

HERE . NOW


Orissapost

VOLUME 15, ISSUE 166 | www.orissapost.com

BHUBANESWAR | MONDAY | SEPTEMBER 15, 2025


12 PAGE | ₹5.00

DSPL-255



ଶ୍ରୀ ନରେନ୍ଦ୍ର ମୋଦୀ
ପ୍ରଧାନମନ୍ତ୍ରୀ





ଶ୍ରୀ ମୋହନ ଚରଣ ମାଝୀ
ମୁଖ୍ୟମନ୍ତ୍ରୀ, ଓଡ଼ିଶା

ନିୟୁକ୍ତି ମେଳା

ମୁଖ୍ୟମନ୍ତ୍ରୀ

ଶ୍ରୀ ମୋହନ ଚରଣ ମାଝୀଙ୍କ

କରକମଳରେ

ନୂତନ ଭାବେ ଚୟନୀତ ଓଡ଼ି ବିଭାଗର

୧୭୮୭ ଜଣ ପ୍ରାର୍ଥୀଙ୍କୁ

ନିୟୁକ୍ତିପତ୍ର ପ୍ରଦାନ

୩୪
କୃଷି ଓ କୃଷକ
ସଶକ୍ତିକରଣ ବିଭାଗ

୬୧
ଅର୍ଥ ବିଭାଗ

୪୧୩
ଜଳସମ୍ପଦ ବିଭାଗ

୩୭
ଆଇନ ବିଭାଗ

୨୩
ମତ୍ସ୍ୟ ଓ ପ୍ରାଣୀ ସମ୍ପଦ
ବିକାଶ ବିଭାଗ

୯୮୨
ସ୍ୱାସ୍ଥ୍ୟ ଏବଂ ପରିବାର
କଲ୍ୟାଣ ବିଭାଗ

୧୩୬
ଦକ୍ଷତା ବିକାଶ ଏବଂ
ବୈଷୟିକ ଶିକ୍ଷା ବିଭାଗ

୧୫ ସେପ୍ଟେମ୍ବର ୨୦୨୫

ଇଡ଼କୋ ପ୍ରଦର୍ଶନୀ ପଡ଼ିଆ, ୟୁନିଟ୍ - ୩, ଭୁବନେଶ୍ୱର

କୃଷି ଓ କୃଷକ ସଶକ୍ତିକରଣ ବିଭାଗ | ଅର୍ଥ ବିଭାଗ | ଜଳସମ୍ପଦ ବିଭାଗ | ମତ୍ସ୍ୟ ଓ ପ୍ରାଣୀ ସମ୍ପଦ ବିକାଶ ବିଭାଗ |
ସ୍ୱାସ୍ଥ୍ୟ ଏବଂ ପରିବାର କଲ୍ୟାଣ ବିଭାଗ | ଦକ୍ଷତା ବିକାଶ ଏବଂ ବୈଷୟିକ ଶିକ୍ଷା ବିଭାଗ

ଓଡ଼ିଶା ସରକାର

OIPR-32001/13/0012/2526

FORTUNE FORECAST

GaneshaSpeaks.com
accuracy • reliability • trust
FOR ASTROLOGY DIAL 55181*

ARIES
You will be in a tight fix as the day starts. However, that's exactly the kind of situation in which your skills are tested. In the evening you will draw a lot of praise for your excellent performance. If Ganesha chooses to shower his blessings on you, you will sign new deals.

TAURUS
Money matters are likely to take up most of your time, this day. Ganesha sees that you will have quite a time handling the difficulties and complexities they pose. You may not find an easy way out of your financial problems and will find it hard to take firm decisions.

GEMINI
You are likely to be in a romantic mood today. You may just end up falling in love today. A difficult situation will bring out the competitive streak in you and spur you on to physical and mental excellence. Your capacity and intelligence will be testified to by your work, says Ganesha.

CANCER
Today is a day for taking things slowly, especially on the business front. This applies the most to the stockbrokers and also others who invest in stocks or shares on the side. Stars are not so bright today and haste will only worsen the matters. People involved in speculation, chance games and shifty markets may feel frustrated. Ganesha also advises the manufacturers not to launch a new product today, and rather wait for a better period.

LEO
You will be unable to express the feelings that rise up inside you in spite of wanting to. However, keep them close to your heart. You will be very serious about your work today. There is a possibility of some delay in your schedule today due to unforeseen problems, says Ganesha.

VIRGO
Ganesha says today you will be highly motivated. Your creative talents and abilities set you apart as an excellent artist. Words will flow if you give vent to your creativity, and if you choose to sing or dance, you will be the focus of attention. Ganesha advises you to pursue the performing arts or writing as hobbies.

LIBRA
Ganesha advises you not to take stress about small issues or matters. To avoid tension and to gain mental peace it is advised you perform yoga or meditation. There will be pressure put on you regarding certain matters at the work-front. You should take decisions regarding critical matters only after carefully weighing the pros and cons.

SCORPIO
You can be fondly called as 'the perfectionist' today. Right from being punctual to following a systematic method for your work, you do it all. All in all, you set an ideal example for the people around you, says Ganesha.

SAGITTARIUS
Take it as a piece of advice: tough times don't last; tough people do. The day has a lot of ups and downs in store for you. However, you are the sailor of stormy seas and would sail through all the troubles easily. Take the advice given by your near and dear ones, says Ganesha.

CAPRICORN
You can't bear the weight of the heavy work load any more. Very cleverly, you will complete your tasks and slowly but steadily you take the load off your shoulders, predicts Ganesha. Attentive and observant, you meticulously plan your actions and minimise the chances of errors. Today, your efforts will not be effectively channelised, but it will not be a bad day, also.

AQUARIUS
You are talented, hard working, confident and down to earth. These four characteristics are the pillars of success. Now, it is time build the building. Your curiosity and desire to achieve your goals will help you with it, feels Ganesha. In order to succeed, you may skip a 'quality check' of your output.

PISCES
A reckless attitude is the root cause of any downfall. Ensure responsible behavior and actions at every step at your workplace, today, suggests Ganesha. Be alert and focused and you will be able to dodge any incoming trouble. Today is a day of materialization and the projects and other things that you have been working on since a long time will draw close to completion and begin to pay off.



SYDNEY SWEENEY TO PORTRAY BOXING LEGEND CHRISTY MARTIN

Sydney Sweeney, known for *Euphoria* and *The White Lotus*, undergoes a remarkable transformation to portray boxing legend Christy Martin in the upcoming biopic *Christy*, set for release November 7. The film follows Martin's journey to prominence in competitive boxing while confronting her personal struggles, including an abusive marriage

BENICIO DEL TORO ON WORKING WITH LEONARDO DICAPRIO

Benicio del Toro and Leonardo DiCaprio teamed up for *One Battle After Another*, which premiered at Hollywood's TCL Chinese Theatre. Del Toro praised DiCaprio, sharing how he has long admired the actor's work and how rewarding it was to collaborate with him on the intense and thrilling film project



Tamannaah's relationship aspirations

Mumbai: Actors Tamannaah Bhatia and Vijay Varma grabbed headlines when their relationship and breakup became the talk of the town. After they parted ways in March 2025, Tamannaah stayed mostly silent about love—until a recent interview where she opened up about the kind of partner she aspires to be.

She shared, “I am trying to work on becoming a great life to be that life someone feels have done karma in That's

trying to work on becoming a great life to be that life someone feels have done karma in That's

trying to work on becoming a great life to be that life someone feels have done karma in That's

trying to work on becoming a great life to be that life someone feels have done karma in That's

trying to work on becoming a great life to be that life someone feels have done karma in That's

trying to work on becoming a great life to be that life someone feels have done karma in That's

trying to work on becoming a great life to be that life someone feels have done karma in That's

trying to work on becoming a great life to be that life someone feels have done karma in That's

trying to work on becoming a great life to be that life someone feels have done karma in That's

Ileana on postpartum battle

Mumbai: Ileana D'Cruz, the acclaimed actress, opened up about the mental health struggles she faced after welcoming her second child, Keanu Rafe Dolan, with husband Michael Dolan earlier this year. Although she was physically pre-

pared for the experience, the emotional challenges caught her off guard.

Reflecting on the experience in a recent interview, the *Rustom* star revealed that she knew exactly what she wanted during her pregnancy—and what she didn't. Defying expectations, she chose to go unmedicated during delivery, avoiding an epidural and working with her nurse to create a plan that suited her. The approach proved successful, as her delivery was quick and she was discharged the next day.

However, the postpartum phase was far more difficult. Unlike her first experience with Koa Phoenix Dolan in 2023, this time she had to care not only for a newborn but also for a toddler and herself. Deborn but also for a toddler and herself. Despite knowing what to expect, she found it mentally exhausting and missed the support of friends back in Mumbai. Ileana shared that connecting with someone who understands helps, and privacy has been comforting. On the work front, she starred in the 2024 rom-com *Do Aur Do Pyaar* with Vidya Balan and Pratik Gandhi.

AGENCIES

Mrunal recalls life-changing role

Mumbai: Actress Mrunal Thakur, who has been in the film industry for over a decade, began her journey with the internationally acclaimed indie film *Love Sonia*. Her performance in the film was widely appreciated and marked a powerful debut. Over the years, she transitioned from Bollywood to Telugu cinema, choosing an unconventional path that showcased her versatility and passion for storytelling. On the film's seventh anniversary, Mrunal shared an emotional note on

Instagram, recalling how *Love Sonia* changed her life. “I was just a small-town girl, with big dreams in her heart, and somehow out of thousands, Sonia chose me,” she wrote. She fondly remembered working alongside legends like Demi Moore, Freida Pinto, and others, and how their kindness made her feel welcomed. She also expressed gratitude to director Tabrez Noorani, whose words about making a meaningful impact stay with her till today. Mrunal added that *Love Sonia* went beyond

entertainment—it inspired change, supported NGOs, and saved lives. “Sonia gave me courage, a voice, and a family in cinema,” she said. Now celebrated as a bankable Pan-India star, Mrunal continues to shine across genres, with exciting projects on the horizon.

AGENCIES



Aamir slams unfair industry practices

Mumbai: Aamir Khan recently addressed the growing concern over rising entourage costs in the film industry, highlighting how it burdens producers and strains film budgets, especially in the post-Covid era where box office returns remain uncertain.

Speaking on Komal Nahta's show *Game Changers*, the actor, who is both a star and a producer, urged that producers should only pay for what's necessary for the film's production, like makeup, hair, and costumes—not for personal expenses such as drivers, trainers, or cooks.

Aamir expressed his disapproval of stars asking producers to cover personal costs. “I have self respect. Now, will they also pay my children's school fees?” he remarked, emphasising that actors earning in crores should bear their own expenses. He added that from the start of his career, he never allowed producers to pay for his personal staff and continues to cover such costs himself, even while traveling with his family.

He clarified that helping with professional requirements, like wrestling coaches for *Dangal*, is acceptable, but personal indulgences only harm the industry. Aamir warned that unchecked demands could soon extend to expenses like new flats. He called this trend unfair, harmful, and shameful, urging stars to act responsibly and avoid exploiting their producers.

AGENCIES

PEANUTS



CALVIN AND HOBBS

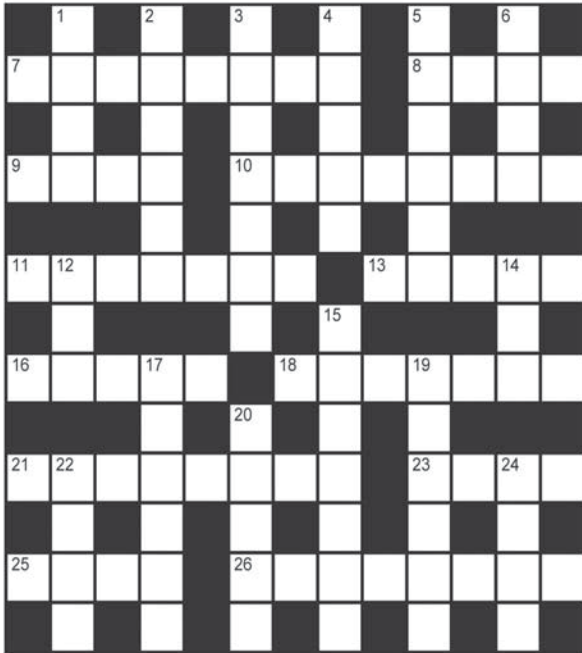


BREVITY



FUN post

CROSSWORD



- Across**
- 7 Anteater
 - 8 Mini-whirlpool
 - 9 Sloughs
 - 10 Musical events
 - 11 Old World monkey
 - 13 Kitchen appliance
 - 16 Coffee order
 - 18 Ritzy
 - 21 Hawaiian volcano (5,3)
- Down**
- 23 Narrow margin of victory
 - 25 Harbinger
 - 26 Fish tank
 - 12 Lumberjack's tool
 - 14 Delivery vehicle
 - 15 Express an opinion (5,2)
 - 17 Shade provider
 - 19 Introverts
 - 20 Loose outer garment
 - 22 Zenith
 - 24 Knock for a loop

CHECK FOR SOLUTIONS OF THE PUZZLES TOMORROW

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.

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

SOLUTIONS

R	W	G	A	R	P
S	E	D	A	T	E
M	X	N	G	A	O
C	A	B	G	L	E
I	D	H	E	A	I
I	N	H	I	B	I
V	S	O	A		
N	O	V	E	L	
X	R	J	E	E	L
I	C	E	H	O	W
A	U	I	L	E	A
C	R	I	S	I	S
T	E	E	T	D	A

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

CROSSWORD

SUDOKU



CLASS ACT: India's captain Suryakumar Yadav plays a shot during the Asia Cup cricket match between India and Pakistan at Dubai International Cricket Stadium, United Arab Emirates, Sunday. India registers a convincing seven-wicket victory over Pakistan (**Report P12**)

AP/PTI PHOTO

Vandals would be brought to justice: Nepal PM Karki

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Kathmandu, Sept 14: Nepal Prime Minister Sushila Karki Sunday said those involved in violence and destruction across the country during the anti-government protests last week would be brought to justice.

Karki, 73, who assumed office at the newly-built Home Ministry building at Singhdurbar Secretariat in Kathmandu at around 11am, also announced that those who were killed during the 'Gen Z' protest will be declared "martyrs" and their families will be provided one million Nepalese rupees each.

Karki was appointed caretaker PM by President Ramchandra Paudel on the recommendation of the Gen Z group, which overthrew the KP Sharma Oli

government through a two-day protest Tuesday. Addressing a meeting of secretaries and senior government officials soon after assuming office, Karki said those involved in the violence and destruction of public and private property will be brought to justice. She said the arson and vandalism during the protests of September 9 was "pre-planned" and the Gen Z protesters were not involved in such activities.

The govt announced that those killed during the protest Sept 8 and 9 will be declared "martyrs" and their families will be provided 1 million Nepalese rupees each while ensuring free treatment to the injured. She instructed Chief Secretary to arrange for the repair of the destroyed police posts across the country.

CM to lay stones for projects worth ₹25,379 crore today

POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar, Sept 14: In a major industrial boost for the state, Chief Minister Mohan Charan Majhi will lay foundation stones for 27 large-scale projects worth ₹25,379.34 crore across 12 districts at Ouat Krushi Siksha Sadan Conference Hall here, Monday.

The event is expected to attract leading industry figures from across India and provide a platform for direct interaction with the state leadership. The ceremony will underline Odisha's long-term strategy — boosting the economy while ensuring inclusive job creation. Officials said the new projects, spread across multiple districts, will diversify the state's industrial base. While Odisha has traditionally been known for mining and heavy industries, the upcoming units will also cover renewable energy, agro-processing, logistics, and modern manufacturing, widening the scope of opportunities. "Odisha's growth will be



measured not just in crores invested but in livelihoods secured," said a senior official of Industries department. The upcoming ceremony is seen as part of a broader effort to transform Odisha from a resource-based economy into a manufacturing and knowledge-driven hub. For young job seekers, particularly in vocational and technical fields, the new projects bring hope of fresh employment avenues. Local entrepreneurs are equally watchful. "If these industries create strong MSME linkages, small businesses will finally get the boost they need," said a city-based entrepreneur.

Home guard aspirant dies

POST NEWS NETWORK

Chhatrapur, Sept 14: In a shocking incident, an aspirant for home guard post collapsed during a physical test being conducted at the Reserve Police Grounds at Chhatrapur in Ganjam district and died at a hospital Sunday.

The deceased was identified as Shibaram Pradhan under Tarasingh police station. According to officials, candidates were undergoing mandatory physical tests when Pradhan fell ill while running. He was rushed to Chhatrapur Hospital and later shifted to MKCG Medical College and Hospital in Berhampur, where he succumbed during treatment.

Following the incident, the afternoon physical tests were suspended and aspirants were sent back home. Authorities said the interviews would resume later as per instructions from higher authorities.

When contacted, Ganjam SP Shubhendu Patra confirmed the death, saying the body would be sent for post-mortem once family members arrive.

Significantly, this is not the first such tragedy in the recruitment process. Two other candidates died and six others turned critical during similar recruitment tests at Paralakhemundi in Gajapati district May 29 this year.



Shibaram Pradhan

practising for physical test in Gurkha sepoy recruitment drive of Odisha Special Armed Police (OSAP) 2nd Battalion in Jharsuguda Sunday, police said.

The deceased was identified as Govind Kumal, a young aspirant from Nepal.

According to police, the OSAP 2nd Battalion is scheduled to conduct its recruitment test for appointment of 135 Gurkha sepoy (of age 18 to 25) September 17.

About 3,000 aspirants from Nepal came to Jharsuguda to take part in the test, and many of them have been practising for the physical tests at the police parade ground Sunday morning. While preparing for the physical tests, Govind suddenly collapsed, a police officer said.

The youth was rushed to a local hospital, where a doctor declared him brought dead, he said.

"We have informed the family members of the deceased. After conducting a post-mortem, the body will be handed over to his family," the police officer said. The incident has cast a shadow among Nepali youths who came to Jharsuguda for the recruitment test.

Nepali youth dies preparing for test



A youth from Nepal died of suspected cardiac arrest while

IRREGULAR by MANJUL



How can we say no to cricket? It's the game of quick U-turns

Violence rocks Churachandpur

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Churachandpur/Imphal, Sept 14: A day after Prime Minister Narendra Modi's visit, violence broke out in Manipur's Churachandpur Sunday amid protesters demanding the release of two men arrested earlier in the week for vandalising decorations put up in preparation for the PM's visit.

On the night of September 11, several banners and cutouts put up at Pearsonmun and Phailien Bazaar were vandalised. In connection with that incident, several youths were picked up by the



police. While all of them were released after questioning, two youths were arrested.

Demanding their immediate release, a mob started a demonstra-

tion near Churachandpur police station. The situation subsequently escalated, and they hurled stones at the security forces.

Police said they were trying to bring the situation under control.

Modi visited the state Saturday for the first time after ethnic clashes broke out between Kukis and Meiteis in May 2023. He addressed a public rally in Churachandpur, promising to make the state a "symbol of peace".

He also met the people affected by the violence in the district and unveiled a slew of developmental projects.

AI's retro glam trend reveals darker reality

DEEPAK KUMAR DEHURY, OP

Bhubaneswar, Sept 14: After the 3D model-making trend, Instagram users have already moved on to another viral craze — this time centred on retro sarees and old-school cinema vibes. The latest filter-style edits, powered by Gemini, are transforming regular photos into portraits that look like they belong in a classic film poster. However, this new trend points to darker and concerning sides of AI-use.

Insta is replete with resplendent images of women appearing in elegant sarees, bathed in soft lighting, and framed by romantic, retro backdrops. The style echoes the golden age of 1990s Bollywood mixed with a Pinterest-inspired aesthetic. The visuals are nostalgic — grainy textures, golden hour lighting, and old film-like aesthetics.

Loss of originality

Since many people are using the same or similar prompts, the



resulting images end up being very similar. The visual formula becomes very standardized — moody, golden light, retro grain, specific saree colours, etc. Over time, "novelty" decreases and one loses personal uniqueness.

This can lead to a flattening of aesthetics. Diversity of styles might get suppressed because

only what goes viral is 'safe' or 'popular'.

Unrealistic ideals

These AI edits often present an idealised version of the self-perfect lighting, perfect pose, and cinematic effects. This may lead to people comparing themselves unfavourably with edited images, even though those images are heavily manipulated.

There's also risk of pressure to conform to certain 'vintage Bollywood' beauty norms: fair skin, ideal proportions, specific features, etc.

Consent, privacy, misuse

Once people upload images to these tools or share AI-edits, there's a risk that those images could be used unexpectedly or shared without full awareness of where they go, how they are stored, etc.

AI models often train on large datasets. Sometimes people don't know whether their photos might feed into larger AI model training or dissemination.

AI tools often have built-in biases (skin tone bias, facial feature bias, beauty norms). The 'vintage' aesthetic chosen might favour lighter skin, smoother textures, certain facial features. If the AI isn't well-trained for diverse looks, some people will be misrepresented or excluded.

Authenticity

The line between one's own identity and the edited/AI-generated person can blur. People may feel pressure to present themselves in AI-filtered / edited forms, rather than just as they are.

This can reduce the value of photography/portraiture as an honest expression.

Companies might exploit these trends to get engagement and advertisements, like pushing certain aesthetics so that people buy filters, subscriptions, etc.

The algorithms of social media reward looks that fit popular templates; that could push unhealthy beauty standards or even encourage filter addiction.

DHARITRI
YOUTH
CONCLAVE 2025

DHARITRI CLIMATE GRANT JURY

DR. DEBABRATA SWAIN
FORMER PCFDO
LOKAYUKTA ODISHA MEMBER

ARUN KRISHNAMURTHI
FOUNDER, EFI

ADYASHA SATPATHY
CEO, DHARITRI & ORISSA POST

SOUMYA RANJAN BISWAL
COASTAL CONSERVATIONIST

PRAKASH MARDARAJ
WILDLIFE BIOLOGIST

Please send details to :
dharitriyouthconclave@gmail.com
Visit : www.dharitriyouthconclave.com for details

Last Date of Entry : 10th October 2025

APPLY NOW

https://t.me/dharitriyouthconclave

Odisha to join Swasth Nari Sashakt Parivar Abhiyaan

Consumers shouldn't suffer: Min

POST NEWS NETWORK

POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar, Sept 14: Odisha is all set to participate in ‘Swasth Nari Sashakt Parivar Abhiyaan’, a transformative health campaign focused on comprehensive screening, nutrition, and wellness of women, which will be launched by Prime Minister Narendra Modi September 17 during his visit to Dhar district of Madhya Pradesh.

As part of the initiative, 75,000 health camps will be organised across the country, providing healthcare services focused on specific needs of women and children at Ayushman Arogya Mandirs and CHCs, along with Poshan Maah celebrations at all Anganwadis.

At the state level, the programme will be inaugurated at IDCO Ground, Unit-III in presence of Chief Minister Mohan Charan Majhi, Health and Family Welfare Minister Mukesh Mahaling, along with other dignitaries. Simultaneously, the regional launch will be inaugurated by Union Tribal Affairs Minister Juel Oram at Government Medical College,



Sundargarh.

More than 5,000 women beneficiaries will participate in the state programme from September 17 to October 2, undergoing screening for TB, NCDs, anaemia, and cancer. Based on their health needs, they will also receive personalised counselling on nutrition and dietary diversity.

Across all 30 districts, the target is set to screen maximum number of women and girls for hypertension, diabetes, oral, breast, cervical cancers, anaemia, TB, sickle cell disease, maternal health and NCDs. Screening camps will be organised at Ayushman Arogya Mandirs, PHCs, UPHCs, CHCs, UCHCs and in remote villages.

During the campaign, all pregnant women in the state will undergo antenatal check-ups by specialists, girls left

out of routine immunisation will be covered and anaemic women and girls will receive free treatment.

State-wide blood donation camps will be organised in co-ordination with National Voluntary Blood Donation Day October 1.

The state government has urged the beneficiaries to carry Aadhaar Card, ABHA ID or Ayushman Card for registration through the MoHFW mobile app. IEC materials have been shared with districts to ensure widespread community awareness.

The campaign is being launched by the state Health department, in collaboration with the Women and Child Development, ST and SC Development, Minorities and Backward Classes Welfare, School and Mass Education, and Mission Shakti departments.

In the first phase, screening will also include women service providers and frontline workers, ensuring comprehensive coverage of government women employees across both rural and urban areas.

POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar, Sept 14: State Food Supplies and Consumer Welfare Minister Krushna Chandra Patra Sunday welcomed the Centre's decision to revise the maximum retail price (MRP) norms, calling it a pro-people step aimed at protecting consumers from arbitrary pricing and restoring fairness in the marketplace.

Speaking to the media in Bhubaneswar Sunday, Minister Patra stated, “The Prime Minister has taken a good decision keeping in mind the interests and convenience of the common public. Our department fully supports and welcomes this move. The profit and loss of wholesalers is secondary — what matters is public welfare.”

The minister confirmed that

the revised MRP policy will come into force across Odisha by the end of December 2025, or earlier if existing stocks are exhausted. The revised pricing framework is expected to cover a wide range of packaged goods, essential food items, and daily-use commodities.

As per the key rules under the new MRP policy, all packaged goods must display the revised MRP, especially in cases where GST rates have been reduced. The old MRP will not be erased. Instead, the new price must be printed or labeled alongside the old price for consumer clarity. The revised MRP labeling must be in place by December 31, or sellers must clear out existing stock before continuing sales.

District-level enforcement squads will begin regular in-



spections after the deadline. Violators may face penalties, including fines or suspension of trade licenses.

Minister Patra acknowledged concerns raised by small retailers and wholesalers about the transition. He assured that the state government would run awareness campaigns and extend technical support to ease the change.

“The aim is not to burden

businesses, but to ensure fairness for all. Consumers should not suffer due to price manipulation or lack of transparency,” the minister stressed.

To further support consumer rights, the Food Supplies department also plans to launch a helpline and a mobile app to allow citizens to report over pricing and MRP violations.

The move has received support from economists, consumer rights groups and civic bodies, who believe it will help tackle inflationary pressures and protect household budgets.

As the December deadline nears, the Odisha government has made it clear fair pricing is non-negotiable, and the new MRP policy will be implemented in full force to uphold the interests of consumers across the state.

Venugopal slams BJP over India-Pakistan match

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Bhubaneswar, Sept 14: Senior Congress leader KC Venugopal Sunday criticised the BJP over the India-Pakistan match in Dubai, alleging that its leaders indulge in creating ‘fake narratives’ on patriotism.

Venugopal was speaking to reporters in Bhubaneswar as India faced off with Pakistan in an Asia Cup fixture, the first match between the two sides since the military conflict in May. “These (BJP) people talk about patriotism, and now they are doing this (allowing the Indian team to play against Pakistan),” he said.

“When Leader of Opposition Rahul Gandhi raised issues concerning China in Parliament, the BJP called him a Chinese agent. However, they had no problem when PM Narendra Modi himself visited China. I think the BJP leaders are creating a fake narrative on patriotism,” he added. Another senior party leader, Ajay Kumar Lallu, said this was the “darkest day” in India’s history. “The entire world saw how Pakistan killed innocent people in India. All parties came together to give a befitting reply to Pakistan for what it had done,” he said.

“When the children of the country are saying that India should not play against Pakistan, the BJP-led government allowed the match only to gain monetary benefit at the cost of the dignity of the country. The country will not forgive the prime minister for this,” he claimed.

IIT-Bhubaneswar organises nutrition awareness session



POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar, Sept 14: To mark National Nutrition Month, Sanjeevan Health Centre of IIT-Bhubaneswar, in collaboration with Kalinga Hospital, organised an awareness talk on “Reducing Consumption of Sugar, Salt and Oil” at the institute’s Community Centre, Sunday. The session was delivered by Clinical Nutritionist at Kalinga Hospital, Bhubaneswar Anjana Tripathy. The event also featured millet food sampling and sale to promote healthier dietary choices.

Addressing the gathering, Tripathy described excess sugar, salt, and fat as “silent culprits” behind obesity, diabetes, and heart ailments. She urged people to adopt small lifestyle changes such as choosing fruit-infused water, reducing salt in cooking, and measuring oil usage. Emphasising the importance of preventive nutrition, she said, “Food is medicine

— by choosing whole grains, fruits, vegetables, and healthy fats, we can safeguard overall health and liver function.”

The event also sought to dispel common myths around nutrition, stressing that skipping meals or avoiding all fats is unhealthy. Instead, it highlighted mindful eating, balanced diets, and moderation in high-fat, salt, and sugar intake as keys to long-term wellness. Millet-based foods were showcased, sampled, and offered for sale, underscoring their value as sustainable and nutritious options. The initiative reinforced the theme, “Nutrition for All – Together Towards a Healthy India.”

IIT-Bhubaneswar Resident’s Clubs Advisor Shruti Karmalkar graced the programme, while Professor-in-Charge (Healthcare) Seema Bahinipati, NSS Coordinator Sivaiah Bathula, and Senior Medical Officer Mansoor Ahmed Khan were also present.

Congress to raise fertiliser issue in Assembly: Kadam

POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar, Sept 14: State Congress Legislature Party (CLP) leader and Pottangi MLA Rama Chandra Kadam Sunday criticised the state government over the fertiliser issue and said the OPEC will raise the matter in the upcoming Assembly session.

Speaking to the media, Kadam alleged that the state government is neglecting farmers by ignoring the fertiliser shortage. “Farmers have been facing this problem for the last 1.5 months, yet ministers claim there is no shortage, which is shocking,” he said.

Kadam slammed the state government, alleging that people in his constituency are forced to stand in long queues and pay double for fertilisers.

He said black marketing has become rampant due to scarcity, leaving farmers with no choice but to buy in black. “If farmers are struggling to get fertilisers, how can ministers claim there is no shortage? The Congress party will raise this in the upcoming Assembly session,” he added.

AWARENESS THROUGH MOVIES

TPCDT hosts ‘Tanvi The Great’ screening



POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar, Sept 14: Tata Power Community Development Trust (TPCDT), in partnership with Anupam Kher Studio, organised a special screening of the film ‘Tanvi The Great’ at INOX Cinemas, Bhawani Mall here Sunday. The event is part of Tata Power’s flagship ‘Pay Attention’ initiative, aimed at fostering awareness, understanding, and inclusion for individuals on the Autism Spectrum and the wid-

er neurodiversity community.

The event witnessed participation from 440 individuals, including Tata Power led Odisha Discoms leadership, employees, 295 special children, neurodiverse children and PWDs, along with caregivers, educators, NGO partners, government officials, committed to advancing neurodiversity inclusion.

The screening brought together a wide network of organisations and individuals dedicated to supporting neurodiverse communities. Partici-

pants included students from the Centre for Autism Therapy, Counselling and Help (CATCH), Manage Autism Now (MAN), Braille Louis School, and Loyola School’s Affirmative Action programme, alongside their caregivers, special educators, and volunteers. Several NGO partners—We4you, Sattvic Soul, MFU, MART, NAAM, Mahashakti Foundation, SNEHA, Shree Jagannath Hospital, and PANTISS—helped with their expertise and resources to make the event impactful.

Speaking on the occasion, CHRO and Chief Sustainability, CSR Himal Tewari said, “Inclusion isn’t about treating people with autism differently, it’s about celebrating the uniqueness in each of us.”

‘Tanvi The Great’ is a powerful narrative about a young neurodiverse girl who defies societal limitations to pursue her dream. The film sensitively captures the challenges and strengths of individuals on the autism spectrum, sparking critical conversations around inclusion, acceptance, and resilience.

Nat’l Lok Adalat resolves over 96K cases in Khurda

POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar, Sept 14: The third National Lok Adalat of the year concluded successfully in Khurda district, where 1,26,802 cases were taken up and 96,156 disposed of, resulting in settlement of ₹17.71 crore through fines, compromises, and revenue recovery. Conducted under the directives of NALSA and Odisha State

Legal Services Authority, the drive marked a major push for speedy justice delivery.

The special sitting was held across all judicial and revenue courts in Bhubaneswar, Khurda, Banpur, Jatni, Tangi, Chilika, and Begunia. Khurda District & Sessions Judge and chairman of Bhubaneswar District Legal Services Authority, Justice Biranchi Narayan Mohanty, supervised the proceed-

ings along with senior judicial officers.

The Lok Adalat covered a wide spectrum of disputes including land and property issues, criminal compoundable cases, revenue disputes, motor accident claims, matrimonial and family disputes, labour and employment matters, electricity and water supply issues, bank loan defaults, and other cases of public importance.

District Legal Services Authority secretary Sabyasachi Pradhan coordinated the event and presented the compiled results from all courts to the District Judge. He extended gratitude to judicial officers, revenue officials, telecom and banking authorities, insurance representatives, lawyers, court staff, and volunteers for their cooperation in making the Adalat a success.

Aspiring singer gangraped in City

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Bhubaneswar, Sept 14: A woman was allegedly raped by three persons at a lodge in Bhubaneswar, police said Sunday.

The accused were arrested Saturday, and they have confessed to the crime, a police officer said.

The incident took place September 10 after the accused took her to the lodge in Chandrasekharpur area here and offered her a sedative-laced drink, according to the police complaint. They had lured the woman, who is a singer, with the assurance of handing her a big musical project, the officer said.

Further investigation is underway, the officer said.

POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar, Sept 14: The Sainik School Banchao Alia Gada Hatao Abhiyan Sunday announced plans to gherao the Regional Pollution Control Board office in Patia September 22 and launch a hunger strike, demanding the removal of the Gadakana dumping yard.

At a meeting, the forum blamed both the Bhubaneswar Municipal Corporation (BMC) and Odisha State Pollution Control Board (OSPCB) for negligence. Campaign convener Prasanna Bishoyi demanded that the Pollution Board revoke the CTO issued to BMC within seven days.

The group alleged that the illegal dumping yard at Sainik School has caused severe environmental and health hazards for over 22 years, affecting near-



ly half of the city’s population.

Students of the prestigious Sainik School have reportedly suffered serious illnesses, tarnishing the institution’s reputation and bringing disrepute to Odisha nationally. The use of chemical sprays to control foul odors has further worsened the impact.

The Odisha State Pollution Control Board (OSPCB)

overlooked these threats and issued a consent to operate (CTO) without proper monitoring. A joint inspection by BMC and OSPCB September 9 revealed that the processing unit lacked valid documents, with the civic body having only sought permission to operate a dumping station. The Pollution Board directed BMC to clear the garbage within seven days. Environmental activists have described the issuance of the CTO despite these violations as a serious procedural lapse.

“If the CTO is not cancelled by September 22, we will gherao the Regional Pollution Control Board office. If the BMC fails to remove the waste immediately, we will launch an indefinite hunger strike from September 24,” announced Prasanna Bishoyi, spokesperson of the campaign.

Contraband worth ₹1.15 crore seized

POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar, Sept 14: Odisha Excise department continued its intensive enforcement drive on the 13th day against illicit liquor and narcotics and seized contraband worth ₹1.15 crore, Sunday with statewide raids and checks.

During the operation, the department registered 223 cases, including 4 under the NDPS Act. A total of 80 persons were arrested, while 78 were released under Section 35 of BNSS. Seizures included 11,442 bulk litres (BL) of illicit liquor, 17 BL of IMFL, 99 BL of beer, 115 BL of country spirit, 259 BL of OS liquor, 1,24,080 BL of fermented wash, 13,950kg of gur wash, 33 litres of duplicate foreign liquor, along with 40kg of ganja and 711kg of mohua flower and 80kg of brown sugar. Enforcement teams also seized 42 vehicles used in the illegal trade. The total value of the seized articles amounted to ₹1,15,36,517 on the day, while the cumulative value of seizures since September 1st has reached ₹18,03,74,970.

WEATHER

	BBSR	CTC	FORECAST
Max Temp	32.2°	31.6°	Light to moderate rain or Thunder-shower very likely to occur at many places over the districts of Odisha
Min Temp	25.4°	25.4°	
Humidity	87%	95%	
Rainfall	15.2mm	14.6mm	

FOR CLASSIFIED ADVERTISEMENTS CONTACT OUR BOOKING STATIONS

Acharya Vihar-DayalAgency-9437135727, A.P. Tours and Travel, Maitri Vihar, C.S. Pur- 9861301598, Aurobindo Market-SaiAudio & Electronics-9438304668, Airport Road-Sai Baba Variety Store-9090071530, Anish Infotech- Tankapani Road-9861341488, Bapuji Nagar- Dreamland Studio- 9777517314, Baramunda Rental Colony-Maa Ramchandi Communication-9658821469, Baramunda Housing Board Colony-Pappu Variety Store-9040500106, Cuttack Road-Alishan Snacks-8984236754, District Center (Chandrasekharpur)-Sai Google Mart-9776056507, Forest Park-DTDC Couriers & Services (HB Services)-7381024156, IRC Village-Bapi Xerox-9090090404, Gift Hut(Antriksh Gifts & Decors Pvt. Ltd.)-9954781084, Pruthvi Medicine-9853314816, Janpath-Krupajal Book Store-7978646669, Jaydev Vihar-AK Enterprises-7978116618, Subam Sai Books Store-8895550649, Swain Graphics- 9337121249, Jagannath Mobile Point- Janpath Road, Ram Mandir- 9938475415, Kanan Vihar-Auro Electronics-8260697560, Khandagiri- Swosti Mobile Centre- 7992914045, World Solution- 9938317559, KIIT Road-Jugad Jn-9338545031, Laxmi Sagor-Aditya Mobile-9438191836, Lewis Road-Spider Web-7809186415, Metro Satellite City-Arogya Mitra Medicine Store-9853621640, Madhusudan Nagar-Mohapatra Communication-9124446664, Maa Santoshi travels- Gajapati Nagar- 9777675867, Nayapalli- The Cake Room- 7873660137, Near Mayfair Lagoon-Cookiemann-9439491273, Nigamananda-Omm Sai Travels-9668284823, Nr Cosmopolis Main Gate- Shreeram Medical Store- 8763711714, Net Square- Niladri Vihar (C.S. Pur)- 7205634821, Priyadarshini Market-Astro Point-9938134346, R.N. General Store-Nilakantha Nagar-94388642501, Sahid Nagar- Maa Communication- 9437353424, Sahini General Store- Near Patia Railway Station, Mahavir Vihar- 9937586626, Satya Nagar-Baishnavi Mixture & Sweets-7894821764, Samantapur- Download Point-7504557743, Sailashree Vihar-Harsha Book Store-8093449515, Saheed Nagar-Jagannath Graphics-7978652670, Photo World-7978468191, Sainath Photo Studio-8984436129, Shanti & Co-9937071063, Siripur-Omm Maa Sarala Communication-9777682449, Sushree fashion- Jagmara-9938714347, Shree Vision- Sailashree Vihar-9861476678, Unit-3-LIC of India Premium Point-9337787080, Unit-7- LIC Premium Point- 9338227422, VSS Nagar-Friends Cake & Bake-8658200930, Jeet Infoworld-7205195782, XIMB Square-LD Books-9658061373.

GOVERNMENT OF ORISSA OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER <u>RURAL WORKS DIVISION, KARANJIA (MAYURBHANJ)</u>		No.O-773
E-mail ID : eerwkaranjia@yahoo.com Letter No.3967/WE/Date : 11.09.2025		
“E” Procurement Notice for Construction of Building works for year 2025-26 Bid Identification No - RWDKNJ-07/2025-26		
1. Name of the work : “Infrastructure Development of Government Higher Secondary Schools for the year 2025-26” (Details as per Annexure), 2. Estimated Cost : Rs.51.00 to 64.75 Lakhs (Approximately), 3. Class of Contractor : ‘B’ Class (of Odisha P.W.D.), 4. Period of Completion : 9 Calendar Month, 5. Tender Paper Cost : Rs.10,000/-		

“

Timidity is a form of vanity. When you are timid, it means that you attach more importance to the opinions others have of you than to the sincerity of your actions



THE MOTHER

Brazilian Justice

In a landmark verdict, the Brazilian Supreme Federal Court, that country’s highest judicial authority, on 11 September convicted former president Jair Bolsonaro for attempting a coup d’état following his defeat to Luiz Inácio Lula da Silva in the October 2022 presidential elections. After a lengthy and rigorous trial, the court found him guilty and sentenced him to 27 years and three months in prison—a punishment reflecting the gravity of the charges. Six high-ranking officers, including three generals, were also convicted along with Bolsonaro. Given the former president’s age and fragile health at 70, the sentence may still be adjusted.

Nevertheless, this verdict marks a historic first: never before in Brazil’s turbulent political history has an attempted coup resulted in conviction. The decision carried particular symbolic weight because the deciding vote came from Judge Cármen Lúcia, the lone woman on the five-judge panel. For, Bolsonaro is infamous for his misogyny, especially his disparaging remarks toward women.

Despite pressure from Bolsonaro’s allies to push for an amnesty law, the ruling sends a clear message. Democracy is safeguarded at the ballot box, not through the dismantling of institutions. The country’s history makes this judgement especially significant. From 1964 to 1985, a Right-Wing military dictatorship ruled over Brazil with repression, torture, and extrajudicial killings—all backed by US administrations. A National Truth Commission later documented these crimes, but no perpetrators were ever convicted. Civilian rule was restored in the 1980s while Bolsonaro’s presidency re-empowered the armed forces politically, reopening old wounds.

Bolsonaro’s conviction carries implications far beyond Brazil’s borders. During his presidency, he aligned himself closely with US President Donald Trump, who at the time was serving his first term in office. As Bolsonaro’s trial unfolded, Trump denounced the proceedings as a “witch hunt” and imposed 50 per cent punitive tariffs on Brazilian goods in retaliation. The 11 September guilty-verdict was also swiftly condemned by the US as Secretary of State Marco Rubio accused Brazil of engaging in “political persecution”—language commonly used by Far-Right groups worldwide to discredit judicial rulings. Rubio went ahead, threatening more reprisals. Ironically, such heavy-handed tactics may risk driving Brazil closer to Beijing, a result Washington should want to avoid.

Attention now turns to Brazil’s 2026 presidential election. Unless Bolsonaro succeeds in overturning his conviction and accompanying election ban, he will be sidelined from the race. Lula has yet to confirm his candidacy, but he would enter as the frontrunner. A runoff against Right-Wing contender Tarcísio de Freitas, a former army captain often seen as Bolsonaro’s political heir, could nonetheless be tightly contested. Bolsonaro’s conviction also risks casting him as a political martyr, a role that could galvanize support for figures who embrace his brand of politics. Indeed, in the days before the verdict, roughly 40,000 of his supporters rallied in Rio de Janeiro and São Paulo, underscoring his continued influence. Still, the Supreme Court’s ruling represents a powerful statement: despite ongoing polarisation, the likelihood of successful challenges to Brazil’s democratic order has been sharply reduced.

This contrasts sharply with the US experience. While Brazil held a former leader accountable for subverting democracy, Trump has evaded prosecution despite orchestrating a relentless campaign against the 2020 election outcome which he called an “electoral fraud” without providing an iota of evidence. The 6 January 2021 attack on the US Capitol, the most brazen assault on American democracy in modern times, ended not in accountability but in presidential pardons for many involved.

The 11 September Brazil ruling is not an end but a beginning. The South American country remains deeply polarised, mirroring the divisions that have consumed the US and many other democracies including India. To be admired here is the spine shown by Brazil’s judiciary. In the face of all adversities it proves one thing for sure: the Brazilian justice system stands firm and unwavering.



Slawomir Sierakowski

MAKE NO MISTAKE: PUTIN IS TESTING TRUMP, WHOSE BIAS AND SERVILITY TOWARD RUSSIA HAVE NEVER BEEN MORE OBVIOUS

WISDOM CORNER

“When we are no longer able to change a situation - we are challenged to change ourselves

VIKTOR E. FRANKL

“Where love rules, there is no will to power; and where power predominates, there love is lacking. The one is the shadow of the other

CARL JUNG

“Life can only be understood backwards; but it must be lived forwards

SOREN KIERKEGAARD

THIS DAY IN HISTORY

■ **1821:** Central Americans granted independence. On this day in 1821, Central American notables accepted a plan drafted by the Mexican caudillo Agustín de Iturbide that brought independence from Spain to Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, and Nicaragua.

■ **1894:** Battle of Pyongyang ends with decisive Japanese victory. The major land battle took place between the forces of Meiji Japan and Qing China during the First Sino-Japanese War.

■ **1916:** The tank was used for the first time in combat, by the British during World War I.

■ **1935:** The Nürnberg Laws, among the first pieces of racist Nazi legislation that would culminate in the Holocaust, were passed in Germany; designed by Adolf Hitler, they deprived Jews of German citizenship and forbade marriage or sexual relations between Jews and “citizens of German or kindred blood.”

■ **1963:** A Ku Klux Klan bomb kills 4 young African-American girls. Four members of the white supremacist group, set off a timed bomb at the 16th Street Baptist Church, a predominantly black church in Birmingham, Alabama. The bombings marked a watershed moment in the Civil Rights Movement in America.

■ **1978:** Muhammad Ali won the world heavyweight boxing championship for the third time with his victory over Leon Spinks.

LOL

GATHERING CHICKENS

The farmer’s son was returning from the market with the crate of chickens his father had entrusted to him, when all of a sudden the box fell and broke open. Chickens scurried off in different directions, but the determined boy walked all over the neighbourhood scooping up the wayward birds and returning them to

the repaired crate. Hoping he found them all, the boy reluctantly returned home, expecting the worst. “Pa, the chickens got loose,” the boy confessed sadly, “but I managed to find all twelve of them.” “Well, you did real good, son,” the farmer beamed. “You left with seven.”



SPECTRUM SOCIETY

Prioritising student well-being over performance

In a country where academic success is often seen as the ultimate measure of a person’s worth, the tragic and alarming rise in student suicides has forced a long-overdue reckoning. The Supreme Court, in a powerful and compassionate judgement, has shattered the silence surrounding this mental health crisis. By stepping in to mandate comprehensive mental health support in all educational institutions, the Court has not just delivered a legal ruling; it has issued a moral clarification call, signaling that the lives and well-being of our students are paramount. This landmark decision recognises a grim reality: the relentless pressure to succeed, particularly in competitive exams like the NEET, has created a pressure cooker environment where a young person’s emotional safety is often an afterthought.

The statistics are a stark indictment of our collective failure,

with thousands of young lives lost to a system that prioritises rote learning over resilience and grades over genuine happiness. According to the National Crime Records Bureau, between 2019 and 2021, the country witnessed over 35,000 student suicides, with numbers rising precipitously from 10,335 in 2019 to 13,089 in 2021. This translates to an average of 36 students taking their own lives each day. Each number is a story, a future extinguished, a family shattered, a community left searching for answers.

The Court’s ruling is a direct and bold response to this epidemic. By mandating a uniform mental health policy, including the appointment of qualified counselors and mandatory psychological first-aid training for all staff, the judgement lays the groundwork for a more humane educational system. These are not just bureaucratic checkboxes; they are life-saving measures designed

to transform high-pressure environments into nurturing spaces. The move to hold institutions accountable through district-level monitoring committees and compliance affidavits is a crucial step, ensuring that these guidelines do not just exist on paper but become a practical reality. This is a clear message to schools and coaching centres alike: you are now responsible for the emotional and mental welfare of your students.

Beyond the broad policy directives, the Court’s intervention in the specific case that prompted this ruling - the suspicious death of a young student, underscores its commitment to justice. The decision to transfer the investigation to the CBI is a vital act of restoring public trust. It acknowledges that when a student’s life is at stake, no stone should be left unturned and no systemic failure can be ignored. This is a clear warning to institutions

that may have turned a blind eye to negligence and to law enforcement agencies that may have mishandled such sensitive cases.

Ultimately, this judgement is more than just a legal decree; it is a profound re-evaluation of what we value as a society. For too long, we have celebrated academic achievements while ignoring the human cost. The Supreme Court has now asked us to change that narrative. It is a powerful invitation for us to build an educational ecosystem where success is not measured solely by a student’s rank, but by their ability to thrive, to seek help when they need it and to feel safe and supported. It is now up to all of us - educators, parents and policymakers to ensure this vision becomes a reality.

The writer is founder, Supporting Shoulders, an organisation striving for mental health of students.

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

Strategic stranglehold

Sir, This refers to “Resource rivalry,” **Orissa POST**, Sept 14. China’s overwhelming control over global supply chains is no longer seen as a concern restricted to the US and the EU. Every significant nation now views Beijing’s dominance as a strategic threat, given its seamless integration into manufacturing, rare earth minerals, semiconductors, and technological ecosystems. The sheer depth of China’s supply chain networks, coupled with its rapid strides in AI and machine learning, has elevated its influence to a point where complete isolation is impossible. This reality explains why Washington, despite its rhetoric, is reluctant to impose punitive tariffs on China akin to those slapped on India. The US cannot afford to rupture its economic interdependence with Beijing, knowing that industries, from electronics to pharmaceuticals, would face immediate disruption. The same logic restrains Europe, which continues to balance criticism of China with quiet dependence on Chinese goods and technologies. China’s power rests not just in cheap labor but in its strategic stranglehold over critical global supply arteries. That dominance has left the world walking a tightrope—denouncing China’s rise while reluctantly acknowledging that decoupling is an illusion.

N Sadhasiva Reddy, BANGALORE

Political turbulence

Sir, Brazil’s former President Jair Bolsonaro has been sentenced to 27 years in prison for his role in attempting a coup. Bolsonaro, often dubbed “Brazil’s Trump,” retains strong support—thousands marched in his favour, and even US President Donald Trump has voiced his solidarity with the former Brazilian president. The ruling has sparked political turbulence in Brazil, Latin America’s largest democracy, with concerns of deepening polarisation. Adding to tensions, the US has imposed a steep 50 per cent tariff on Brazilian goods in response to the prosecution. For India, which enjoys strong trade ties with Brazil through the BRICS grouping and agricultural imports, this instability may disrupt supply chains and weaken Brazil’s role as a regional partner, requiring cautious diplomatic balancing.

RS Narula, PATIALA

FROM DOORSTEPS TO COMPOST PITS

How Kerala’s ‘Green Army’ changed waste forever

The state government says Kerala no longer depends on landfills or centralised dumps; instead, it manages its waste at source, creating jobs and a cleaner environment along the way

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Thiruvananthapuram, Sept 14: In Kerala, known for its high literacy rate and scenic backwaters, an unlikely force has taken centre stage in the battle against waste—women in green uniforms, knocking on doors with sacks and ledgers in hand.

They are the Haritha Karma Sena—women-led squads who collect and sort rubbish at household level. What started as a local experiment in composting has now grown into a full ecosystem of solid waste management.

The state government says Kerala no longer depends on landfills or centralised dumps; instead, it manages its waste at source, creating jobs and a cleaner environment along the way.

The approach is decentralised, and crucially, it is monitored digitally.

Beyond household waste, Kerala has also begun to set up faecal sludge treatment plants under the national AMRUT programme—a move aimed at tackling the more intractable problem of liquid and sanitary waste.

Talking about the success of the solid waste management initiative, Kerala Local Self-Government Minister MB Rajesh said, “We have achieved self-sufficiency in solid waste management liquid will take more time, but we are confident about achieving it.”

The minister emphasised that strict enforcement and active public participation were crucial in reaching the milestone.

“We amended our Panchayat Raj Act and Municipality Act



to give local bodies teeth to penalise offenders. So, those who don’t hand over their non-bio waste will not get any services from local bodies, and those who are not ready to pay the user fee will have their user fee charged with the property tax, along with a fine,” Rajesh said.

“Our door-to-door waste collection has doubled in the last two years, but still, civic sense has not improved correspondingly. People still throw away (waste)... so we have created facilities now, the focus will be on educating people,” he added.

In the last five months, Rajesh said, the government has collected Rs 9.55 crore in fines for littering.

Though, at the heart of the decentralised system is the Haritha Karma Sena -- a network of more than 37,000 trained women workers, mostly from the Kudambashree mission, the minister said.

“The Haritha Karma Sena is a novel initiative. They work at the grassroots level, collecting non-bio waste from door to door. In 2024-2025, they

collected 1.52 lakh tonne of non-bio waste... 95 per cent of houses and shops are covered by them,” Rajesh told reporters during an interaction here.

According to the officials, these “green soldiers” collect, segregate and transfer waste from households and institutions to local collection facilities.

They are not just sanitation workers, but also entrepreneurs, earning from user fees, compost sales and recycling contracts.

Complementing the sena’s work is the Clean Kerala Company Ltd, which acts as an aggregator, transferring non-biodegradable waste to recycling agencies and cement factories for use as Refuse-Derived Fuel (RDF), officials said.

While solid waste systems are maturing, liquid and sanitary waste remain a challenge.

“We are going to achieve a total treatment facility for sanitary waste. Within the next four months, four regional plants will be set up and 120 tonne of sanitary waste can be treated and processed,” Rajesh said.

“It is estimated that 100 tonne of waste is generated every day, but the plants will be able to handle 120 tonne,” he added.

Furthermore, Kerala’s waste management strategy insists that biodegradable waste must be processed as close to the source as possible, like at homes, institutions, or community centres, with the state promoting bio-bins, compost pits, ring composts, and community facilities like biogas plants.

As of June 2025, more than 25 lakh households have installed source-level devices, while 271 community biogas plants and 1,303 composting facilities treat organic waste daily.

“Also, we are promoting source-level treatment of bio waste and have announced a five per cent tax exemption to all households that have source-level treatment at home,” Rajesh said.

Talking about the 2023 Kochi dump yard blaze, Rajesh said in the aftermath of the incident, it was decided to clear all the garbage from the site and claimed that the government was just a month away from achieving its goal.

“We announced in the assembly that we will convert this (blaze) into an opportunity and that area (dump site) will be converted into a garden—a modern waste management destination. Now, we can very proudly claim that 90 per cent of that dumpsite has been cleared. Out of 9 lakh metric tonne, more than 8 lakh metric tonne of waste have been cleared... Within one month, the remaining waste will be cleared,” he added.

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Lucknow, Sept 14: Uttar Pradesh has witnessed a spurt in seizures of psychotropic substances over the past two years, with state capital Lucknow and its neighbouring Barabanki emerging as the epicentres of the crackdown, official data shows.

From consignments of Alprazolam running into lakhs of tablets to recoveries of Tramadol, Buprenorphine, Codeine and even raw powder used for tablet-making, officials of the Central Bureau of Narcotics (CBN) said the seizures point to an organised illicit pharmaceutical network that has spread in parts of UP.

Such drugs are seized as illegal trade can cause dependency and addiction in some, and in worst cases overdose and death.

Alprazolam, Tramadol, Buprenorphine and Codeine are controlled under the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances (NDPS) Act, 1985, which empowers agencies like the CBN to intercept, seize, and prosecute offenders involved in their diversion, trafficking, or illicit manufacturing.

According to official data accessed by PTI, Barabanki has repeatedly turned up as a major hub. In 2024 alone, multiple raids led to the seizure of huge stocks of Alprazolam and NRx medicines, often in the range of 60,000 to 3.2 lakh tablets at a time.

The trend continued into 2025, with the district also recording recoveries of Alprazolam powder, indicating its use in clandestine processing and tablet manufacturing.

Lucknow, meanwhile, has emerged as the centrepiece of the state’s drug seizures in 2025. A single raid July 16 led



to the recovery of over 18.47 lakh Alprazolam tablets, along with 2.19 lakh Tramadol tablets, 13,175 ampules of Buprenorphine injections, 700 Pentazocine ampules and 5,355 Codeine bottles, in the biggest such haul by the CBN in the capital yet.

“The seizures reflect the growing scale of diversion of pharmaceutical drugs and the need for continuous monitoring and crackdown, as seen in recent times,” a senior officer aware of the matter told PTI.

Enforcement records also show that the problem is no longer confined to a few pockets.

In 2024, seizures were logged from Barabanki (January, April and May), and once each in Bijnor (September) and Varanasi (December).

However, the number of seizures have more than doubled till August this year only with successful raids reported twice from Barabanki (January, August), thrice from Lucknow (May, two times in July), and once each in Bareilly (February), Varanasi (June), Agra (June).

Tramadol tablets and Codeine bottles were seized from Varanasi and 1 kg of Alprazolam powder was recovered from Bareilly, suggesting a pipeline of raw material feeding into the illegal trade.

Officials point out that the

nature of the seizures has also diversified. While 2024 was dominated by tablets, mostly Alprazolam and NRx, the following year saw consignments that included powders, injections and syrups.

“The variety of substances being trafficked indicates both growing demand among users and adaptability by suppliers to plug into multiple markets,” the official said.

In the latest breakthrough following intelligence inputs from Madhya Pradesh, CBN’s regional team nabbed a suspect from UP-Bihar border after an overnight operation September 11-12, busting a Ketamine supplying racket allegedly linked to the poll-bound state.

Officials believe diversion from legitimate supply chains, coupled with illegal processing units, is feeding the racket.

The discovery of Alprazolam powder consignments, in particular, has triggered concern that tablet pressing is being carried out in hidden facilities within the state.

Senior officers maintain that the heightened seizures reflect “improved policing and inter-agency coordination”. Yet, they concede that the sheer volume and spread of recoveries indicate that traffickers have ramped up their operations.

“Each big seizure is both a success and a warning -- it shows how much has already penetrated into the system,” said another officer who was part of the crackdowns.

Officials said as Uttar Pradesh and the Centre move to tighten their monitoring of controlled medicines, the challenge for enforcing laws lie in “keeping pace with the evolving methods” of traffickers who are “increasingly diversifying” both substances and routes.

Baghpat cops take exam on new criminal laws

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Baghpat/Lucknow (UP), Sept 14: Around 260 examinees hunched over trying to answer 75 questions in an hour under a tight vigil. Only that these were not students, but police inspectors and sub-inspectors testing their reasoning capacity vis-à-vis their knowledge of the three new criminal laws.

The idea of the one-hour objective test held at Baghpat Police Lines September 7 came to Superintendent of Police Suraj Kumar Rai upon noticing that the investigation officers were unable to effectively pursue cases and ensure conviction before the court.

“To overcome this shortcoming, we planned the ‘Baudhik Kshamta Pariksha’ (Reasoning capacity test),” Rai told PTI, adding that those who cleared the test with high scores would be tasked with the responsibility of key cases.

The first-of-its-kind test was aimed at assessing their knowledge of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita, 2023, the Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita, 2023, and the Bharatiya



Sakshya Adhiniyam, 2023, the SP said.

He said that DGP Rajeev Krishna had ordered officials to ensure that cops were handed assignments that matched their aptitude in areas like forensics, cybercrime, knowledge of law, outdoor policing, and drafting. “Those candidates who didn’t perform well would be trained in our training cell,” Rai said, adding that he was checking the answers himself to have a first-hand idea of the performance of the 260 personnel.

They included 42 women police personnel. “We plan to hold such tests regularly,” Rai said.

Asked about a video circulating on social media, purportedly showing examinees adopting unfair means during the exam, the SP said, “We are looking into it.”

FROM ALLEGATIONS AGAINST MAMKOOTATHIL TO CUSTODIAL TORTURE

KERALA ASSEMBLY LIKELY TO BE STORMY

press trust of india

Thiruvananthapuram, Sept 14: The 12-day-long Kerala Legislative Assembly session, set to begin here Monday, is likely to be stormy as both the ruling LDF and Opposition UDF may target each other over a host of issues ranging from police atrocities to sexual misconduct allegations against Palakkad MLA Rahul Mamkootathil.

The House is being convened at a time when the CPI (M)-led government and the Congress-headed Opposition are facing some embarrassing matters.

Though the UDF was basking in their remarkable victory in the Nilambur bypoll and was looking ways to sharpen their attack against the ruling front in the House, the multiple sexual misconduct allegations surfaced against Mamkootathil became an unexpected blow for them.

Though the Palakkad legislator had resigned as Youth Congress state president and had been suspended from the party, the Congress is still struggling to find a convincing narrative to tackle the questions of political opponents.



ical opponents.

As Mamkootathil had been in the forefront of protests against the state government and CM Vijayan inside and outside the Assembly, he is likely to face sarcastic comments and protests in the House if he attends the session.

Neither Mamkootathil nor the Congress has confirmed about his participation so far.

However, Assembly Speaker AN Shamseer Sunday said he received a letter from Leader of Opposition V D Satheesan requesting him to change his seat from the opposition bloc as the

Palakkad MLA was suspended from the Congress parliamentary party.

The recent suicide of two Congress leaders in Wayanad district and a suicide attempt by a family member of one of them are also likely to haunt the UDF during heated arguments in the House.

At the same time, the Congress-led UDF is likely to attack the Left government vehemently over a host of incidents of alleged police atrocities in various places across the state.

They have already been staging state-wide protests after

CCTV visuals of the custodial torture of a Youth Congress leader in Kunnamkulam police station two years ago came out recently.

LoP Satheesan questioned the continuing silence of CM Vijayan, who also holds home portfolio, over the matter and said that the opposition would make him speak in the House on the matter.

The allegations of corruption and financial irregularities raised against some senior CPI(M) leaders by a DYFI leader in Thrissur, the purported audio of which was leaked recently, are also likely to be taken up by the Opposition in the House.

The Travancore Devaswom Board (TDB)’s move to organise Global Ayyappa Sangamam, hosts of allegations against the state Health Department, the spread of amoebic meningoencephalitis, a brain fever which claimed several lives in the state in the last two months, and alleged delay in the rehabilitation initiatives in landslide-hit Wayanad are likely to trigger intense debate.

The financial constraints of

the state and the situation after the GST reformation are expected to be raised by the finance minister and the opposition is likely to counter it by pointing out the alleged extravagance of the state government.

Speaker Shamseer said the 14th session of the 15th Kerala Assembly would be held in three phases from September 15 to October 10. The House would be adjourned after obituary references to former Chief Minister VS Achuthanandan, former speaker PP Thankachan, and Peerumedu MLA Vazhoor Soman Monday.

He said the upcoming session is exclusively dedicated to law-making -- nine days for legislation and two days for private members’ bills.

Four bills, to be presented in the House, have been finalised and 13 other bills are also expected to come up during the session.

The discussion and voting in connection with the supplementary grants for the budget of the financial year 2025-26 would be held October 6, he said adding that the House would be adjourned on October 10.

UP govt charts roadmap for \$6 trillion economy by 2047

INDO-ASIAN NEWS SERVICE

Lucknow, Sept 14: The Uttar Pradesh government is envisioning and preparing a concrete action plan to realise the vision of “Viksit Uttar Pradesh – Samarth Uttar Pradesh @2047”.

The Yogi Adityanath-led government aims to make Uttar Pradesh a \$1 trillion economy by 2030 and a \$6 trillion economy by 2047.

A special focus has been placed on future-oriented industries, including artificial intelligence (AI), biotechnology, green energy, and agritech for achieving this objective.

A blueprint is also being prepared across 12 key sectors, including agriculture, IT and emerging technology, health, education, industry, social welfare, rural and urban development, tourism, hospitality, live-

stock, sustainable development, and governance.

The framework rests on three missions – ‘Samagra Vikas’ (all-round development), ‘Aarthik Netrutva’ (economic leadership), and ‘Sanskritik Punarjagran’ (cultural renaissance) -- and three themes of Arth Shakti, Srijan Shakti, and Jeevan Shakti.

Notably, the state has long been counted among the “Bimaru” states due to weak law and order, poor infrastructure, and lack of investor confidence.

However, in recent years, Uttar Pradesh has seen significant improvement in the security landscape through police modernisation, command-and-control centres, and Operation Conviction, which boosted conviction rates.

This has restored investor trust, leading to record investments of more than Rs 45 lakh

crore at the 2023 UP Global Investors’ Summit, of which Rs 15 lakh crore has already been granted.

Moreover, the state government is focusing on employment generation through Global Capability Centres (GCCs) and IT hubs.

Renewable energy, smart city infrastructure, and supply chain development are also expected to generate millions of medium- and low-skilled jobs.

In rural areas, agritech and cold chain projects are expected to boost local employment and reduce urban migration.

Skills development schemes and private partnership initiatives will make this employment roadmap practical and achievable.

Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath has set itself a target of \$6 trillion economy by 2047.

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Thrissur (Kerala), Sept 14: Cricketer KL Rahul and animal rights group PETA India Sunday donated a life-size mechanical elephant to a temple dedicated to Lord Vishnu in central Kerala.

The symbolic elephant, named Padmanabhapuram Padmanabhan, was dedicated to Sree Padmanabhapuram Mahavishnu Kheeram, an ancient temple near Guruvayur, PETA India said in a statement.

On the occasion of Sree Krishna Jayanti, Sai Sanjeevani Trust President Swami Hari Narayanan unveiled the mechanical elephant, which will be used to conduct temple ceremonies in a safe and cruel-



ty-free manner. The initiative was facilitated by PETA India in recognition of the temple’s decision to never own or hire live elephants.

Padmanabhapuram Pad-

manabhan is the thirteenth mechanical elephant donated to temples by PETA India and the eighth in Kerala, the statement said.

“By embracing mechanical elephants in temples, we honour both our spiritual duties and the elephants. These engineering marvels allow us to truly worship the earthly representatives of Lord Ganesha by letting them live in peace in their natural habitats,” Rahul said.

“Mechanical elephants show that devotion, innovation, and compassion can coexist,” he added. MN Narayanan Namboothiri, president of the temple committee, welcomed the donation and urged other temples to adopt the technology.

“Given the recent tragic incidents involving captive elephant attacks during festivals in Kerala, we request other temples to consider mechanical elephants for the safety of devotees and the animals,” he said.

According to figures compiled by the Heritage Animal Task Force, captive elephants killed 526 people in Kerala over 15 years, PETA noted.

Since early 2023, PETA India has promoted the use of mechanical elephants in temples, and at least 20 are now deployed across South India. The mechanical elephants are three meters tall, weigh 800 kilograms, and are constructed with rubber, fibre, metal, mesh, foam, and steel, powered by five motors, the statement added.



CEOs that 60 years ago might have been making four to six times more than what the workers are receiving ... 600 times more (now)

POPE LEO | CATHOLIC CHURCH LEADER

RISING INTEREST IN HINDI ACROSS RUSSIA

Three decades after the Soviet Union collapse, Russia is witnessing a growing interest in students wanting to learn Hindi and the government is increasing the number of institutions teaching the language. Russia's Deputy Minister of Science and Higher Education Konstantin Mogilevsky said "we want more of our students to learn Hindi"



SHORT TAKES

Nepal Police re-arrest 3,723 jail inmates

Kathmandu: More than 3,700 inmates, who had escaped from different jails during the violent anti-government protests in Nepal last week, have been arrested again, police said Sunday. Deputy Inspector General Binod Ghimire, spokesperson of Nepal Police, said that 3,723 inmates have been brought to jails till Sunday afternoon. However, as 10,320 prisoners are still at large, he urged the public to remain alert. Some of the prisoners returned voluntarily while Indian police also helped to arrest those who tried to escape to India, he said.

Ukraine attacks major Russian refinery

Moscow: Ukraine launched a big attack with at least 361 drones targeting Russia overnight, sparking a brief fire at the vast Kirishi oil refinery in Russia's northwest, Russian officials said Sunday, reporting no injuries. As big powers talk about how to end the deadliest conflict in Europe since World War Two the drone war has escalated, with Russian drones downed in NATO-member Poland and attacks by Ukraine against oil refineries and pipelines in Russia, the world's second biggest oil exporter. Russia's defence ministry said at least 361 drones had been shot down by Russian air defence systems, including four guided aerial bombs and a US-made HIMARS missile. It did not give details about the location of the attacks.

China's military warns Philippines

Beijing: China's military said Sunday it had conducted routine patrols in the South China Sea and warned the Philippines against any provocations. The two countries have been engaged in a long-running maritime standoff in the strategic waterway that has included regular clashes between coast guard ships and massive naval exercises. A spokesperson for the Chinese military's Southern Theater Command said the Philippines must immediately stop provoking incidents and escalating tensions in the South China Sea.

Israel intensifies Gaza bombing as Rubio arrives



REUTERS

Cairo/Jerusalem, Sept 14: Israeli forces destroyed at least 30 residential buildings in Gaza City and forced thousands of people from their homes, Palestinian officials said, as US Secretary of State Marco Rubio arrived Sunday to discuss the future of the conflict.

Israel has said it plans to seize the city, where about a million Palestinians have been sheltering, as part of its declared aim of eliminating the militant group Hamas, and has intensified attacks on what it has called Hamas' last bastion.

The group's political leadership, which has engaged in on-and-off negotiations on a possible ceasefire and hostage release deal, was targeted by Israel in an airstrike in Doha

- Rubio visits Israel after strike on Hamas in Qatar
- Israel presses on with Gaza City and West Bank plans
- Rubio to hold talks with Netanyahu during visit
- Arab states to hold emergency meeting Monday

Tuesday in an attack that drew widespread condemnation.

Qatar will host an emergency Arab-Islamic summit Monday to discuss the next moves. Rubio said Washington wanted to talk about how to free the 48 hostages - of whom 20 are believed to be still alive - still held by Hamas in Gaza and rebuild the coastal strip.

"What's happened, has happened," he said. "We're gonna meet with them (the Israeli leadership). We're gonna talk about what the future holds,"

ARAB-ISLAMIC SUMMIT TO BACK QATAR

REUTERS

Doha, Sept 14: An Arab-Islamic leaders summit in Doha Monday is expected to rally support for Qatar in the wake of last week's Israeli attack targeting the Palestinian militant group Hamas in the Gulf state.

A draft of the resolution that will be considered by heads of state condemned Israel's attack as a destabilising escalation and said the states opposed Israel's "plans to impose a new reality in the region."

The draft, which was seen by Reuters, did not mention any



diplomatic or economic moves against Israel. The resolution may change before the leaders meet in Doha Monday.

The attack, which Hamas says killed five of its members but not its leadership, has prompt-

ed US-allied Gulf Arab states to close ranks, adding to strains in ties between the United Arab Emirates and Israel, which normalised relations in 2020.

The emergency summit, bringing together members of

the Arab League and the Organization of Islamic Cooperation, began with a meeting of foreign ministers Sunday to craft the draft resolution. The gathering is a message that "Qatar is not alone and that Arab and Islamic states stand by it," Arab League Secretary General Ahmed Aboul Gheit told Asharq al-Awsat newspaper.

NETANYAHU KEEPS UP PRESSURE

Hitting back at global condemnation of the September 9 attack, Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu has kept up pressure on Qatar over the presence of Hamas leaders on

its soil, warning Doha Wednesday to either expel Hamas officials or "bring them to justice, because if you don't, we will".

Qatar, a key mediator in efforts aimed at ending the nearly two-year Gaza war, has accused Israel of sabotaging chances for peace and Netanyahu of practicing "state terrorism". A member of Qatar's internal security forces was among those killed.

US President Donald Trump has signalled unhappiness over the Israeli attack, saying it did not advance Israeli or US goals, calling Qatar a close ally working hard to broker peace.

ANTI-MIGRANT MARCH

People have a right to peaceful protest: Starmer



Far-right activist Tommy Robinson organised a march attended by around 110,000 people Saturday

REUTERS

London, Sept 14: British Prime Minister Keir Starmer said people have a right to peaceful protest after more than 100,000 demonstrators joined an anti-immigration march through London Saturday, but he condemned assaults on police and said Britain was built on tolerance and diversity.

Far-right activist Tommy Robinson organised a march attended by around 110,000 people Saturday. Police said 26 officers were injured, while it made an initial 25 arrests with more expected to follow.

"People have a right to peaceful protest. It is core to our country's values," Starmer said on X Sunday.

China rejects US push for tariffs on Russian oil imports

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Beijing, Sept 14: China's Foreign Minister Wang Yi has rebuffed the US call to G7 countries to impose tariffs on countries purchasing oil from Russia, saying that war cannot solve problems and "sanctions only complicate them".

"China does not participate in or plan wars, and what China does is to encourage peace talks and promote political settlement of hotspot issues through dialogue," Wang Yi said in an apparent reference to US Treasury Secretary Scott Bessent's call to G7 ministers to impose sanctions on countries importing oil from Russia to stop the Ukraine war.

A US Treasury Department statement said Saturday that Treasury Secretary Bessent during a call with G7 finance ministers, reiterated President Donald Trump's call to G7 countries that if they are truly committed to ending the war in Ukraine, they should join the US in imposing tariffs on countries purchasing oil from Russia.



"China is a responsible major country and also a country with the best record on peace and security issues," Wang said during talks with his Slovenian counterpart Tanja Fajon Saturday, official media here reported. "War cannot solve problems, and sanctions will only complicate them," Wang said, adding that China insists on resolving international disputes through dialogue and consultation, state-run Xinhua news agency reported.

Bessent's statement did not name any country. But the US has often blamed India and China for purchasing Russian oil even when there are no tariffs on Beijing for it.

"Only with a unified effort that cuts off the revenues funding (Russian President Vladimir) Putin's war machine at the source will we be able to apply sufficient economic pressure to end the senseless killing," Bessent said.

WEEK'S BEST PICS



People attend a vigil at Orem City Center Park, in Orem, Utah, September 11



Oliver Strumpfel attempts to break the world record for beer-mug carrying with 31 mugs, but he drops some mugs along the way, at the Hofbrauzelt tent in Gillamoos festival, in Abensberg, Germany, September 7



Palestinians react, as smoke and flames rise while a residential building collapses after an Israeli air strike, in Gaza City, September 7



Participants ride Criollo horses as they compete in the Freio de Ouro, Brazil's main competition for handling Criollo horses, a breed native to the South American pampas, in Esteio, Brazil, September 6



'Sadhis' at the Pashupatinath Temple in Kathmandu, Nepal, Sunday, Sept. 14. As the security situation in the Himalayan nation gradually returned to normal following anti-government protests, President Ram Chandra Paudel announced that fresh elections will be held March 5 next year

of the day

quote

We have been very strong in export, but in the last few years because of capacity constraints, the focus was more on domestic



TARUN GARG | WHOLE-TIME DIRECTOR AND COO, HMIL

One of the problems in India we have is that we have put all Alcho-Bev as one thing (for taxation). Beer is natural, has less than 6 per cent alcohol, and is compared with (whisky and other products having) 40 to 45 per cent alcohol



VIVEK GUPTA | CEO AND MD, UBL

Our objective is to make sure that we start to look at India not just as one country but as many countries within. One India has many Indias in it, and that is how we want to see it, and that is what is helping us take the right corrective actions from a standpoint of how to compete with some of these players



VARUN BERRY | VICE CHAIRMAN & MD, BRITANNIA INDUSTRIES

SHORT TAKES

Over 6crore income tax returns filed so far

New Delhi: More than six crore income tax returns for Assessment Year 2025-26 have been filed so far, the Income Tax department said. The last date to file ITRs without penalty is September 15. "Thank you taxpayers & tax professionals for helping us reach the milestone of 6 crore Income Tax Returns (ITRs) as of now and still counting," the I-T department said in a post on X. To assist taxpayers for ITR filing, tax payment and other related services, our helpdesk is functioning on a 24x7 basis, and the department is providing support through calls, live chats, WebEx sessions & Twitter/X, it added. It also asked taxpayers who haven't filed ITR for AY 2025-26 to file at the earliest to avoid a last-minute rush. The Income Tax department in May announced an extension of the due date for filing ITRs for Assessment Year (AY) 2025-26 (for income earned in financial year 2024-25) by individuals, HUFs and entities who do not have to get their accounts audited from July 31 to September 15. For AY 2024-25, a record 7.28 crore ITRs were filed up to July 31, 2024, compared to 6.77 crore in AY 2023-24, registering a 7.5 per cent year-on-year growth.

Mcap of 8 of top-10 most valued cos rises

New Delhi: The combined market valuation of eight of the top-10 most valued firms jumped by Rs 1,69,506.83 crore last week in tandem with an optimistic trend at the Dalal Street, where Bajaj Finance emerged as the biggest gainer. Last week, the BSE benchmark jumped 1,193.94 points or 1.47 per cent. From the top-10 pack, Reliance Industries, HDFC Bank, TCS, Bharti Airtel, ICICI Bank, State Bank of India, Infosys and Bajaj Finance were the gainers, while Hindustan Unilever Ltd and LIC faced erosion from their valuation. The market valuation of Bajaj Finance jumped Rs 40,788.38 crore to Rs 6,24,239.65 crore. Infosys added Rs 33,736.83 crore taking its valuation to Rs 6,33,773.30 crore. Reliance Industries remained the most valued firm followed by HDFC Bank, TCS, Bharti Airtel, ICICI Bank, State Bank of India, Infosys, Bajaj Finance, Hindustan Unilever and LIC.



India's economy and security are deeply reliant on US software, cloud, and social media platforms, creating a major vulnerability in times of geopolitical tension

AJAY SRIVASTAVA | FOUNDER, GTRI

TATA TECH ACQUIRES ES-TEC

Global product engineering and digital services firm Tata Technologies said it will acquire 100 per cent stake in Germany-based ES-Tec Group and its subsidiaries for a total cash consideration of 75 million euros (over Rs 775 crore)



Gold rally may pause as investors eye US Fed policy decision

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, Sept 14: Gold prices are expected to maintain their upward momentum though some consolidation could set in ahead of the US Federal Reserve's policy decision September 17, analysts said.

Traders will focus on the trade inflation data to gauge the impact of tariffs, inflation numbers from major economies including UK and Euro zone, along with monetary policy meetings of Bank of England and Bank of Japan which will provide more guidance for bullion prices, they added.

"Gold prices continued their positive momentum and closed higher for the fourth straight week, however, the pace of upward momentum slowed with some consolidation seen during mid-week. The price moves of more than 10 per cent over past four-weeks has pushed investors/ traders on the back-foot as they have turned cautious and are reluctant to add fresh longs at current prices.

"However, the ongoing developments related to geo-political issues in the middle-east/ Russia-Ukraine and political developments happening in Europe/ Asia are keeping the bullion supported," Pranav Mer, Vice President, EBG - Commodity & Currency Research, JM Financial Services, said.

The Fed's two-day meeting is scheduled to begin September 16, and will conclude September 17, with a policy decision, followed by Chair Jerome Powell's press conference, set to draw attention amid rising tensions between the US President Donald Trump's administration and Fed officials.

GST cut triggers car loan cancellations

As the cancellation charges are very low compared to the benefit that the customers will get after Sept 22, borrowers are opting for a fresh loan process once the rate cuts kick in

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, Sept 14: Banks are receiving requests for cancellation of approved car loans, in view of the implementation of GST rate cut, which will lower the price of passenger vehicles and also lead to subsequent reduction in the amount needed to purchase them.

It is to be noted that the 56th GST Council meeting earlier this month, approved substantial reduction in the GST rate for cars for up to 1,200 cc to 18 per cent from the existing 28 per cent.

Nearly 400 products - from soaps to cars, shampoos to tractors and air conditioners - will cost less when the rejig of the GST is effective from the first day of Navaratri September 22.

In a run up to September 22, some of the customers who had their car loan approved, are now contacting the concerned branch for cancellation, as they want to purchase after the GST cuts are implemented, a senior official of a public sector bank said.

It is to be noted that many banks have waived-off their processing charges on vehicle and home loans to attract customers during the mon-



soon period.

According to a senior official of the Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs (CBIC), the old GST rate would be applicable on cars if the invoice has been issued to customers by the car dealer.

Customers can avail new GST rate, if the invoice has not been issued by a car dealer.

Another official said there has been a delay in offtake, as borrowers are now waiting for the rate-cut and also due to Shraddha period which is till September 21.

Some of the customers are now opting for the better version of the car under the 1,300 cc category, as they are getting a 10 per cent benefit, the officer added.

Meanwhile, an estimated Rs 2,500 crore accumulated compensation cess on the books of auto companies will lapse September 22, when the new GST rates come into effect.

Currently, automobiles are subject to GST at 28 per cent,

which is the highest slab, and on top of it, a compensation cess ranging from 1 per cent to 22 per cent is levied, depending on the type of vehicle.

The total tax incidence on cars, depending on engine capacity and length, ranges from 29 per cent for small petrol cars to 50 per cent for SUVs.

Effective September 22, petrol and diesel cars with engine capacities of up to 1,200 cc and 1,500 cc will attract 18 per cent GST, while those above that will attract the highest 40 per cent.

Compensation cess on automobiles will cease to exist effective September 22.

CBIC Chairman Sanjay Kumar Agarwal said industry concerns about the accumulation of cess have been raised in various representations. "Compensation cess was imposed for a particular purpose... Once the levy is gone, whatever credit is lying, it will remain lying in their books," Agarwal had said last week.

MARKET OUTLOOK

FII flows likely to drive Sensex, Nifty this week

INDO-ASIAN NEWS SERVICE

New Delhi, Sept 14: The coming week is expected to be crucial for Indian stock markets as investors look ahead to key global and domestic developments.

The US Federal Reserve's policy meeting, progress on India's trade deals with the US and the EU, and the trend of foreign institutional investors (FIIs) will likely set the tone for market movements.

Market experts believe that the US Fed may cut interest rates by 25 basis points in its upcoming meeting.

A deeper cut of 50 basis points, however, would be a surprise and could boost sentiment in global markets, including India.

Updates on India's trade negotiations will also be closely tracked. Last week, Commerce and Industry Minister Piyush Goyal said that discussions on an India-US trade deal are ongoing and that the first phase could be finalised by November.

He also noted that talks on the India-EU trade deal are at an advanced stage. FII activity will be another key driver for the markets.

Out of the last five trading sessions, FIIs were net buyers in two, with inflows worth Rs



129.58 crore on Friday alone. This indicates that the FII trend is slowly turning positive.

The previous week was strong for Indian equities. The Nifty gained 373 points, or 1.51 per cent, to close at 25,114, while the Sensex climbed 1,193.94 points, or 1.48 per cent, to end at 81,904.70.

Looking ahead, experts maintain a positive stance on equities. They suggest focusing on domestic cyclicals such as autos, metals, and consumer discretionary, while keeping a balance with defensives like select FMCG and pharma stocks.

On the technical front, analysts at Religare Broking said the Nifty has tested its previous swing high near 25,150.

"While some consolidation cannot be ruled out, the outlook remains positive with the next upside target seen in the 25,250-25,500 range," Ajit Mishra said.

"On the downside, immediate support lies at 24,800, with the 100-DEMA around 24,650 acting as a stronger cushion," Mishra added.

TURBULENCE AHEAD

Salary delays hit SpiceJet staffers

The airline reported a net loss of ₹238cr in the June quarter this year



PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Mumbai, Sept 14: Budget carrier SpiceJet has been delaying salary payments to a sizable number of its employees for the past few months, according to a source.

SpiceJet employees drawing a salary of up to Rs 55,000 per month have received payment for August, while the rest of the staff has not been paid yet.

"SpiceJet has once again started delaying salary payments to its staff. While employees drawing up to Rs 55,000 per month are getting payments on time, the rest of the staff, mostly Assistant Managers and above level, are getting payments with a delay of 10-15 days," the source said.

SpiceJet did not respond to a query sent on this issue.

The Gurugram-based SpiceJet had a total of 6,484 employees, including 4,894 permanent ones, according to its annual report for FY25.

During 2024-25, SpiceJet provided an interest-free advance

to Ajay Singh, who is the Chairman and Managing Director, an amount of Rs 32 crore for a five-year period in accordance with the Nomination and Remuneration Committee and board-approved policy of the company, as per the annual report.

"The company has adjusted the advance from the salary of subsequent months (April and May 2025), as per the company's policy.

Further, this advance is not prejudicial to the interest of the company," the report said.

The airline reported a net loss of Rs 238-crore in the June quarter this year.

SpiceJet had 18 aircraft in operations, as September 13, out of the total fleet of 53 planes, as per fleet tracking website Planespotter.com.

This is despite the fact that in the last one year the carrier has announced its plans thrice to expand its fleet, each time by at least 10 planes.

At the end of July last year, SpiceJet had 18 operational aircraft and 38 on ground of the total 56 planes in the fleet.

Sanctions halt Nayara's access to non-Russian oil

Russia remains India's largest crude supplier, accounting for over one-third of total imports

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, Sept 14: Nayara Energy - part-owned by Russian oil giant Rosneft PJSC and blacklisted by the European Union in July - is facing difficulties in securing non-Russian crude supplies for a second month in a row as western shipping companies refused to ferry oil for it, ship tracking data showed.

Nayara, which has already cut down the run rate of its 4,00,000 barrels a day oil refinery at Vadinar in Gujarat, remains heavily reliant on Russian barrels since August.

The company got about 2,42,000 barrels per day (bpd) of Russian oil, possibly in ships arranged by Moscow, in August, and another 3,32,000 bpd in the first half of September, preliminary data by global trade analytics firm Kpler showed.

It did not get any crude oil, which is converted into fuels like petrol and diesel at the refinery, from other key sources, such as Iraq and Saudi Arabia, in both August and September. Iraq and Saudi Arabia had supplied about 1,20,000 bpd of crude to Nayara in July.

"Nayara's situation remains challenging under the weight



Indian refiners are unlikely to suddenly abandon Russian supply. Greater diversification is expected, as refiners balance affordability with energy security

SUMIT RITOLIA | LEAD RESEARCH ANALYST (REFINING & MODELING), KPLER

of ongoing sanctions, which have reinforced its reliance on Russian barrels. Post-sanctions, the refinery has struggled with compliance, shipping, payment channels, and lower crude imports," said Sumit Ritolia, Lead Research Analyst (Refining & Modeling) at Kpler.

These issues, however, "are gradually being resolved, and we expect operations to move closer to its economical or rated capacity", he said.

In July, the EU banned imports of petroleum products

made from Russian crude starting in January 2026 and lowered its oil price cap. It sanctioned Russian and international companies managing shadow fleet vessels, traders of Russian crude oil, and a major customer of the shadow fleet - the Vadinar refinery, where Rosneft holds a 49.13 per cent stake.

The sanctions meant that the non-Russia-backed shipping fleet refused to transport oil, and Western insurance companies declined to provide cover for the barrels.

EU sanctions had led to nearly half a dozen top executives of Nayara, including the CEO, resigning from the company.

Russian barrels continued to flow to India in September despite growing pressure from the US to shun supplies from Moscow to get President Vladimir Putin to agree to end the Ukraine war.

Supplies from West Asia, including Iraq, Saudi Arabia and UAE, remained strong in September, indicating India's efforts to balance between discounted Russian grades and reliable traditional supplies to ensure security and avoid overexposure to geopolitical shocks.

Over a dozen firms eye ₹10K-cr amid policy push, favourable liquidity

The pipeline adds to an already strong year for IPOs. So far, 55 companies have floated their maiden public offerings, raising nearly Rs 75K-cr

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, Sept 14: Over a dozen companies are gearing up to launch their IPOs over the next two to three weeks, aiming to raise nearly Rs 10,000 crore, buoyed by supportive policy measures, including GST 2.0 reforms, and the RBI's monetary policy easing through rate cuts.

Among the firms preparing to tap the primary markets are iValue Infosolutions, Saatvik Green Energy, JinKushal

IPOs are coming in sectors backed by strong tailwinds. These sectors include financial services, retail, renewables, manufacturing, and healthcare

VAQARIYAVED KHAN | SENIOR FUNDAMENTAL ANALYST, ANGEL ONE

Industries, Atlanta Electricals, Park Medi World, SolarWorld Energy Solutions, Jain Resource Recycling, CIEL HR Services, GK Energy, Ganesh Consumer Products, Anand



Rathi Share and Stock Brokers, and Sessaasai Technologies, merchant bankers said.

All these companies are expected to announce their price bands in the week begin-

ning September 15 and plan to launch their IPOs before September 30, they added.

Merchant bankers further indicated that this will be followed by offerings from Anantam Highway InvIT (Alpha Alternatives), Epack Prefab Technologies, Pranav Construction, and TruAlt Bioenergy. These firms are likely to announce their price bands during September 22-30, with launches slated for the end of September or early October.

Together, these companies are aiming to mobilise nearly Rs 10,000 crore.

All of them have already secured clearance from the markets regulator Securities and Exchange Board of India (Sebi).

The robust activity comes on the back of a solid 2024, when 91 public issues collectively mobilised Rs 1.6 lakh crore, supported by resilient retail participation, a booming economy, and strong private capital expenditure.

GOLDEN GLOVES

Boxers rule the ring

Jaismine, Minakshi crowned world champions

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Liverpool, Sept 14: Jaismine Lamboria and Minakshi Hooda cemented their place in Indian boxing history here, clinching World Championship titles with gritty wins as the country capped off its best-ever campaign in the women's section on foreign soil.

Jaismine outclassed Paris Olympics silver medallist Julia Szeremeta of Poland in the 57kg summit clash late on Saturday night, prevailing 4-1 on the judges' scorecards (30-27, 29-28, 30-27, 28-29, 29-28) to end her stupendous campaign with a golden flourish.

Debutant Minakshi followed suit a day later Sunday, out-punching Paris Olympics bronze medallist Nazym Kyzai-bay of Kazakhstan by the same margin in the 48kg final to exact revenge for her World Cup loss in July.

Adding to the glory were Nupur Sheoran (80+kg) and the seasoned Pooja Rani (80kg), who signed off with silver and bronze medals respectively, in non-Olympic weight categories.

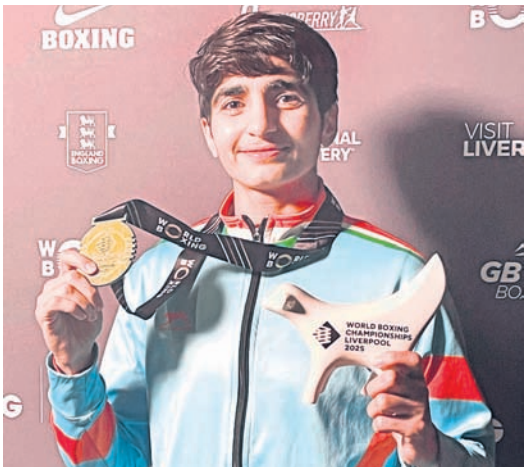
With their victories, Jaismine and Minakshi joined an illustrious list of Indian world champions featuring six-time winner Mary Kom, two-time champion Nikhat Zareen, Sarita Devi, Jenny RL, Lekha KC, Nitu Ghanghas, Lovlina Borgohain and Saweety Boora.

Jaismine shines bright
Competing in her third World Championships, the 24-year-old Jaismine grew steadily into the bout. After a relatively sedate start where both pugilists sized each other up, it was Szeremeta who drew first blood, prodded into action by the referee.



I have no words to describe how I am feeling. I had got out in the quarterfinals in the previous two Worlds, but I got the boost from the World Cup win and I decided I want to win one-sided matches. I just concentrated on my strategy and game

JAIMINE LAMBORIA



tional anthem reverberated through the arena.

Her's is the only medal that came in Olympic weight category.

Minakshi packs a punch

In her final bout, Minakshi made the most of her physical advantage, using her long reach to pepper Nazym Kyzai-bay with sharp shots and keep the multiple World Championships medallist at bay.

The 24-year-old from Rurki looked composed on the back foot, landing clean straight punches, even as the more experienced 31-year-old Kazakh pressed forward with aggression. After dropping the opening round, Kyzai-bay came out firing in the second, resorting to body blows and even pinning Minakshi to the ropes to edge the round 3-2.

But Minakshi was quick to respond. Sensing the shift, she raised her aggression in the third, lunging forward with authority and taking the fight

to her seasoned opponent.

Nupur walks away with silver

Nupur walked away with silver after a narrow 2-3 defeat to Poland's technically astute Agata Kaczmarek.

Despite enjoying a substantial height advantage, Nupur could not impose herself on the contest. She started brightly but Kaczmarek countered with relentless aggression, weaving through her reach and landing body blows that wore the Indian down.

As the bout progressed, Nupur grew hesitant to throw punches. The defining moment of the bout came in the final round when the Pole unleashed a stunning uppercut, enough to tip the verdict 3-2 in her favour.

Pooja signs off with bronze

Pooja signed off with a bronze medal after going down to local favourite Emily Asquith by a 1-4 split verdict in the 80kg semifinals.

Pooja began on the front foot, leading after the first round with her measured combinations. But Asquith adapted swiftly, changing her game plan to negate the 34-year-old's rhythm. The local star pressed forward with sharper counters and cleaner execution, reversing the tide of the contest.

SKY leads from front as India stamp authority on Pakistan

Men in Blue thrash Pakistan by 7 wickets, players refrain from shaking hands

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Dubai, Sept 14: Kuldeep Yadav's craft and Axar Patel's discipline was way beyond comprehension for a clueless group of Pakistani batters as India displayed absolute dominance to register a convincing seven-wicket victory in a lopsided Asia Cup match here Sunday.

Despite calls for boycotting the match from certain quarters as a mark of protest for the Pahalgam terror attack in April, a near full-capacity crowd dominated by 85 percent Indian fans witnessed a clinical decimation of Pakistan -- one ball at a time.

And to rub it in, neither at the toss nor at the end of the match did the India players shake hands with their counterparts from Pakistan, even as they waited in a queue moments after skipper Suryaku-

mar Yadav sealed the issue with a six. Spinners Axar (2/18 in 4 overs) and Varun (1/24 in 4 overs) were immaculate in terms of line and length as none of the Pakistani batters showed the wherewithal to play the troika from their hands.

The result was a lowly 127 for nine from Pakistan which was at least 50 runs below the par-score.

In reply, Abhishek Sharma (31 off 13 balls) played their biggest bowling hope Shaheen Shah Afridi (0/23 in 2 overs) with utter disdain, while Suryakumar celebrated his 35th birthday with a fine 47 not out off 37 balls in a chase that was completed in 15.5 overs.

Suryakumar finished it off in style and then walked straight back to the dug-out without shaking hands with the Pakistan players on the field.

The match was won in the first innings itself when Axar, Kuldeep and Varun delivered 40 dot balls between them and cumulatively took 6 for 60 in their 12 overs.

Add another 15 dot balls

from Jasprit Bumrah (2/28 in 4 overs), and one can understand the plight of the Pakistani batters, who played dot balls worth 10.1 overs.

Bumrah's greatness could be gauged by the fact that on the day he was hit for his first six in a limited overs international (T20Is and ODIs combined) by a Pakistani batter after sending down 400 legal deliveries.

Had Shaheen Shah Afridi (33 not out off 16 balls) not used the long handle, the score wouldn't have gone past 125. Earlier, Suryakumar lost the toss, didn't shake hands with his counterpart Salman Ali Agha, but never lost the plot as the opposition batters were all at sea from the very first legal delivery.

BRIEF SCORES

Pakistan: 127/ 9 in 20 overs (Sahibzada Farhan 40, Shaheen Afridi 33 not out; Kuldeep Yadav 3/18, Axar Patel 2/18) lost to **India:** 131/3 in 15.5 overs (Suryakumar Yadav 47 not out, Abhishek Sharma 31, Tilak Varma 31; Saim Ayub 3/35)



SHORT TAKES

Kushare scripts history

Tokyo: Sarvesh Anil Kushare Sunday became the first Indian to qualify for high jump final at the World Athletics Championships while national record holder Gulveer Singh finished 16th in the 10,000m race with a below-par performance here. The 30-year-old Kushare, who made it to the showpiece at the 34th spot among 36 competing athletes through world ranking quota, scaled 2.25m to finish joint seventh in Group B of the qualification round. He ended at joint ninth in the overall rankings across two groups. Those who touched the automatic qualifying mark of 2.30m or at least 12 best made it to the final round to be held Tuesday.

Aman disqualified

New Delhi: In a big setback to the Indian wrestling contingent, Olympic medallist Aman Sehrawat was Sunday disqualified from the World Championship in Zagreb after being found overweight. In an embarrassing development, Aman, who won a bronze at Paris Games last year, was found overweight by 1.7kg during the weigh-in ahead of the competition in men's freestyle 57kg. "It's unfortunate and surprising that Aman could not maintain his weight. He was overweight by 1700 grams when he stood in the weight scale. This is not acceptable, actually. How did he get so much extra weight is beyond us," a source within the Indian contingent told PTI from Zagreb.

EVES FALL TO CHINA, WC BERTH ELUDES



India bring home the silver medal at the women's Asia Cup

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Hangzhou (China), Sept 14: The Indian women's hockey team faltered when it mattered the most, losing 1-4 to China in the final of Asia Cup to miss out on direct qualification for next year's World Cup, here Sunday.

India drew the first blood through a penalty corner conversion by Navneet Kaur in the very first minute itself before China came into their own, scoring through Zixia Ou (21st minute), Hong Li (41st), Meirong Zou (51st) and Jiaqi Zhong (53rd) to win their third

title in tournament and secure their passage to the 2026 World Cup, to be held in Belgium and Netherlands.

India got their first scoring chance within 39 seconds of the start of the match in the form of a penalty corner and Navneet was on target to hand her side an early lead.

Three minutes later, China had a bright chance to draw level when they earned back-to-back penalty corners, but the Indians defended brilliantly.

Stunned by the early goal, China went on the offensive and mounted continuous raids on the Indian half, but the Salima Tete-led side held its ground stoutly.

The Chinese kept up their relentless pressure on the Indian citadel and earned another set of penalty corners two minutes

into the second quarter but failed to breach the resolute opposition defence.

China created chances after chances, keeping the ball almost in the Indian circle but were unable to find the equaliser.

The home team's relentless pressure finally paid off as it secured the equaliser in he 21st minute through a penalty corner conversion by Zixia Ou.

The equaliser seemed to have lifted the morale of China as they continuously pushed for the lead, keeping the India defence under tremendous pressure. However, both the teams went into half-time break locked at 1-1.

India will now have to go through the World Cup Qualifiers to seal their place in the top global event.

Close but no crown for Indian shuttlers

Satwik-Chirag, Lakshya finish runners-up at Hong Kong Open

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Hong Kong, Sept 14: India squandered a golden opportunity to return with two titles as both Lakshya Sen and the men's doubles pair of Satwik-sairaj Rankireddy and Chirag Shetty signed off with runner-up finishes at the Hong Kong Open Super 500 here Sunday.

Lakshya could not blunt the attack of world No. 4 Li Shi Feng and went down 15-21 12-21 in a rather sedate men's singles final.

Satwik and Chirag, who bagged a second successive

World Championships bronze last month, let go of a one-game advantage before losing 21-19 14-21 17-21 to China's Olympic silver medallists Liang Wei Keng and Wang Chang in a tense 61-minute men's doubles summit clash.

The Indian held a slender 7-6 edge in the head-to-head, but the Chinese has dominated this season with wins at both the All England and China Open.

The 2021 World Championship bronze medallist Lakshya made a brisk start in the opening game, surging to a 4-0 lead before Li found his rhythm with sharp body attacks and flat exchanges to close in at 6-7. The Chinese drew level at 8-8 with an athletic net kill and then reeled off five straight points with a mix of tight net play and steep smashes to take control at 14-10.



ISSF WORLD CUP

Meghana clinches maiden WC medal, India finish fifth

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Ningbo (China), Sept 14: India's Meghana Sajjanar clinched her first-ever World Cup medal, a bronze in the women's 10m air rifle, as the



country finished fifth in the season-ending ISSF World Cup Rifle/Pistol.

In her first World Cup final in eight years, Meghana shot 230.0 to secure bronze behind Norwegian Jeanette Hegg Duestad, who won silver. On Saturday, Esha Singh gave India their first gold medal of the event in the women's 10m air pistol.

China topped the tally with three golds, while Norway came away second with two golds in their kitty, of the 10 available.

Atiqa first woman to win UAE karting race

History made as 10-year-old Indian Atiqa Mir wins UAE race from pole position

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Dubai, Sept 14: Indian racing's 10-year-old prodigy Atiqa Mir Sunday created history by becoming the first woman in UAE karting to win a race in the Minimax category.

In a competitive field of 14 drivers including seasoned European race winners, Atiqa was the lone female but that was



hardly a factor as she completed a commanding victory from pole position in the prestigious DAMC Championship opener at

the Dubai Kartdrome.

In the finals, Atiqa kept it clean and within track limits to cross the chequered flag

I'm so happy with this win. Dubai Kartdrome is where I started karting so this track will always remain close to my heart

ATIQA MIR

before anyone else. The win makes her the first ever female to take a pole and a final win in the MiniMax category, marking a perfect start to her Middle Eastern Karting leg.

Recognising her rare talent, Formula 1 had signed her for its F1 Academy DYD program earlier this year, another first for an Indian driver.

Odisha runners-up in All-India T10 Cricket C'ship

POST NEWS NETWORK

Puri, Sept 14: The third All-India T10 Tennis Ball Cricket Championship, organised under the aegis of the T10 Tennis Ball Cricket Association of India with support from Odisha T10 Tennis Cricket Association and Shree Jagannath Darshan Charitable Trust, concluded Sunday at the Shree Jagannath Cricket Stadium in Puri.

After Lucknow and Goa, Puri hosted the event, marking its third edition. Dignitaries including Puri MP Sambit Patra, BJP state vice president Golak Mohapatra and TBTCAI president Dayitapati Bhawani



Prasad Dasmahapatra attended the closing ceremony.

In the women's division, Jharkhand beat Goa and Odisha defeated Uttar Pradesh in the semifinals to set up the final clash. Jharkhand scored 41 runs for five wickets, while Odisha managed 26 runs

for eight wickets, securing Jharkhand the championship and Odisha the runners-up title. Jharkhand's Bubbly was named both player of the match and series, Ankita won best bowler, and Odisha's Sunita Das was awarded best batter.