



MAROONED IN MAHANADI: A herd of elephants stuck on a sandbar in the middle of the Mahanadi, near Bhagipur village in Cuttack district, Friday

PTI PHOTO

Karki becomes Nepal's first woman PM

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Kathmandu, Sept 12: Nepal's former Chief Justice Sushila Karki Friday took oath as the country's first woman prime minister, ending days of political uncertainty after the abrupt resignation of prime minister KP Sharma Oli earlier this week following wide-spread protests.

After hectic consultations and negotiations among various stakeholders Karki's name was announced as the head of the caretaker government that will conduct fresh parliamentary elections.

Karki is widely respected for her tenure as Nepal's first woman Chief Justice. Karki was chosen to lead the interim government after a meeting between President Ramchandra Paudel, Nepal's top military brass, and the youth protesters, who spearheaded the anti-government protests.



P10

OAS topper held for ₹15K bribe

Bhubaneswar: Odisha Vigilance sleuths Friday arrested Aswini Kumar Panda, OAS, Tehsildar of Bamra, who was caught red-handed while accepting a bribe of ₹15,000 from a complainant for converting agricultural land to homestead land in a mutation case. Panda had topped the Odisha civil services exam in 2019. The complainant had been pursuing the land conversion for nearly a month. Panda initially demanded ₹20,000 for issuing the Record of Rights. When the complainant expressed his inability to pay the full amount, Panda reduced the demand to ₹15,000 and threatened to withhold the conversion if the bribe was not paid. Left with no option, the complainant approached Odisha Vigilance.

P4

IRREGULAR by MANJUL



If Pakistan can head an anti-terror group, you can expect a Nobel Peace Prize too, sir

Albania appoints AI-generated 'minister' to take on corruption

ASSOCIATED PRESS

Tirana, Sept 12: Albania's leader said Friday his new cabinet will include an artificial intelligence "minister" that will be in charge of running public funding projects and fighting corruption in public tenders.

Prime Minister Edi Rama said Diella, whose name means "Sun" in Albanian, is a "member of the Cabinet who is not present physically but has been created virtually from artificial intelligence."

Rama said Diella would help ensure that "public tenders will be 100 per cent free of corruption." It will help the government work faster and with full transparency, Rama said on his Facebook page Friday.

Diella was launched earlier



this year as a virtual assistant on the e-Albania public service platform, where she helps users navigate the site while wearing traditional Albanian folk costume. Rama's Socialist Party secured a fourth consecutive

elite citizens of the country. I was in Amritsar last winter and the pollution there was worse than in Delhi. If firecrackers are to be banned, they should be banned throughout the country," the CJI observed.

Senior advocate Aparajita Singh, the amicus curiae, said, "The elites take care of themselves. They go out of Delhi when there's pollution."

The bench asked the Additional Solicitor General Aishwarya Bhati, appearing for the Centre, to get a detailed report on the issue from the Commission for Air Quality Management. The law officer said the National Environmental Engineering Research Institute was examining the feasibility of "green crackers" to reduce pollution.

Pak to host 2027 SCO summit



AGENCIES

Islamabad, Sept 12: Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif Friday said that Pakistan will host the next Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) summit in 2027, as he urged the authorities to start preparations for it in the national capital.

Sharif made the announcement while addressing a road development project in Rawat area of Rawalpindi. "We have to start preparing now,"

the prime minister said. "We need to build accommodation and beautify Islamabad," he added.

He did not give a date for the summit, which is held by the member states. Pakistan will become the Chair of the SCO in 2027, when it will host the annual Council of Heads of State summit. It will take over the SCO Chair from Kyrgyzstan, the current Chair, in 2026-27. Kyrgyzstan will host the SCO summit in 2026.

The announcement to host the next summit comes less than a fortnight after the SCO Summit in Tianjin, China, where Pakistan raised the issue of the Indus Waters Treaty (IWT). India has kept the IWT treaty in abeyance after the Pahalgam terror attack.

PM Modi visits Manipur today

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Imphal, Sept 12: Prime Minister Narendra Modi will visit Manipur September 13 and interact with internally displaced people in Churachan-


dpur and Imphal, Chief Secretary Puneet Kumar Goel said Friday, in the first official confirmation of the PM's trip to the strife-torn state. This will be Modi's first visit to Manipur since ethnic violence broke out

in the state two years ago. The Prime Minister will also unveil development projects worth ₹8,500 crore, Goel said at a press conference here. In a release, the Prime Minister's Office said, "In line with his

commitment to inclusive, sustainable and holistic development of Manipur, the PM will lay the foundation stone of multiple development projects worth over ₹7,300 crore at Churachandpur."

P9

DSPL-253





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ପ୍ରଧାନମନ୍ତ୍ରୀ

ଶ୍ରୀ ମୋହନ ଚରଣ ମାଝୀ
ମୁଖ୍ୟମନ୍ତ୍ରୀ, ଓଡ଼ିଶା

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ମୁଖ୍ୟମନ୍ତ୍ରୀ ଶ୍ରୀ ମୋହନ ଚରଣ ମାଝୀଙ୍କ ଆହ୍ୱାନକ୍ରମେ ଆସନ୍ତୁ, 'ଏକ ଯେତୁ ମା' କେ ନାମ୍' ଅଭିଯାନରେ ଆମେ ସମସ୍ତେ ସାମିଲ ହେବା, ଆମ ଜନ୍ମଦାତ୍ରୀ ମା' ପ୍ରତି ସମ୍ମାନ ପ୍ରଦର୍ଶନ କରିବା ସହିତ ଧରିତ୍ରୀ ମା'ର ସୁରକ୍ଷା ପାଇଁ ଗଛଟିଏ ନିଶ୍ଚୟ ଲଗାଇବା



ବୃକ୍ଷ ରୋପଣ କରି ବାବା ସହିତ ସେଲୁଫି ନେବା, 'ମେରି ଲାଇଫ୍' ପୋର୍ଟାଲରେ ଅପଲୋଡ୍ କରିବା ଏବଂ ଇ-ସାର୍ବିସକେଟ୍ ତାରନଲୋଡ୍ କରିବା ।



ଜଙ୍ଗଲ, ପରିବେଶ ଓ ଜଳବାୟୁ ପରିବର୍ତ୍ତନ ବିଭାଗ, ଓଡ଼ିଶା ସରକାର

OIPR-08002/13/0021/2526

leisure

FORTUNE FORECAST

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FOR ASTROLOGY DIAL 55181*

ARIES
Today the stars advocate that you concentrate on money matters and how to save some, and in this purpose you will remain engrossed. However, Ganesha advises you not to neglect domestic duties lest you encounter a morose spouse. So carry on and make a dash for that movie as planned. Don't cancel it.

TAURUS
You are likely to be mentally alert and watchful today, says Ganesha. Creativity will run through your veins no matter what you attempt. You may dabble in performing arts, designing, graphics or special effects. Your charm will play Pied Piper to the opposite gender today.

GEMINI
You will find yourself caught in two minds repeatedly, owing to your unpredictable mood swings. This will be the cause of a lot of mental stress. You can reduce your anxiety by talking out your issues with family members and experts. You need to take care of your health today, says Ganesha.

CANCER
You will get a surprise gift or god news from your friends or relatives. You will enjoy with your family. You will get the affection and co-operation of family members. Happiness and rapport in domestic life is indicated. Ganesha's grace is upon you.

LEO
You will look to give your house a new appearance by decorating it or undertaking some renovation projects. You will make the best out of waste and produce some truly marvellous pieces of art for improving the ambience of your nest. You will be able to save up on some money. Laudable, says Ganesha.

VIRGO
Emotions that have been locked in the inner recesses of your heart might just surface today. You may develop an emotional attachment with your material possessions. However, Ganesha says, if you don't find your surroundings conducive, you will feel extremely restless.

LIBRA
There is a very strong possibility of major improvements in your public standing and image today. But it all depends so much upon your personal character, and, therefore, you must guard it zealously, even with your own life.

SCORPIO
Today promises to be an exceptional day for those involved in business. With sheer brilliance, you will steer deals right to your door step, and will display great finesse in negotiations and bartering. Bring out the leader in you and take charge when you introduce new products or market them in business, suggests Ganesha.

SAGITTARIUS
You need to increase your tolerance power as you may have to face criticism from close ones. However, it is not feasible to please everyone around. You may just be happy doing basic favours for your loved ones. Ganesha asks you to be patient.

CAPRICORN
You'll kick start the day in high spirit which will take everyone by surprise. You will shift gears at work so that you can perform more efficiently and productively. Such a change will boost your confidence as you will see the positive results for yourself.

AQUARIUS
Cooperative and supportive, your colleagues will help you improve your performance at work. Also, your creativity will win you praises from one and all, foretells Ganesha. The day will have a perfect end as you will spend quality time with your friends and family.

PISCES
You are going to be very emotional today. You will be able to express your love to your wife or other loved ones in a very unique and dramatic way. It is not a good day for putting forth marriage or love proposals, and if you do it could be disappointing. Ganesha says that professionally you will be very successful in all tasks.



CAVILL GETS INJURED ON *HIGHLANDER* SET

The makers of the Henry Cavill-starrer *Highlander* are likely to delay the film's production following the actor's injury while training. Directed by Chad Stahelski, the upcoming film stars Cavill in the titular role of MacLeod, alongside Russell Crowe as Ramirez and Dave Bautista as the savage warrior named The Kurgan.

JLO TALKS ABOUT MISSING OUT ON A ROLE TO MADONNA

Actress-singer Jennifer Lopez revealed that she spent weeks preparing for the role of Argentine politician and activist Eva Peron in the 1996 biographical musical drama film *Evita* before queen of pop Madonna was roped in for the part.



Raveena exposes dark journalism

Mumbai: Raveena Tandon once spoke candidly about the dark side of '90s gossip magazines, revealing how toxic media affected actresses' careers. She described how these magazines thrived on body-shaming and slut-shaming, often making or breaking careers with harsh, damaging headlines. In a conversation with Smita Prakash, Raveena didn't hold back, calling those magazines "the worst." She pointed out that many women working behind the scenes fueled this negativity, yet now portray themselves as feminists—a contradiction she finds hard to accept.

Raveena shared that despite being admired for her beauty and charm, she too was a target of body-shaming. She recalled being called names like "TTs" and "thunder thighs" during the early years of her career when she started at 16 and was naturally plump with baby fat—a fact she now laughs about and embraces. She emphasized that this wasn't an isolated experience; many actresses were subjected to similar cruelty.

She also revealed that female editors often sided with male actors, amplifying negative narratives about women in the industry. Even when corrections were published later, the initial headlines had already done lasting damage. Frustrated by this vicious environment, Raveena chose to take a break from acting after her marriage.



Diana slams ageism in showbiz

Mumbai: In her new show *Do You Wanna Partner*, Diana Penty plays a marketing expert who leaves a sexist workplace to launch a beer startup. Ahead of the show's release, she spoke about how many incidents in the series reflect real-life experiences, particularly the industry's ageism and appearance-based judgments.

She explained that female actors are often introduced with compliments like "the most stunning" or "the most beautiful," while their experience, talent, and hard work are overlooked. Though such remarks are polite, they reinforce a mindset that values women more for their looks than their skills, especially as they grow older.

Diana highlighted how this bias becomes more apparent with age. Many male actors continue to play heroic roles well into their 60s, while actresses in their 30s are often cast as mothers or side characters. In the show, a scene shows Diana and her co-lead, Tamannaah Bhatia, ambushing Neeraj Kabi (who plays a liquor baron). As Tamannaah's character, barely in her 30s, calls Neeraj's 50-something-year-old uncle, he calls her aunty instead. Diana agrees that even this has a real-life parallel in many men not wanting to act their age. Diana emphasised that instead of constantly fighting this ageism, many female actors choose to make their own decisions about which projects to accept, finding strength in staying true to themselves rather than trying to challenge a system that hasn't changed.



AGENCIES

Manoj's career choices

Mumbai: Actor Manoj Bajpayee recently opened up about his deliberate decision not to chase stardom, saying he feels claustrophobic when surrounded by new fans. In an interview, he compared his career path to stars like Shah Rukh Khan, Aamir Khan, Salman Khan, and Ajay Devgn, who gained fame early and are constantly followed by fans. Manoj explained that he has always focused on his craft and never experienced the intense fanfare that others have. "I've never had people chasing me or breaking down emotionally in front of me," he shared. His films have ranged from widely successful to under-the-radar projects, but he's been content with his choices, which deliberately steered away from mainstream stardom.

He further added that the rise of OTT platforms in recent years has given him

opportunities to explore diverse roles, but the sudden attention feels overwhelming. "I'm used to having no fans," he remarked, contrasting his experience with those who have lived with fame from their mid-20s and can't imagine life without it.

Manoj will next be seen in *Jugnuma (The Fable)*, directed by Raam Reddy.

The film, set in the late '80s, follows Dev, who uncovers mysterious fires in his Himalayan orchard estate, exposing hidden family truths. It releases September 12.

AGENCIES



AGENCIES

Tamannaah recalls facing judgment

Mumbai: Tamannaah Bhatia, a seasoned actor with 20 years of experience across films and web series, plays a woman entering the male-dominated alcoholic beverage industry in her latest show *Do You Wanna Partner*. In a candid conversation, she shared how the show reflects real-life challenges faced by women. Tamannaah pointed out that while people enjoy seeing women present, they often resist hearing their voices or valuing their contributions. She recounted facing judgment both on and off screen, with remarks like "ache ghar ki ladkiyan" or "you just look good, why share opinions?"—highlighting how women are frequently reduced to their appearance rather than being seen as individuals with thoughts and expertise.

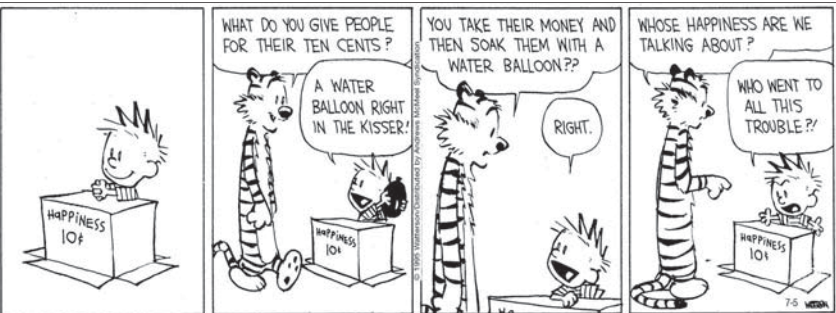
Despite these biases, Tamannaah emphasised that she views herself as a human being first, not letting gender stereotypes define her. She praised the show's directors, Archit Kumar and Colin D'Cunha, and producer Somen Mishra for creating a supportive environment. Tamannaah appreciated how they encouraged the cast to own their scenes and bring authenticity, allowing actors to express how their characters would realistically respond. Their collaborative approach helped the team address women's experiences sensitively and thoughtfully. *Do You Wanna Partner* is now streaming on Amazon Prime Video.

AGENCIES

PEANUTS



CALVIN AND HOBBS

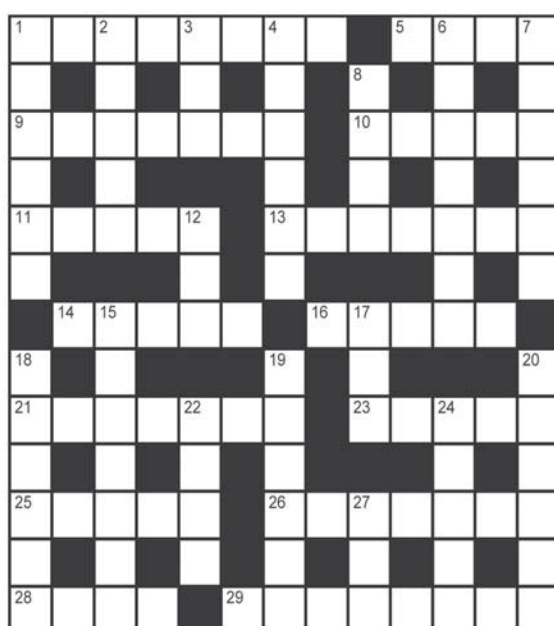


BREVITY



FUN post

CROSSWORD



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- Across**

1 New moon

5 At a distance

9 "Arabian Nights" hero (3,4)

10 Cousin of a bitter

11 Choir voices

13 Fragrance

14 Show flexibility

16 Dog's bane

21 Bon vivant

23 Sir or madam

25 Soprano type

26 Genial

28 Taxing trip

29 Railway stops

Down

1 Fancy neckwear

2 Decree

3 Chinese tea

4 Close at hand

6 Recipe

7 Take turns

8 Diner's card

12 Small intake

15 Light rain

17 Fortune

18 Head protector

19 Take off

20 Carpenters' tools

22 Rides for ETs

24 Forbidden

27 Like Falstaff

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.

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

SOLUTIONS

CROSSWORD

| | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| H | A | I | F | A | E | R | O | S | I | O | N |
| P | E | E | S | A | T | I | D | | | | |
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| E | R | R | S | P | I | T | Z | G | U | | |
| Y | F | M | E | A | | | | | | | |
| E | X | T | R | A | O | R | D | I | N | A | R |
| P | U | E | L | A | T | E | | | | | |
| I | D | G | A | Z | E | D | | | | | |
| T | A | H | I | T | I | L | R | E | E | F | |
| N | A | S | E | A | A | | | | | | |
| B | O | N | N | E | T | S | K | Y | O | T | O |

SUDOKU

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

CHECK FOR SOLUTIONS OF THE PUZZLES TOMORROW

Vig nets tehsildar, DLO for bribery

PNN & AGENCIES

Bhubaneswar, Sept 12: Vigilance sleuths Friday apprehended two senior government officials in separate incidents of bribery.

In the first case, Bamra tehsildar Aswini Kumar Panda (OAS) was caught red-handed while accepting a bribe of ₹15,000 from a complainant for converting agricultural land into homestead land in a mutation case. According to Vigilance sources, the complainant had been pursuing the land conversion for nearly a month. Panda initially demanded ₹20,000 for issuing the Record of Rights (RoR).

When the complainant expressed his inability to pay the full amount, Panda reduced the demand to ₹15,000 and threatened to withhold the conversion if the bribe was not paid.

Left with no option, the complainant approached the Vigilance.



Aswini Kumar Panda

Acting on the complaint, a team of anti-corruption officials nabbed Panda while he was accepting the bribe through his office driver P Praveen Kumar, who has also been taken into custody. The entire tainted amount of ₹15,000 was recovered and seized.

Following the trap, simultaneous searches are being conducted at three locations linked to Panda to examine disproportionate assets (DA).



Chittaranjan Rout

A case under Section 7 of Prevention of Corruption (Amendment) Act, 2018 has been registered against Panda and his driver.

In the second case, district labour officer of Nayagarh Chittaranjan Rout was apprehended while demanding and accepting a bribe of ₹6,000 from a labourer for issuing labour cards.

Vigilance officials said the complainant, along with 19 other poor labourers, had applied for labour cards but Rout demanded ₹6,000 as a bribe for processing the applications. Despite repeated requests, Rout refused to issue the cards for nearly a year without payment.

Aggrieved by the delay and harassment, the complainant reported the matter to Vigilance authorities.

Acting swiftly, a Vigilance team caught Rout red-handed while accepting the bribe. The tainted money was recovered and seized from his possession.

Sources added that Rout was already under Vigilance scanner for allegedly extorting bribes from poor labourers. Following the trap, searches are being carried out at three of his premises to check DA links.

Bhubaneswar Vigilance has registered a case under Section 7 of the Prevention of Corruption (Amendment) Act, 2018 against Rout, and further investigation is underway.

POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar, Sept 12: Moot courts play an important role in legal education and foundational to litigation, arbitration, and broader legal practice, said former Supreme Court judge and 23rd Law Commission of India chairman Justice Dinesh Maheshwari during his two-day visit to KIIT and KISS.

Maheshwari, inaugurating the first KIIT International Moot Court Competition 2025, said, “Arbitration is no longer just an alternative—it is central to modern legal systems,” encouraging young legal minds to focus on clarity, precision, and critical thinking. “Curiosity is the hallmark of a successful lawyer,” he added, urging students to fully engage in moot activities and develop trust and analytical skills.

During his visit to KISS, Justice Maheshwari interacted with tribal students and praised



the institution’s efforts in advancing socio-economic development in tribal communities.

Speaking at the occasion, chancellor Ashok Kumar Parija motivated students to approach the demanding legal profession with unwavering dedication and said, “Give 20 hours a day

to this profession, and the rewards will follow.”

Prof (Emeritus) NL Mitra traced the roots of moot court practice, while vice-chancellor Saranjit Singh, pro-vice chancellor Raju KD, and Law School director Rose Varghese also addressed the participants.

Anita Saxena visits AIIMS Bhubaneswar



POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar, Sept 12: Newly appointed as AIIMS Bhubaneswar president, eminent cardiologist Anita Saxena visited the institute here Friday.

During her visit, Saxena paid floral tributes to former Prime Minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee, the founder of AIIMS Bhubaneswar, and later toured the Outpatient Departments (OPDs), reviewed ongoing infrastructure and developmental projects, and personally interacted with patients, students, and faculty members, reaffirming her commitment to inclusive and quality healthcare.

Highlighting the institute’s rising stature in the healthcare sector, Saxena praised the institute for emerging as a

premier tertiary care provider in Eastern India. She outlined her vision of positioning the institute as a catalyst for national capacity building in healthcare and medical education.

Institute’s executive director Ashutosh Biswas said, “Under Dr Saxena’s able guidance, AIIMS Bhubaneswar is poised to achieve greater milestones in research, education, and healthcare excellence.”

During a strategic meeting with senior leadership, including deans, medical superintendents, and administrative officials, Saxena reviewed the implementation of ‘Swasth Nari, Sashakt Parivar Abhiyan’ and stressed the importance of rigorous execution and community outreach to ensure its success.

NEW ERA FOR REAL ESTATE

Odisha Developers’ Federation launched

POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar, Sept 12: With an aim to continue preaching of ethical practice and gaining the confidence of property buyers in the state, most of the leading developers and stakeholders of erstwhile ‘CREDAI Bhubaneswar Foundation’, have wilfully withdrawn and reincarnated in the form of ‘The Odisha Developers’ Federation’ (ODFED) Friday.

The discouraging attitude of central CREDAI towards CREDAI Bhubaneswar Foundation, regarding elimination of unethical operators in the body and against the preference for retaining only RERA registered builders resulted in the mass withdrawn of members from various positions.

The official launch of the ODFED at a City hotel was attended by prominent industry leaders, government officials, architects, urban planners, and members of media.

On the occasion, federation’s official logo, symbolising unity, innovation, and a shared vision for Odisha’s urban transformation



was unveiled.

The new governing body of ODFED was announced with president Pradipta Kumar Biswasroy, secretary Umesh Patnaik, vice presidents Suryakanta Nanda and Parthajeet Patnaik, joint secretaries Jitendra Kumar Patra and Satyajyoti Mohanty and treasurer Siddharth Mohapatra.

Speaking at the ceremony, Biswasroy said, “This federation is virtually a reincarnation of CREDAI Bhubaneswar

Foundation, a vibrant platform for developers to come together, collaborate, and contribute meaningfully to the state’s growth. With Odisha poised for rapid urbanisation and investment, ODFED will play a vital role in shaping its future real estate landscape.”

Leading real estate developers, including Z Estate, Sri Jagannath Promoters and Builders, Utkal Builders, Harshpriya Construction Pvt Ltd, along with 65 other companies joined ODFED.

'Stay-checked' app unveiled



RESHMI YADAV, OP

Bhubaneswar, Sept 12: Tronixware, a Bhubaneswar-based technology company, has launched its flagship healthcare platform ‘Stay-checked’, a digital ecosystem designed to streamline clinic operations and enhance patient care through intelligent assistance.

The launch event, hosted at a City hotel Friday, featured a live demo highlighting the app’s user-friendly interface and real-time features for clinic owners and managers. With its Intelligent Assistant (IA) framework, ‘Stay-checked’ seeks to redefine last-mile healthcare delivery and establish Odisha as a hub of digital healthcare innovation.

The app, now available on Play Store and App Store, integrates appointment booking, slot management, e-prescriptions, digital health records, profiles of family members,

analytical dashboards, and real-time alerts. It aims to address the challenges of disconnected healthcare services by empowering doctors with digital tools and providing patients seamless access to healthcare anytime, anywhere.

Speaking at the launch, ‘Stay-checked’ founder Asit K Dhal said, “Stay-checked is not just an app, it’s a movement towards smarter, connected, and inclusive healthcare. We envision a future where every doctor has access to digital tools to focus more on treatment than paperwork, every clinic runs with precision and efficiency, and every patient enjoys seamless access to care.”

The company has already onboarded nearly 50 clinics and 250 doctors across the twin cities. Over the next six months, Tronixware plans to expand to 500 clinics across Odisha and scale nationwide within a year.

Suspected ISI agent produced in court

PNN & AGENCIES

Balasore, Sept 12: A suspected ISI agent, Asif Ali, was produced before the JMFC Court in Balasore Friday by the Meerut police.

Ali, who was earlier lodged in Meerut Jail in Uttar Pradesh in another case, has been brought to Odisha for trial in connection with his alleged involvement in a spying racket.

The case is linked to the 2015 arrest of Ishwar Behera, a contractual photographer at the Integrated Test Range (ITR), Chandipur, a unit of DRDO. Behera was charged under



Sections 120A, 120B, and 121 of the IPC for conspiring against the Government of India and allegedly leaking classified documents and photographs of ITR Chandipur to foreign agencies.

During investigation, it was revealed that Behera had close links with Asif Ali, leading to Ali’s arrest in Meerut.

Notably, Behera, a native of Kantipur in Mayurbhanj district, was sentenced to life imprisonment February 11, 2021 for passing classified defence information in 2014.

Investigators had also found that Behera received money transfers through internet banking and money orders from several places, including Mumbai, Meerut, Ajmer, Andhra Pradesh, Bihar, and even Abu Dhabi in the Middle East.

POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar, Sept 12: Micro Small and Medium Enterprises (MSME) Minister Gokulananda Mallik Friday inaugurated the two-day ‘FLO Bazaar 2025’ organised by FICCI FLO Bhubaneswar, the Odisha chapter of FICCI’s women’s wing and the largest women’s Chamber of Commerce in India.

The exhibition-cum-sale facility was inaugurated in the presence of leading entrepreneurs, dignitaries, and FLO members. This year’s edition features 35 stalls by women entrepreneurs and rural handloom weavers, showcasing a vibrant collection of handlooms, handicrafts, wellness products, and beauty essentials.

Speaking on the occasion, the minister lauded FLO Bhubaneswar’s initiative, congratulating chairperson Prangyan Paramita Mishra for creating an impactful platform to empower women entrepreneurs.



He emphasised the vital role of women in driving Odisha’s growth and highlighted the state government’s MSME schemes and the single-window facility for women entrepreneurs.

Dharitri Patnaik, founding chairperson of FLO Bhubaneswar, spoke about the challenges faced by women entrepreneurs and the way forward. She noted FLO’s consistent efforts in empowering women across rural, urban, tribal, and coastal regions of Odisha.

Mishra highlighted FLO Bhubaneswar’s commitment to supporting women in scaling new heights. She said, “FLO aims to create a stronger ecosystem where more women entrepreneurs can join, enhance their skills, and build sustainable businesses.”

The opening day witnessed a large footfall as visitors enthusiastically shopped for the upcoming Dussehra festivities.

CLASSIFIED AFFIDAVIT

“Before the Executive Magistrate, on this 8th day of September 2025, I, Bhumisuta Suna (16) (My Original Name, Daughter of Raju Suna and Sabita Suna, Bargarh, solemnly affirm and declare that I am the same person as Dhantri Suna (My Nick Name, Aadhaar No. XXXX XXXX 6310.”

Woman cop goes missing in City

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Bhubaneswar, Sept 12: Police are investigating the disappearance of a 25-year-old woman traffic constable posted in Bhubaneswar September 6, an official said Friday.

The missing constable has been identified as Subhamitra Sahoo, a native of Paradip area in Jagatsinghpur district, the police said. The constable’s mother Sukanti Sahoo lodged a missing person’s report at the Capital police station here September 7 following which the police registered a case

and launched an investigation. As per the complaint, Subhamitra came from home for her duty in Bhubaneswar, which started at 10am and ended at 7pm. However, she has not returned home since then.

As the constable is yet to be found, her family members met the Bhubaneswar-Cuttack Police Commissioner S Dev Datta Singh Friday, requesting the officer to expedite efforts to locate Subhamitra. “We are continuing the investigation to trace her,” Bhubaneswar DCP Jagmohan Meena said.

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Berry borer infestation in Andhra alarms Koraput coffee cultivators

POST NEWS NETWORK

Nandapur/Padua, Sept 12: Coffee plantations in Andhra Pradesh's Alluri Sitarama Raju district, bordering Odisha's Koraput district, are facing a severe infestation of the berry borer pest, causing alarm among farmers in Koraput's Nandapur, Lamtaput and Pot-tangi blocks.

A 500-member team of experts from the Coffee Board, Andhra Pradesh Agricultural University and other agencies is inspecting the affected fields to assess the extent of damage and identify solutions. Upendra Kumar Saha, a senior liaison officer from Koraput, is part of the team.

The group Friday visited plantations in Dumurigudab block, specifically Gorapur and Kuredi panchayats, about 1.5 km from Nandapur's Chatua panchayat. Saha said the berry borer, a tiny beetle, bores into ripening cherries, lays eggs and feeds on the fruit's interior, causing significant damage. The pest can destroy cherries



from within, reduce bean quality and weight, and cause flowers to drop. It spreads through wind, birds and other animals, he added.

Koraput coffee, known for its high quality due to the region's climate and soil, has earned national and international recognition. About 1,000 hectares in Nandapur block and 2,759 hectares across Koraput's remote areas, including those near the Andhra border, are under cultivation. The Coffee Board manages 369.77 hectares, while

private farmers cultivate 778.11 hectares.

Farmers in Nandapur's Padua panchayat — including Sulochana, Manik Guntha, Hari Khara, Parshuram Guntha, Dasharath Guntha, Raghuram Guntha, Mangaraj Khara, Rajnath Sisa and Jinu Majhi — expressed concern as their plants are laden with flowers and fruit. They urged the Koraput administration, the Coffee Board and state authorities to take urgent measures to protect their crops.

Sachidananda Swain, deputy director of the Coffee Board in Koraput, said no berry borer infestation has been reported in Koraput's fields so far, but the proximity to affected areas in Andhra Pradesh raises concerns.

“We are vigilant and in contact with the central survey team,” Swain said. “Once we receive their recommendations, we will coordinate with the district administration to implement treatment across all coffee fields in Koraput,” he added.

Tusker found dead



POST NEWS NETWORK

Deogarh, Sept 12: A tusker was found dead in the Khasada forest near Chiragunikudar under the Palasama forest section of Riamal in Deogarh district.

Villagers spotted the carcass Friday morning and informed the Forest department officials. Alerted, Deogarh Divisional Forest Officer (DFO) Rashmi J, Assistant Conservators of Forest (ACFs) Swadhinata Sahani, Arun Behera and Riamal ranger Niranjan Dharua visited the site with a scientific team to investigate.

The elephant is believed to be about 15 years old. Its tusks were intact and no external injuries were found, officials said. The cause of death remains unclear, though forest staff suspected that the animal may have come in contact with illegal live electric wires.

Officials said the exact cause of death will be confirmed after a post-mortem examination. Following the autopsy, the tusks will be collected and the carcass buried.

8 schoolkids hospitalised after glue applied on eyes

POST NEWS NETWORK

Phulbani/Gochhapada, Sept 12: At least eight students of Salaguda Sevashram in Gochhapada police limits of Kandhamal district had to be hospitalised after their classmates allegedly applied adhesive (Fevikwik) to their eyelids while they were asleep Thursday night.

The affected children, studying in Class IV and V, were unable to open their eyes Friday morning. They were initially taken to Gochhapada hospital and later shifted to the district headquarters hospital in Phulbani, where their condition was reported to be stable.

The incident occurred inside the school hostel, which houses about 40 boys and 100 girls from Class I-VII. According to reports, while the children were asleep Thursday night, a few students who remained awake applied glue to the eyelids of eight classmates. When they woke up, they could not open their eyes and started crying, alerting the staff. Teachers



and matrons reportedly delayed medical attention until around 9am. One student's eye fortunately opened at the hospital, while seven others were in serious condition. On being informed, local sarpanch Rohit Kanhar rushed the children to the district headquarters hospital at Phulbani in his vehicle. Doctors later confirmed that the children's eyes had been opened but swelling and pain persisted.

Kanhar alleged that the absence of the headmaster and assistant teachers from the hostel at night, coupled with the negligence of the matrons, led

to the incident. He added that despite repeated complaints at panchayat samiti meetings to the Integrated Tribal Development Agency (ITDA) officer and the district welfare officer, no action had been taken.


He warned that villagers would lock the school if the teachers were not transferred immediately. District Welfare Officer Rabinarayan Mishra said the matter had been conveyed to the Collector for disciplinary action against the headmaster. He added that strict measures would also be taken against the students responsible for the act.

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THE MOTHER



CBI's Glass House

India's top anti-corruption watchdog, the CVC, has just delivered a stinging reality check to the CBI, and it's not a flattering picture. The agency that loves raiding others for “delays, irregularities and misconduct” seems to have no time for the skeletons in its own cupboard. Sixty pending departmental actions against its own staff, with 22 festering for more than four years, makes one wonder whether the CBI runs on a “do as I say, not as I do” manual?

When the country's premier investigative agency drags its feet on disciplining its own, it chips away at its credibility. The CVC is blunt: such pendency dents the CBI's image. Translation: if the cop on the beat looks corrupt, how do you expect anyone else to behave?

And then comes the other kicker—1,500 vacant posts. Nearly 900 of them are in the executive ranks. That's like trying to run a hospital without doctors but keeping the canteen stocked. How does the CBI plan to investigate high-profile corruption cases when it doesn't even have the people to chase down flies, let alone white-collar criminals?

There's an old joke that the CBI is a “caged parrot.” But looking at this report, one wonders if the parrot has not just been caged but has also lost its voice. It can still squawk loudly when unleashed politically, but when it comes to cleaning its own nest, the silence is deafening.

For an agency that claims to guard India's integrity, the first order of business should be simple—set its own house in order. Otherwise, every raid, every press conference, every “we got them” moment will ring just a little hollow.

This is not governance

The latest dust-up between Maharashtra Deputy Chief Minister Ajit Pawar and IPS officer Anjana Krishna is more than about illegal sand mining in Maharashtra. It's about the perennial tug-of-war between politicians and babus. On paper, both swear by the Constitution. In practice, one sees oneself as the master, the other as the keeper of rules. Sparks are bound to fly.

Krishna stood her ground when Pawar dialed in, reportedly with a threatening tone, after his party worker complained about her action against unauthorized mining. She didn't budge because—imagine this—the miners couldn't show valid documents. That's how the system is supposed to work, but in our political culture, asking for paperwork often invites wrath.

We've seen this movie before: Durga Shakti Nagpal in Uttar Pradesh was suspended for taking on the sand mafia; IAS officers in Madhya Pradesh and Karnataka were heckled, insulted, and compared to pets. It's a script that rarely changes—politicians flex muscle and babus, at least some of them, resist, and we get a ringside view of power games.

What's more insidious is digging up Krishna's caste and educational records to discredit her. This is not governance, but plain vendetta politics. When officers are targeted personally for doing their jobs, the message to the entire bureaucracy is clear: step out of line, and we'll settle scores. That's why these clashes matter more than they seem.



BABUDOM BYTES
Dilip Cherian

A fake babu exposes the real rot

Every few years, India throws up a scam that feels less like a crime report and more like the script of a Netflix thriller. The arrest of Saurabh Tripathi, the fake IAS officer who glided around Lucknow in convoys of SUVs, complete with seals, passes, and a personal staff, is one of those stories. It's both absurd and chilling.

Because let's be clear: you don't waltz into high-level meetings, rub shoulders with senior officials, and strike deals on officer postings just by flashing a plastic ID card. You do it because the system is porous, and also because people inside the system are willing to play along. Tripathi's diary, call records, and financial trail don't just expose his hustle; they raise uncomfortable questions about the babus and cops who might have been perfectly happy to let a pretender grease the wheels.

And surely that's the part we can't ignore. A man with no official authority allegedly became a power broker in transfers and promotions—something ordinary citizens already suspect is a marketplace for influence. His scam worked not because he was a master of disguise, but because too many in the corridors of power were ready to buy what he was selling.

The police can continue to parade seized cars and fake seals, but unless this probe names and shames the officers who enabled him, the story won't be about one conman. It'll be about a bureaucracy so compromised that even a fake babu could thrive.

Share a babu experience! Follow dilipthecherian@twitter.com. Let's multiply the effect

WISDOM CORNER

“Learn from yesterday, live for today, hope for tomorrow. The important thing is not to stop questioning.”

ALBERT EINSTEIN

“Success in creating AI would be the biggest event in human history. Unfortunately, it might also be the last, unless we learn how to avoid the risks.”

STEPHEN HAWKING

“Our greatest weakness lies in giving up. The most certain way to succeed is always to try just one more time.”

THOMAS A EDISON

THIS DAY IN HISTORY

■ **1515:** Swiss mercenaries attacked the French position near Marignano; the next day they were defeated by French and Italian troops, giving rise to Switzerland's policy of neutrality.

■ **1759:** British forces defeated the French in the Battle of Quebec.

■ **1857:** Milton Snavelly Hershey, founder of the Hershey Chocolate Company, was born in Pennsylvania.

■ **1971:** A revolt at New York's Attica Correctional Facility ended after a bloody state police assault on the prison, in which 29 inmates and 10 hostages were killed.

■ **1990:** The law-enforcement series Law & Order debuted on the NBC television network; the show became one of the longest-running prime-time TV dramas in the United States.

FOCUS AMERICA

VIOLENCE AS POLICY



US president Donald Trump has been signaling for a decade or so that political violence committed by his supporters is acceptable and might even be rewarded

The horrendous killing of the far-right activist Charlie Kirk has been met with calming, statesman-like responses on both sides of the political aisle. But it has also demonstrated yet again the fundamental asymmetry of contemporary American politics. Many prominent figures on the right, all the way up to President Donald Trump, have called for nothing less than retribution against the “radical left” – all in the absence of information about the killer and his motivation.

Trump has been signaling for a decade or so that political violence committed by his supporters is acceptable and might even be rewarded. Those he pardoned for their participation in the January 6, 2021, insurrection at the US Capitol included many convicted of violent crimes. But Trump and many of his acolytes frame such conduct not as violence, but as legitimate, even patriotic, self-defense; like other right-wing populists, they portray themselves as perpetual victims.

There have been some deeply distasteful postings about Kirk's killing by apparent leftists on social media, pointing out with schadenfreude that Kirk had claimed that gun deaths were an acceptable price to pay for the right to bear arms. But, on the whole, liberal commentators have gone out of their way not just to condemn violence but to recognize Kirk as a good-faith debater with a “taste for disagreement.” On the right, by contrast, prominent voices have called for repression – invoking the illegal practices of FBI founder J Edgar Hoover as a model – if not outright “war.”

More worrying still, Trump himself seems to relish the occasion as a pretext to attack

civil-society organizations not to his liking. Members of his administration had already declared the Democratic Party itself to be a “domestic terror organization.” Given that Trump has shown absolutely no restraint in unleashing the powers of the federal government on any individual or organization, the implied threat of prosecuting the opposition should set off alarm bells for any democrat (not just Democrats).

Beyond abusing the law, Trump has consistently encouraged, or at least clearly tolerated, political violence: from imagining himself shooting someone on Fifth Avenue, to encouraging his supporters to rough up people, to describing violent racists marching in Charlottesville, Virginia, as “fine people,” to his apparent willingness to see his first vice president, Mike Pence, be lynched on January 6, 2021, so that he could remain in power.

While Trump's first term featured ostentatious displays of cruelty, his administration is now devoting significant

resources to creating a cult of violence. The killing of 11 people at sea off the coast of Venezuela – without any apparent legal justification – is gleefully shared on social media. The Department of Homeland Security routinely uses social media to celebrate the pain of families whose loved ones are brutally taken away. One post goes so far as to show masked ICE personnel with Nazi Wehrmacht helmets.

Of course, Trump has always relished a spectacle and relied on props to convince people that he was doing something important. Except now it is images of actual suffering that are used to delight his supporters and prop up his increasingly unpopular presidency.

Some will say that such displays of suffering are necessary deterrents. But we do not show prisoners being tortured because we believe that will bring down crime – although, come to think of it, Kirk once demanded public executions, broadcast live on television and ideally “sponsored by Coca-Cola.”

Trump may well lift all restraints on his followers – after all, he himself has felt completely unconstrained in his second term, not even pretending to stick to legality, let alone norms about how to treat political adversaries in a democracy. He probably believes his undemocratic conduct is justified because the other side supposedly weaponized the Justice Department to put him in prison; so it is only fair that he seeks to punish them now with charges like “mortgage fraud.”

Once again, Trump is not the perpetrator but the victim. And he has an entire grievance-industrial complex on his side. From Fox News to talk radio, his propagandists tell their audiences that they are right to feel resentful. Victimhood can be turned into a justification for violence.

This does not mean that the US is sliding toward civil war. Some appear to be itching for it and might feel well-prepared. But surveys show that an overwhelming majority oppose political violence; and, as the political scientist Brendan Nyhan has reminded us, support for such violence declined after the attempt on Trump's life in July 2024.

While hope springs eternal that Trump will become presidential and seek unity, there is every reason to believe that his behavior the night of Kirk's killing will continue: polarization has always been his political business model. Unfortunately, at a time when his administration is nurturing not so much a “taste for disagreement” as a taste for cruelty, some Americans might take their cues from him.

The writer is Professor of Politics at Princeton University. © PROJECT SYNDICATE

SPECTRUM ECONOMY

India's GDP boom: Miracle or mirage?



LOWER NOMINAL GDP MEANS LOWER REVENUE AND ELEVATED DEFICITS, LARGER BORROWING AND LOWER SIZE OF ECONOMY

India's GDP growth rate of 7.8 per cent in April-June 2025 was far higher than anyone expected. This growth, in fact, bettered the assessment of most analysts, who expected it to be 6.5-7 per cent. Like past, the number triggered prompt celebration and self-patting by ruling dispensation at the Centre. But many economists have raised doubt and distrust over the veracity of GDP growth. HSBC India and ICICI Securities Primary Dealership cautioned that GDP growth may be overstated due to low deflators, especially in services and manufacturing. Critics also point to perceived inconsistency and statistical sleights of hand. However, on September 10, TCA Ananta, Chief Statistician of India, contradicted the allegations and said that talk of statistical mysteries should not distract us.

Nominal GDP uses current market prices while real GDP takes constant prices from a base year to adjust for implied inflation in the economy called GDP deflator. Under a new methodology adopted in January 2015, with change of base year from 2004-05 to 2011-12, the GDP is measured

in nominal terms, which are then deflated by price indices (price deflator) to derive the real GDP numbers or GDP at constant price. In other words, the GDP in 2011-12 is used as a “base” over which the GDP growth of any following year is calculated. The deflator has therefore become crucial. If the deflator underestimates actual inflation, then real growth will be overstated. This is what has been happening recently.

There are two separate problems with India's GDP deflator. First, the National Statistics Office (NSO) does not use the international standard measure of output prices — the producer price index — to deflate GDP. This is because India does not have a PPI. The NSO proxies the PPI with the wholesale price index (WPI). However, the WPI does not follow producer prices very well. It is, in fact, heavily tilted towards commodities such as oil and steel which are crucial inputs in commodity importing countries like India. Also, the WPI does not compute the price of services which constitute around 55 per cent of the economy.

Second, most G20 countries including the United States,

China and most European Union countries, calculate real gross value added (GVA) using a methodology known as double deflation. In single deflation, as used in India, nominal value added is deflated by output price index. But in case of double deflation, nominal outputs are deflated using an output deflator, while inputs are deflated using a separate input deflator. Then the real inputs are subtracted from real outputs to derive real GVA. India, by contrast, deflates nominal numbers using a single deflator.

In April-June, Wholesale Price Index (WPI) inflation in India averaged less than 0.3 per cent, the lowest since the first quarter of 2024. Meanwhile, Consumer Price Index (CPI) inflation averaged 2.7 per cent, the lowest in more than six years. As a result, the ‘GDP deflator’ was just 1 per cent – the lowest in roughly six years. This number is down from 3.1 per cent recorded in the last quarter of 2024-25. Smaller the deflator, narrower is the difference between the real and nominal GDP growth rates.

Lower nominal GDP means lower revenue and elevated deficits, larger borrowing and

lower size of economy

Further, GDP might have been overestimated as inconsistencies seen between the ‘real’ GDP growth rate and nominal GDP growth. While, the ‘real’ GDP growth rate in April-June 2025 quarter is the highest in five quarters, the ‘nominal’ GDP growth rate was at a three-quarter low of 8.8 per cent. This does not augur well for the economy as budget 2025-26 envisages nominal GDP growth of 10.1 percent. This has serious implications.

When the present government revised the GDP figure of the Manmohan era, it didn't revise nominal GDP but deliberately used a high price deflator to show lower GDP growth. Now, it has used a low-price deflator to show high real GDP which is misleading.

As GDP measurement drives macro policy, flawed GDP figures can provide a deceptive picture of the economy's health, leading to foolhardy and imprudent policy decisions by governments and wrong investment strategies by businesses.

The writer is an Odisha based economist and columnist.

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



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

Russia must act responsibly

Sir, Apropos, “India tells Russia to end recruitment of Indians in its military,” Orissa POST, September 12. Russia must immediately halt the recruitment of Indian nationals for its military campaigns, a practice that is both exploitative and dangerous. Reports of young Indians being lured with false promises of jobs or higher pay, only to be pushed into frontline combat in the Russia-Ukraine war, are deeply disturbing. Such actions violate international norms, endanger innocent lives, and undermine India's sovereignty. Many recruits, often from modest backgrounds, are misled into perilous situations without adequate training or understanding of the conflict. India has consistently maintained neutrality and pursued balanced diplomacy on the war. Allowing its citizens to be exploited as foot soldiers compromises this stance and risks diplomatic friction. Russia, as a long-standing partner, must respect India's position and immediately cease these unethical practices. The Indian government, on its part, must intensify efforts to track, rescue, and prevent further recruitment of its citizens. Strong diplomatic engagement, combined with awareness campaigns at home, is essential to safeguard vulnerable youth. Protecting the lives and dignity of Indians cannot be compromised under any circumstance. Russia must recognize this and act responsibly without delay. **N Sadhasiva Reddy, BANGALORE**

Track intruders

Sir, People crossing the railway tracks un-mindful of approaching trains, and the consequent danger, is a common but distasteful sight across the Indian railway network stations. Despite overbridges, escalators and lifts, passengers' proclivity to make a quick entry or exit, to and from the platforms, calls for an expeditious action. Track cordoning or fencing, an idea that was mooted sometime back especially across huge suburban railway network, remains an unfinished task. Importance of passenger awareness, of course, cannot be underscored more. It should also be noted that apart from bonafide commuters, hawkers, bystanders and local residents gain easy entry into stations and many of them use railway tracks as bypass to their homes and offices. Unauthorised access to stations is a big pain in the neck for regular passengers and overall safety. **Ganapathi Bhat, AKOLA**

Arunachal docs call off hosp shutdown

Demolition of ‘Seven Wonders Park’ begins

The shutdown was called by doctors' and nurses' associations in protest against the assault on two doctors at Tomo Riba Institute of Health and Medical Sciences in Naharlagun Thursday

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA



Itanagar, Sept 12: The 48-hour shutdown of hospitals across Arunachal Pradesh was called off Friday evening after the state government assured the medical fraternity of addressing all their demands and ensuring their safety.

At a meeting held at the civil secretariat, Health Minister Biyuram Wahge and Home Minister Mama Natung assured representatives of the medical fraternity to look into their demands at the earliest and announced a mass meeting with doctors and nurses at TRIHMS at 8am Saturday am to further reassure them.

“Consequent upon these assurances from the government, the medical fraternity decided to call off the shutdown with immediate effect,” the minutes of the meeting stated.

However, the fraternity also resolved to monitor

the government's commitments and review its stand if the assurances were not implemented.

Earlier in the day, panic and distress gripped patients across Arunachal Pradesh Friday as hospitals shut down for 48 hours in protest against the assault on two doctors, leaving only emergency services operational, officials said.

Families carrying sick children and elderly patients lined up outside emergency wards from early morning, while some were forced to travel long distances in search of functioning facilities.

Routine consultations, diagnostic tests, and non-emergency treatments were suspended, leaving thousands of residents struggling for

timely medical care.

The shutdown was called by doctors' and nurses' associations in protest against the assault on two doctors at Tomo Riba Institute of Health and Medical Sciences (TRIHMS) in Naharlagun Thursday.

The attack occurred in the ENT ward when a 28-year-old man, reportedly dissatisfied with the treatment provided to a patient known to him, struck Dr Arvind Pusha, a senior paediatric resident, from behind with an iron rod and repeatedly punched and kicked him.

When Dr Tam Tariang, another senior resident, intervened, the assailant attacked him too, inflicting grievous injuries. Both doctors are undergoing treatment at TRIHMS, while the attacker has been arrested and an investigation is underway.

rested and an investigation is underway.

In response to the incident, the TRIHMS Faculty Association, Indian Medical Association (IMA) Arunachal branch, Arunachal Pradesh Doctors' Association (APDA), and Trained Nurses' Association of India (TNAI) Arunachal Pradesh branch issued a joint statement on Thursday evening, announcing the 48-hour closure of all government and private hospital services, except emergency care.

They also submitted a memorandum to the state government demanding immediate measures to ensure a safe working environment for healthcare staff, warning that the next steps in their agitation would depend on the government's response.

“We do not want to call strikes and agitate, but the circumstances have forced us to do so. We are sad, we are scared,” Dr Rinchin Dorjee Megeji, senior cardiologist and president of the TRIHMS Faculty Association, told reporters Friday.

The associations have called for permanent security arrangements in hospitals and the augmentation of nursing staff in state-run facilities to protect healthcare workers from potential threats.

Ajmer, Sept 12: The demolition of the Seven Wonders replicas built in the Anasagar Wetland area of Ajmer began Friday.

Acting on the Supreme Court's directive, the Ajmer Development Authority (ADA) started removing the structures that were declared encroachments on the wetland. The Supreme Court had ordered the removal of these constructions six months ago.

Initially, only one statue was shifted, but now the administration has begun full-scale demolition. In its affidavit to the court, the district administration had assured that the structures would be razed by September 17. The replicas, constructed under the Smart City Project at a cost of about Rs 12 crore and inaugurated by the then Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot in 2022, included miniature versions of the Taj Mahal, Eiffel Tower, Egyptian Pyramids, Leaning Tower of Pisa, Roman Colosseum, Statue of Liberty, and Christ the Redeemer.



The replicas, constructed under the Smart City Project at a cost of about Rs 12 crore and inaugurated by the then Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot in 2022, included miniature versions of the Taj Mahal, Eiffel Tower, Egyptian Pyramids, Leaning Tower of Pisa, Roman Colosseum, Statue of Liberty, and Christ the Redeemer

The issue began when former BJP councillor Ashok Malik filed a writ petition in the National Green Tribunal (NGT) March 11, 2023, citing destruction of wetlands around Anasagar and violation of the master plan.

The NGT directed the demolition of the Seven Wonders Park, Patel Stadium, Gandhi Smriti Udyan, and the food court near the lake August 11, 2023, holding that the constructions harmed the

ecological balance of the wetland.

In January 2024, ADA appealed to the Supreme Court. During hearings, the court questioned why NGT's orders were not followed. The Chief Secretary was directed to appear via video conferencing February 25, 2025, and an affidavit was later submitted requesting six months to carry out the demolition. This deadline expires September 17, leading to today's action.

Arunachal approves mining lease of Namchik-Namphuk coal

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Itanagar, Sept 12: The Arunachal Pradesh government has approved the mining lease of Namchik-Namphuk coal mines in Kharsang in Changlang district.

In 2023, Guwahati-based M/s Coal Pulz Pvt Ltd won the bid for a period of 30 years in an auction.

The lease agreement was signed between the state government and Coal Pulz at Itanagar Thursday. The agreement was signed by Coal Pulz Pvt Ltd director Naveen Singhal and Geology & Mining secretary AK Singh on behalf of the Arunachal Pradesh government.

Arunachal Pradesh Geology and Mining minister Wangki Lowang, who witnessed the signing ceremony, said Namchik-Namphuk coal mines were placed for auction along with 28 other coal



mines, which was the biggest tranche of auction of commercial coal mines in November 2022.

He said mining operations will start soon and is likely to produce 2 lakh tonnes per annum as per the Approved Mine Plan, generating royalty to the state exchequer.

The start of mining operations will create job opportunities for unemployed youth, promote economic sustainability of locals and would also contribute to meet the growing energy demand, Lowang said.

The minister said the start of mining operations will drastically reduce illegal coal mining in the block.

As the mining lease area falls within the Namchik Reserve Forest, Lowang said forest clearances have been granted by the Union Ministry of Environment and Forests & Climate Change and the Department of Environment, Forests and Climate Change under Van Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan Adhiniyam, 1980 (Forest Conservation Act).

He also said that the

state environment impact assessment authority has transferred the environment clearance of Namchik-Namphuk open cast coal mine with a rated capacity of 0.20 million tonnes per annum.

Located in the far eastern corner of Arunachal Pradesh, the Namchik-Namphuk coalfields, with nearly 15 million tonnes of coal reserves, lie in a forested zone with ecological and tribal significance.

The Namchik-Namphuk coalfield was allocated to the Arunachal

Pradesh Mineral Development & Trading Corporation Ltd (APM-DTCL) October 28, 2003, by the Union Coal ministry. The total area of the coal block is 133.65 hectares, and the mining lease is being held by the corporation for a period of 20 years.

PUBLIC NOTICE

This is to bring to the notice of the general public that one ID Card of Mr. ABHIMANYU MAHANTA issued by ICICI Bank Ltd. having ID card No. 2525162 has been found missing and/or lost on 09-09-2025. Anyone, who finds the said ID card, is requested to return the said ID card to the Manager, Debt Services & Management Group, ICICI Bank Limited,.....

Therefore, all the customers of ICICI Bank Limited are hereby notified not to make any payment to any unauthorised person holding the said ID card No. 2525162. Please take further notice that anybody making payment to any person holding the said ID card shall do so at his/her own costs, risk and peril and ICICI Bank shall not be bound and/or responsible for any payment.

Date : 12.09.2025
Place : Angul

Sd./- For ICICI Bank Limited

Vacancy Circular
F.No. 3(4)/2025-ABCD
Government of India
Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology
Electronics Niketen
6-CGO Complex
New Delhi - 110003

Subject:- Calling Applications for filling up the post of Director General, Society for Applied Microwave Electronics Engineering & Research (SAMEER), an Autonomous Body under MeitY.

Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY) proposes to fill up the post of Director General, Society for Applied Microwave Electronics Engineering & Research (SAMEER), an Autonomous Body under MeitY, in the pay scale of Level- 14 of the Pay Matrix (Rs. 1,44,200/- Rs. 2,18,200/-), through Direct Recruitment /Absorption/ Deputation (including short term contract) modes. Last date for receipt of application would be the day falling after 45 days from the date of publication of the advertisement in the Employment News.

2. Detailed advertisement and application proforma can be obtained from websites of MeitY (www.meity.gov.in); SAMEER (www.sameer.gov.in); DoPT (www.persmin.gov.in) and National Career Service Portal (www.ncs.gov.in).
CBC-06101/11/0008/2526



GOVT. OF ODISHA OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER (AGRI), AGRI, ENGG.DIVISION, KEONJHAR

AT/PO: MADHAPUR, DISTRICT:KEONJHAR-758001, Email ID: eeagril.kjr@gmail.com

e-Procurement Notice: Dated 12.09.2025

Bid Identification No.EE(AGRI) Keonjhar Division-01/2025-26

No.L-63:The Executive Engineer (Agril.), Agril, Enngg-Division, Keonjhar, Odisha on behalf of the Governor of Odisha, invites percentage rate bids in single cover system from the eligible class of contractors through e-Procurement in ONLINE MODE only in the website www.tendersodisha.gov.in for civil works/buildings in the district of Keonjhar as detailed below:

| Sr. No. | Nos. of the work/nature of work for which Tender invited | Approximate Estimated cost put to Tender (Excluding G.S.T.) (Rs. Lakh) | Cost of Bid Documents (in Rs.) | EMD in (Rs.) | Class of Contractor | Period of Completion |
|---------|--|--|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|---------------------|----------------------|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 |
| 1 | Total 03 Nos. (Three Nos) Building Works/ Civil Construction works/ PH Sanitary & Electrical Works | Vary from Rs. 11.87 Lakh to Rs. 15.01 lakh | Rs.6000.00 | 1% of the Amount Put to Tender | C & D | 120 Days |

1. Date & Time of availability of bid document in the portal: 15.09.2025 at 10.00 AM to 22.09.2025, 5.30 PM.

2. Last date/time for receipt of bids in the portal: 22.09.2025 upto 5.30 PM

3. Date of Submission of original bid documents in Tender Box: 15.09.2025, 10.00 AM to 23.09.2025 upto 1.00 P.M.

4. Date & Time of opening of original Documents, Verification & Online bids- 24.09.2025 at 11.00 AM onwards.

The Bidders have to participate in ONLINE bidding only in the e-Procurement website: <https://tendersodisha.gov.in> with matching class DSC. Any addendum/corrigendum/cancellation of tender/other details of the DTN can also be seen in the said website. Authority reserve the right to reject/accept any or all of the tenders, increase/decrease the quantities of works without assigning any reason thereof.

OIPR-01460/11/0007/2526 Sd./- Executive Engineer (Agril.) Agril.Enngg. Division, Keonjhar

Abhimanyu Nirban builds India's 1st AI marketing agency worldwide



At just 26 years old, Abhimanyu Nirban, born in Sikar, Rajasthan, has built one of India's most talked-about startups — Bharat Innovations. Known as the first AI-driven marketing agency in India, Bharat Innovations today manages over 40 lakhs in monthly ad spends, delivers ROAS up to 15x, and partners with more than 70+ e-commerce brands across 4 countries, including 42 jewellery brands alone. The company's client portfolio boasts some of the most recognized names in India such as Samsung India, Burger Farm, Nikon India, and many more. What makes this journey extraordinary is not just the numbers, but the story behind it. Abhimanyu started Bharat Innovations alone in a small room with an old laptop gifted by his

father. With no team and no external funding, he turned his vision of an AI-first marketing agency into a reality, building from scratch an operation that now has an international footprint.

In 2024, Abhimanyu introduced the RASA Framework, a breakthrough innovation designed specifically for the jewellery industry. After testing more than 100 marketing frameworks, he crafted a system that consistently delivered a minimum of 6x ROAS, something many agencies considered impossible. The RASA Framework — rooted in Brand Intelligence, AI Nurturing, Engagement Ecosystem, Experience Automation, and Trust Building through PR — has become a defining model for scaling jewellery brands globally. Abhimanyu describes

it as “a framework born out of sleepless nights, endless failures, and the obsession to decode how jewellery brands can scale profitably in a highly competitive market.”

What sets Bharat Innovations apart is its dual strength: on one hand, it is India's first AI-driven marketing agency, relentlessly focused on helping e-commerce brands achieve profitability at scale. On the other hand, it has also built one of India's largest PR networks in just two years, offering access to more than 1,000 media portals that establish authority and credibility for its clients. This unique combination of AI marketing precision and PR dominance has made Bharat Innovations one of the fastest-scaling agencies in the country.

Abhimanyu's vision is bold and unapologetic. He firmly believes that AI is not just the future of marketing — it is the present. His philosophy is simple: creativity should be guided by data, and marketing should be measured not in vanity metrics but in profitability and growth. Today, the agency's work speaks for itself, with jewellery and e-commerce brands achieving global recognition and returns

they once only dreamed of.

From a gifted laptop in a modest room in Rajasthan to managing campaigns for multinational brands, Abhimanyu Nirban's journey is a testament to clarity of vision, relentless execution, and the courage to innovate. With 70+ e-commerce clients, 42 jewellery brands, and a growing global presence, Bharat Innovations is aggressively expanding internationally, aiming to establish itself as a world leader in AI-powered marketing and PR.

HOMI BHABHA CENTRE FOR SCIENCE EDUCATION

TATA INSTITUTE OF FUNDAMENTAL RESEARCH

National Olympiad Programme 2025-2026

in Astronomy, Biology, Chemistry, Physics, Junior Science

All students wishing to participate in the programme must appear in corresponding **National Standard Examinations (NSEs)** (for science subjects) on **November 22 and 23, 2025**, conducted by the **Indian Association of Physics Teachers (IAPT)**.

Qualification in NSE is the first step towards participation in the corresponding **International Olympiads of 2026**.

To enroll:

NSEs: <https://www.iapt.org.in> (Aug. 21 – Sep. 14, 2025)

For more details visit: <https://olympiads.hbcse.tifrres.in>
<https://www.iapt.org.in>
cbc 48143/12/0008/2526

GOVERNMENT OF ODISHA

OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER

M.I.DIVISION, GANJAM NO-I, BERHAMPUR

E-PROCUREMENT NOTICE

Bid Identification No. : Online Tender /03/GMID-I/2025-26

Name of Work : Civil Construction Works
No. of Work : 02 (Two)
Estimated Cost : Varies from Rs. 26.00 lakh to Rs. 30.00 lakh

Period of Completion : 06 (Six) Calendar Month
Availability of Bid-document for sale and receipt through online : From 15.09.2025 at 10.00 Hours to 24.09.2025 upto 17:00 Hours
Date & time of opening of bids : 25.09.2025 At 11.00 Hours

Name & Address of the Officer : **Superintending Engineer, M.I. Division Ganjam-I, Berhampur**
Inviting Tender
Further Details can be seen from the website : <https://www.tendersodisha.gov.in>. Any Addendum / Corrigendum / Cancellation of can also be seen in the said website.

Sd./- Superintending Engineer, M.I. Divn. Ganjam-I, Berhampur

OIPR-32104/11/0042/2526

Schedule XLI-High Court (PO 2 (Old C.P.3)

SUMMONS FOR SETTLEMENT OF ISSUES

(Order V, Rules 1 and 5, code of Civil Procedure)

District.: Seraikella - Kharsawan

IN THE COURT OF THE CIVIL JUDGE (SENIOR DIVISION) - I AT SERAIKELA

Original Suit (Partition) No. 5/2025

Sanjay Kumar Singhdeo & Ors ... Plaintiffs.

- Versus -

Jyoti Prakash Singhdeo & others ... Defendants.

To,

(1) **Jyoti Prakash Singh Deo**, S/o.: Late Ramendra Narayan Singhdeo, R/o Nua Pucca-1, Ward No.: 8, Seraikella, P.O./P.S.: Seraikella, District.: Seraikella, Kharsawan, Jharkhand-833219.

(2) **Anjana Singh Deo**, W/o.: R.P. Singhdeo, R/o B-13, Koel Nagar, Rourkela (Odisha), PIN-769014.

(3) **Archana Ray**, W/o.: Dr. Nikhil Roy, R/o Near Belurmath, Bazar Chowk, Belur Math, District.: Howra, PIN-711202 (W.B.).

(4) **Chandra Shekhar Singh Samanta**.

(5) **Jodabendra Singh Samanta**, Both S/o.: Late Swamy Prabha Devi, being daughter of Late Sudhanshu Pratap Singh Deo, both resident of Samanta Sai, P.O.: Raj Ranpur, District.: Nayagarh, Odisha, PIN-752026.

(6) **Smt. Mandira Singh Samanta**, W/o.: Basanta Kumar Bai, R/o CDA Sector-1, Near Reliance Fresh, Cuttack (Odisha), PIN-753015.

(7) **Shailendra Kumar Deo**, H/o.: Late Meenakshi Devi.

(8) **Sandip Deo**.

(9) **Swarup Deo**, Both son of Late Meenakshi Devi.

(10) **Suchitra Deo**, D/o.: Late menakshi Devi, All resident of Deo Niwas, Near Daspala Palace, Daspala, District.: Nayagarh, Odisha-752091

Whereas the plaintiff have instituted a suit against you for partition of joint family properties. This summons is publish for your appear in this Court in person or by a pleader duly instructed by you on the **07th day of Oct 2025 at 10.30 O'clock** to answer the claim and you are directed to file a written statement of that day of your defence and to produce on that day all the documents upon you intent to rely in support of your defence.

Take notice, in default of your appearance on the day fixed before mentioned, the suit will be heard and determined in your absence.

Given under my hand and seal of this Court, this the **10th day of Sept 2025** at Seraikella.

Sd/- Civil Judge (Sr. Div.)-1
At: Seraikella

of the day

quote


Mining in such regions is therefore inherently eco-sensitive and demands rigorous scrutiny with the fullest involvement of local communities



M K STALIN

TN CM

In Ambala Cantt, some people are running a parallel BJP with the blessings of people placed higher up. The party is suffering a lot of damage



ANIL VUJ

HARYANA MINISTER

Coal India has decided to enhance workers' ex-gratia (in case of mine accident) to ₹25 lakh from the present 15 lakh from September 17, which is Vishwakarma Diwas and also coincides with the birthday of Prime Minister Narendra Modi



G KISHAN REDDY

UNION COAL AND MINES MINISTER

SHORT TAKES

Driver, Class IX student dead as van hits bus

Nagpur: The driver of a school van and a Class IX student were killed after the vehicle collided with a bus on a flyover in Maharashtra's Nagpur city Friday, police said. The accident occurred on the Mankapur flyover around 8.30 am, when the van entered the wrong lane and hit an empty bus of another school, an official said. "The van driver, Hritihik Kanooja (24), died during treatment at Indira Gandhi Government Medical College and Hospital (IGGMC). Sanvi Khobragade, a Class IX student of Bhavan's Bhagwandas Purohit Vidya Mandir, Koradi Road Branch, succumbed to injuries at Max hospital this evening," he said.

Ghaziabad woman dies in Kathmandu

Maharajgani/Ghaziabad (UP): She tried to escape the burning Kathmandu hotel by lowering herself from the fourth floor with the help of a curtain -- and her husband's helping hands. But it was never to be. Rajesh Gola slipped and fell to her death, the long planned pilgrimage to Pashupatinath temple in the Nepal capital gone horribly wrong for the couple from Ghaziabad. The 55-year-old is the only Indian among the 51 killed in the violent Gen Z protests that raged across Nepal this week.

India, France to boost counter-terror ties

New Delhi: India and France have vowed to boost cooperation in combating terrorism extremism and radicalisation with both sides strongly condemning the dastardly Pahalgam terror attack. The two sides deliberated on jointly tackling these threats at a meeting of India-France Joint Working Group (JWG) on counter terrorism that was held in Paris Thursday. "Both sides condemned the dastardly terrorist attack on innocent civilians April 22 in Pahalgam," the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) said.

Fresh rain in Himachal

Shimla: Light to moderate rain lashed parts of Himachal Pradesh, with the weather office issuing a yellow warning of heavy rain in isolated areas in four districts of the state in the coming two days, officials said Friday. Since Thursday evening, Mandi recorded 61.8 mm of rain, followed by 53.7 mm in Kangra, 52.6 mm in Sundernagar, 25.8 mm in Dharamshala, 17.2 mm in Kasauli and 10.8 mm in Bilaspur, the meteorological office said.



The whole country knows that voters were prevented from voting (in the bypolls in Uttar Pradesh). But no action was taken on the complaints lodged in Kundarki and Rampur

AKHILESH YADAV | SAMAJWADI PARTY CHIEF

Monsoon withdrawal likely to begin around Sept 15: IMD



It had reached Kerala May 24, its earliest onset over the Indian mainland since 2009, when it arrived May 23

This was the earliest the monsoon has covered the entire country since 2020 when it did so by June 26

This year, the monsoon covered the entire country nine days before the usual date of July 8

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, Sept 12: The southwest monsoon is likely to start withdrawing from north-west India around September 15, the India Meteorological Department (IMD) said Friday. The primary rain-bearing system usually makes its onset over Kerala by June 1 and covers the entire country by July 8. It starts retreating from north-west India around September 17 and withdraws completely by October 15. "Conditions are becoming favourable for the withdrawal of the Southwest Monsoon from some parts of west Rajasthan around September 15," the IMD said in a statement.

SpiceJet plane's wheel falls off after take-off from Kandla

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Mumbai, Sept 12: In a major scare, a Mumbai-bound SpiceJet Q400 plane's wheel fell off after take-off from Kandla airport Friday and the aircraft with 75 people onboard made an emergency landing here, according to officials.

The aircraft landed safely at 3.51 pm and all passengers and crew are safe, Mumbai airport operator MIAL said. Operations at the airport were briefly impacted. The flight departed at 2.38 pm against the scheduled time of 1.25 pm from Kandla and landed in Mumbai at 3.51 pm, as per information available on flight tracking website Flightradar24.com. "On September 12, an outer wheel of a SpiceJet Q400 aircraft operating from Kandla to Mumbai was found at the runway after take-off. The aircraft continued its journey to Mumbai and landed safely," the airline said in a statement. There were 75 passengers onboard the Bombardier Q400 plane, which is used for operating regional flights, the officials told PTI. One of the officials said that one rear right wheel of the aircraft



was missing. An Air Traffic Controller (ATC) at the Kandla airport informed the SpiceJet pilot that one of the wheels of the aircraft had fallen off after take-off, one of the officials said. Subsequently, a full emergency was declared for the aircraft operating the flight SG2906. "Fortunately, the aircraft's landing gear was retracting because of which it was able to land safely," the official said. Without naming the airline, MIAL said an aircraft from Kandla made an emergency landing at Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj International Airport (CSMA) after reporting a technical issue. "A full emergency was declared as a precaution. The aircraft landed safely on Runway 27, and all passengers and crew are safe. Normal operations resumed shortly after," MIAL said in the statement.

21% of sitting MPs, MLAs, MLCs have dynastic background: ADR

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, Sept 12: Over one-fifth of 5,204 sitting MPs, MLAs and MLCs analysed have dynastic backgrounds with their representation highest in Lok Sabha at 31 per cent, according to poll rights body ADR. "Among the national parties, 3,214 sitting MPs, MLAs and MLCs have been analyzed and 657 (20 per cent) having dynastic backgrounds. Congress has 32 per cent of the sitting MPs, MLAs and MLCs from dynastic backgrounds followed by BJP with 18 per cent, while smaller parties such as the CPI(M) show minimal dynastic influence, with only 8 per cent of their sitting MPs, MLAs and MLCs from dynastic backgrounds," the report said. The Association for Democratic Reforms (ADR)

and National Election Watch's (NEW) report found that 1,107 (21 per cent) of all sitting MPs, MLAs and MLCs have dynastic backgrounds. While state assemblies have the lowest share at 20 per cent, Lok Sabha, Rajya Sabha and state legislative councils report 31 per cent, 21 per cent and 22 per cent dynastic representation respectively. Among states, Uttar Pradesh tops in absolute numbers with 141 dynasts, followed by Maharashtra (129), Bihar (96) and Karnataka (94). "Among the states, Uttar Pradesh ranks highest in absolute numbers with 141 (23 per cent) out of 604 MPs, MLAs and MLCs analysed having dynastic political backgrounds. Maharashtra follows with 129 (32 per cent) out of 403 sitting MPs, MLAs and MLCs from dynastic



backgrounds." "In Bihar, 96 (27 per cent) out of 360 sitting MPs, MLAs and MLCs are from dynastic backgrounds, while Karnataka has 94 (29 per cent) out of 326 sitting MPs, MLAs and MLCs from dynastic backgrounds," the report said. In terms of proportion, Andhra Pradesh leads with 34 per cent of its sitting MPs, MLAs and MLCs belonging to



Motorists and pedestrians brave waterlogging after heavy rains, near Moosarambagh bridge in Hyderabad, Telangana

CP Radhakrishnan takes oath as 15th VP



PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, Sept 12: Chandrapuram Ponnusamy Radhakrishnan was Friday sworn in as the 15th vice president of India. He later assumed charge as the chairman of the Rajya Sabha in his office in Parliament. President Droupadi Murmu administered oath to Radhakrishnan (67) at a brief ceremony at the Rashtrapati Bhawan, which was attended by Prime Minister Narendra Modi and several Union ministers. Dressed in a red kurta, Radhakrishnan took oath in English in the name of god. Murmu congratulated him after he took oath. Radhakrishnan succeeds Jagdeep Dhankhar, who suddenly resigned from the post July 21 citing health reasons, necessitating an election. Radhakrishnan won the vice-presidential election Tuesday, defeating joint Opposition candidate B Sudershan Reddy by a margin of 152 votes. Dhankhar was present at the ceremony, his first public appearance since his resignation as the vice president. He was seated in the front row, next to his predecessor M Venkaiah Naidu, and was seen conversing with him. Another former vice president, Hamid Ansari, was seated next to Naidu. Dhankhar's wife, Sudesh Dhankhar, was also present on the occasion. Besides Modi, Defence Minister Rajnath Singh, Home Minister Amit Shah, Transport Minister Nitin Gadkari and Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP)

president J P Nadda were in the front row across the aisle. Former president Ram Nath Kovind, Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla, Maharashtra Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis, Madhya Pradesh Chief Minister Mohan Yadav and Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister N Chandrababu Naidu were also present at the oath-taking ceremony. Chief Justice of India B R Gavai was present and was seated next to Birla. Veteran BJP leader and former Union minister Murli Manohar Joshi also attended the oath-taking function at the Rashtrapati Bhawan. Leader of Opposition in the Rajya Sabha Mallikarjun Kharge and some other Opposition leaders attended the ceremony and shook hands with Radhakrishnan. Kharge was seated in the second row. Dhankhar's term was till August 10, 2027. According to the Constitution, an incumbent vice president, who enters the office to fill a vacancy arising due to death or resignation, will get a full five-year term. Radhakrishnan will hold office till September 11, 2030. After the swearing in, Radhakrishnan went to pay floral tributes to Mahatma Gandhi at his memorial at Rajghat. He also paid homage to former Prime Minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee at Sadaiv Atal and offered tributes to former Prime Minister Charan Singh at Kisan Ghat. Back in the Parliament House, he assumed charge as the chairperson of the Rajya Sabha. The vice president is the ex-officio chairman of the Upper House of Parliament.



Top court bans clicking photos, making reels in its high security zone

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, Sept 12: The Supreme Court has banned clicking photos, creating social media reels and videography within its main premises, declared as a high security zone. In a circular issued September 10, the top court asked the media personnel to conduct interviews and live broadcast of news at the designated lawn area which is a low security zone. "Use of mobile phone for photography and videography is prohibited in the lawn of High Security Zone. Equipment such as camera, tripod, selfie-stick etc. used for videography, creating reels and clicking photographs shall be restricted in the High Security Zone, except for official use," the communication said. The circular added, "In case of violation of above guidelines by an Advocate, Litigant, Intern or a Law Clerk, concerned Bar Association or concerned State Bar Council shall take appropriate action against the violator as per their rules & regulations."



In case of violation of the guidelines by a media personnel, their access to the high security zone of the Supreme Court could be restricted for a period of one month, it said. Saying any violation by the staff or the registry would be viewed "seriously", the circular said, "In case of other stakeholders, their head of department concerned shall be requested to take disciplinary action against the violator as per their rules and regulations." "The security personnel shall reserve right to disallow any individual, staff member, advocate or others from taking photographs or making videos inside the High Security zone," it added.

Among national parties, 20 per cent of sitting representatives have dynastic backgrounds

The Congress has the highest share at 32 per cent, followed by the BJP at 18 per cent

The CPI(M) has the lowest, with just 8 per cent of its members from political families

prevalence of dynastic politics, particularly in politically significant states," the report said. The report highlights regional patterns, with dynastic politics deeply entrenched in southern states such as Andhra Pradesh and Karnataka, while eastern and northeastern states show more variation. For instance, Bihar reports 27 per cent dynastic representation,

but Assam only 9 per cent. State parties display even higher levels with the NCP (Sharadchandra Pawar) and JKNC each recording 42 per cent dynastic representation, followed by YSRCP (38 per cent) and TDP (36 per cent). On the other hand, the Trinamool Congress (10 per cent) and AIADMK (4 per cent) show relatively low levels of dynasticism. Unrecognised parties and independents also show significant dynastic influence, with nearly a quarter of their representatives from political families. Some smaller outfits are entirely family-run. The report said that while only 18 per cent of male MPs, MLAs and MLCs come from political families, the share jumps to 47 per cent for women.

of the day

quote

Beneficiaries will receive ₹1,500 per month after Diwali under the scheme. Assistance will be raised to ₹3,000 by 2028

MOHAN YADAV | MP CM

While ensuring reservation for the Maratha community, we are taking utmost care that OBC quota remains unaffected under any circumstances

AJIT PAWAR | MAHA DY CM

Disbursal of compensation to the flood-affected people in the state will start within a month

BHAGWANT MANN | PUNJAB CM

POST OF THE DAY

BJP MLA Mahesh Trivedi admits openly that they get 10% commission from MLA funds. Govt should take strict action against whoever shot and leaked this video.

@PunsterX

SHORT TAKES

Robbers flee with over ₹30 lakh

Hyderabad: In a daylight robbery, a gang of four men Friday made away with about ₹31.50 lakh from a businessman's employee here after ramming their vehicle into his car. According to police, the employee collected ₹40 lakh from Vikarabad near here on his boss' instructions and was returning to the city in a cab. The robbers, suspected to be trailing them, hit the car near Shankarpally here.

Teen stabbed to death by friend

Kolkata: A 17-year-old student was stabbed to death during a violent altercation with his friend at Dakshineswar Metro Station here Friday afternoon, triggering panic among commuters and raising serious security concerns, a senior police officer said.

Abandoned building collapses, 1 injured

Jabalpur: A man was injured after a part of an abandoned 4-storey building of the Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) collapsed in Jabalpur city Friday evening. The incident took place around 5 pm in Vikas Nagar, a day after heavy rains lashed the city. The building served as residential quarters for the officials of the then Department of Post and Telegraph had been abandoned 20 years ago.

IMA warns of strike in Maha Sept 18

Mumbai: The Indian Medical Association (IMA)'s Maharashtra chapter has warned of a strike September 18 if the state government does not withdraw its fresh notification on registration of homeopathic doctors who have completed certificate course in modern pharmacology. Earlier this year, the state government directed the Maharashtra Medical Council (MMC) to register homeopaths who had completed the one-year Certificate Course in Modern Pharmacology (CCMP), allowing such practitioners to prescribe allopathic medicines to patients in select cases.



Manipur has been in trouble for a long time and the PM has decided to go there now. So that's not a big deal. The main issue today in India is 'vote chori' (vote theft)

RAHUL GANDHI | CONGRESS LEADER

PM to visit Manipur today

Addressing a press conference here, the chief secretary asserted that peace is “not only the absence of violence but also the presence of trust, harmony and reconciliation”



PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Imphal, Sept 12: Prime Minister Narendra Modi is scheduled to embark on a three-day visit from September 13 to Mizoram, Manipur, Assam, West Bengal and Bihar to launch multi-crore infrastructure projects, participate in the birth centenary celebrations of Bharat Ratna Bhupen Hazarika and attend the Combined Commanders' Conference.

Addressing a press conference here, the chief secretary asserted that peace is “not only the absence of violence but also the presence of trust, harmony and reconciliation”.

Modi will interact with internally displaced people in Churachandpur and Imphal, and address two rallies during his visit to the state, he said.

In a release, the Prime Minister's Office (PMO) said, “In line with his commitment to inclusive, sustainable and holistic development of Manipur, the PM will lay the foundation stone of multiple development projects worth over ₹7,300 crore at Churachandpur.”

Modi will also inaugurate multiple development projects worth more than ₹1,200 crore at Imphal, it said.

Reacting to the announcement of Modi's visit, the Congress claimed that the trip, instead of providing a force for peace and harmony, is actually going to be a “farce”.

In a post on X, Congress general secretary in charge of com-

munications Jairam Ramesh said, “So now it is official. The PM will spend less than 3 hours in Manipur tomorrow. This visit, instead of providing a force for peace and harmony, is actually going to be a farce”.

Manipur Congress president Keisham Meghachandra also alleged that Modi's visit to the ethnic violence-hit state is “merely symbolic”, and “not aimed at bringing peace and ensuring justice”.

During his press conference, Goel said the state government appreciates the efforts of the people of Manipur, both in the hills and valley, for “successfully moving forward to restore peace and normalcy” in Manipur. Manipur has been under the President's Rule since February, following the resignation of Chief Minister N Biren Singh.

Goel also said, “Manipur is not just a border state but a central pillar of India's Act East Policy and gateway to South East Asia, proud guardian of India's diversity.”

According to officials, nearly 57000 internally displaced persons are staying in around 250 relief centres in the state till June this year. In the beginning (2023), there were more than 62000 IDPs, but many have returned to their homes after the law and order situation improved, former chief secretary P K Singh said in July this year.

“Giving details of Modi's Manipur visit, Goel said,”on his arrival in Churachandpur around 12.15 pm, he will first

INDIA-PAK ASIA CUP

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Mumbai, Sept 12: Opposition parties in Maharashtra Friday slammed the BJP and the BCCI over the India-Pakistan Asia Cup cricket match scheduled for September 14, with Shiv Sena (UBT) leader Aaditya Thackeray asking if “blood and cricket can flow together.”

The Maharashtra Congress called it an insult to the kin of those killed in the Pahalgam terror attack and soldiers who have been martyred in the line of duty.

The Sharad Pawar-led NCP (SP) said the government's dual standards had been exposed after it allowed the match to proceed.

Responding to the criticism, Maharashtra minister and cricket administrator Ashish Shelar said international sporting events cannot be dictated by bilateral political stand-offs.

Talking to reporters, Thackeray said Pakistan has staged



multiple terror attacks inside India, and broadcasters in the country should boycott the India-Pakistan match.

“The BCCI is becoming anti-national. Why is the BCCI so excited about playing with Pakistan? Is it because of greed for money, TV revenue, advertisement revenue, or is it for the fees of players? When Pakistan can boycott Asia Cup just because it was in India, then why cannot the BCCI do

strengthen the communication ecosystem of CEO offices to disseminate timely factual information to the media and other stakeholders.

The workshop had dedicated sessions on the Special Intensive Revision of electoral rolls from the perspective of media and social media.

An expert session on the various tools, techniques and strategies to counter misinformation was also organised.

Leader of Opposition in the Lok Sabha Rahul Gandhi has been alleging that votes were “stolen” in Maharashtra assembly elections and then with evidence, his party showed how “vote chori” was done in the

INDIA, MYANMAR ARMY CHIEFS DISCUSS DEFENCE TIES

Myanmar Army's top-level officer Lt General Ko Ko Oo and Indian Army's General Officer Commanding-in-Chief, Eastern Command, Lt General R C Tiwari Friday discussed measures to enhance defence cooperation, an official said



Railway Protection Force (RPF) sniffer dogs show their skills during the final day of 18th All India RPF Dog Competition at RPF Regional Training Center, Subedarganj in Prayagraj, Uttar Pradesh

PTI PHOTO

Top court clears fresh ₹5K-cr payout to Sahara depositors

PRESS TRUST TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, Sept 12: The Supreme Court Friday ordered the disbursal of ₹5,000 crore of over ₹24,000 crore deposited by Sahara Group with market regulator Securities and Exchange Board of India to repay dues of the depositors of the Sahara Group of Cooperative Societies.

A bench of Justices Surya Kant and Joymalya Bagchi allowed an application filed by the Centre seeking allocation of the amount lying in the SEBI-SAHARA refund account for payment to the depositors.

The top court also extended the date from December 31, 2025 to December 31, 2026 for disbursal of ₹5,000 crore to the depositors allocated in 2023.

The bench said the order was in line with the March 29, 2023 order where a similar application of the Centre was allowed for allocation of ₹5,000 crore to repay dues of the depositors of the Sahara Group of Cooperative Societies.

The amount of ₹5,000 crore



was directed to be transferred from the SEBI-Sahara Refund Account to the Central Registrar of Cooperative Societies, which was asked to disburse it to genuine depositors upon scrutiny.

The bench said the transfer of the amount should be done within a week under the supervision of former Supreme Court judge R Subhash Reddy and in the manner as outlined in the court's March, 2023 order. The Centre has filed an application in a PIL filed by one Pinak Pani Mohanty, who sought a direction to pay the amount to the depositors who invested in several chit fund companies and Sahara credit firms.

The Maharashtra Congress called it an insult to the kin of those killed in the Pahalgam terror attack and soldiers who have been martyred in the line of duty

it?” he asked.

“Had the real BJP been in power, it would not have allowed it. The BJP has changed its ideology,” Thackeray said. “If blood and water cannot flow together, how can cricket and blood be together?” Thackeray later said in a post on X.

“Why the Union government (is) silent on playing with a country that harbours terrorism,” he further said in another tweet.

Maharashtra Congress spokesperson Sachin Sawant told PTI that allowing the game to go ahead was a diplomatic failure and an insult to the kin of those killed in the Pahalgam terror attack and soldiers who have been martyred in the line of duty.

“Doesn't it show that the

temperature of the hot sindoore flowing in the veins of PM Narendra Modi has come down. He had said water and blood cannot go together. It looks like cricket runs and blood are allowed to flow together,” he further said.

“The cricket match has exposed the dual standards of the government and the ruling party whose politics revolves around India-Pakistan,” NCP (SP) spokesperson Jitendra Awhad told PTI.

Speaking elsewhere, BJP minister Shelar, who is also the BCCI's representative on the Asia Cricket Council Board, accused Shiv Sena (UBT) MP Sanjay Raut of adopting an “anti-India” position on the issue.

Mauritius PM offers prayers at Ram temple

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Ayodhya (UP), Sept 12: Mauritius Prime Minister Navinchandra Ramgoolam Friday offered prayers at the Ram temple here.

Ramgoolam along with his wife Veena Ramgoolam also reviewed the temple construction work and received updates on its progress, officials said.

A 30-member delegation of Mauritius officials accompanied him. Earlier, on his arrival here, he was welcomed by Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath. A red carpet was laid out for the Mauritius Prime Minister who was received with Vedic chants, 'kalah aarti', flower showers and the rhythmic sounds of drums, nagadas and the 'shankh'.



The route leading to the Ram temple from the airport was decorated to welcome the Mauritius PM.

Posters and banners welcoming him were also put up across the route. According to a press statement, Ramgoolam spent about half-an-hour in the temple complex and also saw its construction work. Chief Minister Adityanath said that the visit of Ramgoolam is a symbol of cultural unity between India and Mauritius.

A special short film on the construction of the Ram Mandir was presented to Ramgoolam and his delegation by the Tata Group at the temple premises. Later, Adityanath honoured the visiting leader by presenting him with a scale model of the temple. He presented Veena Ramgoolam with an angavastram. UP minister Surya Pratap Shahi, who along with Adityanath welcomed Ramgoolam, said, “A large number of people from Uttar Pradesh and Bihar went to Mauritius during the British rule and are in the mainstream there. They have kept the cultural identity of India alive there. We welcome the Prime Minister of Mauritius to Ayodhya.”

Ramgoolam had earlier in the day visited the Kashi Vishwanath temple in Varanasi.

his 'vote theft' charges against the Election Commission, Chief Election Commissioner Gyanesh Kumar August 17 served a seven-day ultimatum on the Congress leader to submit a signed affidavit to back his claims, else his allegations will be considered baseless and invalid.

In his first press conference after Gandhi levelled allegations of 'vote chori' in the 2024 Lok Sabha elections and several Opposition leaders flagged issues about revision of electoral rolls in Bihar, a combative Kumar asked Gandhi to either apologise or back his claims with a signed affidavit as required under electoral rules.



Mahadevapura assembly segment in Karnataka's Bangalore central Lok Sabha seat.

The Congress leader undertook the 'Voter Adhikar Yatra' from Sasaram in poll-bound Bihar August 17. The yatra, which

concluded in Patna September 1, was aimed at highlighting the alleged assault on people's right to vote through the Special Intensive Revision (SIR) of electoral rolls in Bihar. Hitting back at Rahul Gandhi for

of the day

quote

The peace and prosperity we enjoy today rests on their sacrifices. We can never fully repay this debt.

For many of us in the post-war generations, memories of that time live on through the voices of our parents and grandparents

LAWRENCE WONG | PRIME MINISTER, SINGAPORE

We just need to de-risk with certain, strategic industries, whether it's the rare earths, semiconductors, medicines, and we talked about what we could do together to get into balance within the relationship

SCOTT BESSENT | TREASURY SECRETARY, US

It's reckless and unacceptable. We can't have Russian drones entering allied airspace

MARK RUTTE | SECRETARY-GENERAL , NATO

SHORT TAKES

Israel intensifies Gaza City strikes

Cairo: Israeli strikes killed at least 40 Palestinians in the Gaza Strip Friday, local health authorities said, most of them in Gaza City, where many residents are staying put despite Israeli evacuation orders because they have nowhere safe to go. Israel has stated its intention to take full control of the ruined city, where about a million people are sheltering, as part of its plan to wipe out the militant group Hamas, and has been intensifying its attacks. The UN and many foreign governments, including those of countries traditionally allied with Israel, have condemned the Gaza City evacuation order, called for a ceasefire, and sharply criticised conditions in the humanitarian zone.

Russia, Belarus launch military exercise

Moscow: Russia and Belarus Friday launched a long-planned joint military exercise involving thousands of troops that has raised concern in the West. The exercises, dubbed “Zapad 2025,” or “West 2025,” are held in Belarus and Russia and will last through Tuesday. They are intended to showcase close defense ties between Moscow and Minsk, as well as Russia’s military might as it fights its 3½-year-old war in neighbouring Ukraine. The maneuvers follow Wednesday’s incursion of Russian drones into Polish airspace earlier this week that fuelled longstanding fears that the hostilities in Ukraine could trigger a wider conflict.

Boat capsizes in Congo, killing 107

Kinshasa: At least 107 people have died after a whaleboat caught fire in the west of the Democratic Republic of Congo, according to an internal government report seen by Reuters Friday. The boat, a narrow, double-ended open vessel caught fire on the Congo River near Malange village in Lukolela territory Thursday evening, leaving 146 people missing, the Ministry of Social Affairs said in the memo.

Harry makes surprise visit to Ukraine

London: Britain's Prince Harry has arrived in Ukraine for a surprise visit in support of wounded service members. Harry's representatives confirmed they were in the capital, Kyiv, Friday, though they declined to discuss the prince's schedule for security reasons. This is the second time Harry has visited Ukraine since the start of Russia's full scale invasion. “We cannot stop the war but what we can do is do everything we can to help the recovery process,” Harry told.

The security of the European continent is our top priority. We will not yield to Russia's growing intimidation

EMMANUEL MACRON | PRESIDENT, FRANCE

CHINA'S NEWEST AIRCRAFT CARRIER SAILS THROUGH TAIWAN STRAIT

China's newest aircraft carrier has sailed through the Taiwan Strait, the navy said Friday. The body of water separates China from Taiwan, the self-governing island that Beijing says must come under its control. The sailing could serve as a warning to the US and others against support for Taiwan, though China played down any such motive



Sushila Nepal's first woman PM

The new caretaker government led by interim Prime Minister Karki is mandated to hold fresh parliamentary elections within six months

AGENCIES

Kathmandu, Sept 12: Former Chief Justice Sushila Karki Friday night became Nepal's first woman prime minister to lead an interim government, ending days of political uncertainty after the KP Sharma Oli dispensation was forced to quit in the face of a nation-wide agitation triggered by a social media ban.

President Ramchandra Paudel administered the oath of office to Karki, 73, this evening three days after Oli resigned from the prime minister's post following the worst unrest that the Himalayan nation has witnessed in decades.

President Ramchandra Paudel said the new caretaker government led by interim Prime Minister Karki is mandated to hold fresh parliamentary elections within six months.

The swearing-in ceremony of the new prime minister was attended by Nepal's chief justice, senior government officials, security chiefs, and members of the diplomatic community.

Karki was chosen to lead the interim government after a meeting between President Paudel, Nepal's top military brass, and the youth protesters, who spearheaded the anti-government protests.

The former chief justice, known for her integrity and plain-speaking, studied in Banaras Hindu University. A meeting held between President Paudel, the Nepal Army chief and representatives of the ‘Gen Z’ protesters agreed on Karki's name to head the interim government following a series of meetings. In the first meeting of her cabinet, she is



GEN Z PROTEST

likely to recommend to the president the dissolution of the Parliament as per an understanding reached during the negotiations between the youth leaders and the president, top sources said. President Paudel also consulted leaders of all major political parties, legal experts and civil society leaders separately before deciding to appoint Karki as the caretaker prime minister. The major demands by the Gen Z protesters included checking corruption, ending political disorder, and nepotism. The students-led “Gen Z” protests that began against a government ban on social media expanded into a larger campaign reflecting growing public criticism of the Oli dispensation and the country's political elite over

Latest data from Nepal police said that at least 51 people, including an Indian national, died in the ‘Gen Z’-led violent protests that began Monday

The Hotel Association Nepal said Nepal's hotel industry, a vital revenue earner of its tourism-driven economy, has suffered a loss of over 25 billion Nepalese rupees after nearly two dozen hotels across the country were vandalised, looted or torched during the protests

alleged corruption and apathy towards the common people.

Though the ban on social media was lifted Monday night, the intensity of protests grew Tuesday with the focus of the agitation shifting to alleged cor-

ruption and luxury lifestyles of the political elite.

In his resignation letter to President Paudel, Oli had cited the “extraordinary circumstances” facing Nepal and said he is quitting to pave the way for a “constitutional and political” resolution of the current situation. Earlier Friday, Speaker of Nepal's House of Representatives Devaraj Ghimire and Chairman of the National Assembly Narayan Dahal called for resolving the ongoing political deadlock “within the framework of the Constitution.”

“The rule of law and constitutionalism must not be bypassed,” said a joint statement, issued after a meeting between Ghimire and Dahal. They also urged all parties to address

Charlie Kirk murder suspect in custody

REUTERS

Orem, Utah, Sept 12: A young Utah man suspected of killing the influential conservative activist Charlie Kirk at a university in the city of Orem was in custody Friday, Utah Governor Spencer Cox told reporters.

“We got him,” Cox told reporters. The suspect, identified as Tyler Robinson, had confessed to a family friend – or “implied that he had committed the murder” to that friend – and that person in turn had contacted the Washington County sheriff's office Thursday.

A family member interviewed by investigators said Robinson had become more political recently and spoke in a disparaging manner about Kirk, Cox told reporters. Robinson was taken into custody Thursday night, about 33 hours after Kirk's murder, FBI Director Kash Patel said at the press conference.

Kirk, a close ally of US President Donald Trump, was killed by a single bullet as he spoke onstage at an outdoor amphitheatre at Utah Valley University Wednesday.



Kirk, a close ally of US President Donald Trump, was killed by a single bullet as he spoke onstage at an outdoor amphitheatre at Utah Valley University Wednesday

Previously, US investigators said they had found the bolt-action rifle believed to have been used to kill Kirk and released images of a person of interest.

Investigators spoke to Robinson's roommate, who showed them comments Robinson had made on Discord, a chat

and streaming platform popular with gamers, discussing retrieving a rifle from a drop point and then leaving the rifle in a bush wrapped in a towel. This matched the description of the gun that authorities recovered after the shooting in a wooded area near campus.

Ammunition found at the scene had been inscribed, Cox said. The messages on the casing included, “What's this;” “Oh, Bella Ciao, Bella Ciao, Bella Ciao, Ciao;” “If you read this, you are gay, LMAO;” and “Hey fascist, catch!,” Cox told reporters.

Kirk, a well-connected activist, author and podcast host, helped build support for Trump and the Republican Party among younger voters.

Kirk was the co-founder and president of the conservative student group Turning Point USA and appeared at Utah Valley on Wednesday as part of a planned 15-event “American Comeback Tour” of US college campuses. His killing stirred outrage and denunciations of political violence from Democrats, Republicans and foreign governments.

Belarus forcibly deported political prisoners after US deal, opposition says

ASSOCIATED PRESS

Vilnius, Sept 12: Belarus forcibly deported political prisoners released in a US-led deal, opposition leader Sviatlana Tsikhanouskaya said Friday.

Belarus freed 52 political prisoners Thursday as part of a deal brokered by the United States, which lifted some sanctions on the country's national airline. The deal is the latest step toward a possible rapprochement between Washington and Minsk, a close ally of Russia that has faced Western isolation for years.

“Of course, we are so happy to see people free, but let's be honest, what happened yesterday wasn't real freedom. It was forced deportation,” Tsikhanouskaya said at a news conference Friday.

Fifty-one of the freed prisoners crossed into Lithuania, Anatol Lyabedzka, of Tsikhanouskaya's team, told The Associated Press.

Russian drone attacks weren't accidental: Poland

REUTERS

Warsaw, Sept 12: Poland rejected Friday a suggestion by Donald Trump that Russian drone incursions into its airspace could have been a mistake, a rare contradiction of the US president from one of Washington's closest European allies.

Poland, backed by aircraft from other NATO, shot down drones that had violated its airspace Wednesday, the first time a member of the Western military alliance is known to have fired during Russia's war in Ukraine.

Russia said its forces had been attacking Ukraine at



Trump says he is losing patience with Putin

Germany summons Russian ambassador

the time and that it had not intended to hit any targets in Poland. Trump told reporters in Washington Thursday, “It could have been a mistake.”

But Polish Prime Minister

Donald Tusk responded on X, “We would also wish that the drone attack on Poland was a mistake. But it wasn't. And we know it.”

Trump said in an interview

From Nepal's first female chief justice to interim head, the rise of Sushila Karki

Nepal's first female chief justice, Sushila Karki, is set to take charge as interim head, stepping in to run the poor Himalayan nation after anti-graft protests plunged it into the worst political crisis in decades. Karki's appointment Friday came days after violence led to the deaths of at least 51 people and forced Prime Minister KP Sharma Oli to resign Tuesday. A judge who displayed zero tolerance of corruption, Karki is known for taking on powerful interests, in a stance that may have cost her the top judicial post, as the government moved to impeach her less than a year into her tenure. The proposal was dropped after public pressure, but a disillusioned Karki quit on her own. “She faced an impeachment motion... but never lowered her principles. She is the perfect choice to handle Nepal's crisis,” Supreme Court lawyer JL Bhandari told Reuters. This week's violence subsided after Oli stepped down but authorities have retained prohibitory orders in some areas, with the army patrolling the streets and key political leaders, now discredited, in hiding. It is against this backdrop that Karki, with limited experience of politics or governance, has been temporarily handed the leadership role. “She is a good choice but will need a good team,” Dipendra Jha, a Supreme Court advocate who worked with Karki for 10 years, told Reuters. The eldest of seven children, Karki was born in 1952 to a farming family in the jute-growing village of Shankarpur and completed a master's in law from India's Banaras Hindu University before launching her legal practice in 1979. As a student, she was associated with the Nepali Congress party that dominated politics, and joined a 1990s movement against the panchayat system, a centralised form of government that consolidated the king's power, leading to a brief jail spell. “Even as a child she treated everyone as equals and encouraged us to go to school,” her younger sibling, Junu Dahal, told the Thomson Reuters Foundation in 2016, the year Karki became chief justice. Karki has vowed to work for Nepal's development. “We will try to establish a new beginning for the country,” she told CNN-News18 Wednesday.

the demands of protesters and commit to a stronger, more prosperous democracy. “We are confident that we must not stray from the rule of law and constitutionalism,” they said, stressing that the ongoing process to form a citizen-led government should address the protesters' demands while ensuring that democracy grows stronger and more resilient.”

Latest data from Nepal police said that at least 51 people, including an Indian national, died in the ‘Gen Z’-led violent protests that began Monday.

The Nepalese Army took control of the security situation after Oli resigned as the prime minister. Senior Superintendent of Police Ramesh Thapa, who is co-spokesperson for Nepal police, said the casualties include one Indian national and three policemen, The Kathmandu Post newspaper reported.

Meanwhile, the Hotel Asso-

ciation Nepal (HAN) Friday said Nepal's hotel industry, a vital revenue earner of its tourism-driven economy, has suffered a loss of over 25 billion Nepalese rupees after nearly two dozen hotels across the country were vandalised, looted or torched during the student-led anti-government protests.

Among the worst hit is the Hilton Hotel in Kathmandu, which alone reported damages exceeding Rs 8 billion, My Republica news portal reported, quoting a HAN statement. Nepalese authorities announced temporary measures to facilitate foreign nationals stranded in the country due to the ongoing curfew in the Kathmandu Valley. According to Immigration officials, international travellers whose visas were valid through September 8 can now obtain exit permits and regularise their visas without paying additional fees. The Himalayan Times reported.

Indian-origin motel manager beheaded in US; co-worker held



PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Houston, Sept 12: A 50-year-old Indian-origin motel manager in the US was beheaded in front of his wife and son in Texas following a dispute over a washing machine, police said.

The suspect, a co-worker with a criminal record, has been arrested and charged with capital murder.

The incident took place Wednesday morning at the Downtown Suites motel in Dallas.

Chandra Mouli “Bob” Nagamallaiah, originally from Karnataka, was killed after a dispute over a broken washing machine with his 37-year-old Cuban co-worker Yordanis Cobos-Martinez, according to the Dallas Police Department.

Cobos-Martinez reportedly became enraged when Nagamallaiah asked another person to translate his instructions instead of addressing him directly.

Surveillance footage showed Cobos-Martinez attacking Nagamallaiah with a machete.

The victim fled toward the motel office, where his wife and 18-year-old son were present.

Nagamallaiah's wife and son tried to intervene several times, but Cobos-Martinez pushed them away and continued the attack. He then took the vic-

tim's cell phone and key card from his pockets before again resuming the attack until Nagamallaiah's head “was removed from his body”, police said in court affidavit.

“The suspect then kicked the [Nagamallaiah's] head twice into the parking lot and proceeded to pick it up and carry it to the dumpster and put it inside,” police said.

The crime is “unthinkable”, they said.

Cobos-Martinez is being held without bond. If convicted, he could face life imprisonment without parole or the death penalty.

According to official records, he has been arrested twice for auto theft in Florida and has indecency with a child and assault charges in Houston. The records also show an immigration hold.

ICE officials said Cobos-Martinez was released under supervision earlier this year due to the lack of deportation flights to Cuba.

The Consulate General of India in Houston condoled the death of Nagamallaiah and said it is following up on the matter closely.

“We are in touch with the family and offering all possible assistance. The accused is in the custody of Dallas Police,” it said in a post on X.

of the day

quote

We stand at cross-roads where opportunities are immense but challenges are daunting to allude to, some of them, geopolitical volatility, trade wars, tariff escalations, export restrictions are all redefining the supply chain

SHRADHA SURI MARWAH | PRESIDENT, ACMA

As a banker, I will always be cautious when there is exuberance beyond what we expect in the market place. All regulators are tightening up, hope this becomes smooth landing. If not, you will see a bad debt rising

KV KAMATH | NON-EXECUTIVE CHAIRMAN, JIO FINANCIAL SERVICES

Women in tech are ready to embrace AI - not as a buzzword, but as a real driver of equal opportunity. It's inspiring to see that 58 per cent are already using AI at work or actively learning it, and many more are preparing to follow

NIRMITI PARIKH | FOUNDER AND CEO, APNA.CO

SHORT TAKES

₹21L fine on PhonePe

Mumbai: The Reserve Bank of India Friday said it has imposed a penalty of Rs 21 lakh on PhonePe Limited for non-compliance with certain norms related to 'Prepaid Payment Instruments' (PPIs). In a statement, the RBI said a statutory inspection of the company was conducted by the central bank with reference to its operations for the period from October 2023 to December 2024. Based on supervisory findings of non-compliance with RBI directions and related correspondence in that regard, the apex bank said a notice was issued to PhonePe advising it to show cause as to why a penalty should not be imposed on it for its failure to comply with the said directions. After considering the company's reply to the notice, additional submissions made by it and oral submissions made during the personal hearing, RBI found, inter alia, that the charge against the company was sustained, warranting imposition of a monetary penalty.

Urban Company IPO subscribed 103.63x

New Delhi: The initial public offer of app-based beauty and home services platform Urban Company Ltd received overwhelming investor participation, with the issue getting a huge 103.63 times subscription on the last day of bidding Friday. The Rs 1,900-crore IPO received bids for 11,06,46,08,960 shares against 10,67,73,244 shares on offer, according to NSE data. The category for Qualified Institutional Buyers (QIBs) got subscribed 140.20 times. The portion for non-institutional investors fetched 74.04 times subscription, while the Retail Individual Investors (RIIs) part received 39.25 times subscription. Urban Company on Tuesday raised Rs 854 crore from anchor investors.

Forex kitty jumps to \$698.27 billion

Mumbai: India's forex reserves jumped \$4.038 billion to \$698.268 billion during the week ended September 5 on the back of a sizeable increase in value of gold reserves, the RBI data said Friday. In the previous reporting week, the overall reserves had jumped by \$3.51 billion to \$694.23 billion. For the week ended September 5, foreign currency assets, a major component of the reserves, increased by \$540 million to \$584.477 billion.



The last three decades have belonged to China, as it became the factory of the world. And now, the next many decades belong to India

HISHASHI TAKEUCHI | MD AND CEO, MARUTI SUZUKI

HOUSING MARKET HEAT FUELS RENTAL PRESSURE

The concentration of well-paying jobs in a handful of cities and stagnating wages has pushed home ownership out of reach for millions moving to urban areas for work, forcing most would-be buyers to rent

REUTERS

Bangalore, Sept 12: Home prices in India are set to rise faster than expected, fuelled by demand from wealthy buyers, while a shrinking supply of affordable housing is likely to keep many stuck in ever more expensive rentals, a Reuters poll of property experts found. The concentration of well-paying jobs in a handful of cities and stagnating wages has pushed home ownership out of reach for millions moving to urban areas for work, forcing most would-be buyers to rent.

Although Asia's third-largest economy grew 7.8% last quarter, faster than most major peers, experts warn the gains are increasingly captured by a small segment of the population of 1.4 billion, leaving job seekers on the sidelines.

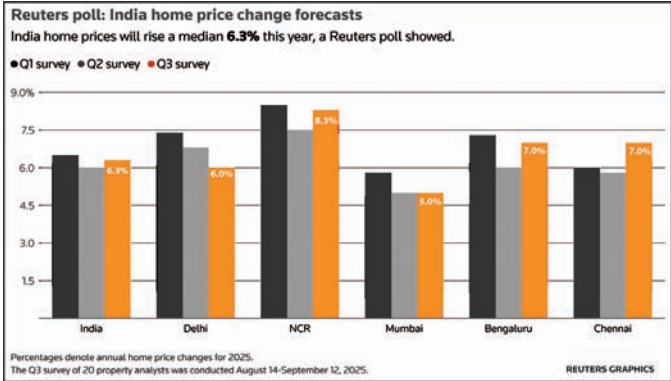
That inequality is spilling over into housing, where premium demand thrives but affordable options lag far behind. India now faces a deficit of about 10 million affordable homes, a gap Knight Frank, opens new tab projects could triple by 2030.

Average home prices, which have more than doubled in the past decade, were forecast to rise 6.3% this year and 7.0% in 2026, after climbing about 4.0% in 2024, median estimates from a Reuters survey of 20 property analysts show.

The survey ran from August 14 to September 12.

That pace was faster than the 6.0% and 5.0% predicted in June. Prices broadly refer to housing in major cities.

"The current problem is strong macro numbers have not benefited the population at the lower side of the pyramid and they are at a disadvantage,"



With the market leaning heavily toward premium and luxury homes, entry-level buyers are likely to be priced out, even with policies that look good on paper

AVNEESH SOOD | DIRECTOR, EROS GROUP

said Ajay Sharma, managing director of Valuation Services at Colliers. "Their disposable incomes have stagnated."

Such consumers could not afford to buy homes in urban centres and were increasingly turning to rentals, he added, in order to stay near the city core for livelihood or family needs.

"As affordability in both core and suburban areas are on the decline, more people are renting - and as more people rent, rentals have gone up."

Median forecasts predicted average urban rents to rise 5% to 8% over the coming year, outpacing consumer inflation.

However, when asked what would happen to purchasing affordability for first-time home buyers, analysts were nearly split, with 10 of 19 expecting affordability to improve over the coming year and nine expecting it to worsen.

That is a sharp reversal from

the June poll, when most expected it to improve.

Monetary policy easing has done little to help. The Reserve Bank of India has cut its key interest rate by 100 basis points to 5.50% this year, but experts say that is unlikely to improve affordability.

Avneesh Sood, director at Delhi-based Eros Group, said recent rate cuts may ease mortgage payments slightly, but home prices are rising 7% to 8% nationally, with sharper increases in markets such as the National Capital Region and Bangalore.

Experts said the shift has long-term consequences.

Only a small fraction of the population is actively engaged in the property market, said Pankaj Kapoor of Liases Foras. "Post-financialisation in real estate, we have not improved affordability; we have worsened it to the point where the qualifying age to purchase a property has risen from around 30 to 40 years to 45 years old," he said. "Crony capitalism starts with land ownership. So how can cities, where the rich control the land, create affordable housing? That's why housing doesn't give you choices - it gives you frustrated options."

BOOST FOR SOVEREIGN CLOUD INFRA

Tata Consultancy Services said it has signed a pact with the Centre for Development of Advanced Computing to drive and scale the development of India's sovereign cloud ecosystem. The collaboration will focus on research to develop indigenous technologies and deliver scalable, AI-enabled cloud platforms that align with India's data localisation mandates and support the digitisation of critical public sector services



GLOBAL CUES

Gold, silver scale new all-time highs

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, Sept 12: Gold and silver prices hit fresh peaks Friday, with the yellow metal hitting Rs 1,13,800 per 10 grams, and silver crossing Rs 1,32,000 per kilogram in the national capital, buoyed by strong global demand and heightened expectations of an interest rate cut by the US Federal Reserve next week.

According to the All India Sarafa Association, the precious metal of 99.9 per cent purity extended gains for the fourth straight session by jumping Rs 700 to hit a record high of Rs 1,13,800 per 10 grams (inclusive of all taxes). It had closed at Rs 1,13,100 per 10 grams in the previous market session.

The yellow metal prices have added Rs 34,850 per 10 grams or 44.14 per cent in the current calendar year, climbing from Rs 78,950 per 10 grams on December 31, 2024.

In the local bullion markets, gold of 99.5 per cent purity climbed Rs 700 to Rs 1,13,300 per 10 grams (inclusive of all taxes), marking its lifetime peak on Friday.

It had settled at Rs 1,12,600 per 10 grams Thursday.

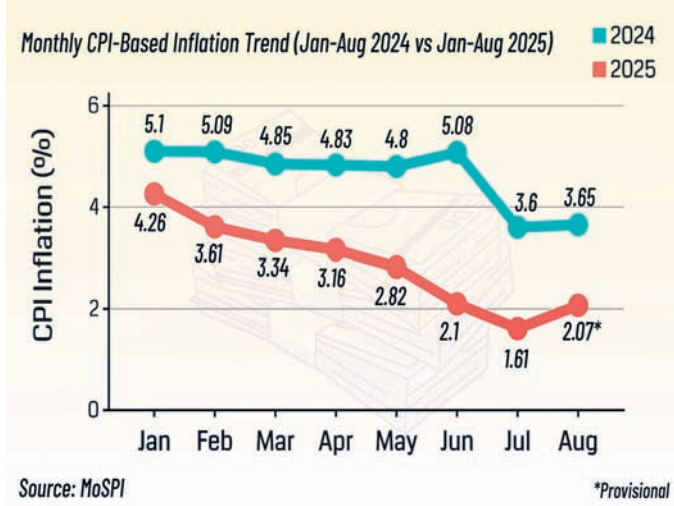
Meanwhile, silver staged a sharp rebound, snapping its two-day losing streak with a jump of Rs 4,000 to hit an all-time high of Rs 1,32,000 per kilogram.

The white metal had closed at Rs 1,28,000 per kg as demand remained robust in physical and investment segments, as per the Association.

Silver prices have been on a bull run this year, skyrocketing by Rs 42,300 or 47.16 per cent, from Rs 89,700 per kilogram December 31, 2024.

In the international markets, spot gold increased by USD 12.69, or 0.35 per cent, to USD 3,646.69 per ounce.

Food prices nudge inflation to 2.07%



The rise in inflation comes after a continuous fall in the consumer price index (CPI) for nine months. It was in decline since November 2024

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, Sept 12: Retail inflation inched up to 2.07 per cent in August from 1.61 per cent in the preceding month, driven by a rise in prices of kitchen items, like vegetables, meat, fish, and eggs, according to government data released Friday.

The inflation was 3.65 per cent in August 2024.

The annual food inflation in August 2025 was (-) 0.69 per cent, according to the data released by the National Statistics Office (NSO).

"An increase in headline inflation and food inflation during the month of August 2025 is mainly attributed to an increase in inflation of vegetables, meat and fish, oil and fats, personal care and eggs," NSO said.

The Reserve Bank has been

mandated by the government to ensure inflation remains at 4 per cent with a margin of 2 per cent on either side.

The inflation in rural India increased to 1.69 per cent in August from 1.18 per cent in July. In urban parts of the country, it was 2.47 per cent compared to 2.1 per cent sequentially.

Among states, the highest inflation was in Kerala at 9.04 per cent and the lowest in Assam (-0.66 per cent).

The Reserve Bank mainly factors in the retail inflation while arriving at its bi-monthly monetary policy.

The CPI data showed that housing inflation in August stood at 3.09 per cent against 3.17 per cent.

Looking ahead, despite the healthy trends in kharif sowing, large excess rains, and flooding in some parts of the country in late August 2025 and early-September 2025 could impact the kharif crop yields, and consequently output and prices, and thus, remain a key monitorable

ADITI NAYAR | CHIEF ECONOMIST, ICRA

Amazon plans to double speed of delivery in state

POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar, Sept 12: Amazon India has announced plans to more than double its delivery speed in Odisha following the launch of a new fulfilment centre in Bhubaneswar here Friday.

The company's operations network in the state now comprises a fulfilment centre, a sortation centre, over 250 'I Have Space' (IHS) stores, and more than 60 delivery stations. "Our investment in Odisha has enabled us to strengthen our delivery network and improve same-day and next-day delivery speeds. Customers, including



Prime members, can now receive their favourite products faster than ever before," said Mayank Jain, Director (Credit & Lending), Amazon Pay.

According to Jain, user growth in Odisha over the past six months has been 10% higher than the national average, with nearly 20% of all transactions occurring at offline merchants.

Malabar unveils Bridal Show Campaign

POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar, Sept 12: Malabar Gold & Diamonds, one of the world's largest and most trusted jewellery conglomerates, has launched the Bridal Show Campaign at its Saheed Nagar showroom.

As a part of its flagship bridal jewellery campaign, Malabar Gold & Diamonds this year has rolled out exclusive bridal jewellery collections in gold, diamond, polki, precious gemstones and more.

The show has been launched by Krutik Sahu, A Rameswari, writer, actress and other management staffs of Malabar Gold and Diamonds.

In addition, Malabar Gold &



Diamonds offers an advance booking facility under which customers can book jewellery by paying minimum 10% advance and get the jewellery at the booked rate or prevailing

rate, whichever is lower.

Commenting on the launch of Bridal Show, MP Ahamed, Chairman said, "Bridal Show Campaign has emerged as the most popular bridal jewellery

In surprise twist, Armani's will sets path for sale of fashion empire

REUTERS

Milan, Sept 12: Late designer Giorgio Armani has instructed heirs to gradually sell the fashion brand he created 50 years ago or seek a stock market listing, his will said, marking a surprising turn for a company highly protective of its independence and Italian roots.

The will, reviewed by Reuters, states heirs should sell an initial 15% stake in the Italian fashion house within 18 months and later transfer an additional 30% to 54.9% stake to the same buyer between three and five years after Armani's death.

The designer, known in the industry as "King Giorgio", died on September 4, at 91 and with no children to inherit his fashion empire.

The will also says that priority should be given to luxury giant LVMH, beauty heavyweight L'Oreal, eyewear leader EssilorLuxottica or another group of "equal standing" identified by a foundation the designer set up to preserve his legacy with the agreement of Armani's busi-

ness and life partner Pantaleo Dell'Orco.

As an alternative to the sale of the second tranche of shares, an initial public offering should be pursued, in Italy or in a market of equal standing, it said.

It was not immediately clear what would happen if one of the heirs or the foundation did not fulfill the instructions on a sale set out in the will.

The explicit mention of stake sales and of France-listed players as potential buyers comes as a surprise, given Giorgio Armani's persistent refusal to dilute his control or list his fashion group on the stock market. It could also spur a race to secure a slice of the brand, which industry experts say has retained its appeal despite a global luxury slowdown.

EssilorLuxottica, controlled by the heirs of Italian entrepreneur Leonardo Del Vecchio and with commercial ties to Armani, said in a statement it would consider a possible deal.

"We're proud of the consideration our group and its management received from Mr



Armani," a spokesperson for EssilorLuxottica told Reuters. "Together with the board we'll carefully assess such a development prospect given the deep ties already existing between the two groups."

ARMANI'S LEGACY
Over the years, the maker of popular unstructured suits that gained him international fame received several approaches, including one in 2021 from John Elkann, scion of Italy's Agnelli family, and another from luxu-

ry brand Gucci, when Maurizio Gucci was still at the helm.

Armani was the sole major shareholder of the company he set up with his late partner Sergio Galeotti in the 1970s and over which he maintained a tight rein - both creative and managerial - until the very end.

He has left behind no children to inherit the business, which generated relatively stable revenue - 2.3 billion euros (\$2.7 billion) in 2024 - but whose profits have shrunk

amid a broad luxury industry recession.

The will, which lists six different types of shares with different voting rights, gives the Fondazione Giorgio Armani and life partner and right-hand man Pantaleo Dell'Orco 30% and 40% of the company voting rights, respectively, meaning they would together control the fashion group with 70% of voting rights combined.

The foundation will retain a 30.1% stake in a listing, according to the will.

Its five-member board will be chaired by Dell'Orco, in accordance with the foundation's bylaws. Other board members include Rothschild partner Irving Bellotti, Armani's nephew Andrea Camerana and two family outsiders, a person close to the matter told Reuters.

Heirs should consider other fashion and luxury companies with which the Armani group has commercial ties for a future sale, the will also said.

The Armani group has commercial partnerships with both L'Oreal and EssilorLuxottica.

Yet, with a market value of 240 billion euros and a reputation for being a patient and supporting minority investor, conglomerate LVMH controlled by billionaire Bernard Arnault may ultimately prevail.

"We think that LVMH would likely be the most interested, of the three, in a stake, were it to become available, given the strategic fit," analysts at Berenberg said in a note. They said the group could easily afford to buy Armani, which they valued at between 5 and 7 billion euros.

Dark horse Nihal leads

GM Nihal Sarin has emerged as the surprise leader of the 2025 FIDE Grand Swiss

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Samarkand (Uzbekistan), Sept 12: Grandmaster Nihal Sarin played out a quick and effortless draw with Matthias Bluebaum on Germany to share the lead with the German on six points after the end of the eighth round of FIDE Grand Swiss here.

On the day when R Vaishali lost her sole lead after losing to Bibisara Assaubayeva of Kazakhstan in the women's section, the other defending champion Vidit Gujrathi also met his nemesis in Vincent Keymer of Germany.

Kateryna Lagno of Russia made most of her white pieces and defeated Mariya Muzychuk of Ukraine.

Lagno took her tally to 6.5 points out of a possible eight and is now a half point ahead of Assaubayeva, Vaishali and Yuxin Song of China who all have six points apiece. Nihal opted for the Queen's gambit accepted with his black pieces and did not face any tough challenge from Bluebaum.

The German has played some exemplary chess in this event but in the eighth round he did not push hard enough. The game was drawn in a mere 21



The Grandmaster has outperformed players like D Gukesh, R Praggnanandhaa, and Arjun Erigaisi at the event. While Gukesh is struggling with three straight losses, Arjun Erigaisi and Praggnanandhaa are still in the chase

moves as both players repeated the moves.

Vaishali was outdone in the endgame by Assaubayeva.

The Kazakh came up with an

inspired performance in nearly a must-win game for her and Vaishali fumbled when she left a pawn hanging. Assaubayeva pocketed the pawn and then her

technique was good enough to take the point home.

In the next round now, Vaishali will take on Yuxin Song in what could be the decider for her in terms of staying the course for an encore.

World champion D Gukesh's struggles continued as he slumped to a third straight defeat here Thursday, this time against Turkey's Ediz Gurel, slipping out of contention and down to 10th in the live world rankings with four rounds still to play.

Debutant Dhakshineshwar shines, Nagal wins on return

India take 2-0 lead against Switzerland

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

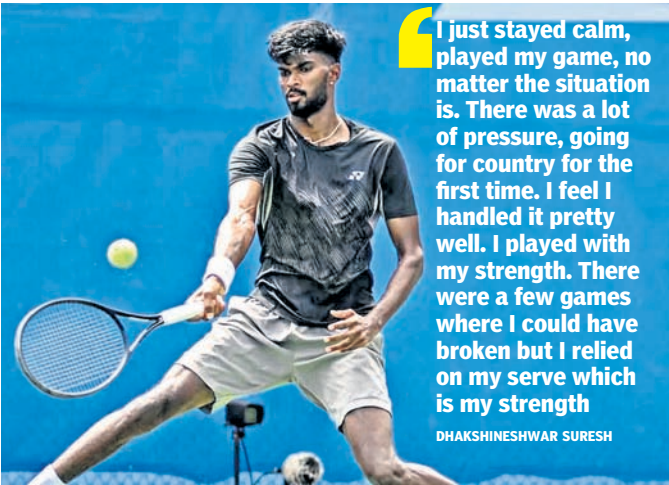
Biel (Switzerland), Sept 12: Pulled out of reserves, Dhakshineshwar Suresh stunned higher-ranked Jerome Kym of Switzerland in straight sets before Sumit Nagal made a triumphant return to the Davis Cup, placing India on the cusp of a rare win against a European side in an away tie, here Friday.

Captain Rohit Rajpal showed immense faith in Dhakshineshwar, playing him ahead of Aryan Shah, and the tall Chennai player did not disappoint, coming out a 7-6 (4) 6-3 winner against 155th ranked Kym.

Dhakshineshwar is placed 626 on the ATP charts but his stupendous game and confidence belied his low ranking. He charged the net a lot more after measuring the game of his opponent who seemed to be lacking a plan B.

Nagal, who is now struggling to stay inside top-300 after being in top-100 last year, made a winning return to the Davis Cup with a 6-3 7-6 (4) result against Marc-Andrea Huesler that gave India a commanding 2-0 lead at the end of day one.

India are now very close to pulling off a memorable Davis Cup win on the European soil as they need to win one of the three matches Saturday.



The team of N Sriram Balaji and Rithvik Bollipalli will clash with Jakub Paul and Dominic Stricker before the reverse singles are played.

A look at the Indian Davis Cup team's travel history suggests that India managed to beat formidable Asian teams like Uzbekistan and Kazakhstan while touring but when it comes to a European team, its record is poor.

The last time India beat a European side in an away tie was back in 1993 in Cannes when Leander Paes and Ramesh Krishnan led the team to a 3-2 win over France in the quarterfinals.

Since the turn of the centu-

ry, India have lost away ties to Sweden (2024), Denmark (2023), Norway (2022), Finland (2021), Croatia (2020), Italy (2019), Serbia (2018, 2011), Canada (2017), Russia (2010), Romania (2008), Sweden (2005), Netherlands (2003), and Sweden (2000).

In the opening singles, Dhakshineshwar was in a spot after consecutive unforced errors put him down 0-40 in game four.

He, though, reeled off five straight points to keep it even. His serve yet again came under pressure. At 30-all in game six, the Indian kept hitting on the backhand of his rival and found a backhand winner himself to close the game.

SHORT TAKES

Bhavesh in final race

Ningbo (China): India's Bhavesh Shekhawat produced a strong performance on competition day four of the ISSF World Cup for rifle/pistol, finishing fourth in the first stage of the men's 25m rapid fire pistol qualification here Friday. Bhavesh thus remains in contention for a place in the finals, but, in the women's 50m rifle 3 positions, the Indian challenge fell short with none of the shooters making it to the final round. In the RPF event, Bhavesh shot a composed 293-9x with series of 97, 99, and 97 to be placed third overnight. Mehuli Ghosh finished 23rd with a total of 583-23x (194 in kneeling, 196 in prone, 193 in standing), while Manini Kaushik shot 580-22x (191, 197, 192) for 45th place.

Shuttlers enter semis

Hong Kong: Indian shuttler Lakshya Sen and the pair of Satwiksairaj Rankireddy and Chirag Shetty sailed into the semifinals of their respective events at the Hong Kong Open Super 500 badminton tournament here Friday. Sen got the better of compatriot Ayush 21-16 17-21 21-13 in a hard-fought men's singles quarterfinal contest that lasted one hour and six minutes. Rising Indian shuttler Ayush had caused a major upset Thursday, ousting 2023 World Championships silver medallist Kodai Naraoka of Japan in a hard-fought three-game contest.

Archers draw blank

Gwangju: India's long wait for a world medal in recurve archery stretched further as 15-year-old Gatha Khadake, the country's last hope, went down fighting to world No 1 Lim Si-hyeon in the pre-quarterfinals, ending the campaign in the Olympic discipline at the World Championships, here Friday. Before Gatha could even settle into the contest, it was all over in a blink as the Korean, a triple gold medallist from the Paris Olympics, sealed the match 6-0 without breaking a sweat playing in front of the home crowd. India last won a recurve medal at the Worlds in 2019, when the men's team of Tarundeep Rai, Atanu Das and Pravin Jadhav settled for a silver at Den Bosch.

Olympic sprinter banned

Lausanne: Two-time Olympic finalist Erriyon Knighton was banned for four years on Friday in a doping case of an anabolic steroid that almost certainly rules the 21-year-old United States sprinter out of the 2028 Los Angeles Games. The Court of Arbitration for Sport said its judges upheld separate appeals by the World Anti-Doping Agency and track and field investigators which asked for a maximum four-year ban after he was cleared by a tribunal in the US.

Veteran Bhullar edges young guns to win first IGPL trophy

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Chandigarh, Sept 12: An early eagle and a late birdie coupled with smart course management drawn from his experience of almost two decades saw Gaganjeet Bhullar card a 2-under 70 final round and become the first IGPL Invitational champion here Friday.

Bhullar, winner of 11 Asian Tour titles, the most by an Indian, and an icon player in the IGPL shot three great rounds of 70-71-70 for a 5-under total and won by two shots over the consistent M Dharma at the Chandigarh Golf Club.

Bhullar took home a cheque of R. 22.50 lakh from the prize purse of Rs. 1.5 crore. Dharma bagged Rs. 15 lakh and the trio of Veer Ganapathy, Kartik Sharma and Shaurya Binu earned Rs. 8.7 lakh each.

Bhullar was challenged hard by Dharma, young Ganapathy and Binu. Dharma shot 70-75-68 to finish sole second and he gave Bhullar a tough fight with a 5-under on the back nine, but his two bogeys on the front nine cost him dearly.

Left-handed debutant Ganapathy (72-72-70), son of former pro and now coach, Rahul Ganapathy, was tied third alongside another southpaw, Kartik Sharma (73-73-68) who produced a 4-under 68, the joint best round of the tournament, and Binu (69-72-73). Binu had held a share of the lead for the first 36 holes.

Another young player, Neil Jolly, and the experienced Kapil Kumar were tied for sixth



This one is for the history books
GAGANJEET BHULLAR

at 1-under for the week as only seven players came under par on a challenging course.

Three players, Dharma, Kartik and Sunhit Bishnoi (75-73-68 for 8th place), produced 68s on a course that was difficult to score following relentless rain. Yet the Chandigarh Golf Club managed to get it in shape for the event.

Kartik Singh finished tied ninth alongside Aman Raj, Sanju Kumar, Sachin Baisoya, Harendra Gupta and Pukhraj Singh Gill.

Jahnavi Bakshi, making a comeback after two years of injuries, was the top woman finisher with rounds of 73-71-75 and was 19th in a field of 54 that included 38 men pros, 10 women pros and six amateurs.

The next IGPL event will be held at the Jaypee Greens in Greater Noida from September 17 to 19.

12 ISL clubs agree to participate in Super Cup, OFC indecisive

Winner to get ACL 2 play-off spot

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, Sept 12: All the Indian Super League clubs except for Odisha FC have agreed to take part in the season-opening Super Cup football tournament, starting next month, according to an official of the national federation.

The Super Cup, which normally happens at the end of the season, will be held at the start this time so as to give the clubs enough matches in the wake of a delayed ISL season. The ISL has been put on hold by the organisers FSDL but is likely to start in December.

"Except Odisha FC, all the other 12 clubs of the ISL have agreed to take part in the Super Cup. We have asked them again to confirm in another couple of days. After that we will finalise the tournament," an AIFF official told PTI on Friday on the condition of anonymity.

The 16-team tournament will also have at least three sides from the I-League. The number of I-League sides will increase if any ISL team pulls out.

The AIFF earlier this week decided to hold the Super Cup from October 25 to November 22 in a phased manner.

It is also learnt that the AIFF has told the clubs that the winning team of the Super Cup will also be awarded the AFC Champions League 2 play-off spot for



2026-27 season.

But such a team will have to possess the Premier 1 License under the Indian Club Licensing Regulations relevant for the 2026-27 season.

FC Goa made it to the ACL 2 play-offs -- and subsequently in group stage -- this season as champions of Super Cup 2024-25. But, a few clubs have asked the AIFF to clear the air on the matter, and the national federation has done that.

Odisha Pro T20 League dates revised

Six franchises gunning to become the inaugural winners

POST NEWS NETWORK

Cuttack, Sept 12: The Odisha Pro T20 League (OPTL) announced their revised dates Friday with the league now kicking off September 17 with the finals to be held September 26.

The captain and coaches of six franchises, Cuttack Panthers, Sambalpur Warriors, Puri Titans, Bhubaneswar Tigers, Keonjhar Miners and Rourkela Steelers were announced earlier in the week.

The player draft was held today by the Odisha Cricket Association, the captains, head coaches and assistant coaches were announced via a draw system for each of the six franchises in the league earlier in



the week.

The event was helmed and attended by, Pankaj Lochan Mohanty, President, OCA, Sanjay Behera, Secretary, Prabhat Bhol, Joint Secretary, Bikash Pradhan, Treasurer. Along with them the owner of Cuttack Panthers Franchise Subhashree Behera was also present.

Asirbad Behera, Secretary, Football Association of Odisha & Chairman, Odisha Athletic

Association was present as the Chief Guest.

The players drafting process for franchise based OPTL was conducted and 16 players for each team have been selected. A provision for taking two more players is open for the franchises.

Speaking at the draft, Behera said, "The Odisha Pro T20 League marks a transformative step in the journey of cricket in our state. With top-tier talent,

professional execution, we are confident this league will become a major force in Indian domestic cricket. We wish all the players and the franchises the best of luck and hope that everyone brings their best sportsman spirit, talent and showcase the depth and magnitude of cricketing talent in Odisha."

To ensure excellence in planning and execution, OCA has partnered with Arivaa Sports as the exclusive management partner for the league. Arivaa Sports has a proven track record, having successfully executed similar leagues in Bengal, Vidarbha, and Saurashtra.

Subhranshu Senapati, Swastik Samal, Govinda Poddar, Sandeep Pattnaik, Aashirwad Swain and Suryakant Pradhan are the marquee players for the inaugural season of the T20 league.

Odisha women shine in All-India T10 Tennis Ball Cricket C'ship



POST NEWS NETWORK

Puri, Sept 12: The Odisha women's team opened their campaign in the third All-India T10 Tennis Ball Cricket Championship with a commanding seven-wicket victory over Jharkhand at the Shree Jagannath Cricket Stadium in Penthakata Friday.

The hosts had already registered an opening-day win against Sikkim, giving them momentum early in the competition. Friday's fixtures featured matches in both the men's and women's categories.

In the men's division, Himachal Pradesh defeated Tripura by six wickets in the day's opener, while Madhya Pradesh beat Karnataka by eight wickets in the second match. Chhattisgarh secured a six-wicket victory over Bihar in the third.

In the women's division, Goa overcame Uttar Pradesh by six wickets in the opening game, and Karnataka edged Bihar by seven runs in the second. Later, Odisha powered past Jharkhand by seven wickets, before Uttar Pradesh sealed a 51-run win over Andhra Pradesh in the fourth match.