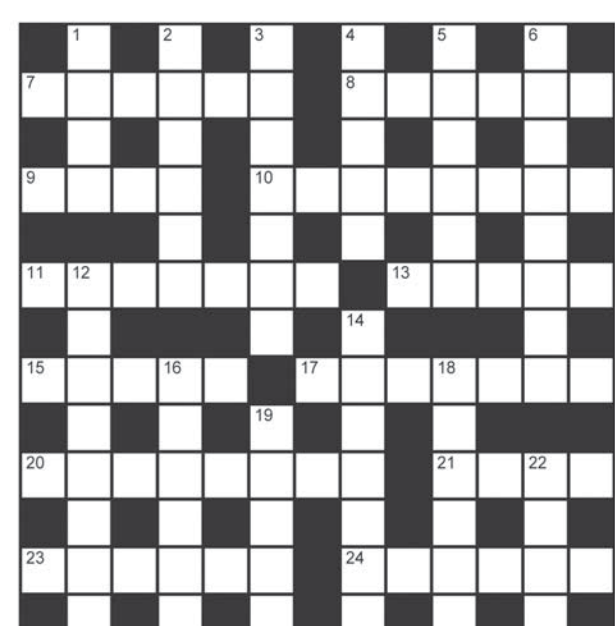


BREVITY



FUN post

CROSSWORD



- Across

7 Polecat

8 Go places

9 Rhine feeder

10 Sled dog

11 Period in human development (4,3)

13 Meat topper

15 Asparagus unit

17 Resentment (3,4)

20 Plant scientist

21 Transverse flute

23 Worthy principles

24 Crude stone artifact

Down

1 Juno's Greek counterpart

2 Rearward, at sea

3 Peacock's pride

4 Trite

5 Weather forecast

6 Celebration

12 They're found on parachutes

14 Jumbled mess

16 Noah's landfall

18 Oscillate

19 Belarus's capital

22 Kismet

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.

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

SOLUTIONS

CROSSWORD

N	O	M	E	R	O	S	I	O	N
U	A	V	E	E	L	R			
D	I	S	T	A	F	F	V	O	D
G	S	P	U	E	S	T			
E	W	E	O	B	S	E	R	V	A
			U	E			L	L	
T	I	M	B	R	E	L	U	S	T
A	I		R	L					
B	A	N	I	S	T	E	R	S	P
L	A	E	V	T	E	A			
E	R	R	E	D	A	L	E	R	T
S	E	G	M	R	A	L			
A	T	T	E	M	P	T	S	L	O

SUDOKU

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

CHECK FOR SOLUTIONS OF THE PUZZLES TOMORROW

downtown

Suicide not solution to problems: CM



Sports and Youth Services Minister Suryabanshi Suraj launches 'Jeevan Zindabad' campaign on World Suicide Prevention Day, in Bhubaneswar, Wednesday. Among others, Chief Secretary Manoj Ahuja, DGP YB Khurania, Police Commissioner Suresh Dev Datta Singh and actor Sabyasachi Mishra are seen

PNN & AGENCIES

Bhubaneswar, Sept 10: With Odisha reporting around 16 suicide deaths every day, Chief Minister Mohan Charan Majhi Wednesday said self-destruction is not the solution to problems and one should love life.

Majhi gave the message on the occasion of World Suicide Prevention Day, as the state government launched the 'Jeevan Zindabad' programme to create awareness among people.

Taking to X, Majhi said, "Suicide is not the path to a solution; it is a weak mindset. To prevent suicide, our government has launched the statewide 'Jeevan Zindabad' programme."

He added, "Let us take a pledge - to overcome problems, to love life, and to work together to create widespread social awareness for the prevention of suicide."

In another post, Majhi said, "On this occasion, I would like to appeal to everyone especially the youths that the life given by God is priceless. There is no such problem in life for

According to Home department data, 5,649 people, including 119 students, died by suicide in 2021. The figure rose to 6,140, including 173 students, in 2022 and 5,989 in 2023

which there is no solution. The government is always by your side to solve all the small and big problems you are facing."

"If anyone is blackmailing or harassing at a personal level, immediately inform the authorities. Exemplary action will be taken. 'World Suicide Prevention Day' should not be limited to mere formality like observing any other day. Suicide is not a solution. It inflicts indescribable grief and suffering on the family forever. Let us, on this day, take a pledge to enjoy life with joy and enthusiasm and to move forward by solving all problems with the cooperation of family and government," the CM said.

The CM's messages came amidst a spate of alarming incidents, particularly among students.

The recent self-immola-

tion of a female student of FM (Autonomous) College in Balasore, the death of a minor girl in Delang, and other cases have raised serious concern over the trend.

According to police, at least 40 students — both male and female — have died by suicide in Bhubaneswar alone over the last two years.

A police officer added that the suicides of two Nepalese students in the hostel of a university in Bhubaneswar this year are some of the instances of the rising trend on campuses.

According to Home department data, 5,649 people, including 119 students, died by suicide in 2021. The figure rose to 6,140, including 173 students, in 2022 and 5,989 in 2023.

Dr SN Parida, a prominent psychiatrist, said, "Suicide rates in Odisha are on the rise because of four fac-

tors — domestic issues, love affairs, repeated failures, and mental stress. Today's youth easily choose the path of suicide over petty matters like parents restricting mobile use, failure in love, studies, or financial issues."

Dr Sarmistha Priyadarshini, a psychiatrist working at MKCG Medical College Hospital in Berhampur, said, "Comparison among youths is one of the biggest causes of suicides among students. Youths who want instant success and fail to get it in one attempt, assume that they are not fit for competition."

From a sociological perspective, Leena Nadiza, a sociology reader, stressed the importance of family's role. "Any member of the family found in distress should not be left alone to fight his or her battle. They should be counselled and reassured that the entire family stands with them."

Launching the 'Jeevan Zindabad' campaign, Sports and Youth Services Minister Suryabanshi Suraj said, "The programme is being rolled out across all 30 districts from September 10. The entire society needs to be involved. Police, higher education, women and child development, home, and other departments must spread the message against suicide."

Joining the appeal, Odia film actor Sabyasachi Mishra said, "The programme aims to instil hope in the young generation. They should know that even if they fail once, they can achieve their goals with determination."

DSPL-247



Sri Narendra Modi
Prime Minister



Sri Mohan Charan Majhi
Chief Minister, Odisha

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Dept. of Health & Family Family Welfare, Odisha

OIPR-10003/13/0284/2526

775 senior citizens embark on state-sponsored pilgrimage



PNN & AGENCIES

Bhubaneswar, Sept 10: A total of 775 elderly persons from six districts of Odisha went on a state-sponsored pilgrimage to Ayodhya and Varanasi Wednesday.

Deputy CMs KV Singh Deo and Pravati Parida flagged off a special train as part of the 'Baristha Nagarika Tirtha Yatra' at the Bhubaneswar station. "This special pilgrimage train will take devotees on a spiritually enriching journey through the sacred route of

Bhubaneswar-Ayodhya-Varanasi, enabling our senior citizens to fulfil their long-cherished tirtha yatra aspirations with dignity and comfort," Singh Deo wrote on X.

These elderly people belong to Puri, Khurda, Cuttack, Jagatsinghpur, Dhenkanal, and Kendrapara districts. They embarked on the journey with 25 escort officers, Parida, who is also in charge of the Tourism department, said. She said about 8,000 senior citizens will visit various pilgrimage sites under the scheme during the current financial year.

HC fines govt for not implementing SC order

AGENCIES

Bhubaneswar, Sept 10: The Orissa High Court has directed the state government to pay an exemplary fine of ₹2 lakh to the decree holders in a civil case that dragged on for more than three decades.

Pronouncing the judgment in the execution case of 1997, Justice Dixit Krishna Shripad said the government was responsible for a slew of avoidable litigations that the decree holders were forced to fight for decades.

"The amount could be recovered from the erring officials in accordance with the law," the court said. The case relates to the non-implementation of a compromise decree issued by the Supreme Court in 1992.

The dispute originated in the 1970s between Udayanath Sahoo and RS Bhatia over a forest coupe contract. The Supreme Court had recorded a settlement between the two parties, directing the then Odisha government to identify uncut trees and ensure an equal division between them. However, the order was never implemented. The Orissa High Court rejected the government's objections to the decree's enforceability, holding that the order was binding on the state under Article 144 of the Constitution.

The HC clarified that if ecological or legal restrictions prevent tree felling, the decree holders must be compensated with the prevailing market value of the timber.

Skill India

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CBC 63101/13/0007/2526

HELMETLESS RIDING CLAIMED 1,696 LIVES LAST YEAR: REPORT

ARINDAM GANGULY, OP

Cuttack/Bhubaneswar, Sept 10: Head injuries led to the death of at least 1,696 two-wheeler users in Odisha last year, all of whom were not using helmets while on road, according to data released by the Commerce and Transport (C&T) department Wednesday.

According to the C&T department, the state reported 5,490 two-wheeler accidents in 2024, resulting in 3,017 fatalities. "Of these, 1,696 deaths were linked directly to the victims not wearing helmets. Over the last three years, 5,160 lives could have been saved had helmets been used properly," the department's analysis said.

Helmets are mandatory for both two-wheeler

riders and pillion riders, but enforcement remains a challenge. Last year alone, authorities detected 7,89,015 helmet rule violations across the state. Violators were penalised under the Motor Vehicles Act, and in many cases, counselled to change their mindset, the department said in a statement.

According to a senior C&T department official, helmets play a vital role

in reducing road fatalities. "The cost of a helmet is nothing when compared to the value of a life," the official said, adding, "The department, in coordination with the police, has intensified helmet checking drives and plans to scale up awareness campaigns."

The state government has also emphasised the need to study road accident causes more closely to design targeted safety

■ Odisha reported 5,490 two-wheeler accidents in 2024, resulting in 3,017 fatalities

■ Over the last three years, 5,160 lives could have been saved had helmets been used properly

■ Last year alone, authorities detected 7,89,015 helmet rule violations across the state. Violators were penalised under the Motor Vehicles Act, and in many cases, counselled to change their mindset

measures. With stricter enforcement and greater public cooperation, authorities hope to reduce preventable road deaths in the coming years, the official pointed out.

OSAA stages protest over Odisha info panel failures

Activists accuse State Information Commission of weakening RTI Act, shielding errant officials, and dismissing thousands of cases



POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar, Sept 10: The Odisha Soochana Adhikar Abhijan (OSAA) Wednesday staged a protest in front of the State Information Commission office at Toshali Bhawan here, alleging illegal practices, arbitrariness, and gross negligence in case hearings by the Commission.

OSAA state convener Pradip Pradhan, along with leaders Srikant Pakhla, Prakash Das, Bishwajit Mohanty, Manoj Sahoo, Guru Mohapatra and others,

joined the protest. Demonstrators held placards, banners, and raised slogans in support of their demands.

The activists alleged that the Commission is deliberately weakening the Right to Information (RTI) Act. Joined by social workers, RTI activists, intellectuals, and lawyers, they raised slogans against the Commission, accusing it of shielding errant Public Information Officers (PIOs).

The OSSA activists alleged that the newly-appointed Chief Information Commissioner and

Commissioners lack adequate knowledge and experience in handling RTI law and cases. They accused them of mishandling proceedings, issuing orders outside the courtroom, and limiting hearings to just 10 cases a day.

In a serious charge, activists alleged that since taking office, the Commission has arbitrarily dismissed around 800 cases and issued letters to appellants asking them to withdraw nearly 6,000 cases—an act they termed a blatant violation of the RTI Act and Odisha Commission rules.

“Instead of delivering justice, the Commissioners are shielding PIOs and competing to dispose of cases in haste. This has created widespread dissatisfaction among citizens. While the Chief Minister claims his government is functioning with a responsive approach, the State Information Commission appears to be doing just the opposite,” state convener of the OSAA Pradip Pradhan said.

The protesters demanded the immediate removal of the incumbent Commissioners to protect the dignity and credibility of the institution.

Min calls for planned, green urban growth

H&UD Minister Mahapatra stresses timely execution and accountability to ensure tangible results on the ground

PNN & AGENCIES

Bhubaneswar, Sept 10: Housing and Urban Development (H&UD) Minister Krushna Chandra Mahapatra emphasised the need for planned City growth to meet the challenges of rapid urbanisation and to create greener, cleaner urban spaces that promote healthy living and environmental balance.

Chairing a comprehensive review meeting with senior officials from various wings of the department Wednesday, Mahapatra directed them to take up planned initiatives on priority and ensure their



completion within the stipulated time-frame.

He underscored the importance of timely execution and accountability to deliver tangible results on the ground.

The minister highlighted

the urgent need to strengthen manpower across urban local bodies (ULBs) and instructed that each ULB must have at least one junior engineer or assistant engineer to ensure proper monitoring of projects

and smooth delivery of basic urban services.

“Citizens’ welfare is the government’s foremost priority,” Mahapatra emphasised, adding that officials must ensure uninterrupted access to essential services while building sustainable and inclusive cities.

The minister further stressed the need for robust service delivery mechanisms to enhance the quality of life in cities and towns and urged officials to adopt innovative approaches and work in close coordination with ULBs to achieve the department’s objectives.

RIE Bhubaneswar holds workshop on NEP 2020

POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar, Sept 10: The Regional Institute of Education (RIE), Bhubaneswar, held a one-day workshop with its MoU partner Teacher Education Institutions of Odisha to strengthen collaboration and share best practices for the effective implementation of the National Education Policy (NEP) 2020 in school and teacher education.

Partner institutions were Radhanath IASE (Cuttack), Nalini Devi Women’s College of Teacher Education (Bhubaneswar), NKC CTE (Angul),



and Government B.Ed. Training College (Kandhamal).

Inaugurating the workshop, Manasi Goswami, Principal of RIE Bhubaneswar, highlighted the importance of academic collaboration. “Mentoring faculty for professional development and conducting in-depth research are crucial to enhancing quality in teacher and school

CLASSIFIED AFFIDAVIT

I, Sanjaya Kumar Thatoi, S/o Santosh Kumar Thatoi, resident of Bangara, P/O - Bangara, PS : Binjharpur, Dist : Jajpur, Odisha - 755016 declare by the Affidavit no. 3294 dtd. 14.08.2025 that now onwards I shall be known as Sanjay Kumar Thatoi for all future purpose.

I, Manasi Patro, D/o- Ganesh Chandra Patro, Wife of Sri Santosh Kumar Samal, Resident of Qr. No.- LA-613, HAL Township, P.O.- Sunabeda- 02, P.S.- Sunabeda, Dist.- Koraput, Odisha, 763002 have changed my name by virtue of Marriage Certificate and shall be hereafter known as Manasi Samal and my date of birth has wrongly recorded as 19.07.1991 in my Aadhaar Card and to record as 09.07.1993 as per my birth Certificate and 10th Board Certificate as I sworn affidavit before the Notary Public, Sunabeda on dated- 12.08.2025. That, Manasi Patro and Manasi Samal both the name are same and one only

ASTROLOGY

Horoscope - Bastu, Gemstone - Sarbasidhikabacha, Job- Guptadhana, Marriage, Health Disease, Loan, Control, Family Problem, Rudraskhya, Court Dispute, Dhanalaxmizantra, Businessdev-Zantra - Nilasaraswatikabacha. 7750033066, 9348273805

Adulterated milk unit busted in Cuttack

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Bhubaneswar, Sept 10: An adulterated milk manufacturing unit was busted in Cuttack district, police said Wednesday.

Acting on a tip-off, a police team raided a spot behind a roadside eatery in Gurudijhatia near Athagarh Tuesday night, they said. Chemicals, salt, and powders, which were allegedly used to make adulterated milk, were seized from the spot, along with a tanker and a van, they said.

However, those involved in manufacturing adulterated milk managed to flee from the spot, police said. Milk farmers demanded the immediate arrest of the persons involved in the preparation of adulterated milk.

Odisha Milk Farmers’ Association president Rabi Behera said strong steps should be taken by the government to prevent adulteration of milk and milk products.

Ensure more assistance to PVTG communities: Guv

POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar, Sept 10: Governor Hari Babu Kambhampati urged officials in Malkangiri district to provide greater support to the Bonda and Didayi communities, identified as Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Groups (PVTGs). “Subsidies alone are often insufficient for buying livestock like cows and goats or establishing small-scale industries. PVTGs must be guided in accessing bank loans to bridge the financial gap,” Kambhampati said.

Governor, during his one-day visit to Malkangiri, interacted with beneficiaries of various welfare programmes, including rural housing, Forest Rights Act (FRA), women self-help groups, micro-entrepreneurship initiatives, PM Janman and other livelihood schemes, aimed at development of PVTG



community at Bandaghati, under Mudulipada Gram Panchayat of Khairapat block.

During his visit, the Governor also inspected the bead making training centre and showed keen interest in learning the process of bead making from the beneficiaries.

The Governor further emphasised diversification of livelihood opportunities. Apart from agriculture, he suggested

encouraging dairy farming, goat rearing and other allied household based activities to strengthen the economic base of PVTG households. Highlighting the importance of outreach, Kambhampati urged officials to organise large scale awareness campaigns so that PVTG families are fully informed about welfare schemes designed for their upliftment.

On the occasion, Governor

‘Odisha could lose 5 lakh students abroad by 2035’

EXPERTS URGE ODISHA TO BUILD GLOBAL-STANDARD UNIVERSITIES TO RETAIN TALENT AND CURB STUDENT MIGRATION



RESHMI YADAV, OP

Bhubaneswar, Sept 10: Sikshasandhan and the Dhaitari Naik Institute of Development Studies, supported by the JNU Odisha Alumni Association, hosted a panel discussion on “Transforming Higher Education through Global Models: Opportunities for Odisha” here Wednesday.

A new white paper, Reimagining Higher Education in Odisha: Towards a World-Class Knowledge Hub, released at the

event, warns that Odisha could lose over five lakh students to foreign universities by 2035 if urgent measures are not taken.

Experts noted that Odisha’s Gross Enrollment Ratio (GER) in higher education stands at 22.1 per cent, below the national average of 28.4 per cent, pushing students to migrate to metros and overseas.

“A robust education infrastructure will act as the backbone to spur Odisha’s economic and social growth,” said Jatindra Naik, Chair-

man of Sikshasandhan.

The report highlighted Vedanta’s proposed ₹15,000 crore Waterfront Education City in Puri as a potential gamechanger. Designed on the lines of Boston’s Ivy League environment, it aims to host 2 lakh students and feature a multidisciplinary university, medical school, R&D hubs, sports complex, and convention spaces.

“Puri offers a unique blend of cultural heritage and connectivity to nurture a thriving academic ecosystem,” said Manas Nanda, General Secretary of the JNU Odisha Alumni Association. Panelists agreed that such a globally benchmarked institution could help Odisha retain talent, attract international students, and align with the vision of Viksit Bharat @2047 and the NEP 2020.

“Odisha stands at the threshold of immense opportunity, and our youth must be given the best,” said Iswar Chandra Naik of Ravenshaw University.

OHRC urges action on stray cattle menace

POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar, Sept 10: The Odisha Human Rights Commission (OHRC) Wednesday urged the state government to take urgent measures to tackle the rising menace of stray cattle on roads, which has caused frequent accidents and loss of lives.

Acting on a petition filed August 5 by Aama Janata Adhikar, represented by convener Basudev Bhatta, coordinator Prasanna Bishoyi, and Ashok Paikaray, the OHRC has issued notices to the state government, as well as the secretaries of the Home, Housing & Urban Development, and Works departments. The authorities have been directed to submit a status report by September 14 ahead of the next hearing.

A three-member bench, comprising Justice CR Mohapatra, AA Dash, and Chairperson Justice S Pujahari, issued the directive, noting that stray cattle on roads and bullfights have become a serious cause of road accidents in Odisha.

Every day, both humans and cattle fall victim to accidents caused by animals suddenly appearing on roads or engaging in fights, especially on highways and in urban areas.

MARKET WATCH					
CURRENCY		BOURSES		COMMODITIES	
INDEX	VARIATION	INDEX	VARIATION	INDEX	VARIATION
DOLLAR	88.18 ▼ 0.04	SENSEX	81425.15 ▲ 323.83	GOLD	₹108,976 ▼ ₹57
EURO	103.31 ▼ 0.48	NIFTY	24973.10 ▲ 104.50	SILVER	₹125,146 ▲ ₹685

WEATHER

	BBSR	CTC	FORECAST
Max Temp	36.2°	35.2°	Partly cloudy sky with possibility of moderate rain or thunderstorm
Min Temp	25.5°	24.8°	
Humidity	82%	81%	
Rainfall	1.4mm	Nil	

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

SHORT TAKES

Gandhi statue vandalised

Kendrapara: A life-size statue of Mahatma Gandhi was vandalised in Kendrapara district, following which an investigation was started, police said Wednesday. The statue was located at a state-run primary school in Nilikana village under Derabish police station, and the incident happened Tuesday night, they said. The statue was uprooted and defaced, they added. “The Education department has taken the matter seriously and launched an investigation. A police complaint has been lodged,” said BEO Debadutta Satapathy.

PACS secy arrested for fertilizer theft

Jharsuguda: Secretary of Kirmira Primary Agricultural Cooperative Society (PACS) in this district Buddhadeb Sahu was arrested Wednesday in connection with a fertilizer theft case. Villagers caught a pickup truck Wednesday night loaded with 26 bags of fertilizer stolen from the society and handed it over to Laikera police. District agriculture officer Pradip Nanda and Laikera tehsildar Sanjib Kulu visited the spot and conducted an inquiry. Police arrested Sahu after an FIR was filed against him at Laikera police station. The cops also seized the pickup truck used in the crime. A case (303/25) has been registered, inspector-in-charge confirmed.

EAST COAST RAILWAY

e-Tender Notice No. ETCECONIIBBS 2025038, Dated : 03.09.2025

NAMES OF WORKS PREPARATION AND SUBMISSION OF LAND ACQUISITION PROPOSALS FOR DIVERSION OF FOREST LAND AS PER PREVAILING ACT / RULES OF THE CONCERNED DEPARTMENTS / MINISTRIES INCLUDING PROVIDING LAND BOUNDARY POSTS & OTHER ALLIED WORKS IN CONNECTION WITH RAIL FLYOVERS CONNECTING RAJATHAGARH TO RADHAKISHOREPUR AND RADHAKISHOREPUR TO MACHAPUR.

Approx. Cost of the Work : ₹ 55.98 Lakhs, EMD : ₹ 1,12,000.00, Completion Period of the Work : 10 (Ten) Months.

Tender Closing Date & Time : At 1200 hrs. of 25.09.2025.

No manual offers sent by Post / Courier / Fax or in person shall be accepted against such e-tenders even if these are submitted on firm's letter head and received in time. All such manual offers shall be considered invalid and shall be rejected summarily without any consideration.

Complete information including e-tender documents of the above e-tender is available in website : www.ireps.gov.in

Note : The prospective tenderers are advised to visit the website 15 (Fifteen) days before the date of closing of tender to note any changes / corrigenda issued for this tender. The tenderers/bidders must have Class-III Digital Signature Certificate and must be registered on IREPS Portal. Only registered tenderer/ bidder can participate on e-tendering.

The tenderers should read all instructions to the tenderers carefully and ensure compliance of all instructions including check lists, para 3.1 (additional check-list) of Tender form (Second sheet) Annexure-I of chapter 2 of Tender documents, submission of Annexure-B duly verified and signed by Chartered Accountant.

Chief Administrative Officer (Con)/ PR-101/CI/25-26

Bhubaneswar

Ganjam coast faces sea wrath



POST NEWS NETWORK

Ganjam, Sept 10: At a time when several villages along Kendrapara coast are facing the wrath of the surging sea waves of Bay of Bengal, reports Wednesday said that the tidal ingress is eroding vast stretches along Ganjam coast, triggering panic among the locals.

Large portions of cashew and casuarina plantations have already been swallowed by the sea, while villagers apprehend that houses, temples

More than 50 farmers have already lost their livelihoods as saline water has inundated farmland

and farmlands could be the next. Residents of several villages under Palibandh gram panchayat, including Puruna Podampetta, Gokharkuda, Mayurpada, Niladripur and Kantiagada, said they are living

in constant fear as seawater steadily creeps inland.

Officials and villagers said earlier the sea was about 2 km away from the coastal settlements. However, it has come closer now – barely 700 metres from Kantiagada and only 200 metres from Aryapalli under Chhatrapur block.

More than 50 farmers have already lost their livelihoods as saline water has inundated agricultural land.

Concerns have also been raised for the famous Rushi-

kulya mass nesting site of Olive Ridley turtles, which conservationists say is being directly affected.

“In the past four years, soil erosion caused by seawater has accelerated. Unless immediate measures are taken, the livelihoods of lakhs of fishermen and farmers will be affected severely,” said Rabin-dranath Sahu, secretary of Rushikulya Sea Turtle Protection Committee.

Binod Mohapatra, secretary of Ganjam Senior Citizens’ Forum, said repeated ingress of saline water is damaging crops. He blamed large-scale felling of casuarina forests near the shore as a major cause of the erosion.

Coastal villages in Aryapalli and Agastinuagaon panchayats of Chhatrapur block and Rameyapatana of Chikiti block are also facing similar threats. Villagers warned that if permanent measures are not taken, they will launch protests.

Meanwhile, officials said 142 fisher families from Podampetta were relocated after severe coastal erosion in 2007.

CRACK IN JAJPUR BJD

Many panchayat leaders join BJP

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Jajpur, Sept 10: A day after a former MP and an ex-minister quit BJD and formed a separate platform, nearly 70 Panchayati Raj Institution-level leaders in Jajpur district Wednesday joined the BJP in the presence of its state president Manmohan Samal.

The Dharmasala unit of the Opposition BJD has received a major jolt as most of the party’s grassroots level members changed their political affiliations.

These Sarpanches and Panchayat Samiti members are among those who switched allegiance from BJD to the saffron party in connection with the no-trust motion against Dharmasala block BJD chairperson Pravat Kumar Balabantray.

Balabantaray resigned from the post of chairperson of Dharmasala block panchayat samiti August 20, two days before the scheduled voting on a no-confidence motion against him.

He is the brother of former Dharmasala MLA Pranab Balabantray.

“We were diehard supporters of Pranab Balabantray. But he could not keep any relation with us after he lost the last election. As a result, we decided to join the BJP for the interest of the people who elected us,” said Rabin-dranath Sethy, Sarpanch of Gadamadupur gram panchayat of Dharmasala block.

Dharmasala, once considered a BJD bastion, has set a new trend in the district by staging a coup against Pranab alias Jitu, a key BJD face.

Exodus of such a large number of BJD workers to the saffron fold is an indication of diminishing power of the BJD in the Dharmasala constituency, sources said.

BJP president Manmohan Samal assured the defectors that the saffron party will provide them what Naveen Patnaik-led BJD could not give them in 24 years.

IIMC student Asmita to attend Cannes event

Dhenkanal: Asmita Adhikari, a student of English journalism at Indian Institute of Mass Communication (IIMC), Dhenkanal, has been selected to join the official delegation of India’s Ministry of Information and Broadcasting at International Market for Communication (MIPCOM) programme in Cannes, France. The event, organised under Webs Bazaar’s Global Outreach initiative, will be held from October 13 to 16. Asmita received her nomination through an official letter from IIMC’s New Delhi headquarters. An overwhelmed Asmita said this would be her first foreign trip. Asmita is the daughter of Urmila Adhikari and Palas Adhikari of Kolkata.



300-yr-old game fades into oblivion

POST NEWS NETWORK

Nayagarh, Sept 10: The daring and perilous Bamboo Queen Game (Baunsharani Khela), once a vibrant folk art and a mark of cultural pride, has faded into history after the death of its renowned director, Purnachandra Das. The art form, with roots in Nathiapalli village under Kurala panchayat in this district, had given the village a distinct identity for over three centuries.

Though initially performed for family sustenance and artistic pursuit, the game grew into a spectacle of entertainment that brought fame and dignity to Nayagarh at the national and international levels. Under the leadership of Jayadurga Bamboo Queen Art Group, directed by Das, the game reached global audiences.

The Bamboo Queen Game involved a 33-foot-long bamboo pole fixed vertically to the ground. At the pole’s top, a small platform was attached, on which a woman or a girl performed acrobatic spins like a wheel. The bamboo never shifted from its base during the performance, despite the high-risk stunts. The spectacle left audiences terrified as well as mesmerised,



reluctant to leave until the end. Side attractions included cradle swings and rope-balancing acts.

Das, a versatile musician skilled in flute, shehnai, harmonium, and lal baja (traditional drums), devoted his life to perfecting and popularising the performance. His wife Chhaya, daughters Lakshmi, Mami and Rashmi, and niece Sushma all performed in the troupe. Their shows at festivals such as Delhi’s Apna Utsav captivated crowds. Internationally, Chhaya, Mami, and Sushma showcased the game in France,

proudly representing Nayagarh.

Rashmi, the youngest, gained special recognition at Apna Utsav in New Delhi when she was awarded a gold medal by the Central Water Sports Gymnastics Federation. She later trained under the Sports Authority of India (SAI), honing her gymnastics skills at Delhi’s Yamuna Velodrome. Rashmi won another gold medal in highboard diving and now serves as an additional deputy superintendent of police with the Central Reserve Police Force in Assam.

However, the family is unable to carry forward the tradition as Chhaya is now an elderly woman, and the daughters are married and settled. Outsiders have also shown little interest in learning the art.

What began in Nathiapalli had spread to festivals across Odisha, the Odisha Sangeet Natak Akademi, Kolkata’s folk culture fairs, the Delhi Sangeet Natak Akademi, Apna Utsav, and even France. Yet after Das’ death August 24 this year, the 300-year-old tradition has come to an end.

Despite performing in India and abroad for decades, Chhaya Das, 76, widow of late director Purnachandra Das, is living in penury without an artiste pension.

POST NEWS NETWORK

Keonjhar, Sept 10: Vigilance officials Wednesday arrested a junior clerk of a school in Keonjhar district for allegedly accepting a bribe of ₹30,000 from a retired peon.

The accused was identified as Rupchand Nayak of Nicholson Forest School in Champua. Nayak was caught red-handed while taking money from the retired peon, authorities said.

Investigators said the peon had taken voluntary retirement in 2024 and was awaiting his pension. Nayak allegedly demanded ₹30,000 to upload the man’s service book and related documents to the HRMS portal. The complainant alerted the Keonjhar Vigilance unit, which laid a trap and seized the bribe money.

Following the arrest, raids were conducted at Nayak’s office and government quarters. He has been serving at the forest training school since 2024, officials said.

A case (9/25) has been registered against Nayak and he will be produced in court, Pujari said.

UCO Bank

Zonal Office, UCO Bank Building, 2nd Floor, C-2, Ashok Nagar, Bhubaneswar-751009

GOLD AUCTION NOTICE

The following persons, who have availed loans against pledge of gold ornaments, from **CONCERNED BRANCHES of UCO Bank**, have not repaid the amount in spite of our demand notice. Therefore, please take notice that if the principal, interest and other charges are not paid on or before **Dt.25.09.2025**, the pledge ornaments will be publicly auctioned on **Dt.26.09.2025 at 12.00 Noon** at the **Respective Branch premises**. The Bank reserves the right to cancel/postpone the auction to any other convenient date without assigning any reasons.

Sl. No.	Name & Address of Borrowers / A/c. No.	Balance Outstanding	Weight in (Grams)
SUKAL BRANCH, At: Alisha, P.O: Sukal, Via: Sakhi-gopal, Dist.: Puri, Name of the Manager: Ankita Jena, Mob.: 8270333116			
1.	Mamata Parida , At: Alish Patna, P.O.: Sukal, PS: Satyabadi, Dist.: Puri / 30310610038789	₹ 28,000/- + Interest and Charges	15.73
2.	Nanda Kishore Behera , At: Alish Patna, P.O.: Sukal, PS: Satyabadi, Dist.: Puri / 30310610039557	₹ 1,15,000/- + Interest and Charges	29.30
3.	Bandhu Pati , At: Alish Patna, P.O.: Sukal, PS: Satyabadi, Dist.: Puri / 30310610042076	₹ 51,000/- + Interest and Charges	18.10
SATPATNA BRANCH, At/PO: Satpatna, Daspalla, Dist.: Nayagarh, Name of the Manager: Pabitra Majhi, Mob.: 7735148740			
1.	Susama Rana , At: Khamar Sahi, Daspalla, Dist.: Nayagarh / 04000610033548	₹ 41,000/- + Interest and Charges	19.30
2.	Kishore Rana , At: Puruna Daspalla, P.O: Subalaya, Dist.: Nayagarh / 04000610033791	₹ 20,000/- + Interest and Charges	11.00
MAITREE VIHAR BRANCH, Maitree Vihar, Bhubaneswar, Name of the Manager: Umesh Chandra Nayak, Mob.: 6371006958			
1.	Laxmidhar Sahoo , At: Dhada Patana, Baranga, Dist.: Cuttack / 18390610016954	₹ 89,000/- + Interest and Charges	21.00
2.	Laxmidhar Sahoo , At: Dhada Patana, Baranga, Dist.: Cuttack / 18390610016831	₹ 32,000/- + Interest and Charges	9.27
3.	Laxmidhar Sahoo , At: Dhada Patana, Baranga, Dist.: Cuttack / 18390610018019	₹ 1,40,000/- + Interest and Charges	28.80
4.	Laxmidhar Sahoo , At: Dhada Patana, Baranga, Dist.: Cuttack / 18390610018439	₹ 45,000/- + Interest and Charges	23.60
MIRGANGUDA BRANCH, Opposite Nabarangpur College, Mirganguda, Name of the Manager: Sangram Keshari Patra, Mob.: 7904984107			
1.	Bhaskara Mali , At: Ekamba, PO: Nandahandi, Nabarangpur / 28490610014752	₹ 42,000/- + Interest and Charges	11.70
2.	Dharanidhar Sabar , Unit-13 (O) BN NCC, Nabarangpur / 28490610015780	₹ 45,000/- + Interest and Charges	17.90

The intending bidders may participate in the auction by fulfilling the following terms:

1. The Bank does not guarantee the weight or purity of the jewellery/coins, either of its gold contents or otherwise.

2. The jewel is available for inspection by the intending bidders during business hours on any working day in the bank.

3. The intending bidders have to contact the Respective Branch Head for the Reserve Price of each account.

4. The intending purchaser shall make an earnest money deposit of 25% of Reserve Price (to be computed as per the balance outstanding).

5. The jewel to be handed over to the highest bidder on payment of the balance amount within 24 hours or on the next working day of the bank during its business hours.

6. If the successful bidder fails to pay the amount, the earnest money will be forfeited and the jewel may be resold within 30 days from the date of auction.

7. The unsuccessful bidder shall be entitled for the refund of the earnest money immediately after the auction is over.

8. It shall be lawful for the Bank to stop the auction at any stage without assigning any reason thereto in which case the earnest money shall be returned to whoever makes the deposit.

N.B.: For further details please contact Zonal Office Co-ordinator, Mob: 7873016821

Place: Bhubaneswar

Date: 10.09.2025

Authorised Officer

UCO Bank

Couple held for ₹39-lakh fraud

POST NEWS NETWORK

Basudevpur, Sept 10: Police in Nayakanidhi under this block in Bhadrak district have arrested a couple accused of cheating a man of nearly ₹39 lakh on the pretext of marriage and medical expenses.

The accused were identified as Deepak Lenka and his wife Subhadra Patra of Chunati village under Bhadrak Rural police limits. They were taken into custody Tuesday evening, police said.

According to the complaint, Subhadra’s brother once worked at the Nayakanidhi market shop of the victim, Debahari Nayak. Then Debahari and Subhadra had developed a relationship, and their families reportedly discussed about institutionalizing their relationship through a marriage.

Meanwhile, Subhadra took more than ₹20 lakh from Debahari on various pretexts before marrying Deepak. Claiming illness, she allegedly obtained another ₹19.45 lakh, transferring the money to several accounts, including her husband’s.

When the victim pressed for repayment, Subhadra promised to transfer land instead but failed to do so. Debahari eventually lodged a complaint at Nayakanidhi PS where a case (228/25) was registered. The couple was produced in court after their arrest.

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PURI-2025

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Sri Sujyavanashi Suraj

Hon'ble Sports Minister, Odisha

Inauguration

5 : PM

Sri Jagannath Stadium Puri

OFFICIAL BRAND AMBASSADOR

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FORMER, INDIAN CRICKETER

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Sri Nishikant Mishra (CMD, TEAM)

Chairman, T10 Championship Governing Body

Jayant Sarangi (Ex-MLA)

Advisor, T10 Championship Governing Body

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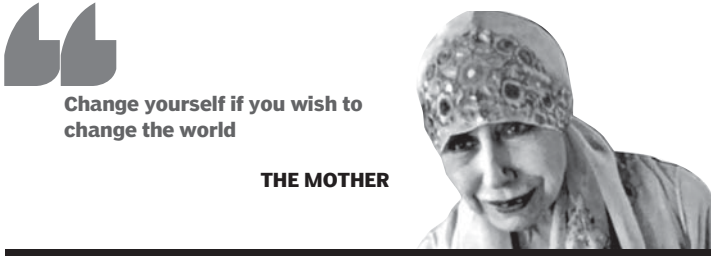
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China’s ‘Trump’ Card

Don't mistake the photos of Chinese President Xi Jinping alongside Russian President Vladimir Putin and North Korean leader Kim Jong-un at Beijing's Victory Day parade for a new world order. Xi is in no position to lead one. But he does see a global leadership vacuum and he is moving to exploit it.

The real story from last week wasn't the military hardware rolling through Tiananmen Square. It was the guest list for the preceding Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) summit, the largest since the organization was founded in 2001. Faced with a unilateralist White House whose policies change as fast as US President Donald Trump's mood, more than two dozen world leaders – overwhelmingly from Asia and the Global South – turned up at Tianjin with one thing in common: a shared desire to diversify away from the United States.

In what I call the “G Zero world” – where no country is willing and able to set global rules, and where the US is increasingly seen as not just unpredictable but unreliable – the premium on optionality has gone through the roof. The distinction between unpredictability and unreliability matters. Unpredictability can be tactically useful for keeping adversaries off balance and galvanizing allies to do more. NATO is stronger today than it was before Trump first came to office, partly because his unpredictability (along with Putin's full-scale invasion of Ukraine) pushed the Europeans to increase their defense spending and add two new members to the alliance. But unreliability has the opposite effect, driving everyone – friends included – to hedge their bets.

Across trade, technology, and security, Trump has imposed sweeping tariffs, withdrawn from formal agreements, and pressured even close allies into narrowly transactional negotiations. In the near term, countries are playing defense, handing the White House “wins” – non-reciprocal concessions here, tariff carve-outs there – to avoid further escalation. But they are also seeking alternatives – new trade ties, financial infrastructure, and supply chains – to reduce long-term exposure to US policy changes.

China has taken note and is billing itself as a steady hand that is committed to multilateralism, long-term deals, and “non interference.” At Tianjin, this message was explicit: we will stand by our agreements; the US will not. The message is landing, not because others believe that China has suddenly turned into a benevolent hegemon, but because it is the only player with the scale and the policy consistency to anchor a long-term hedging strategy now that the US has become unreliable.

Xi used the SCO summit to pitch a sovereignty-first multipolar alternative to the Western-led order, to criticize Trump's “unilateral coercive measures,” and to add a new Global Governance Initiative to his set of branded platforms. The summit's joint statement echoed his talking points, and members agreed to create yet another development bank to facilitate transactions in national currencies rather than the dollar. While these deliverables were predictably modest, the optics were potent: even governments that do not necessarily buy into China's global vision, and that would rather work with America, are looking for options to boost their resilience.

India is the most consequential example. Prime Minister Narendra Modi made his first visit to China in seven years, meeting Xi (and Putin) in Tianjin at a time when the US-India relationship is becoming more adversarial and volatile. While the thaw with China had been quietly building since last fall, a personal rift with Trump, who has slapped a 50% tariff on Indian exports to the US, pushed Modi to hedge more strongly. India is signaling that it has options to help it withstand US pressure.

Of course, China won't replace the US as India's primary strategic, economic, and technological partner. India and China remain strategic adversaries with border disputes and competing interests across South Asia – from Bangladesh and Tibet to the Maldives – and Indian public sentiment toward China is still unfavourable.

Moreover, China's tight security relationship with Pakistan, like India's deepening ties with Japan and the Philippines, continues to breed mutual mistrust. Modi went to Japan before arriving in Beijing, and he skipped Xi's military parade. India was the only SCO member that refused to endorse China's Belt and Road Initiative in the summit's communiqué, signaling that it still prioritizes its relations with the West. Positive as it is for global stability, the India-China thaw will remain narrow and opportunistic. There will be some selective economic easing and some prudent border de-escalation, but no strategic pivot.

Similarly, American unreliability makes the SCO marginally stronger, but it doesn't turn it into the China-led equivalent of NATO or the G7. Though China exhibited formidable convening power last week, its capacity to marshal collective action remains limited. Its global initiatives on security, development, and AI suggest that it is better at branding than at delivering concrete outcomes. The SCO has outgrown its original counterterrorism and climate remit, but it hasn't found a unifying purpose. It is a sprawling club whose mismatched interests – from India-Pakistan antagonism to Central Asian suspicion of Moscow – will keep coordination shallow.

Diplomatically, China still punches consistently below its economic weight. In conflicts beyond its neighbourhood, its actions still tend to lag its rhetoric. The SCO will be more vocal, but no more relevant on the biggest security questions. It won't impact Ukraine or Gaza anytime soon.

Even so, the incremental creation of new global plumbing – including a new SCO bank (if well-funded) operating alongside the Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank and the BRICS New Development Bank, more national-currency settlement, anti-sanctions mechanisms, and more South-South coordination – could matter down the line. These are small steps, but they will make diversification away from the US easier over time, and harder to unwind later. American unilateralism has made the costs of overreliance unmistakable, handing China an obvious opening. All it needs to do is present a simple contrast: at least we are consistent. In a G-Zero world, that counts more than perfection.

For the US, the solution is obvious: become a reliable partner again. Refrain from imposing surprise tariffs on allies and withdrawing from painstakingly negotiated deals, and show more follow-through on commitments that will outlast a news cycle. Until then, other countries' pursuit of optionality will continue, and the world's centre of gravity will keep inching eastward.

The writer is a member of the Executive Committee of the UN High-level Advisory Body on Artificial Intelligence.

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AN INSPIRATIONAL LEADER

FOCUS PERSONALITY



Mohan Ji, in addition to doing full justice to the enormity of the responsibility, has also brought to it his own strength, intellectual depth and empathetic leadership, all of which is inspired by the principle of Nation First



Narendra Modi

BROADLY SPEAKING, BHAGWAT JI'S TENURE WILL BE CONSIDERED THE MOST TRANSFORMATIVE PERIOD IN THE 100-YEAR JOURNEY OF THE RSS



Ian Bremmer

THE MESSAGE IS LANDING, NOT BECAUSE OTHERS BELIEVE THAT CHINA HAS SUDDENLY TURNED INTO A BENEVOLENT HEGEMON, BUT BECAUSE IT IS THE ONLY PLAYER WITH THE SCALE AND THE POLICY CONSISTENCY TO ANCHOR A LONG-TERM HEDGING STRATEGY NOW THAT THE US HAS BECOME UNRELIABLE

Today is September 11th. This day evokes two contrasting remembrances. The first dates back to 1893, when Swami Vivekananda delivered his iconic Chicago address. With the few words, “Sisters and Brothers of America,” he won the hearts of thousands present in the hall. He introduced the timeless spiritual heritage of India and the emphasis on universal brotherhood to the world stage. The second is the gruesome 9/11 attacks, when this very principle came under attack thanks to the menace of terrorism and radicalism.

There is something else about this day which is noteworthy. Today is the birthday of a personality who, inspired by the principle of Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam, has dedicated his entire life to societal transformation and strengthening the spirit of harmony and fraternity. For lakhs of people associated with the Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh, he is respectfully referred to as Param Pujya Sarsanghchalak. Yes, I am referring to Shri Mohan Bhagwat Ji, whose 75th birthday is, incidentally, falling in the same year when the RSS marks its centenary. I would like to convey my best wishes to him and pray for his long and healthy life.

My association with Mohan Ji's family has been very deep. I have had the good fortune of working closely with Mohan Ji's father, the late Madhukarrao Bhagwat Ji. I have written extensively about him in my book, Jyotipunj. Along with his association with the legal world, he devoted himself to nation-building. He played a pivotal role in strengthening the RSS across Gujarat. Such was Madhukarrao Ji's passion towards nation-building that it groomed his son, Mohanrao, to work towards India's regeneration. It is as if Paramasani Madhukarrao prepared another Paramasani in Mohanrao.

Mohan Ji became a Pracharak in the mid-1970s. Upon hearing the word 'Pracharak', one may mistakenly think it refers to someone who is simply doing Prachar or campaigning, propagating ideas. But, those familiar with the working of the RSS understand that the Pracharak tradition is at the core of the organisation's work. Over the last hundred years, thousands of young people, inspired by a patriotic zeal, have left their homes and families to dedicate their lives to realising the mission of India First.

His early years in the RSS coincided with a very dark period of Indian history. This was the

time the draconian Emergency was imposed by the then Congress government. For every person who cherished democratic principles and wanted India to prosper, it was natural to strengthen the anti-Emergency movement. This is exactly what Mohan Ji and countless RSS Swayamsevaks did. He worked extensively in rural and backward areas of Maharashtra, especially Vidarbha. This shaped his understanding of the challenges faced by the poor and downtrodden.

Over the years, Bhagwat Ji held various positions in the RSS. He performed each and every one of those duties with great dexterity. Mohan Ji's years as the head of the Akhil Bharatiya Sharirik Pramukh during the 1990s are still fondly remembered by many Swayamsevaks. During this period, he spent considerable time working in the villages of Bihar. These experiences further deepened his connect with grassroots issues. He became Akhil Bharatiya Prachar Pramukh at the turn of the 20th century. In 2000, he became the Sarkaryawah and here too, he brought his unique way of working, handling the most complex of situations with ease and precision. In 2009, he became the Sarsanghchalak and continues to work with great vibrancy.

Being Sarsanghchalak is more than an organisational responsibility. Extraordinary individuals have defined this role through personal sacrifice, clarity of purpose and unshakable commitment to Maa Bharti. Mohan Ji, in addition to doing full justice to the enormity of the responsibility, has also brought to it his own strength, intellectual depth and empathetic leadership, all of which is inspired by the principle of Nation First.

If I can think of two attributes Mohan Ji has held close to his heart and imbibed in his work style, they are continuity and adaptation. He has always steered

the Organisation through very complex currents, never compromising on the core ideology we are all proud of and at the same time addressing the evolving needs of society. He has a natural connect with the youth and thus, has always focused on integrating more youngsters with the Sangh Parivar. He is often seen engaging in public discourse and interacting with people, which has been very beneficial in today's dynamic and digital world.

Broadly speaking, Bhagwat Ji's tenure will be considered the most transformative period in the 100-year journey of the RSS. From the change in uniform to the modifications in the Shiksha Vargs (training camps), several significant changes occurred under his leadership.

I particularly remember Mohan Ji's efforts during the COVID period, when humanity battled a once in a lifetime pandemic. In those times, continuing the traditional RSS activities became challenging. Mohan Ji suggested increased usage of technology. In the context of the global challenges, he remained connected with global perspectives while developing institutional frameworks.

At that time, all Swayamsevaks made every possible effort to reach out to those in need, while ensuring the safety of themselves and others. Medical camps were organised in several places. We also lost many of our hardworking Swayamsevaks, but such was the inspiration of Mohan Ji that their determination never wavered.

Earlier this year, during the inauguration of the Madhav Netra Chikitsalaya in Nagpur, I had remarked that the RSS is like an Akshayavat, an eternal banyan tree that energises the national culture and collective consciousness of our nation. The roots of this Akshayavat are deep and strong because they are anchored in values. The dedica-

tion with which Mohan Bhagwat Ji has committed himself to nurturing and advancing these values is truly inspirational.

Another admirable quality of Mohan Ji's personality is his soft-spoken nature. He is blessed with an exceptional ability to listen. This trait ensures a deeper perspective and also brings a sense of sensitivity and dignity to his persona and leadership.

Here, I also want to write about the keen interest he has always shown towards various mass movements. From Swachh Bharat Mission to Beti Bachao Beti Padhao, he always urges the entire RSS family to add vigour through these movements. In order to further social well-being, Mohan Ji has given the 'Panch Parivartan,' which includes social harmony, family values, environmental awareness, national selfhood and civic duties. These can inspire Indians from all walks of life. Every Swayamsevak dreams of seeing a strong and prosperous nation. To realise this dream, what is required is both clear vision and decisive action. Mohan Ji embodies both these qualities in abundance.

Bhagwat Ji has always been a strong votary of 'Ek Bharat Shreshtha Bharat', a firm believer in India's diversity and the celebration of so many different cultures and traditions that are a part of our land.

Beyond his busy schedule, Mohan Ji has always found time to pursue passions like music and singing. Few people know that he is very versatile in various Indian musical instruments. His passion for reading can be seen in several of his speeches and interactions.

This year, in a few days from now, the RSS turns 100. It is also a pleasant coincidence that this year, Vijaya Dashami, Gandhi Jayanti, Lal Bahadur Shastri Jayanti and the RSS centenary celebrations are on the same day. It will be a historic milestone for lakhs of people associated with the RSS in India and the world. And, we have a very wise and hardworking Sarsanghchalak in Mohan Ji, steering the organisation in these times. I will conclude by saying that Mohan Ji is a living example of Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam, showing that when we rise above boundaries and consider everyone as our own, it strengthens trust, brotherhood and equality in society. I once again wish Mohan Ji a long and healthy life in service of Maa Bharti.

The writer is the Prime Minister of India.

SPECTRUM BANKING

Bank charges – A penalty on customers



Gopabandhu Mohapatra

TO COVER OPERATING COSTS, BANKS CHARGE FEES FOR MANY SERVICES

Mahatma Gandhi once said, “A customer is the most important visitor on our premises. He is not dependent on us, we are dependent on him. He is not an interruption of our work. He is the purpose of it. He is not an outsider of our business. He is part of it. We are not doing him a favor by serving him. He is doing us a favor by giving us the opportunity to do so.”

This idea perfectly captures why customers matter so much, especially in banking. They are not just people to serve – they are the heart of the business. Without them, banks wouldn't exist. Still, banking is both a service and a business. Like any business, they make a profit by earning more than they spend. Most of a bank's income comes from the interest it earns on loans and investments, along with fees charged for various ser-

vices. To cover operating costs, banks charge fees for many of the services they provide.

These fees cover many a thing from minimum balance, duplicate statements, PIN generation, and SMS alerts. Banks also charge for providing physical copies of account statements. Additionally, banks charge an annual fee for debit cards, as well as fees for issuing replacement of cards. Use of debit card at petrol pumps also attracts surcharge on the purchase. There is a fee for issuing a new cheque book or additional cheque leaves. Upon exceeding the allowed number of free transactions, customers need to pay charges depending upon the bank. There is also a limit on number of free transactions, depending upon the type of transaction such as balance inquiry, mini statement and cash withdrawal. Only State Bank of India does

not charge a penalty for failing to maintain a minimum balance in any regular savings account, which was waived in March 2020.

Now a days, savings account-holders are not allowed to have unlimited cash withdrawals and deposits in banks, not even in their home branch. Banks are allowing only a handful of free transactions every month in bank branches. There are also other charges for signature verification, issuing demand drafts, and more. Banks are even charging their customers when they update their KYC documents, for issuance of duplicate passbook and account statements. A fee is sometimes charged, if the customer wishes to close the account too soon after opening it.

Even resetting ATM PIN can come with a charge. Earlier, there was no restriction on number of financial and non-financial trans-

actions done through ATMs. These fees may seem small individually, but they add up quickly, especially for customers who rely heavily on ATM services.

It is clear that there is not a single service left which banks provide without any charge. Every service comes at a cost. The customer can monitor bank statements to be aware of any unexpected charges. Since the list of charges is readily available on websites of banks, all customers should take a look at it. The new savings account rules of RBI, effective from 1 September are a big relief for customers. With uniform guidelines on interest calculation, reduced hidden charges, and a fair penalty system, banking is expected to become more customer-friendly.

The writer is a retired banker.

Letters
TO THE EDITOR

Readers of Orissa Post are most welcome to contribute letters (100 words), articles and columns (between 600-1000 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

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



Fragile alliance

Sir, This refers to “CP Radhakrishnan elected 15th VP,” *Orissa POST*, Sept 10. The election of NDA nominee CP Radhakrishnan as the Vice President of India was a foregone conclusion, given the numerical strength enjoyed by the ruling alliance. With a comfortable majority in the electoral college, his victory was never in doubt. However, what has raised eyebrows is that as many as 15 votes from the Opposition bloc were cast in favor of the NDA candidate. This development comes as a setback for the UPA and its allies, who had sought to project the vice-presidential poll as a test of their much-touted unity. The cross-voting is more than a symbolic embarrassment; it underscores the fragile nature of the Opposition alliance. Despite ceaseless attempts to stitch together a united front against the NDA on issues ranging from governance to social policy, the Opposition continues to falter. The lack of a coherent ideology, absence of accommodative politics, and persistent rivalries among constituent parties have repeatedly punctured the narrative of opposition solidarity. For the public, the spectacle reinforces the perception that opposition unity is little more than a delusion — a rhetorical slogan rather than a functioning strategy. The NDA's smooth victory, coupled with Opposition fissures, only reaffirms the ruling alliance's political dominance..

N Sadhasiva Reddy, BANGALORE

Nepal in flames

Sir, When the leaders of any country involve themselves in rampant corruption, nepotism, promulgate laws detrimental to the interests of the people, lead lavishly luxurious life at the cost of the poor and down trodden, and manipulate election results to stay put in power, people take to the streets to teach them a lesson. What has happened to Rajapaksa brothers in Sri Lanka, Sheikh Hasina in Bangladesh and now for KP Sharma Oli in Nepal have very many similarities and endorse the fact that when people lose their patience and come to the streets determined to punish the dictators, there is no going back for them and they don't stop till the perpetrators of crimes get properly punished.

Tharcuis S. Fernando, CHENNAI

PM speaks to Italian counterpart Meloni

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, Sept 10: Prime Minister Narendra Modi Wednesday discussed with his Italian counterpart Giorgia Meloni the proposed free trade agreement between India and the European Union (EU) and thanked her for supporting it.

In a phone conversation, Modi also discussed with Meloni ways to end the conflict in Ukraine as well as the implementation of the India-Middle East-Europe Economic Corridor (IMEEEEC).

"Had an excellent conversation with Prime Minister Giorgia Meloni. We reaffirmed our joint commitment to deepen India-Italy Strategic Partnership, and shared interest in bringing an early end to the conflict in Ukraine," Modi said on X.

"Thanked PM Meloni for Italy's proactive support for concluding a mutually beneficial India-EU trade agreement and promoting connectivity through the IMEEEC initiative," he said.

India and the EU are looking at firming up the proposed free trade agreement (FTA) by the end of this year.

U'khand steps up vigil in border areas

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Dehradun/Jaipur, Sept 10: As nationwide restrictive orders and curfew were imposed in Nepal in view of deadly protests, several states in India launched special cells to assist their residents stranded in the violence-hit country besides stepping up vigil along the border.

Several Indian carriers cancelled their flights to and from Kathmandu while the Delhi-Kathmandu international bus service operated by the Delhi Transport Corporation (DTC) was also suspended.

India Tuesday had said it is closely monitoring the unfolding developments in Nepal and hoped that all issues will be resolved through peaceful means. Nepalese Prime Minister K P Sharma Oli resigned in the face of the spiralling anti-government protests, with the demonstrators attacking the private residences of several high-profile leaders, headquarters of political parties and vandalising Parliament.

Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister N Chandrababu Naidu said



as many as 200 Telugu people are stranded in Nepal. A tourist from Karnataka said many Indians are stranded in Kathmandu. Gauri K, who had gone on a Kailash-Mansarovar expedition with her sister, said she was stuck along with a large number of Indians at a hotel.

"Today we had a flight, but due to unrest in Kathmandu, all airline companies have cancelled their services. I am now held up in this hotel," Gauri, a Chennai resident working in Bengaluru, told PTI over phone from Kathmandu. According to her, over 150 Indian tourists were staying at the hotel, including about 20 from Bengaluru. As many as 112 tourists from Murbad taluka in Maharashtra's Thane district

pend. This service, known as the Delhi-Kathmandu Mai-tri Bus Sewa, symbolises the strong ties between India and Nepal and remains a popular choice for travellers. We are suspending it as of now and will resume it once the situation normalises," a DTC official told PTI.

Uttarakhand Chief Minister Pushkar Singh Dhami asked officials to step up vigilance in areas bordering Nepal. Chairing a high-level meeting with officials through video conferencing on Tuesday night, he told them to keep an eye on the activities of anti-social or mischievous elements in their respective areas by conducting intensive checking.

'Vote chor, gaddi chhod' being proved across country: Rahul

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Raebareli (UP), Sept 10: Congress MP Rahul Gandhi Wednesday said the slogan 'vote chor, gaddi chhod' (vote thief, vacate your seat of power) is being proved across the country and the party will establish it in "more dramatic ways".

Gandhi, the Leader of Opposition in the Lok Sabha, is in Uttar Pradesh for a two-day visit to his parliamentary constituency Raebareli. Talking to reporters before entering an event venue, Gandhi said, "The main slogan is 'vote chor, gaddi chhod' and that is being proved across the country. We

will prove it again and again in more and more dramatic ways." Speaking at a programme of party workers from Harchandpur Vidhan Sabha in Dedauli, Gandhi referred to alleged instances of vote theft in Maharashtra and Karnataka. "In Maharashtra, our party and our alliance won in the Lok Sabha, and four months later, we were wiped out in the assembly. When we investigated, we learnt that nearly one crore new voters had entered the election system after the Lok Sabha elections. Our and our allies' votes remained the same, but all the new votes went to the BJP," a source quoted Gandhi as saying.

Denied bail in riots case, Umar Khalid moves SC

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, Sept 10: Activist Umar Khalid has moved the Supreme Court against the Delhi High Court's order rejecting his bail plea in an Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act case related to the alleged conspiracy behind the February 2020 riots in the national capital.

The high court September 2 denied bail to nine persons, including Khalid and Sharjeel Imam, in the case, saying "conspiratorial" violence under the garb of demonstrations or protests by citizens couldn't be allowed.

Those who faced rejection include Khalid, Imam, Mohd Saleem Khan, Shifa Ur Rehman, Athar Khan, Meeran Haider, Abdul Khalid Saifi, Gulfisha Fatima and Shadab Ahmed.

Last week, Imam and Gulfisha Fatima moved the apex court challenging the high court's order.

In its order denying bail to the nine accused persons, the high court said the Constitution affords citizens the right to protest and carry out

demonstrations or agitations, provided they are orderly, peaceful and without arms and such actions must be within the bounds of law. While the high court said the right to participate in peaceful protests and to make speeches in public meetings was said to have been protected under Article 19(1)(a), and couldn't be blatantly curtailed, it observed the right was "not absolute" and "subject to reasonable restrictions".

OFFICE OF THE MUNICIPAL COUNCIL, KHORDHA
No. 3058 /Dtd.09.09.2025

No.C-1036 **e-Procurement Notice**
Bid Identification No. 04 /2025-26

- Name of the work for which tender invited - Privatization of sanitation work including collection of Solid Waste from door to door in Ward No. 1 to 22 of Khordha Municipality.
- Estimated cost of work - Rs. 5,02,42,200.00
- Eligible class of contractor - Intending firms/Service Providers/N.G Os those are experienced in similar nature of work at least three year and other criteria given in the D.T.C.N
- The Bid documents will be available in the web-site as mentioned below from 11.09.2025 on 11.00 A.M. to 26.09.2025 up to 5.00 P.M. for online bidding.
- Bid identification No. 04 /2025-26
- Pre Bid meeting/ Briefing Section on Dtd. 18.09.2025 at 11.30 A.M., Venue- Council Hall of the Khordha Municipality.
- Last date & time of receipt of Bid through on line, date 26.09.2025 up to 5.00 P.M.
- Opening of Bid documents Date 03.10.2025 at 11.30 A.M.
- The bidder has to participate in online bidding only. Further details are available in the website - <https://tendersodisha.gov.in/nicgp/app>

Sd./ Executive Officer, Khordha Municipality
OIPR-13082/11/0039/2526

TENDER CALL NOTICE No. 474/ZP (ORMAS) dt.09/09/2025

No.CAD-1717 : ORMAS, Sundargarh invites sealed Tender from interested experienced firm/Agencies/ Firm having successful track record on Tentage & Allied Works for Organization of the National Level Exhibition at any place in Sundargarh district. The details is available on notice board of Zilla Parishad, Sundargarh and official website of www.sundargarh.odisha.gov.in

Last date of Submission - 22/09/2025 at 12 Noon
Opening of the Tender - 22/09/2025 at 04.00 PM

Sd./ Chief Development-cum- Executive Officer
Zilla Parishad, Sundargarh

OIPR-19260/11/0007/2526

OFFICE OF THE CONSERVATOR OF FORESTS & STATE SILVICULTURIST, BHUBANESWAR
AT/PO-GHATIKIA, BHUBANESWAR, PIN-751029
e-mail ID - state.silviculturist@odisha.gov.in

QUOTATION CALL NOTICE (2nd time)
No.03 OF 2025-26

No.L- : Quotations are hereby invited to reach by (Speed Post/ Registered Post/Courier / by hand) from intending authorized dealers/suppliers in accordance with the Finance Department, Govt. of Odisha, Office Order No. 1492-FIN-COD-MISC-0008-2017/F dated 13.01.2021, for supply of

01 No. Pulverizer Machine for this office. The quotations must be submitted in sealed cover from dt.13.09.2025 to 23.09.2025 and shall be opened on **24.09.2025 at 11.30 AM** in the presence of the bidders & the purchase committee of this office. The authority has reserved the right to cancel or modify or accept any or all quotations without assigning any reason thereof.

The supply shall conform to the following **Minimum Technical Specifications :-**

Sl. No.	Parameters	Specification
1.	Motor	10 Hp to 15 Hp
2.	Voltage	Single phase/Double phase
3.	Rpm	1440
4.	Production Capacity (per hour)	40kg to 50kg
5.	Body material	Stainless steel
6.	Feeding container capacity	20kg to 30kg
7.	Raw Material feeding size	1mm to 30mm

Sd./- Conservator of Forests & State Silviculturist, Bhubaneswar

OIPR-08161/11/0005/2526

No.i-

OFFICE OF THE BLOCK DEVELOPMENT OFFICER LOISINGHA, BALANGIR
Email - ori-loisingha@nic.in

INVITATION FOR BIDS THROUGH e-Procurement TENDER CALL NOTICE NO - 2/25-26/LSNG Invitation For Bids

- The Block Development Officer, Loisingha, Balangir on behalf of Governor of Odisha, invites percentage rate bids in single cover system in ONLINE MODE only, for Construction of Building works detailed below.
- Nature of work : Civil Works
- No. of work : 7 Nos.
- Bid Cost : ₹ 6,000.
- Class of Contractor : "C" & "B" License
- Availability of Bid Documents in the website : From 10.00 AM of 06.09.2025 to 5.00 PM of 23.09.2025
- Date of Opening of Bid : Dt.24.09.2025 at 11.00 AM
- The Bidders have to participate in ONLINE bidding only. Further details can be seen from the website : <https://tendersodisha.gov.in>. Any addendum/ corrigendum/cancellation of tender can also be seen in the said website only.

Sd./- BLOCK DEVELOPMENT OFFICER, LOISINGHA, BALANGIR

OIPR-19245/11/0003/2526

IIFL FINANCE

CIN: L67100MH1995PLC093797
Regd. Office: IIFL House, Sun Infotech Park, Road No. 16V, Plot No.B-23, Thane Industrial Area, Wagle Estate, Thane - 400604
Tel: (91-22) 41035000 • Fax: (91-22) 25806654
E-mail: reach@iifl.com • Website: www.iifl.com

PUBLIC NOTICE OF E-AUCTION OF GOLD ORNAMENTS

It is hereby notified to all concerned borrower(s) in specific and the public, in general, that we, IIFL Finance Limited ("IIFL") are auctioning gold ornaments of defaulted customers who neither regularized their loans nor paid the outstanding amount despite being informed through registered auction notices and repeated reminders. Public auction of the gold ornaments pledged in the following loan accounts will be conducted online through **Shriram Automall India Limited** on their online auction platform <https://gold.samil.in> on **16.09.2025 between 02:00 PM to 05:00 PM**. Change in venue or date (if any) will be displayed at the auction center. If for any reason the E-Auction cannot be held on the date mentioned herein or the auction does not get completed on the same day, IIFL reserves the right to conduct or proceed with the said auction on any subsequent date on the auction platform and/or auction center with same terms and conditions. The unauctioned gold ornaments shall be auctioned on subsequent working days after displaying the details on auction platform and/or auction center. In case the auction at Branch level fails, the same will be re auctioned on **26.09.2025** at the specified district centre. If for any reason, the district level auction cannot be held on the date mentioned herein or the auction does not get completed on the same day, IIFL reserves the right to conduct or proceed with the district level auction on any subsequent date with same terms and conditions. If the customer is deceased, then all the conditions pertaining to auction will be applicable to nominee/legal heir.

District Centre: **BALASORE-POLICE LINE SQUARE,IIFL FINANCE LTD, GROUND FLOOR, PLOT NO 388, POLICE LINE SQUARE, OT ROAD, BALASORE-756001**

Branch Name: **BALASORE-JANUGANJ GL, Taluka - Balasore**
Gold Loan A/C No. : GL32420913, GL32793301, GL32801209, GL34854958, GL35193634, GL35212773, GL35218848, GL35236283, GL35232449, GL35335418.

Branch Name: **BALASORE-NILAGRI GL, Taluka - NILGIRI**
Gold Loan A/C No. : GL31897029, GL33611606, GL34428081, GL34460521, GL34497759, GL34507112, GL34516460, GL34525017, GL35090289, GL35105451, GL35149918.

Branch Name: **BALASORE-POLICE LINE SQUARE Taluka - Balasore**
Gold Loan A/C No. : GL23940124, GL32677676, GL32899914, GL33270312, GL33305452, GL33322869, GL34147099, GL34297180, GL34292377, GL34367529, GL34514307, GL34527725, GL34562342, GL34583430, GL34851492, GL34852635, GL34857751, GL34864038, GL34865660, GL34866513, GL34966966, GL34987003, GL35066212, GL35082324, GL35290292, GL35293609, GL35307235, GL35309726, GL35316036, GL35320421, GL35333090, GL35335790, GL33737508.

Branch Name: **BALASORE-SORO GL, Taluka - Soro**
Gold Loan A/C No. : GL25017485, GL32368565, GL32732840, GL34489749, GL34501813, GL35320306, GL35332961, GL34814093, GL40085608.

Branch Name: **BALIAPAL-BALIAPAL SOHO GL, Taluka - BALIAPAL**
Gold Loan A/C No. : GL33587957, GL33721339, GL33745003, GL34199036, GL34214056, GL35237401.

Branch Name: **JALESWAR-BADABAZAR GL, Taluka - Jaleswar**
Gold Loan A/C No. : GL32368565, GL32947804, GL33898037, GL33955467, GL34449750, GL34458761, GL34462737, GL34463601, GL34476626, GL34478228, GL34492372, GL34506147, GL34627873, GL34636369, GL34846105, GL34859582, GL35216629, GL35235266, GL35319565, GL35337146, GL35384538, GL35384648, GL35395530, GL35395601, GL35428778, GL35434696, GL35479570, GL38351998, GL3895650, GL39012630.

Branch Name: **JALESWAR-BHOGRAI GL, Taluka - BHOGRAI**
Gold Loan A/C No. : GL34271479, GL34400375, GL34491523, GL34505477, GL34633033, GL34639560, GL34877028, GL35325761, GL35383676, GL35395178, GL37879024

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For detailed information, terms and conditions, contact the concerned branch office of IIFL Finance Limited.

IIFL FINANCE

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District Centre: **BARIPADA-GL, Taluka - Baripada**
Gold Loan A/C No. : GL30571467, GL30882325, GL31772820, GL33357548, GL33655379, GL34409553, GL34456645, GL34491656, GL34492130, GL34505813, GL34508967, GL34525719.

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Sd/-
AUTHORISED SIGNATORY
IIFL FINANCE LIMITED

Date: 11.09.2025
Place: MAYURBHANJ

IIFL FINANCE

CIN: L67100MH1995PLC093797
Regd. Office: IIFL House, Sun Infotech Park, Road No. 16V, Plot No.B-23, Thane Industrial Area, Wagle Estate, Thane - 400604
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District Centre: **JHARSUGUDA-JHARSUGUDA GL - 1ST FLOOR,BEHERA MAL, NEAR DRUGA TAMPLE, JHARSUGUDA, PO-INDUSTRIAL ESTATE, PIN-768203**

Branch Name: **JHARSUGUDA-JHARSUGUDA GL, Taluka - Jharsuguda**
Gold Loan A/C No. : GL25867829, GL26872835, GL28141386, GL28645740, GL28874481, GL29027965, GL31329438, GL31342213, GL31350196, GL31368901, GL31593133, GL31604144, GL31972401, GL31989425, GL32048820, GL32332590, GL32462966, GL32762441, GL32779278, GL32929589, GL32956249, GL32995290, GL33021031, GL33038601, GL33046855, GL33054490, GL33213600, GL33219776, GL33231646, GL33234375, GL33258634, GL33602044, GL34172464, GL341877, GL34361343, GL34402944, GL34416237, GL34523334, GL34527539, GL34597133, GL34630994, GL34640372, GL34777589, GL35122173, GL35238176, GL35843207.

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Sd/-
AUTHORISED SIGNATORY
IIFL FINANCE LIMITED

Date: 11.09.2025
Place: Jharsuguda

IIFL FINANCE

CIN: L67100MH1995PLC093797
Regd. Office: IIFL House, Sun Infotech Park, Road No. 16V, Plot No.B-23, Thane Industrial Area, Wagle Estate, Thane - 400604
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District Centre: **DHENKANAL-GANESH BAZAR GL - IIFL FINANCE LTD, PLOT NO.2903, 1ST FLOOR, GANESH BAZAR, DHENKANAL, ODISHA-759001.**

Branch Name: **DHENKANAL-GANESH BAZAR GL, Taluka - Dhenkanal Sadar**
Gold Loan A/C No. : GL33659498, GL33928649, GL34224433, GL34466204, GL34485010, GL34488779, GL34506117, GL34506502, GL34741427, GL34749873, GL34760593, GL34910482, GL34922603, GL348483254.

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For detailed information, terms and conditions, contact the concerned branch office of IIFL Finance Limited.

Sd/-
AUTHORISED SIGNATORY
IIFL FINANCE LIMITED

Date: 11.09.2025
Place: DHENKANAL

national

ED registers fresh case against Anil Ambani, RCom

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, Sept 10: The Enforcement Directorate (ED) has widened its ongoing money-laundering probe against the group companies of Reliance Group chairman Anil Ambani, with the registration of a fresh case against Reliance Communication Limited (RCom) for an alleged ₹2,929 crore loan fraud with the SBI, official sources said.

An Enforcement Case Information Report (ECIR), the ED's equivalent for a police FIR, has recently been filed by the federal probe agency, taking cognisance of a CBI complaint registered August 21. The Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) carried out searches at the premises ofom and the residence of Ambani in Mumbai August 23 as part of this SBI-linked investigation.

The accused in the latest ED case are the same as in the CBI FIR, which includedom-Mumbai, its director Anil D Ambani, unidentified public servants and others on the basis of a complaint from the State Bank of India (SBI). The money-laundering investigation has been enlarged to look into all aspects of the alleged fraud linked to the Anil Ambani group companies and any possible inter-connection of these cases, the agency sources said.



PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, Sept 10: The Centre Wednesday told the Supreme Court that 90 per cent of the bills passed by state assemblies since 1970 have received gubernatorial assent within a month whereas assents were withheld by governors only in 20 instances of the total 17,150 bills.

A five-judge Constitution bench headed by Chief Justice B R Gavai, hearing the presidential reference on whether the court could impose timelines for governors and President to deal

PREZ REFERENCE

90% Bills cleared within a month since 1970: Centre

against the reference.

Of the 20 instances where assent was withheld, seven bills related to the recent row in Tamil Nadu, Mehta said.

“We did not permit them to show any data. This is not fair to them (those opposing the presidential reference). You had objected when they wanted to refer to their data,” the bench, also comprising Justices Surya Kant, Vikram Nath, P S Narasimha and A S Chandurkar, said stressing it would only focus on constitutional issues.

“In the last 55 years, 90 per cent Bills were assented to (by the governors) within one month... and assent has been withheld in only 20 cases,” the law officer said.

Sibal interjected to suggest such disputes largely arose only post 2014 and said he was not allowed to refer to any such data.

Choksi extradition proceedings may start Monday

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, Sept 10: The extradition proceeding against absconding diamondaire Mehul Choksi, wanted in the ₹13,000 crore Punjab National Bank fraud case, is likely to commence in a Belgian court next Monday, officials said.

The court hearings will be led by Belgian federal prosecutors, with support from the CBI and India's Ministry of External Affairs. Choksi is understood to have held residency in



Belgium since 2023, having relocated to the European country from Antigua and Barbuda for medical treatment, officials said, adding that his wife is a Belgian national. The CBI had re-

ceived information of his presence in Belgium in January 2024, following which an extradition request was dispatched to the European country with which India had signed a treaty in 2020, making it the first case under the arrangement, they said. Based on India's request, Choksi was arrested in April this year. His subsequent requests for bail have been denied by various courts in that country. The CBI has also engaged a European law firm specialising in extradition law to help in

the case. A team of CBI officials will also be present to provide any necessary inputs, documentation, or perspectives.

The agency has given a plethora of documents - chargesheets, FIRs and evidence summaries against him - to Belgian authorities showing that the charges he attracts in India are also punishable in that European country, a case of dual criminality that makes it a fit case for extradition under the treaty.

In Punjab, the loss assessment is more than ₹20,000 crore. In comparison, the announcement of a mere ₹1,600 crore in the name of flood relief is a gross insult to Punjabis. This is a living proof of BJP's anti-Punjab attitude

randeep singh surjewala | CONGRESS LEADER

INDIA CONDEMNS VIOLATION OF QATAR'S SOVEREIGNTY: PM

Prime Minister Narendra Modi spoke to Qatar's Emir Sheikh Tamim Bin Hamad Al-Thani Wednesday and conveyed his condemnation of the violation of the sovereignty of the “brotherly State of Qatar”. Israel had Tuesday launched attacks on Hamas leaders in Qatar's capital Doha



Indian airlines to start Kathmandu flights today

New Delhi: Indian airlines will resume normal services to Kathmandu from Thursday, with Air India and IndiGo will also be operating additional flights to bring back people stranded in the Nepalese capital amid the unrest in the neighbouring nation. Tribhuvan International Airport in Kathmandu reopened Wednesday evening after it was shut for operations Tuesday. Airlines cancelled their flights to Kathmandu Tuesday and Wednesday. Civil Aviation Minister K Rammoohan Naidu Wednesday said Air India and IndiGo will operate additional flights to Kathmandu to bring back people stranded there. The minister also said airlines have been advised to keep their fares within reasonable levels. Air India said it is operating special flights today and tomorrow from Delhi to Kathmandu and back to help passengers who have been stranded due to the recent developments in Nepal. “Our scheduled operations will also resume from tomorrow. “We thank the government and other agencies for the quick coordination to facilitate this in the interest of our passengers,” the airline said in a post on X. IndiGo, in a post on X, said flight operations to and from Kathmandu have now resumed following the reopening of the airport.



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District Centre: **KENDRAPARA-COLLEGE CHAK GL - IIFL FINANCE LTD, AT- BHIRAMARADIA PATNA, COLLEGE CHAK, NEAR BPCL PETROL PUMP, PO-PS-DIST = KENDRAPARA, ODISHA, PIN - 754211**
Branch Name: **KENDRAPADA-KAKAT CHIAK GL, Taluka - Kendrapara**
Gold Loan A/C No. : GL32631566, GL32718286, GL32743777, GL33506036, GL33527023, GL34068980, GL34413905, GL34416299, GL34456949, GL34508731, GL34525552, GL35061088, GL35083573, GL35157046, GL35157172, GL35244283, GL35258109, GL35304778, GL35401288, GL35412373, GL35439350, GL35453079.

Branch Name: **KENDRAPARA-COLLEGE CHAK GL, Taluka - Kendrapara**
Gold Loan A/C No. : GL30842924, GL30849109, GL32445523, GL34370002, GL34384490, GL34474955, GL34495616, GL34505465, GL34531888, GL34548201, GL34552166, GL34554932, GL34559938, GL35097284, GL35107602, GL35116941, GL35130168, GL35325456, GL35342982, GL35361812, GL35393036, GL35341086.

Branch Name: **PATTAMUNDAL-GL - Taluka - Pattamundal**
Gold Loan A/C No. : GL31258702, GL31309432, GL32966272, GL34354118, GL34370511, GL34445455, GL34452566, GL34495808, GL34497885, GL34505602.

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For detailed information, terms and conditions, contact the concerned branch office of IIFL Finance Limited.

Date: 11.09.2025
Place: KENDRAPARA



Sd/-
AUTHORISED SIGNATORY
IIFL FINANCE LIMITED



CIN: L67100MH1995PLC093797
Regd. Office: IIFL House, Sun Infotech Park, Road No. 16V, Plot No.B-23, Thane Industrial Area, Wagale Estate, Thane - 400604
Tel: (91-22) 41035000 • Fax: (91-22) 25806654
E-mail: reach@iifl.com • Website: www.iifl.com

PUBLIC NOTICE OF E-AUCTION OF GOLD ORNAMENTS

It is hereby notified to all concerned borrower(s) in specific and the public, in general, that we, IIFL Finance Limited (“IIFL”) are auctioning gold ornaments of defaulted customers who neither regularized their loans nor paid the outstanding amount despite being informed through registered auction notices and repeated reminders. Public auction of the gold ornaments pledged in the following loan accounts will be conducted online through **Shriram Automall India Limited** on their online auction platform <https://gold.samil.in> on **16.09.2025 between 02:00 PM to 05:00 P.M.** Change in venue or date (if any) will be displayed at the auction center. If for any reason the E-Auction cannot be held on the date mentioned herein or the auction does not get completed on the same day, IIFL reserves the right to conduct or proceed with the said auction on any subsequent date on the auction platform and/or auction center with same terms and conditions. The unauctioned gold ornaments shall be auctioned on subsequent working days after displaying the details on auction platform and/or auction center. In case the auction at Branch level fails, the same will be re auctioned on **26.09.2025** at the specified district centre. If for any reason, the district level auction cannot be held on the date mentioned herein or the auction does not get completed on the same day, IIFL reserves the right to conduct or proceed with the district level auction on any subsequent date with same terms and conditions. If the customer is deceased, then all the conditions pertaining to auction will be applicable to nominee/legal heir.

District Centre: **BOLANGIR-BANSITA COMPLEX GL - IIFL FINANCE LTD, BANSITA COMPLEX ,GROUND FLOOR, RAMAI TAKIES ROAD INFRONT OF HOTEL RAJ MAHAL- 767001.**

Branch Name: **BANGOMUNDA-BANGOMUNDA SOHO GL, Taluka - KANTABANJI**
Gold Loan A/C No. : GL34172646, GL34185506.

Branch Name: **BOLANGIR-BANSITA COMPLEX GL, Taluka - Balangir**
Gold Loan A/C No. : GL28100265, GL32116906, GL32731955, GL32746891, GL34458020, GL34462116, GL34476575, GL34484230, GL344764081, GL34770857, GL34783853, GL34783899, GL34823311, GL34834279, GL34857582, GL34885583, GL34912772, GL349228275, GL34931421, GL34938236, GL34941474, GL34950074, GL34950961, GL34953499, GL34972718, GL34987542, GL35007107, GL35013090, GL35048338, GL35060925, GL35060933, GL35080933, GL35083070, GL35083613, GL35101963, GL35102465, GL35105766, GL35167288, GL35169797, GL35186466, GL35189835, GL35210972, GL35247400, GL35268623, GL35294965, GL35310525, GL35340604, GL35353468, GL35359942, GL35378721, GL35402944, GL35405406, GL35412808, GL35413557, GL35417103, GL35422937, GL35436127, GL35438307, GL35452574, GL35605421, GL35755312, GL36269361, GL37628366, GL38709621, GL39293373.

Branch Name: **PATNAGARH-PATNAGARH SOHO GL, Taluka - PATNAGARH**
Gold Loan A/C No. : GL33833053, GL34939357, GL34102916, GL34458043, GL35120201, GL35515357.

Branch Name: **TITILAGARH-TITILAGARH GL, Taluka - Kantabanji**
Gold Loan A/C No. : GL32117142, GL32675113, GL32689829, GL33997672, GL34493274, GL34495313, GL34501506, GL34504948, GL34820840, GL34838832, GL35039043, GL35041119, GL35182188, GL35222930.

Branch Name: **TUSURA-TUSURA SOHO GL, Taluka - Tura**
Gold Loan A/C No. : GL33027939, GL33060661, GL33248706, GL33261892, GL34417017, GL34453242, GL34453378, GL34464603, GL34464644.

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For detailed information, terms and conditions, contact the concerned branch office of IIFL Finance Limited.

Date: 11.09.2025
Place: BALANGIR



Sd/-
AUTHORISED SIGNATORY
IIFL FINANCE LIMITED



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District Centre: **ANGUL-OM TOWER GL - IIFL FINANCE LTD, OM TOWER , GROUND FLOOR, SANKER CINEMA ROAD,NEAR ICICI BANK, GANDHI MARG, ANGUL- 759122,ODISHA**

Branch Name: **ANGUL-OM TOWER GL, Taluka - ANGUL**
Gold Loan A/C No. : GL23487384, GL23974196, GL28098863, GL32074216, GL32099240, GL32140366, GL32785430, GL32799540, GL32811359, GL32832385, GL33581476, GL33588327, GL33593660, GL33841157, GL33974087, GL33994131, GL34005755, GL34033026, GL34044880, GL34202621, GL34207905, GL34215585, GL34216386, GL34272940, GL34291431, GL34387170, GL34393500, GL34414727, GL34445289, GL34448997, GL34463448, GL34516723, GL34518432, GL34525641, GL34528238, GL34674784, GL34685339, GL34685674, GL34955741, GL35033866, GL35062976, GL35074587, GL35085887, GL35149539, GL35174965, GL35299118, GL35366694, GL35380570, GL35385464.

Branch Name: **BANARPAL-NUAHATA GL, Taluka - ANGUL**
Gold Loan A/C No. : GL32428807, GL32434675, GL32701541, GL32713482, GL33978734, GL34352605, GL34485556, GL34500949, GL34507422, GL34530045, GL34574980, GL34582300, GL34644812, GL35018787, GL35295319, GL35312728, GL35333469, GL35418238, GL35433595.

Branch Name: **TALCHER-BYPASS CHIAK GL, Taluka - Talcher Sadar**
Gold Loan A/C No. : GL29032192, GL32880612, GL33093560, GL33220434, GL33360699, GL33840159, GL33953198, GL34119515, GL34127558, GL34137930, GL34264021, GL34356142, GL34375905, GL34378587, GL34380827, GL34391017, GL34395313, GL34430124, GL34431709, GL34487321, GL34503864, GL34515051, GL34520496, GL34528828, GL34529952, GL34592038, GL34610311, GL34631871, GL34641539, GL34646449, GL34655800, GL34844571, GL34855952, GL34866026, GL34884923, GL35026506, GL35043062, GL35272447.

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Date: 11.09.2025
Place: ANUGUL



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District Centre: **BHADRAK-GUPTA COMPLEX - IIFL FINANCE LTD, 1ST FLOOR, GUPTA COMPLEX, SALANDI BYPASS, BHADRAK-756100.**

Branch Name: **BHADRAK-BASUDEBPUR GL, Taluka - Basudebpur**
Gold Loan A/C No. : GL32223658, GL32376570, GL33816820, GL33867252, GL33867913, GL33882485, GL33991078, GL33901205, GL33920379, GL35387739, GL35396602.

Branch Name: **BHADRAK-DHAMNAGAR SOHO GL, Taluka - Dhamnagar**
Gold Loan A/C No. : GL30847478, GL32009426, GL322109624, GL32153624, GL34116779, GL34139082, GL34254136, GL34606429, GL34661406, GL34941052, GL34958074, GL35076960, GL35088684, GL35116866, GL35130137, GL35204618, GL35261750, GL35277830, GL35291490, GL35294067, GL35300807, GL35320477, GL35323178, GL35333303, GL35334047.

Branch Name: **BHADRAK-GUPTA COMPLEX, Taluka - Bhadrak Rural**
Gold Loan A/C No. : GL20774345, GL20792180, GL31313903, GL34440797, GL34532104, GL34552494, GL34599447, GL34604699, GL34846820, GL34846894, GL34860327, GL34860450, GL35145830, GL35162693, GL35138537, GL35395417, GL35439346, GL35453082, GL37793393, GL38448630, GL38511406, GL39115419.

Branch Name: **BHADRAK-KACHERI BAZAAR GL, Taluka - Bhadrak Rural**
Gold Loan A/C No. : GL27923734, GL31826085, GL32221042, GL33135586, GL33586730, GL33595006, GL34438910, GL34449479, GL34463598, GL34547877, GL34554492, GL35095880, GL35103170, GL35118288, GL35131636, GL35147508, GL35192803, GL35212408, GL35223413, GL35239967, GL35320129, GL35332843, GL35399265, GL35410923, GL37415409.

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Date: 11.09.2025
Place: BHADRAK



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IIFL FINANCE LIMITED

international

of the day quote

No-one is safe here, no-one is safe in the region, no-one is safe in Europe and within the alliance, because those incidents are very close to the situations when everything is going to escalate

KESTUTIS BUDRYS | FOREIGN AFFAIRS MINISTER, LITHUANIA

Secretary Rubio emphasized the importance of open and constructive communication on a range of bilateral issues with Chinese Foreign Minister Wang Yi

TOMMY PIGOTT | STATE DEPARTMENT DEPUTY SPOKESPERSON, US

It was reckless to allow former President Joe Biden to decide to seek re-election in 2024, but I felt I was the last person who could advise 81-year-old boss not to run

KAMALA HARRIS | FORMER VICE PRESIDENT , US

SHORT TAKES

EU chief calls for unity

Brussels: The European Commission will propose sanctioning extremist Israeli ministers and the suspension of trade-related measures in a European Union agreement with Israel, European Commission President Ursula von der Leyen said Wednesday. The proposals, announced by von der Leyen in a speech to the European Parliament in Strasbourg, reflect growing EU criticism of Israel's conduct of the war in Gaza and increased pressure on the bloc's executive body to take action. The proposals would need broad or unanimous support among the EU's member states, which is likely to be hard to achieve as the bloc is deeply divided on the Middle East. But von der Leyen made clear the proposal was also meant to be a political signal.

Mob lynches 2 in Bangladesh capital

Dhaka: Mobbers Wednesday lynched two people in an interval of three hours in the Bangladesh capital amid growing concerns of deteriorating law and order situation, with rights groups and media raising alarm. Two youths, in their early 20s, were beaten to death in separate incidents at Dhaka's Mohammadpur, the Prothom Alo newspaper reported. They were suspected of mugging. Two days ago, another youth was lynched in the same neighbourhood on similar charges, the newspaper added. Leading Bangladeshi rights group Ain O Salish Kendra (ASK) last month reported that 124 people were lynched in first eight months of 2025, while the Prothom Alo said nine people were lynched in the first 10 days of August alone in sporadic mob violence.

7 Chinese sentenced to 20 years for trafficking

Johannesburg: A court in Johannesburg sentenced seven Chinese nationals Wednesday to terms of 20 years in prison each for trafficking people from Malawi and forcing them to work at a factory in South Africa. The group was convicted on February 25 of trafficking 91 undocumented Malawian nationals from 2017 to 2019 to work at a cotton fabric factory in Village Deep, an industrial area in the south of Johannesburg. The Chinese nationals had been arrested November 12, 2019 when police raided the factory and found the Malawians confined under inhumane conditions with armed guards controlling their movements. The factory had a high wall and razor fence.

NEPAL'S GEN Z PROTESTS

AGENCIES

Kathmandu, Sept 10: Nepalese troops Wednesday patrolled the streets to restore order and to quell possible violence “under the guise of agitation” as the Himalayan nation slowly returned to normalcy, a day after violent demonstrations forced Prime Minister KP Sharma Oli to resign.

As the Nepal Army imposed nationwide restrictive orders followed by a curfew until 6 am Thursday, sources said former chief justice Sushila Karki, Kathmandu Mayor Balendra Shah and former electricity board CEO Kulman Ghising were among the names being considered by the protesting Gen Z group to lead an interim government.

Meanwhile, the Tribhuvan International Airport (TIA) in Kathmandu resumed services from Wednesday evening, 24 hours after closing its operations due to violent protests.

In a notice, the TIA management asked the passengers concerned to contact their respective airline companies for re-confirmation (of their flights). It said all domestic and international flights, which had been suspended, are now cleared to operate.

Buddha Air announced that it will resume regular flight services from early Thursday. The Nepal Army has asked the “foreign nationals, stranded due to the current difficult situation, to contact the nearest security post or security people for their rescue or any other help.”

It has also requested hotels, tourism entrepreneurs and related agencies concerned to provide necessary help to the needy foreign nationals.

During the day, the national capital wore a deserted look as soldiers guarded the streets and ordered people to stay at home, a day after protesters set fire to the key government buildings, political parties' offices and homes of senior politicians.

Soldiers guard parl, patrol streets



A Nepal Army personnel escorts the prisoners who escaped from prison in the aftermath of anti-government protests, in Kathmandu, Nepal, Wednesday

There were no reports of violence Wednesday.

The army, which took control of security from Tuesday night after incidents of arson and vandalism across the country, warned that any form of demonstrations, vandalism, arson, or attacks on individuals and property would be treated as criminal acts and dealt with accordingly.

It said measures were necessitated to curb possible incidents of looting, arson, and other destructive activities “under the guise of agitation”.

As the situation returns to normalcy, the protesting Gen Z group held discussions to finalise the name of the person to lead an interim government.

Karki, the only woman to serve as the chief justice of Nepal's top court, Balendra and Ghising were among the names being considered for to lead the interim government, sources said.

Nepali Congress, the largest party in the House of Representatives, General Secretaries Gagan Thapa and Bishwa Prakash Sharma issued a joint statement, saying they are ready to cooperate with the Gen Z group. However, they

NEPAL SAYS 30 PEOPLE DIED IN PROTESTS, 1,061 INJURED
PROTESTERS WANT FORMER CHIEF JUSTICE AS INTERIM HEAD
RELEVANT GROUPS COORDINATING TO TACKLE SITUATION, ARMY SAYS
KATHMANDU CALM AS SOLDIERS TAKE CONTROL, AIRPORT OPENS

emphasised that any decision must follow the constitutional and legal process.

“There is no alternative to the rule of law, there is no alternative to democracy. In this complex situation, all party members must unite,” the statement said.

“Lawlessness only leads to further chaos. Therefore, during the talks, we urge the President and the Gen Z representatives to ensure that a new political structure is formed for governance and elections without causing a prolonged constitutional vacuum or instability,” it added.

Meanwhile, the death toll from the violent protests led by the ‘Gen Z’ group in the last two days increased to 30, according to the Ministry of Health and Population.

AFRICA FEEDING 20MN MORE CHILDREN WITH SCHOOL MEALS

Governments in sub-Saharan Africa have provided school meals to roughly 20 million extra children over the past two years, the World Food Programme (WFP) said Wednesday, showing a move away from dependence on foreign aid and a stronger commitment to education. The region saw the biggest rise in school feeding of any region, by nearly a third to 87 million in 2024



We'll get them next time: Israel

REUTERS

Jerusalem/Doha, Sept 10: If Israel failed to kill Hamas leaders in an air strike on Qatar Tuesday, it would succeed next time, the Israeli ambassador to the United States said after the operation, which raised concerns it would torpedo efforts to secure a ceasefire in Gaza.

“Right now, we may be subject to a little bit of criticism. They'll get over it. And Israel is being changed for the better,” Yechiel Leiter told Fox News' “Special Report” programme late Tuesday.

Israel attempted to kill the political leaders of Hamas with the attack in the Qatari capital Doha Tuesday, escalating its military action in the Middle East in what the US described as a unilateral attack that does not advance American and Israeli interests.



The airstrike took place shortly after Hamas claimed responsibility for a shooting Monday that killed six people at a bus stop on the outskirts of Jerusalem.

The widely condemned Doha operation was especially sensitive because Qatar has been hosting and mediating in negotiations aimed at securing a ceasefire in the Gaza war.

“If we didn't get them this time, we'll get them the next time,” Leiter said.

Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu has defied global condemnation of operations like the one that struck Doha, extending military operations across the Middle East and severely weakening Israel's Iran-backed enemies since Hamas attacked Israel in 2023.

SNIPPETS

Indonesia flash floods leave 15 dead, 6 missing

DENPASAR(INDONESIA): The death toll from flash floods that struck two provinces in Indonesia rose to 15 after rescuers recovered more bodies Wednesday, while six people were missing, authorities said. Torrential rains beginning Monday caused flooding and landslides in East Nusa Tenggara province and on the tourist island of Bali. Rain has caused rivers to burst their banks, tearing through nine cities and districts in Bali. Mud, rocks and trees tumbled onto mountainside hamlets and rising rivers submerged at least 112 neighbourhoods and resulted in several landslides, Bali's Disaster Mitigation Agency said in a statement. Videos released by the National Search and Rescue Agency showed cars floating in muddy waters while soldiers and rescuers in rubber boats helped children and older people who were forced onto the roofs of flooded homes and buildings.

Lankan parl votes to end privileges for ex-presidents

COLOMBO: The Sri Lankan parliament Wednesday voted 151-1 in favour of a bill to strip privileges for former presidents, one of the popular pre-election pledges by the incumbent NPP government. The bill titled ‘Presidents’ Entitlement (Repeal) Act No 18 of 2025’ to repeal the Presidents’ Entitlement Act No 4 of 1986 has thus become a law, a day after the Supreme Court ruled that the bill can be approved in parliament by a simple majority. The ruling National People's Power (NPP) government presented the bill for its second reading Wednesday. Explaining the law, Justice Minister Harshana Nanayakkara told the House that while the former presidents would not lose their pension rights, all other privileges granted to them such as a state mansion, official transport, the secretarial staff would be stripped off.

UK reopens trade talks with China after 7-year gap

LONDON: The UK Wednesday reopened its trade dialogue with China after a gap of seven years as the Business and Trade Secretary reached Beijing for the UK-China Joint Economic and Trade Commission (JETCO). Peter Kyle, who took charge at the UK's Department for Business and Trade (DBT) in last week's Cabinet reshuffle, said direct engagement with China was a strategic imperative to strengthen trade and address concerns in a constructive manner. The trade talks are aimed at boosting bilateral cooperation in sectors such as professional services, automotive, and healthcare.

NATO allies held Article 4 consultations after Russian drone incursion

ASSOCIATED PRESS

Brussels, Sept 10: NATO allies swiftly held talks Wednesday on the incursion by multiple Russian drones into Polish — and alliance — airspace and the shooting down of some of the weapons by Polish and Dutch fighter jets.

The consultations at NATO headquarters were part of a regular meeting of ambassadors from the alliance's 32 member states known as the North Atlantic Council, but Polish Prime Minister Donald Tusk told Parliament that they came

under Article 4 of the treaty that founded NATO in 1949 in the aftermath of World War II.

The incident in Poland came three days after Russia's largest aerial attack on Ukraine since the war began.

ARTICLE 4 CAN PUT URGENT MATTERS ON THE AGENDA

Article 4, the shortest of the NATO treaty's 14 articles, states that, “The Parties will consult together whenever, in the opinion of any of them, the territorial integrity, political independence or security of any of the Parties is threatened.”

Bob Deen, an analyst at the



Clingendael think tank in The Hague, said the article is “Designed to promote better coordination and understanding within the alliance on external threats. It gives all allies the opportunity to urgently put cer-

tain threats or developments on the agenda of the North Atlantic Council.”

ARTICLE 4 IS INCREASINGLY INVOKED

Poland previously requested such consultations early in Russia's war on Ukraine. They do not automatically lead to any action under Article 5 of the treaty, which is NATO's collective security guarantee, with allies pledging that an attack on one member of the alliance constitutes an attack on all.

“Article 4 gets invoked relatively rarely but increasingly in recent years; Turkey alone

invoked it five times between 2003-2020 in the context of Syria and Iraq,” said Deen in emailed comments in response to questions from The Associated Press. “Eight allies invoked it in 2022 shortly after Russia's full-scale invasion of Ukraine and Poland has triggered it once in 2014 after Russia's illegal annexation of Crimea.”

Poland first invoked Article 4 March 3, 2014, “following increasing tensions in neighbouring Ukraine, as a result of Russia's aggressive actions,” according to the NATO website. And Warsaw joined Bulgaria,

fighters removed burnt objects from a barricade. Police said they had stopped a large group of about 1,000 protesters from entering the Gare du Nord train station in the city.

“I was expecting either a dissolution (of parliament) or a left-wing prime minister and we have neither, it's frustrating,” said 18-year-old student Lisa Venier, who was among the protesters near

PROTESTS STAGED IN CITIES ACROSS FRANCE
POLICE MOVE IN TO REMOVE BLOCKADES
NEARLY 300 PROTESTERS ARRESTED
PROTESTERS ARE ANGRY WITH PLANNED BUDGET CUTS, POLITICIANS



FRANCE TURMOIL

Protesters bid to ‘Block Everything’

REUTERS

Nantes/Paris, Sept 10: Protesters across France disrupted traffic, burnt rubbish bins and at times clashed with police Wednesday in a bid to “Block Everything” in a show of anger against President Emmanuel Macron, the political establishment and planned budget cuts.

Tens of thousands of security forces who had been deployed across the country removed blockades as fast as possible, officials said, meaning that France was, for now, not blocked despite some scuffles.

Nearly 300 protesters were arrested across the country. Many demonstrators vented their anger against Macron, who is already facing political turmoil after the parliamentary opposition united to defeat his government Monday.

The president appointed a close ally as his new prime minister, conservative Sebastian Lecornu, who took office Wednesday facing the same challenge to rein in France's ballooning debt as his predecessor.

“It's the same shit, it's the same, it's Macron who's the problem, not the ministers,” Fred, a representative for the RATP public transport branch of the CGT union said at a protest in Paris. “He has to go.”

In Paris, police fired tear gas on youths blocking the entrance to a high school and fire-

the Gare du Nord.

Protesters torched a bus in the western city of Rennes, Interior Minister Bruno Retailleau told reporters. He also said some protesters had attacked police with heavy cobblestones, but did not specify where.

Retailleau warned that protest rallies scheduled for later in the day could be infiltrated by hard-line, ultra-left groups and become violent.

The “Block Everything” movement - a broad expression of discontent that has no centralised leadership and is organised in ad hoc fashion on social media - sprung up online in May among right-wing groups, researchers and officials said, but has since been taken over by the left and far-left.

The movement reflects popular discontent with what protesters deem a dysfunctional ruling elite preaching a painful gospel of austerity. It is drawing comparisons to the 2018 “Yellow Vest” protests, which arose over fuel price hikes but morphed into a broader movement against Macron and his plans for economic reform.

of the day

quote

Road safety in India demands collective action, and Uber will continue to lead from the front in making our cities safer for all

SOORAJ NAIR | HEAD OF SAFETY OPERATIONS, UBER INDIA



The National Test House will focus on AI-driven testing facilities and explore new frontiers such as hydrogen energy, smart materials and advanced electronics

PRALHAD JOSHI | UNION MINISTER



Odisha offers strategic advantages for energy and export opportunities. Together with IHI, we will build a future-ready ecosystem that strengthens energy security, generates employment, and contributes to the global fight against climate change

MANOJ KUMAR UPADHYAY | CHAIRMAN, ACME GROUP



SHORT TAKES

Gold surges

New Delhi: Gold prices climbed ₹250 to scale yet another peak of ₹1,13,000 per 10 grams in the national capital Wednesday, buoyed by robust buying by central banks globally, a weak dollar, and lingering geopolitical uncertainties. So far this year, the precious metal prices have added ₹34,050 or 43.12 per cent, surging from ₹78,950 per 10 grams on December 31, 2024. According to the All India Sarafa Association, the precious metal had closed at ₹1,12,750 per 10 grams, rallying by ₹5,080 Tuesday. Meanwhile, silver prices retreated from record levels, declining by ₹300 to ₹1,28,500 per kg (inclusive of all taxes) Wednesday. In the previous session, the white metal had settled at ₹1,28,800 per kg, as per the Association.

SEBI cancels investment advisors registration

New Delhi: Markets regulator SEBI Wednesday cancelled the registration of 18 investment advisers for failing to pay renewal fees, a statutory requirement under its regulations. The list of cancelled entities includes Paladin Capital Management LLP, Vishal Bansal, Nimit Aggarwal, Algoanalytics Financial Consultancy, Shah Investor's Home, AGAcquisitions Markets, Nidhi Consultants, Dharmesh Parmar, Abhinay Jain, and Samirkumar Jha, among others. According to SEBI IA (Investment Advisers) rules, every registered investment adviser must pay renewal fees every five years, within three months before expiry of the existing registration to keep the licence active.

SMBC sells Kotak Mahindra shares

New Delhi: BlackRock, Goldman Sachs and Abu Dhabi Investment Authority are among the investors that picked more than 3 crore shares worth around ₹6,256 crore of Kotak Mahindra Bank sold by Japan's SMBC through open market transactions Wednesday. Citigroup Global Markets Mauritius, Bajaj Life Insurance, Fidelity, UK-based Prudential, Norway's Government Pension Fund Global, HDFC Mutual Fund (MF), ICICI Prudential MF, Morgan Stanley, Nippon India MF, Nomura, Societe Generale, Tata AIG General Insurance, were the other entities that purchased shares of Kotak Mahindra Bank.



India has been and remains a time-tested and trusted partner of Mauritius in its socio-economic development since the time of our independence and it has steadfastly supported Mauritius at all times

NAVINCHANDRA RAMGOOLAM | MAURITIUS PRIME MINISTER

ISRO, HAL SIGN PACT FOR SSSLV TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER

India's space sector saw its 100th Technology Transfer Agreement Wednesday, enabling Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL) to independently produce Small Satellite Launch Vehicles (SSLVs). ISRO will transfer SSSLV know-how to HAL over 24 months, including training and technical support. The agreement will help India meet the increasing demand in the global small-satellite launch market



Equity MF inflows slip

Apart from equities, hybrid schemes also slip to ₹15,294 crore from about ₹20,000 crore in July, mainly due to a cooling off in arbitrage funds

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA



New Delhi, Sept 10: Inflow in equity mutual funds dropped by 22 per cent to ₹33,430 crore in August, largely due to a sharp fall in new fund offers (NFOs) and global macroeconomic uncertainties.

Despite the decline, this marks the 54th consecutive month of net inflows into the equity segment.

Systematic Investment Plan (SIP) inflows also moderated slightly to ₹28,265 crore during the month, compared with ₹28,464 crore in July, data released by the Association of Mutual Funds in India (AMFI) showed Wednesday.

Going by the data, equity-oriented mutual funds saw inflows of ₹33,430 crore in August, down from ₹42,702 crore in July.

Experts attributed the decline to a combination of lower NFO activity and global macroeconomic pressures, with tariff-related developments fuelling market volatility and prompting investors to take a more cautious approach.

"The lower impact of new flow viz previous month roughly ₹9,000 crore is to the extent of NFOs which were higher

in July than August. Rest the flow momentum is steady and healthy," Akhil Chaturvedi, Chief Business Officer of Motilal Oswal Asset Management Company, said.

Echoing this view, Suranjana Borthakur, Head of Distribution & Strategic Alliances at Mirae Asset Investment Managers (India), pointed out that a large part of last month's surge was driven by sectoral categories, with nearly ₹7,000 crore coming from NFOs alone.

Among categories, Flexi Cap Funds remained the biggest gainer, setting a fresh record with inflows of ₹7,679 crore in August, surpassing July's high of ₹7,654 crore. Mid Cap Funds and Small Cap Funds continued to attract strong investor interest, recording inflows of ₹5,331 crore and ₹4,993 crore, respectively.

In contrast, Sectoral or Thematic Funds saw a sharp moderation, with inflows dropping to ₹3,893 crore in August from a record ₹9,246 crore in July, despite two new launches mobilising ₹1,422 crore. Large

Cap Funds registered inflows of ₹2,835 crore.

A total of 23 schemes were launched in August 2025, all open-ended and across categories, raising a total of ₹2,859 crore, Venkat N Chalasani, Chief Executive, AMFI, said.

Apart from equities, hybrid schemes also saw easing flows, slowing to ₹15,294 crore from about ₹20,000 crore in July, mainly due to a cooling off in arbitrage funds.

Gold ETFs recorded strong inflows of ₹2,190 crore in August, up from ₹1,256 crore in July, marking the fourth consecutive month of positive traction.

On the other hand, debt schemes witnessed outflows of ₹7,980 crore during the month, after recording inflows of ₹1.06 lakh crore in July. Overall, the mutual fund industry saw total inflows of ₹52,443 crore in August, way lower than ₹1.8 lakh crore in July.

The industry's assets under management stood at ₹75.2 lakh crore at the end of August, compared with ₹75.36 lakh crore in July-end.

Reliance launches relief drive in Punjab

POST NEWS NETWORK

Chandigarh, Sept 10: In the wake of the devastating floods that have swept through Punjab, Reliance has activated a comprehensive ten-point humanitarian response in the state.

"Our heart goes out to the people of Punjab in this hour of suffering. Families have lost homes, livelihoods, and a sense of security. The entire Reliance family is standing with them — providing food, water, shelter kits, and care for both people and animals. This ten-point plan reflects our deep belief that We Care. We are committed to walk alongside Punjab through this difficult time," said Anant Ambani, Director, Reliance Industries Limited.

On-ground action: Ten-point response includes: Nutrition support

1.For crucial nutrition, dry ration kits with essential food supplies for 10,000 most-affected families.

2.Voucher-based assistance worth ₹5,000 each for 1,000 of the most vulnerable households, especially single-women and elderly-led families.

3.Dry ration support for community kitchens to provide immediate nourishment for communities.

4.Deployment of portable water filters in waterlogged areas to ensure safe drinking water.

Shelter Support

5.Emergency shelter kits with tarpaulins, groundsheets, mosquito nets, ropes, and bedding to protect displaced families.

Public Health Risk Management (PHRM)

6.Health awareness sessions and disinfection of water sources to curb post-flood disease outbreaks.

7.Distribution of sanitation kits with hygiene essentials for every affected household.

Livestock Support

8.Veterinary surveys show livestock in severe distress due to waterlogging; urgent care is being prioritized.

9.With the Animal Husbandry Department, setting up livestock camps to provide medicines, vaccines, and care 3,000 silage bundles are being distributed for nearly 5,000 cattle.

10.Vantara's 50+ member expert team, with modern rescue gear and years of expertise is supporting efforts to treat rescued animals, ensuring dignified scientific cremation for deceased animals and preventing potential disease outbreaks in coordination with local authorities.

Games24X7 to layoff 70% workforce

The Promotion and Regulation of Online Gaming Act, 2025 has devastated the gaming sector. After MPL, this is going to be the second big layoff in industry

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, Sept 10: Digital gaming company Games24X7 has started the process to lay off around 70 per cent or around 500 employees, following the government's ban on all forms of money-based online games, sources aware of the development said.

"There were around 700 to 750 employees at Games24X7. The company is now laying off around 70 per cent of them. Around 500 people may be impacted," a source aware of the development said.

The lay-off information was also confirmed by a company staff member who said "the majority of employees" are being laid off, but could not mention the exact number of people to be impacted.

Several companies that were engaged in the real-money gaming business have started



laying off the majority of their staff. The Promotion and Regulation of Online Gaming Act, 2025, passed by Parliament on August 21, bars all forms of online money games while promoting e-sports and other online games.

The Act seeks to prohibit advertisements related to online money games and bars banks and financial institutions from transferring funds for any of such games.

Advertising of money games can attract imprisonment up to two years and/or a fine up to ₹50 lakh. Facilitating financial transactions related to money games can lead to imprisonment for up to three years and/

Sensex rises 323 pts, Nifty rallies for 6th day



PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Mumbai, Sept 10: Benchmark Sensex rose by 323 points while Nifty closed higher for the sixth consecutive day Wednesday following buying in IT, select financial and capital goods shares amid renewed optimism over a successful conclusion of India-US trade talks.

The 30-share BSE Sensex climbed 323.83 points or 0.40 per cent to settle at 81,425.15, registering its third straight day of gain. During the day, it jumped 542.56 points or 0.66 per cent to 81,643.88.

Rising for the sixth consecutive day, the 50-share NSE Nifty rallied 104.50 points or 0.42 per cent to close at 24,973.10.

A rally in IT and capital goods shares and hopes that the US Federal Reserve will cut interest rates next week also instilled optimism in the markets, analysts said.

Amid geopolitical tensions, recent update on India-US trade ties has changed the narrative of market; Prime Minister Modi expressed confidence that the ongoing negotiations will pave the way for unlocking the limitless potential of the partnership

between them.

Among Sensex firms, Bharat Electronics rose the most by 4.26 per cent. HCL Tech gained 2.57 per cent, Bajaj Finance by 2.19 per cent, TCS by 1.99 per cent, Tech Mahindra by 1.88 per cent and Infosys by 1.85 per cent. Gains in Axis Bank and State Bank of India also supported the rally.

However, Mahindra & Mahindra emerged as the biggest loser, falling by 2.47 per cent. Maruti dropped 1.53 per cent and Tata Motors by nearly 1 per cent due to profit-taking. UltraTech, Eternal and Power Grid were also among the laggards.

The BSE midcap gauge jumped 0.84 per cent and small-cap index climbed 0.72 per cent.

Among sectoral indices, BSE Focused IT surged 2.52 per cent, IT jumped 2.48 per cent, capital goods (1.88 per cent), teck (1.59 per cent), industrials (1.20 per cent) and realty (1.15 per cent).

Auto declined 1.21 per cent, consumer discretionary (0.52 per cent), consumer durables (0.22 per cent) and telecom-communication (0.10 per cent). As many as 2,410 stocks advanced while 1,717 declined and 155 remained unchanged on the BSE.

IDBI Bank moves NCLT with insolvency plea against Zee media

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, Sept 10: IDBI Bank has filed a fresh plea in the National Company Law Tribunal (NCLT) seeking insolvency against media and entertainment firm ZEE.

In its petition at the Mumbai bench of NCLT, IDBI Bank, claiming to be a financial creditor of the company, has claimed a purported default of ₹225.22 crore, according to a regulatory filing from the Zee Entertainment Enterprises Ltd (ZEEL).

IDBI Bank's claim, filed under section 7 of the Insolvency & Bankruptcy Code (IBC), arises under a Debt Service Reserve Agreement entered into by the private sector lender and the company for credit facilities availed by Siti Networks Ltd.

Terminating the new application as "malicious, fraudulent and merited", ZEE in the regulatory updates said it has been filed "with mala fide intent to harass and cause disrepute" to the company. "The company vehemently disputes the bank's claims and is taking necessary and appropriate steps to contest the same. The company may also adopt legal remedies against the bank, including for malicious prosecution, defamation and damages, as may be advised to it," it said.

Sri Sri University organises nutrition workshop

Cuttack: To live a healthy lifestyle, the foremost requirement for a person is a balanced diet. It is desirable that such a diet contains micronutrients and all essential vitamins. This view was expressed at a one-day national workshop organised Tuesday at Sri Sri University campus, Naraj, on the occasion of National Nutrition Month - 2025. In the program, Bhubaneswar AIIMS dietician Anupama Samal, in her address on nutrition and health, highlighted the importance of a balanced diet, micronutrients and the fulfillment of essential vitamins required for daily lifestyle. She also discussed childhood obesity and its reduction. Dean of the department, S Kumaraswamy, linked nutrition with agriculture, production and social well-being. On this occasion, students of the Agriculture Department spread awareness on nutrition through various forms of art. Assistant Professor, Chinmayee Pattanayak, Krushna Mishra, Ranjana Acharya, and Anwesha Sahoo, along with all teachers, staff, volunteers and technical team members, worked tirelessly. Vice Chancellor Tejpratap, Personnel Director Swami Satyachaitanya, Executive Registrar Anil Kumar Sharma, and S Kumaraswamy appreciated the organisers.



UCO Bank conducts 180th SLBC meeting

Bhubaneswar: The 180th State Level Bankers' Committee (SLBC) meeting was held in Bhubaneswar Wednesday under the co-chairmanship of Anu Garg, Development Commissioner-cum-



Additional Chief Secretary (DC-cum-ACS) to the Government of Odisha, and Ashwani Kumar, Managing Director & CEO of UCO Bank and Chairman, SLBC Odisha. The meeting focused on accelerating credit deployment across key sectors and enhancing financial inclusion in the state. Outlining Odisha's long-term economic vision, Garg stressed the need to improve the state's Credit-to-GSDP ratio in alignment with the Odisha Vision documents for 2036 and 2047. The meeting also addressed the importance of digital transparency and cybersecurity. Sanjeeb Kumar Mishra, Principal Secretary (Finance), urges banks to adopt and promote Central Know Your Customer (CKYC) norms to streamline customer onboarding and enhance the ease of doing business. Reinforcing the state's leadership in digital inclusion, Sarada Prasan Mohanty, Regional Director, Reserve Bank of India, Bhubaneswar, revealed that Odisha currently ranks first in Re-KYC completion under the ongoing Financial Inclusion Campaign (July 1 to September 30, 2025). They reviewed the progress of credit-linked schemes and urged banks to ensure timely and efficient implementation to support sectoral growth.

TP led Odisha Discoms redefine services with tech

Bhubaneswar: Electricity in Odisha is increasingly being seen not just as a utility but as a service experience, with Tata Power-led Odisha DISCOMs—TPCODL, TPSODL, TPNODL, and TPWODL—leading a quiet customer service revolution. Serving nearly 10 million consumers across the state, the DISCOMs have introduced multiple touchpoints for faster resolution, including Customer Care Centres (CCCs), Anubhav Kendras, mobile apps, WhatsApp services, a 24x7 call centre, and Odisha's Mo Bidyut portal. Customers can now pay bills, apply for new connections, and report issues seamlessly through digital platforms or local service camps. In rural areas, outreach initiatives such as Nistha Camps (Consumer Connect Camps) are making a tangible difference. A Mayurbhanj-based retired teacher, Brajmohan Behera, said, "They came to our panchayat, listened respectfully, and fixed the issue right there. It built a level of trust I've never experienced before."



By combining digital innovation with grassroots-level service, Tata Power-led Odisha DISCOMs are positioning Odisha as a benchmark in customer-centric electricity distribution, redefining how power is delivered and experienced across India.

India power past Korea in Super 4



PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Hangzhou (China), Sept 10: India continued their unbeaten run with a comfortable 4-2 win over Korea in their first Super 4 stage match of the women's Asia Cup hockey tournament here Wednesday.

India, who finished the pool stages at the top with seven points, scored through Vaishnavi Vitthal Phalke (2nd minute), Sangita Kumari (33rd), Lalremsiami (40th), and Rutuja Dadaso Pisal (59th). Yujin Kim (33rd, 53rd) scored both the goals for Korea.

India will next play China Thursday.

Guarding the goal in Savita Punia's absence, Bichu Devi Kharibam has been the obvious No 1 choice between the posts for India.

Bansuri Solanki got to rotate against Thailand and Singa-

pore, but Bichu played all four quarters against Japan and that might be the case going forward in these big matches.

India earned an early penalty corner and struck the first blood through Vaishnavi, who scored from a rebound after Udita's initial slap shot was blocked by the Korean goalkeeper.

India secured another penalty corner minutes later after an unsuccessful review from Korea, but wasted the opportunity. Korea had to deal with series of penalty corners thereafter, but failed to cash in on the opportunities.

Korea earned another penalty corner late in the first quarter as the injection and follow-up shot look dangerous, but India's goalkeeper Bichu made a brilliant save to hand side the advantage going into half-time.

In the 22nd minute, Mumtaz's reverse hit was valiantly saved by the Korean goalkeeper after being set up Neha and Navneet. Three minutes after the change of ends, India doubled their lead through Sangita's field goal.

But India's joy was shortlived as Korea pulled one back through Yujin Kim's penalty corner conversion.

In the 40th minute, Lalremsiami scored a brilliant field goal to extend India's lead to 3-1 as they continued to dominate the possession in the final quarter with repeated forays into the rival circle.

But it was Korea who reduced the margin against the run of play from penalty corner, ably converted by Kim in the 53rd minute. India, however, replied back in their own fashion when Rutuja scored from a rebound in the 59th minute to seal the affair.

SPORTS

INDIA MAKE SHORT WORK OF UAE

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Dubai, Sept 10: Kuldeep Yadav's artistry was too much for a clueless UAE to comprehend as India hardly broke a sweat in an emphatic nine-wicket victory in their Asia Cup opener here Wednesday. Kuldeep didn't show any signs of rustiness as India dismissed the home team for a paltry 57 in 13.1 overs and then cantered home in just 4.3 overs.

Abhishek Sharma (30 off 16 balls) continued his blazing run in the company of best friend Shubman Gill (20 not out off nine), who also looked in ominous touch on his return to T20 cricket. Call it an irony, it was left-arm spinner Simranjeet Singh, who once bowled to Shubman in his pre-teens, was hit for the winning runs by the Indian vice-captain.

India's batting effort was more like a highlights package and a glorified net session with UAE bowlers having very little clue on where to pitch the ball. "Clinical performance from the boys, we wanted good attitude and energy on the field and that's what we got. Recently



lot of the boys were here for the Champions Trophy, the wicket looked good but it was on the slower side and the spinners have a role here," said India captain Suryakumar Yadav at the post match presentation.

That the match would end way before time was clear once captain Suryakumar Yadav won the toss and elected to field.

The bowling plans laid by Gautam Gambhir and Suryakumar were perfectly executed by the unit with the Dubai track helping the skillful Indian spinners. Kuldeep, who had a frustrating

time in the UK after warming the bench for five straight Tests, was too good for the UAE batters, ending with figures of 4 for 7 in 2.1 overs. UAE lost as many eight wickets for 10 runs after being 47 for two in the ninth over.

Jasprit Bumrah (1/19 in 3 overs) started the slide with a perfect yorker to remove Kerala born Alishan Sharafu (22 off 17 balls), who had till then survived audaciously with three boundaries and a six.

Once Bumrah landed a perfect one at the base of Sharafu's boots, UAE's promising start

turned into a sorry tale with batters making a beeline back to the dug-out.

The troika of spinners -- Kuldeep, Varun Chakravarthy (1/4 in 2 overs) and Axar Patel (1/13 in 3 overs) are bowlers whom the players from associate nations don't play regularly and UAE had no clue how to counter them. Shivam Dube (3/4 in 2 overs), whose bowling is going to be important heading into T20 World Cup, helped himself with career-best figures, polishing off the tail in style. Dube hit the right length during his two over spell, bowling at a speed of late 120 kmph and keeping a fullish length while slipping in the odd back of length heavy delivery.

Rahul Chopra wanted to hit out of trouble against Kuldeep and was holed out at long-on while left-handed Harshit Kaulshik had no clue how to tackle a chinaman's googly -- one that comes into the southpaw.

Skipper Muhammad Waseem (19 off 22 balls) found it difficult to get going and when he tried to sweep Kuldeep, the ball bounced a tad extra.

Hewitt suspended for 2 weeks for pushing anti-doping official

ASSOCIATED PRESS

London, Sept 10: Two-time Grand Slam champion Lleyton Hewitt has been suspended for two weeks for pushing an anti-doping official.

The International Tennis Integrity Agency said Wednesday that the sanction will be in effect from Sept. 25 until Oct. 7, so as not to be "unduly punitive" on Hewitt by impacting his Davis Cup schedule.

The incident occurred last November after Hewitt, Australia's captain, pushed a 60-year-old volunteer anti-doping chap-erone after his team's semifinal loss to Italy. Hewitt denied the charge — which was brought after a review of video evidence, witness statements, and interviews — pleading self-defense.

The ITIA referred the case to an independent tribunal which upheld the charge of offensive conduct, stating that Hewitt's actions "did not meet the requirements of self-defense" and that his behavior was "not reasonable and proportionate."

The 44-year-old Hewitt, a former No. 1-ranked men's tennis player, has also been fined around \$20,000.

Sindhu faces early exit; Prannoy, Lakshya prevail

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Hong Kong, Sept 10: India's two-time Olympic medallist shuttler PV Sindhu bowed out, while HS Prannoy and Lakshya Sen earned hard-fought wins to advance in the Hong Kong Open Super 500 tournament here Wednesday.

Sindhu, who had reached the BWF World Championships quarterfinals last month, lost the women's singles round-of-32 contest 21-15, 16-21, 19-21 to unseeded Danish shuttler Line Christophersen.

However, Prannoy, ranked 34th in the world, humbled 14th ranked Lu Guang Zu of China 21-17, 21-14 in 44 minutes, while Sen got his campaign going with a gruelling 22-20, 16-21, 21-15 win to secure a place in the men's singles pre-quarterfinals.

Kiran George also secured a place in the men's singles last-16 getting the better of Singapore's higher-ranked Jia Heng Jason Teh 21-16, 21-11 in 34 minutes.

World No. 31 Ayush Shetty overcame a stiff challenge from lower-ranked Chinese-Taipei shuttler Su Li Yang 15-21, 21-19, 21-13 in slightly over an hour to



secure a place in the last-16 in men's singles.

For Sindhu, this was her first loss to the 25-year-old Christophersen in six outings, coming at a time when the Indian star was beginning to rediscover her form after early exits at the Swiss Open and Japan Open earlier this year.

Sindhu took an early 3-1 lead in the first game before her opponent equalised 5-all. Leading 14-13, Sindhu upped her game allowing Christophersen just one point before taking the opener. The second game saw the Indian leading 13-12 before errors cropped up in her game

as she gave away five points on the trot.

The decider was a battle of nerves with both players going neck and neck till 19-all before two decisive points for Christophersen ended Sindhu's campaign. The women's doubles pair of Rutaparna Panda and Swetaparna Panda won their round-of-32 match against Hong Kong's Oi Ki Vanessa Pang and Sum Yau Wong 17-21, 9-21 in just 28 minutes, while the Chinese Taipei duo of Chen Cheng Kuan and Hsu Yin-Hui got the better of Dhruv Kapil and Tanisha Crasto 16-21, 11-21 in 31 minutes.

SHORT TAKES

Bishnoi, Arshdeep up in ICC rankings

Dubai: Indian spinner Ravi Bishnoi and left-arm seamer Arshdeep Singh moved up to the sixth and 10th spot respectively in the latest ICC T20 rankings released Wednesday. While Varun Chakravarthy remains the highest-ranked Indian bowler at No 4 spot, the trio of Bishnoi, Arshdeep and Axar Patel moved up one spot each to reach sixth, 10th and 13th. Among batters, Abhishek Sharma continues to sit atop the table with 829 rating points, followed by Tilak Varma on second and skipper Suryakumar Yadav at the sixth spot. But Yashasvi Jaiswal, who was not selected for the Asia Cup in India's 15-member squad and is among the five reserve players, slipped one position to be ranked 11th. Ruturaj Gaikwad and Sanju Samson both gained one position each to be ranked 26th and 34th. Among all-rounders, Hardik Pandya remains No 1 with 252 rating points. here were no changes in ODI rankings for batters with India's Shubman Gill ranked world No 1, captain Rohit Sharma at No 2, Virat Kohli at No 4 and Shreyas Iyer at No 8.

76 teams to take part in KVL

Cuttack: The Kalinga Volleyball League (KVL) will begin soon. The registration process has already been completed, with a total of 76 teams from across the state set to participate. The league will be organised for players under the age of 16. The matches will be held in four zones, followed by the final in Cuttack. The champion team will represent Odisha in the national competition to be held in Assam. This was informed at the general council meeting of the Kalinga Volleyball Development Council (KVDC), held at the guest house near Barabati Stadium Wednesday. The meeting, chaired by KVDC Secretary Sangram Ojha, discussed in detail the overall development of volleyball in the state. The first phase of KVL will be hosted at Narangabasta in Cuttack district. Subsequently, matches will also be held in Jaipur, Angul, and Bhubaneswar.

Recurve archers flop: Women miss bronze

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Gwangju (South Korea), Sept 10: Indian recurve archers once again flattered to deceive at the World Championships as the women's team lost to South Korea in the bronze medal playoff, while the mixed pair and men's individual hopes also crashed out Wednesday.

Desperate to end a decade long medal drought at the Worlds, the women's trio of Deepika Kumari, Gatha Khadake and Ankita Bhakat failed to seize the big moments against its familiar nemesis, going down 3-5 against South Korea.

It's not that the 'invincible' Koreans on home turf dominated outright. In fact, they looked vulnerable with erratic shots and never once managed a perfect set.

But the Indians failed to land the knockout punch, squandering a golden chance to turn a 3-3 deadlock into a bronze.

The pattern was all too familiar with flashes of brilliance with four 10s in a set, only to be undone by loose shots and nerves when the medal was within reach.

After conceding the opening set 51-54, the Indians produced four 10s to tie the second 57-57, enough to create a panic among the Korean women's team which has won the Olympic gold 10 times in a row.

Riding on their late surge, the Indians edged the third 57-54 to draw level at 3-3, raising hopes of a breakthrough.

But the Koreans, led by triple Olympic gold medallist An San (Tokyo) and reigning Paris champion Lim Si-hyeon, regained control in the fourth, sealing a 56-54 win and extending their domination.

There was more heartbreak in the mixed event where Deepika and Neeraj Chauhan went down 4-5 (18-19) in a shoot-off to Japan's Nanami Asakuno and Yuki Kawata in the second round of 16.

Nupur assures India of first medal

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Liverpool, Sept 10: Heavyweight boxer Nupur Sheoran assured India of its first medal at the World Boxing Championships as she defeated Oltinoy Sotimboeva of Uzbekistan to reach the semifinals of the women's +80kg category here Wednesday.

Granddaughter of legendary boxer Hawa Singh, the 26-year-old Nupur, who entered the competition directly in the quarterfinals, overcame a scrappy contest to beat Uzbek 4-1 and secure at least a bronze medal. The +80kg, which is a non Olympic weight category, features just 10 boxers in the ongoing competition.

Nupur started brightly, landing a sharp combination early on. The Uzbek responded with a straight jab, but frequent



clinchng disrupted the flow. Cleaner punching helped the Indian take the opening round on four of the five cards.

Sotimboeva, 20, refused to back down in the second round, keeping the exchanges messy

yet managing to sway two judges despite Nupur finishing the round with a flurry of shots.

Sotimboeva was docked a point for excessive holding in the final round while Nupur had a point deducted for using

her head soon after, cancelling the advantage.

Though the closing stages saw more swinging than scoring, Nupur's ability to land cleaner punches proved decisive as she booked her spot in the semifinals.

On Tuesday night, Jaduma-

WORLD BOXING CHAMPIONSHIPS

ni Singh (48kg) and Abhinash Jamwal (65kg) had progressed to the men's quarterfinals with comprehensive wins, while Jugnoo Ahlawat's (85kg) campaign ended in the opening round against Scotland's Robert McNulty.

Later Wednesday, two-time champion Nikhat Zareen, Commonwealth Games bronze medallist Jaismine Lamboria, Pooja Rani and Jamwal will be in quarterfinal action.

Spain reigns, England emerges, France steady



winning only 1-0 at Luxembourg from a 90th-minute

goal. Only the group winner advances directly in Novem-

ber and goal difference is the first tiebreaker.

Euro 2024 winner Spain was denied adding a 2025 Nations League title only by a penalty shootout loss against Portugal at a final where it twice led.

Already Spain looks Europe's best hope at the 2026 World Cup. If a 3-0 win at struggling Bulgaria was routine, the 6-0 thrashing of Euro 2024 quarterfinalist Turkey in Istanbul was a standout result.

A hat trick from midfielder Mikel Merino meant Spain did not need goals from Lamine Yamal though the 18-year-old star had two assists.

England demolished Serbia 5-0 in one of Europe's more

intimidating stadiums in Belgrade.

The style of victory should end talk that the Euro 2024 finalist is failing to fire under German coach Thomas Tuchel despite racking up wins and clean sheets.

Tuchel called it "a statement victory against a difficult opponent in a difficult environment."

France had a trickier first week and eked out wins against Ukraine (2-0) and Iceland (2-1), which was denied a late leveller in Paris by video review. Mbappé scored in each game and now is second on Les Bleus' all-time list with 52 goals, trailing Olivier Giroud's 57.