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ପ୍ରଧାନମନ୍ଦ୍ରୀ ଶ୍ରୀ ନରେନ୍ଦ୍ର ମୋଦୀଙ୍କ ୭୫ତମ ଜନ୍ମ ଦିବସ ଉପଲକ୍ଷେ

ଏକ୍ ପେଡ୍ ମା' କେ ନାମ୍ 9.0



ଅସ୍ଥଜାନ ପ୍ରଦାନ

ପରିବେଶ ସନ୍ତୁଳନ

ସବୁଜିମା

ଜଳ ସଂରକ୍ଷଣ

ଫୁଲ, ଫଳ ଓ ଚ୍ଛାଇ

ମୃତ୍ତିକା ସଂରକ୍ଷଣ



"ଆଜି ସାରା ଦେଶରେ 'ଏକ୍ ପେଡ୍ ମା'କେ ନାମ୍' ଅଭିଯାନ ଏକ ଜନଆନ୍ଦୋଳନରେ ପରିଣତ ହୋଇଚ୍ଛି । ଏହି ଅଭିଯାନର ପ୍ରଥମ ପର୍ଯ୍ୟାଯ୍ବରେ ଓଡ଼ିଶାରେ ୬.୭୨ କୋଟି ଚାରାରୋପଣ କରାଯାଇଥିଲା । ଚଳିତ ବର୍ଷ 'ଏକ୍ ପେଡ୍ ମା' କେ ନାମ୍ ୨.୦' ଅଭିଯାନରେ ରାଜ୍ୟରେ ୭.୫ କୋଟି ଚାରାରୋପଣ ଲାଗି ଲକ୍ଷ୍ୟ ରଖାଯାଇଚ୍ଛି ।"

> **ଶ୍ରୀ ମୋହନ ଚରଣ ମାଝୀ** ମୁଖ୍ୟମନ୍ଦ୍ରୀ, ଓଡ଼ିଶା

୧୭ ସେପ୍ଟେ ମ୍ବର ୨୦୨୫ରେ ରାଜ୍ୟବ୍ୟାପୀ ୭୫ ଲକ୍ଷ ଚାରାରୋପଣ ଅଭିଯାନ

ଆସନ୍ତୁ, 'ଏକ୍ ପେଡ୍ ମା' କେ ନାମ୍' ଅଭିଯାନରେ ଆମେ ସମସ୍ତେ ସାମିଲ୍ ହେବା, ଆମ ଜନ୍ମଦାତ୍ରୀ ମା' ପ୍ରତି ସମ୍ମାନ ପ୍ରଦର୍ଶନ କରିବା ସହିତ ଧରିତ୍ରୀ ମା'ର୍ ସୁରକ୍ଷା ପାଇଁ ଗଚ୍ଛଟିଏ ନିଶ୍ଚୟ୍ ଲଗାଇବା

ଗନ୍ଥ ଲଗାଇବା, ମିଳିମିଶି ଆମ ପରିବେଶର ସତ୍ନ ନେବା ଭବିଷ୍ୟତ ପିଢ଼ି ପାଇଁ ଏକ ସୁଦର ପୃଥିବୀ ଗଢ଼ି ତୋଳିବା



ବୃଷ୍ଟିପାତ

ତାପମାତ୍ରା ନିଯ୍ନ୍ସଣ

ଶବ୍ଦ ଓ ବାୟୁ ପ୍ରଦୂଷଣ ନିୟନ୍ସଣ

ପ୍ରାକୃତିକ ବିପର୍ଯ୍ୟପୁରୁ ସୁରକ୍ଷା

ଚାରାରୋପଣ କରି ଚାରା ସହିତ ସେଲ୍ଫି ନେବା, 'ମେରି ଲାଇଫ୍' ପୋର୍ଟାଲ୍ରେ ଅପଲୋଡ୍ କରିବା ଏବଂ ଇ-ସାର୍ଟିଫିକେଟ ଡାଉନଲୋଡ କରିବା।



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leisure

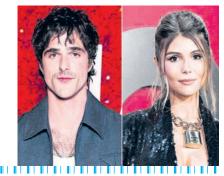


HOLLYWOOD ICON REDFORD NO MORE

Robert Redford, the Hollywood golden boy who became an Oscar-winning director, liberal activist and godfather for independent cinema under the name of one of his best-loved characters, died Tuesday at 89. Redford died at his home at Sundance in the mountains of Utah.

ELORDI, GIANNULLI SPARK RECONCILIATION RUMOURS

Jacob Elordi and Olivia Jade Giannulli have rekindled their romance shortly after their breakup was confirmed last month. The couple, who were first linked in 2021, were spotted together at the Toronto International Film Festival, sparking reconciliation rumours.



accuracy • reliability • trust

You can make a difference to others' lives. Considerate and thoughtful, today, you will be treasured more than ever as a boss, colleague, parent or beloved. Utilise this exchange of energy to sort out difficult issues. Ganesha gives a thumbs up to mega projects.

TAURUS

Things will tend to get very difficult and complicated, says Ganesha Be prepared for setbacks and challenges today. No matter how big the issue, your competence, your resourcefulness will see you through. Try and circumspect. Act coolly and sensibly.

Today, you will have the required intentions and courage to propose your sweetheart. You will be dressed to kill, or rather to marry. You will make a favourable impression with the way you'll look tonight. You will be an open book to your future partner, which is likely to work in your favour.

Though your thoughts and views may be quite radical, you will be largely restrained while acting on them, portends Ganesha. You will have no problems starting a new venture or love affair, and taking the required action to keep them afloat. You'll be a Pied Piper to the women, or le belle dame sans merci (the beautiful young merciless woman) to the men

'One small drop at a time Ganesha, and continue to concentrate your efforts on your goal without losing back and think twice, but know that all it takes is a small effort and that is what shall enable you to reach the zenith.

Cancerian though you are, you won't bite or pinch people. Instead, you are and will be flooded with empathy. But Ganesha says that you are a bit too rigid when it comes to performing your duties not to mention extremely principled. On the home front, get more expressive and closer to your kin, advises Ganesha.

LIBRA

You will be very unpredictable today, and your mercurial tendencies will remain till the evening. After that, be prepared to get a being prepared is always a good idea, moment arrives. But everything considered, all Ganesha has to say is, "Stop worrying and start living!"

SCORPIO

Today, the sugar and spice of work and home are delicately balanced to bring out the best in you, says Ganesha. You may spend a lot of your time brainstorming at your desk. In the evening, however, mental exercises will be substituted for pleasure and fun with friends and family.

SAGITTARIUS

The way you keep your interests alive will keep your mind occupied. Leisure activities and by-lines will by-pass the mundane routine today, foretells Ganesha. Pamper yourself by doing what you like, be it gardening, cooking or even plain old reading. Ganesha also sees a heavy meal with friends late in the day today.

CAPRICORN

The day will be a maze of complex problems and situations, but you will find your way out in no time, says Ganesha. At work, you may love to play the leader. but that makes you accountable, for both the good as well as the poor performance of your subordinates. In all likelihood, you may be held responsible for the poor performance of your team members.

AQUARIUS

Today is an auspicious day. particularly for astrologers, healers, spiritual guides and gurus, savs Ganesha. One will think twice before challenging you today. Greed is not a word in your dictionary, and today, you are even more inspired to work for humanity.

PISCES

The focus is firmly on career advancement today. Business deals, which have been a long time in the making, will finally come through. Those pursuing a profession can expect pay rises or promotions. Make sure your skills are up to the mark to be able to tackle your new responsibilities satisfactorily, says Ganesha.



Mumbai: Priyanka Chopra, also known as PC or PeeCee to her fans, has always been open about her struggles as an outsider in Bollywood. Recently, she spoke at an event about the challenges she faced entering an industry dominated by established families, and how those experiences inspired her to launch her own production house. Privanka founded Purple Pebble Pictures in 2015 to create opportunities for filmmakers and actors who didn't have access to mainstream platforms. She shared, "I won a beauty pageant in 2000, which kickstarted my journey into films. I began

working in Hindi and Tamil movies from 2002, but Bollywood was extremely closed off to outsiders. There were generational actors, directors, and producers, so breaking in wasn't easy. But I was ambitious, didn't like failand remained persistent. Somehow. I made it.

Her goal with Purple Pebble Pictures was to support smaller films and talent that deserved recognition. "I wanted to be the shoulder for entertainers around the world to get the limelight they deserve. I'm proud of the films we've been associated withthey've been wonderfully received," she added.

Priyanka is set to return to Indian cinema with SS Rajamouli's SSMB 29, co-starring Mahesh Babu and Prithviraj Sukumaran, an Indiana Jones style action-adventure currently in production.

On the work front.

Keerthy on her legacy

Chennai: Keerthy Suresh has established herself as one of the notable talents in Indian cinema. In an interview with a fashion magazine, she spoke about the legacy she hopes to create and her move into Bollywood. When asked about her career path Keerthy

said, "The legacy I hope to leave behind is of being an actor who took chances and evolved. I deliberately chose not to do more biopics after Mahanati because I want its impact to stand on its own. I know that continuing to experiment, and taking on roles that challenge me, comes with a higher risk, but I'd much rather do that than repeat the same kind of work.'

Further speaking about her transition to Bollywood she said, "This is a verv exciting chapter for me. I'm here to see what's interesting, what challenges me and balance it with the work I continue to do in the South. The process, the way things work in Bollywood, the culture it's all new and I'm enjoying absorbing it. I think I have a long way to go, and I'm in no rush. I want to get it right.'

On the work front, she is set to star in Akka (Hindi), a revenge-thriller series backed by Yash Raj Films, which will open her up to a whole new Hindi-speaking audience.



Mumbai: The cast of Sunny Sanskari Ki Tulsi Kumari brought humour and energy to the film's trailer launch. Directed by Shashank Khaitan, the movie is set against the colorful backdrop of a lavish Indian wedding. Janhvi Kapoor, Varun Dhawan, and Rohit Saraf charmed the audience with witty banter and playful teasing while answering questions about their love lives and marriage plans. When asked about her own wedding plans,

Pahariya—said, "My planning right now is only about films. There is a lot of time for wedding planning." She also shared that she looks for qualities like sanskar, a good sense of humour, and a big appetite in a partner A scene in the trailer shows Varun's character asking Janhvi's character to make a grand entry like Katrina Kaif to win back

Janhvi—who is reportedly dating Shikhar

no one could, as Vicky Kaushal already has. Rohit humorously added that he wouldn't want to get into trouble with Shikhar The film also stars Sanya Malhotra, Akshay Oberoi, and Maniesh Paul. Produced by Dharma Productions and Mentor Disciple

her lover. When asked who would propose

Entertainment, Sunny Sanskari Ki Tulsi Kumari releases October 2.

to a Katrina-like Janhvi, Varun joked that

Ibrahim embraces imperfection



Mumbai: Ibrahim Ali Khan, who debuted earlier this year with Nadaaniyan, has embraced his imperfections in a heartfelt new ad campaign for the fashion brand Wrogn. In the video, he candidly discusses his speech impediment, deliberately using his natural voice—including his lisp—instead of dubbing it.

He says, "Some people are born gifted, and some, born imperfect. As for me, I was born imperfect. And that's okay, man. Perfection is just overrated yaar." Sharing the campaign on Instagram, he

added, "For the longest time, I thought I had to 'get it right'. Turns out, what's real is far more powerful than what's perfect. This is me, Wrogn

Fans responded with praise, appreciating his honesty and authenticity. Many commented that such openness is rare in campaigns, calling it inspiring and relatable. Some wrote, "In an era where filters and fakeness rule, it's refreshing to see authenticity take center stage.'

This isn't the first time Ibrahim has spoken about his speech difficulties. Earlier this year, he explained that a severe case of jaundice at birth affected his hearing and speech, requiring longterm therapy. Professionally, he was last seen in Sarzameen, a JioHotstar film featuring Kajol and Prithvirai Sukumaran.

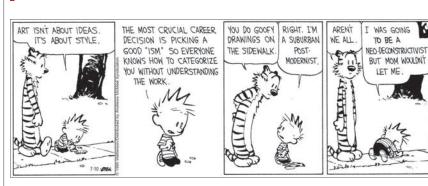
PEANUTS



NOW WE HAVE TO GO AND CONGRATULATE "CRYBABY" BOOBIE! THIS 15 GONNA KILL ME!



CALVIN AND HOBBES

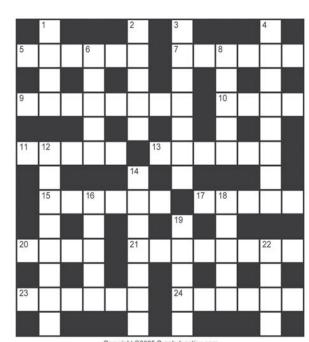


BREVITY



POST

CROSSWORD



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Across 5 Porcupine's

defense

7 Spotted wildcat 9 Precious transparent

stone 10 Tick off

11 They're found in books

13 Summer cooler (3,3)15 Spiritualist

17 Vacant 20 Become unhinged

21 Acknowledge applause (4,1,3)

23 Fearsome fly 24 Buy the farm

(4,2)

Down 1 Emanation 2 Jellied garnish

3 Strength

giraffe 22 Double-reed instrument

4 Links rental

(4,4)

6 Oversight

12 Reprimand

16 Station

18 Castle

14 Shell wearers

protectors

19 Relative of a

8 Ant, in dialect

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.

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SOLUTIONS

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BHUBANESWAR | WEDNESDAY | SEPTEMBER 17, 2025

Host of welfare initiatives to mark PM's 75th birthday

Landslide cuts off NH-157

Daringbadi/Bhanjanagar,

Sept 16: Traffic on Kalinga ghat, a part of National Highway 157 connecting Kandhamal with Ganjam districts, was disrupted and power supply went off across the Kandhamal district for over two hours after a major landslide occurred on the ghat road triggered by incessant rainfall Tuesday.

Reports said the landslide washed away a bridge, causing complete suspension of vehicular movement between Phulbani, Daringbadi, Baliguda, G Udayagiri and Raikia to Berhampur, Bhanjanagar and Bhubaneswar. Hundreds of vehicles were seen stranded along the route.

Passengers in buses stuck on the route were seen facing difficulties without food and shelter due to the incessant downpour.



NATURE'S FURY: Huge boulders and soil lie on Kalinga Ghat road near Andharakuti in Kandhamal district following a landslide triggered by heavy rainfall Tuesday

Large boulders rolled down the hill Tuesday afternoon, leaving the ghat road, which is the lifeline of Kandhamal district heavilv damaged. A bridge collapse led to a total shutdown of the national highway-157 connecting Ranchi with Vijaywada near Andharakuti on the ghat road. On being informed, senior officials from Kandhamal and Ganjam rushed to the site. Sources said passenger buses traveling to Bhubaneswar from Daringbadi might be diverted via another route

Power supply was also disrupted after the 132 KV line from Kanteipali in Bhanjanagar was snapped. "The entire district plunged into darkness for two hours before workers worked on wartime footing and restored the power supply," said Shivprasad Nayak, engineer of the Daringbadi electricity division.

Rain havoc: 15 killed, 16 missing in Uttarakhand

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, Sept 16: Launch of a host of welfare and development initiatives Wednesday by the BJP and its governments at the Centre and in states will mark the 75th birthday of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, who will kick off a fortnight-long nationwide health and nutrition campaign from Madhya Pradesh.

Modi will launch the Swasth Nari Sashakt Parivar and the eighth National Nutritional Month from Dhar. He will unveil several other development initiatives and address a public meeting, an official statement said.

"More than one lakh health camps will be organised, making this the largest ever health outreach for women and children in the country. Daily health camps will be held in all government health facilities nationwide," it said. The BJP's organisation will hold many such initiatives, including blood donation and health camps, across the country.

The programmes are part of the Sewa Pakhwada' that



the ruling party is observing between September 17 and October 2, which is Mahatma Gandhi's birth anniversary, to celebrate the birthday of its leader whose stewardship has taken the BJP to new highs and made it a dominant political force for over a decade.

Swadeshi fairs to promote made-in-India goods, Modi Vikas Marathon, drawing contests on Viksit Bharat, interaction with intellectuals blood donation and medical camps, and cleanliness cam paigns will be held through the period across the country with the involvement of the party's organisation, central government or the states where it is

MORE P2&3 in power.

SC raps Centre for tribunals' poor show

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, Sept 16: The Supreme Court Tuesday attributed the disinclination of former high court judges in taking up post retirement roles in tribunals to the lack of amenities and remarked all such quasi-judicial bodies should be abolished if the government was unable to mitigate the situation.

A bench comprising Justices BV Nagarathna and R Mahadevan flagged the lack of proper facilities as the reason behind the retired judges feeling discouraged.

The apex court said if the



Centre couldn't provide the facilities, then it should abolish all the tribunals and send all matters to high courts.

"Why are they applying and appearing for the interview and then not taking charge? One of the reasons is, they then get the reality of it, what it is to be a tri-

bunal member. Some of them, if they are chairpersons, they were former chief justices of high courts, or former judges of the Supreme Court. No facility whatsoever is provided to them. Even for stationary they have to go on requesting. How are you treating the tribunals? The fault lies with you (union). You have created the tribunals," the

The bench went on to tell Additional Solicitor General Vikramjit Banerjee, "The retired Judges feel a lot of uncertainty about housing and other amenities after the appointment order."

'Lifer' for stray dogs if they bite humans twice

Lucknow, Sept 16: In a first-ofits-kind move, the Uttar Pradesh government has ordered 'life imprisonment' for stray dogs that bite people more than once.

A dog that bites without provocation will be confined to an Animal Birth Control centre for 10 days. The same dog will spend the rest of its life at the centre if repeats the offence. An individual may adopt the dog after submitting an affidavit pledging it will never be released back on the streets.

Issued on September 10, which came to light Tuesday, by Principal Secretary Amrit Abhijat,

the directive applies to all urban and rural civic bodies across the state. Whenever a person receives anti-rabies shots after a stray-dog bite, officials must investigate the incident, seize the animal and transfer it to the nearest ABC centre.

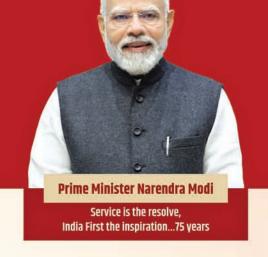
"Once there, the stray dog will be sterilised if the procedure has not already been done. It will be kept under observation for 10 days and its behaviour will be noted. Before being released, the dog will be microchipped, which will have all its details and also enable us to trace its location, said Dr Bijay Amrit Raj, Veterinary Officer of Prayagraj Municipal Corporation.

TRUMP GREETS MODI ON B'DAY

New Delhi: US President Donald Trump Tuesday dialled Prime Minister Narendra Modi and greeted him on his 75th birthday, in a significant gesture seen as part of Washington's efforts to reset ties with New Delhi. "Just had a wonderful phone call with my friend, Prime Minister Narendra Modi. I wished him a very Happy Birthday! He is doing a tremendous job. Narendra: Thank you for your support on ending the War between Russia and Ukraine!" he posted on Truth Social. Reacting to the wish, the Indian PM, in a social media post, said, "Thank you, my friend, President Trump, for your phone call and warm greetings on my 75th birthday." "Like you, I am also fully committed to taking the India-US Comprehensive and Global Partnership to new heights," he said. "We support your initiatives towards a peaceful resolution of the Ukraine conflict," he added.



"PM Vishwakarma will not only enhance skills of artisans and craftspeople from all over the country but the products made by them will also get new recognition in the world."



PM Vishwakarma

SC-ST Hub Mega Conclave, 2025

presided by

Shri Jitan Ram Manjhi

Union Minister for Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises

Sushri Shobha Karandlaje

Minister of State for Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises



PM Vishwakarma

- 30 Lakh Vishwakarmas successfully registered
- 23 Lakh Vishwakarmas received skill training
- Loan worth ₹4,166 crore approved for 5 lakh Vishwakarmas
- 8 lakh toolkits delivered

National SC-ST Hub Scheme

- More than 1.5 lakh SC/ST benefitted
- 36 times increase in public procurement from SC/ST units
- Prime Minister Employment Generation Programme (PMEGP)
- 10 lakh units received subsidy worth ₹28,333 crore
- 86 lakh employment generated

Samman | Samarthya | Samriddhi

17 September 2025 | 10:30 AM | International Convention Centre, Bodhgaya, Bihar

demands are not met within the next seven days

Odisha to plant 75L saplings on PM Modi's birthday today



Forest, Environment & Climate Change Minister Ganesh Ram Singhkhuntia chairs a review meeting at Lok Seva Bhawan in Bhubaneswar, Tuesday

POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar, Sept 16: To mark Prime Minister Narendra Modi's 75th birthday and the national plantation drive 'Ek Ped Maa Ke Naam 2.0', 1.5 crore saplings will be planted across the country Wednesday. Odisha has set a target of planting over 75 lakh saplings in a single day as part of the campaign. The initiative will make the state greener and more climate-resilient, said Forest, Environment & Climate Change Minister Ganesh Ram Singhkhuntia at a review meeting at Lok Seva Bhawan

He explained that trees are very important for life on earth. They help reduce pollution, improve the environment, stop climate change, and

FOREST DEPARTMENT ACHIEVES MAJOR MILESTONE WITH 4.7 CR SAPLINGS **PLANTED IN LAST 45 DAYS** FOREST MINISTER CALLS FOR COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION SAPLING MAINTENANCE. **AND MERI LIFE PORTAL**

DOCUMENTATION

protect all living beings. He added that just planting saplings is not enough — we must also take good care of them so they grow into healthy trees with special focus on industrial areas like Jharsuguda, Talcher, and Kalinga Nagar, and places with less rainfall or dry land.

Last year, Odisha planted 6.72 crore saplings under the

in the country. This year, under the visionary leadership of Chief Minister Mohan Charan Maihi. the state has set a bigger target of 7.5 crore saplings. In the past 45 days, the department has already planted 4.7 crore saplings. Minister Singhkhuntia thanked all forest officials and staff for their hard work and encouraged them to continue with the same dedication to make Odisha more beautiful.

The government is inviting everyone to take part in this campaign — including panchayats, school and college students, youth, forest protection and eco groups, Anganwadi and ASHA workers, women self-help groups, volunteers, and officials from various departments like Panchayati Raj, Agriculture, Industry and Women & Child Development.

All participants are requested to upload photos of their plantation activities on the "Meri LiFE" portal, so the progress can be tracked easily.

Forest, Environment & Climate Change department Additional Chief Secretary Satyabrata Sahu has asked all district and field officials to complete the plantation between sunrise and sunset 17th September. He also reminded everyone not to forget to upload the data on the portal.

the Assembly will commence Thursday and continue till September 25 with a break September 21. Speaking to media persons after the meeting, Padhy said, "I sought cooperation from all

in the House.

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Bhubaneswar, Sept 16: As-

sembly Speaker Surama Pad-

hy Tuesday held an all-party

meeting ahead of the monsoon

session and sought cooperation

from members of the ruling

and opposition parties for a

smooth transaction of business

The monsoon session of

duct of the Assembly session." The first day of the session would end after paying tributes to BJD MLA Rajendra Dholakia, who died earlier this

members for the smooth con-

"From September 19 onwards, the House will discuss

Nabarangpur, Sept 16: At least

190 minor girls have been raped

in Nabarangpur district between

2022 and August 2025, according

to police records, raising serious

2024 and 44 through August this



monsoon session in Bhubaneswar, Tuesday

adjournment motions, calling attention, questions and bills, the Speaker said.

DEMO FOR LIVELIHOOD: Holding applications addressed to the Chief Minister, farmers led by Sanjukta Krushak

Sangathan stage a sit-in outside the Bargarh Collectorate demanding extension of registration of farmers for

kharif paddy procurement which was shut down from August 25. They warned to take to the streets if their

ALL-PARTY MEET AHEAD OF MONSOON SESSION

BJD Chief Whip Pramila Mallik, who attended the meet, said, "We will extend our cooperation as per existing norms and constitutional provisions."

The regional party will raise issues related to women. students, SC/STs and farmers during the session, she said.

However, the detailed strategy will be prepared during the

year. Officials and rights groups

say the figures highlight the

growing vulnerability of chil-

Activists noted that rape is

not only a crime but also an

inhuman act that destroys the

physical and mental well-being

of minors, shattering their edu-

cation, dreams and future, Sur-

vivors often live with lifelong

dren in the district.

BJD legislative party meeting to be held Wednesday, she added.

After taking part in the all-party meeting, Congress Legislative Party (CLP) leader Rama Chandra Kadam said they would cooperate with the Speaker to run the House, keeping the existing provisions in mind.

The party's strategy for the session would be chalked out at a meeting scheduled to be held

ISACON Odisha 2025 held in Bhubaneswar



Bhubaneswar, Sept 16: The 52nd Annual State Conference of the Indian Society of Anaesthesiol ogists (ISACON Odisha 2025) was recently held in Bhubaneswar, featuring academic exchange and professional networking.

The event, organised by the Odisha State Chapter and Bhubaneswar City Branch in associ ation with IMS & SUM Hospital and SUM Ultimate Medicare took place at the SOA Convention Centre under the patronage of SOA Founder President Prof Manojranjan Nayak.

This year's theme, "Perioperative Physicians: Transforming Care, Saving Lives", highlighted the expanding role of anaesthesiologists.

'BJP govt failed on women's safety'

Patnaik Tuesday alleged that the BJP government in the state has 'miserably failed' to provide a sense of security among women. Patnaik, also the president of Biju Janata Dal, expressed his anguish and shock over the gangrape of a student Saturday near Baliharchandi temple in Puri district, about 50 km from the state administration of Odisha has failed miserably to create confidence in the system where our daughters feel safe, valued and heard -- leave aside empowerment," Patnaik said in a post on X. On the Baliharchand gangrape case, Patnaik said, "Every time we hear the same rehearsed statements: people's government is taking strict action, ensuring women's safety and sparing no one. The former chief minister noted that the victims and family members of Gopalpur, Balanga and many other victims, who died in desperation, are

CLASSIFIED

I, Rahana Khatoon, D/o. Abdul Wadood, resident of At: Jamia Colony, Panposh, Rourkela, Dist.: Sundargarh, PIN - 769004, Odisha declare by this Affidavit No. A/5, Dated: 16.09.2025, that now onwards I shall be known as Rehana Khatoon, D/o. Wadoodaul Haque for all future purpsoes.

By virtue of an affidavit of sworn before the Notary, Baripada, Mayurbhanj, Dated: 13.09.25, I Sujit Kumar Sahoo, Address: At: Baghra Road, Ward No. 19, P.O.: Baripada. P.S.: Baripada, Dist.: Mayurbhanj, State: Odisha, PIN - 757001 declare that I have changed my name from Sujit Kumar Sahu to Sujit Kumar Sahoo. Henceforth, I shall be known as Sujit Kumar Sahoo for all purposes. Sujit Kumar Sahoo

I, Sakhi Dalai, aged about 42 years, W/o-Prasanna Kumar Dalai, resident of Radhakrishna Enclave, Plot No.- 206, 2nd Floor, Unit-6, P.S.- Capital, Bhubaneswar, Dist.-Khordha, PIN-751003, Odisha, do hereby solemnly affirm and declare by this affidavit No.- 57, dtd.15.09.25 that my name is recorded in my son's passport as "Kamini Dalai" and "Sakhi Dalai". Both names refer to the same person and I shall henceforth be known as Sakhi Dalai for all purposes.

Dy CM Parida unveils 913 néw Anganwadi centres



Deputy Chief Minister Pravati Parida inaugurates new Anganwadi centres across districts, Tuesday

Bhubaneswar, Sept 16: Deputy Chief Minister Pravati Parida Tuesday inaugurated 913 new buildings of Anganwadi centres in different parts of the state through virtual mode.

Parida said the government will construct buildings for all Anganwadi centres which are running in temporary accommodations.

"Where government land is not available, we will buy private land and construct buildings for the Anganwadi centres," she said.

Several Anganwadi centres didn't have their own building. for which they could not store their playing items, books and other items in a proper manner. So the chief minister had directed that all anganwadi centres will have their own buildings, Parida said.

As per the advice of the CM,

all 74,224 Anganwadi centres in the state will be converted into 'Sakhyam Anganwadis' in a

During the meeting, Parida directed the district collectors,

The Deputy CM expressed satisfaction that more than three lakh people have joined the "Let's visit Anganwadi' campaign, making it a mass

ing Water Minister advised the officials to give special emphasis on cleanliness and drinking water facilities in the Anganwadi centres.

He said that the inauguration of new Anganwadi centres is the foundation for the 'Viksit Odisha-2036 and Viksit

who virtually attended the function, to pay special attention to the Anganwadi centres which are running in buildings with deplorable condition.

movement.

Panchayat Raj and Drink-

Bharat-2047'.

concerns about child safety. Data from the district police headquarters show 72 cases were reported in 2022, 50 in 2023, 42 in mission mode, she added.

night while they were alleged-

The arrested were identified as Hamij Raja Quadir, 21, Serkhan Saha, 30, and Shahrukh Saha, 25 — all residents of Mato village under Chandbali police station.

Police said they seized three mobile phones, a knife, a bhujali (sharp weapon), a screwdriver, and a rope from their possession. A Bolero (OD 22 V

2675) was also confiscated. conducted a raid at the playground around 11:30pm. Five to plan a robbery when police

190 minors raped in Nabarangpur since 2022 ness and social apathy is among the key reasons behind the recurring assaults. Families, schools and communities, they said, are failing to ensure protection, awareness and moral

education for children. Although the Protection of Children from Sexual Offences (POCSO) Act provides for strict punishment, residents argue

BOOKING

harsher sentences are needed to deter offenders.

"Protecting minors is not just the responsibility of the government or the law but of every member of society," said social thinkers, adding that awareness, stronger enforcement, moral education and community participation are essential to uproot the scourge.

3 held for plotting dacoity in Bhadrak

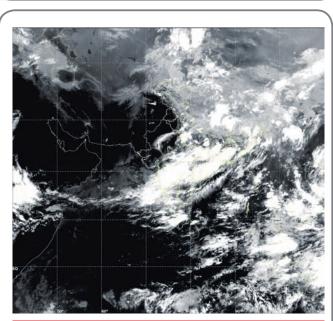
POST NEWS NETWORK

Basudevpur, Sept 16: Police arrested three youths Monday ly plotting a dacoity at a playground near Padmapur village under Basudevpur block in Bhadrak district.

Acting on instructions from Basudevpur police station inspector-in-charge Lopamudra Nayak, sub-inspector Poonam Devi Behera, along with a team, youths had allegedly gathered

swooped in. While two managed to escape, three were apprehended and later produced in court. Police also seized two separate number plates from the Bolero.

MARKET WATCH							
CURRENCY	BOURSES	COMMODITIES					
INDEX VARIATION	INDEX VARIATION	INDEX VARIATION					
DOLLAR 88.12 † 0.11	SENSEX 82380.69 ▲ 594.95	GOLD ₹ 110,026 ₹153					
EURO 104 .14 • 0.34	NIFTY 25239.10 \$\(\begin{array}{c}\) 169.90	SILVER ₹ 128,400 ₹ 1029					



	WEATH	ER	
	BBSR	CTC	FORECAST
/lax Temp	32.8°	32.4°	Generally cloudy
/lin Temp	24.4°	22.2°	sky with possibility of rain
lumidity	94%	97%	or Thunderstorm
tainfall	20mm	77.2mm	

12th Bhubaneswar Int'l Trade Fair from Sept 19

POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar, Sept 16: A press conference at Red Cross Bhawan Tuesday announced the 12th edition of the Bhubaneswar International Trade Fair 2025. Organised by Gupta Event Management Pvt Ltd, the mega event will be held at Janta Maidan from September

Addressing the media, director Payal Acharya Gupta, advisor Rashmiranjan Kanun-

SSIFIED AD



Gupta Event Management Pvt Ltd director Payal Acharya Gupta, and advisors Dipak Mohanty, Bir Bahadur Singh, Rashmi Ranjan Kanungo, and Sachin Singh brief the media at Red Cross Bhawan in Bhubaneswar, Tuesday

ERTISEMENTS

details of the exhibition.

The 12th edition will feature fully air-conditioned pavilions, ensuring a comfortable experience for exhibitors and visitors. With participation from 22 Indi-

an states and 10 countries, the fair will showcase over one lakh products representing

miri and antique furniture, Afghan dry fruits, German lamps, Jamdani sarees from Bangladesh, Iranian khajoor, jewellery and herbal oil, Dubai perfumes and clothing, Thai jewellery and footwear, Korean accessories, Indian handicrafts and handlooms. Persian and Bhadohi carpets, antique brass and copper products, leather goods from West Bengal and Uttar Pradesh, Malaysian fountains, Khadi items, and textiles from Bhagalpur, Punjab,

go, and senior members Bir Baa diverse mix of cultures and hadur Singh, Sachin Singh, and industries. Banaras, Jaipur, Odisha, and Highlights include Kash-Deepak Kumar Mohanty shared Bangladesh.

CONTACT

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

As Prime Minister Narendra Modi turns 75 Wednesday. **Orissa POST** takes a sneak peek into how the popular leader's life has been dedicated to principles, public service, organisation and good governance. The special supplement highlights how his slogans and quotes are not merely phrases, but instruments of mass mobilisation, national pride, and cultural symbolism. It also sheds light on how reforms in digital arena have simplified and improved the life of citizens

n Narendra Modi's political journey, his slogans and quotes are not mere phrases, but instruments of mass mobilisation, national pride,

and cultural symbolism. Blending simplicity with depth, they have redefined Indian political communication. From grassroots creativity in Gujarat to global campaigns as the Prime Minister, Modi's words tell the story of a leader who transformed language into a movement.

What makes Modi's style iconic is not just the content, but also the cadence: short sentences, memorable imagery, and a blend of tradition with modern urgency. He can pivot from quoting saints to promising SEZs, from invoking mothers to declaring war on terror. Every phrase feels like both a personal conviction and a collective mission.

His slogans and quotes demonstrate how one leader transformed language into governance, mobilising millions with simple words that convey a vision.

Humility and seva

From the start of his public life, Modi shaped his identity as a servant of the people and not as a ruler. As Chief Minister, he reminded Gujaratis that his tenure was not due to personal ambition, but the blessing of the people. He framed power as seva, and himself as its custodian.

यह तीन हजार दिन तक सेवा करने का अवसर नरेन्द्र मोदी के कारण नहीं है... यह जनता.जनार्दन के आशीर्वाद के कारण है।"

(Garib Kalvan Mela, Jamnagar, 2010)

When he became Prime Minister in 2014, this theme continued. In his first Independence Day speech, he coined the term Pradhan Sevak to replace Pradhan Mantri, signalling his philosophy that leadership means serving every citizen.

"मैं प्रधान मंत्री नहीं, प्रधान सेवक हूँ।" (Red Fort, 2014)

Action over rhetoric

Unlike many political leaders who relied on grand declarations, Modi made it clear that he spoke only when his words were backed by resolve. In Gujarat, he often told people he never spoke about what he could not deliver, and what he promised, he would

«जो काम नहीं कर सकता उसके बारे में बोलता नहीं हूँ और जिसके बारे में बोलता हूँ तो वो काम पूरा किए बिना रुकता नहीं हूँ।"

This same approach was amplified in Delhi. As Prime Minister, he reminded the nation that every manifesto commitment was pursued with persistence, linking speech to delivery. The emphasis was always on credibility of his word translating into credibility of the government.

"हमारे हर वचन को हमने कर्म से सिद्ध करने का प्रयास किया है।" (Parliament, 2025)

Mobilising society

One of Modi's signature communication strategies has been turning government programmes into people's movements. As CM, his Garib Kalyan Melas did not just distribute benefits. They fostered healthy competition among districts, creating 'service races' that multiplied

bators of a new India. His speeches positioned education not only as a welfare measure, but as nation-build-

Modi turns 75

"गरीब कल्याण मेला ने मेवा की स्पर्धा का वातावरण बना दिया है।" (Radhanpur, 2010)

As Prime Minister, he expanded this into a national philosophy. The Swachh Bharat Abhiyan was not presented as a government scheme. It was pitched as a collective duty where every household could participate. His words transformed cleanliness from a policy to a personal pledge. "स्वच्छ भारत अभियान सरकार का कार्यक्रम नहीं है, यह जन आंदोलन है।" (Red Fort, 2014)

PM Modi's appeal to the nation to own Swadeshi and Vocal for Local also resonates among people at large. एक ही मंत्र 'Vocal for Local', एक ही रास्ता 'आत्मनिर्भर भारत', एक ही लक्ष्य 'विकसित भारत' (Mann Ki Baat, August, 2025)

Education first

Education has been a consistent motif in Modi's speeches, described as the strongest weapon against poverty. As Chief Minister, he championed literacy drives, especially for women and rural children, framing it as the foundation of dignity and empowerment. "गरीबी के सामने लड़ने का उत्तम हथियार शिक्षा है।" (Jamnagar, 2010)

As Prime Minister, this conviction led to landmark initiatives such as NEP 2020. He described students as the architects of India's future, framing class-

eryday life in India looked Street vendors now track every sale different: Long queues at railway counters, pleading for change at shops, slipping a bribe

your phone to pay

the sabziwala, drive

through toll plazas

without stopping,

stream a movie

on cheap data

during your

commute, and

see your gas

subsidy land

directly in

your ac-

count. It

all feels

with a tap. Access to credit has opened up, transparency has deepened, and India has become the world's undisputed leader in real-time payments. With UPI now powering cross-border to get a gas connection, transfers, migrant families are savor skipping medicines because they were uning big on remittance costs. affordable—this was normal. Now, you tap **Jan Dhan accounts**

10 ways Modi tenure changed daily life

Millions, especially women, experienced financial independence for the first time. With wages and subsidies landing directly in their accounts, households began shifting savings into the formal system, strengthening banks and fuelling credit expansion across the economy.

FASTag & transport efficiency

No more endless toll queues. Fuel is saved, journeys are quicker, and supply chains are smoother. Lower logistics costs boosted India's trade competitiveness while also setting the stage for the e-commerce culture of "next-day delivery".

Cheap data & internet access

Affordable internet transformed small towns and villages. Farmers check mandi prices on their phones, students attend online classes, and rural youth dive into coding courses. This digital wave created entirely new economies—from OTT platforms to AI startups—while deepening India's talent pool.

Metro expansion

From Delhi to Bengaluru, metros reclaimed lost hours of traffic and reduced pollution. Real estate thrived along metro corridors, reshaping urban growth.

Jan Aushadhi centres

Affordable generics brought adherence to treatment within reach, creating a healthier, more productive workforce. Demand for generics also spurred Indian pharma to strengthen its global edge as the "pharmacy of the world".

DigiLocker & e-Governance

Endless photocopies and long queues gave way to instant digital verifications. Entrepreneurs can now access loans faster, citizens engage more confidently with the state, and a "paperless culture" is nudging schools and private firms toward digital-first practices.

QR codes in commerce

From tea stalls to malls, QR codes gave small shopkeepers a financial footprint, unlocking loans, insurance, and business growth. Quietly, tax compliance rose without crackdowns.

Gig economy growth

Flexible work turned into a lifeline for millions-students, women, and semi-skilled workers. The gig boom reshaped lifestyles: 10-minute grocery deliveries, app-based cabs, and food orders became the new normal, transforming consumption patterns, city logistics, and even eating habits.

Public services & behavioural change

Direct Benefit Transfers cut out middlemen, ensuring money reached citizens without bribes or delays. Swachh Bharat gave women dignity with toilets and safety, while instilling civic pride in cleanliness

At the national level, he elevated this discourse. His speeches on Beti Bachao, Beti Padhao and during the passage of the Women's Res ervation Bill in Parliament highlighted women not as beneficiaries, but as leaders of development. "नारी शक्ति हमारे हर प्रयास की अग्रद्त है।" (Parliament, 2023)

Technology and innovation Modi's rhetoric on technology re-

flects both futurism and simplicity. As Chief Minister, he framed IT as a formula for India's tomorrow: Indian Talent plus Information Technology. Gujarat's creation of the world's first Forensic Science University became an early symbol of his tech-led governance.

"I.T. + I.T. = I.T. - Indian Talent + Information Technology = India

"आज का विदयार्थी ही 2047

के भारत का निर्माता है।"

(NEP launch, 2020)

Women-led

Even

equal participation

in governance. Gu-

iarat's pioneering

decision to provide

for women in local

became an early ex-

ample of his belief in

«महिलाओं को स्थानीय स्वराज में 50% आरक्षण_ः

परुषों जितना ही अधिकार महिलाओं का भी।"

Nari Shakti.

(Vadodara, 2010)

self-governments

development

Chief Minister,

Modi advocat-

ed for women's

reservation

as

As Prime Minister, he scaled this narrative globally, emphasising India's role in AI, quantum computing, and space exploration. His speeches linked cutting-edge technology with national pride and practical governance. "आज का भारत AL क्वांटम और स्पेस टेक्नोलॉजी में विश्व का नेतृत्व करेगा। (India AI Mission, 2024)

Democracy and nationhood

As Prime Minister, he globalised this message, declaring at the UN that democracy in India is not a system but a way of life. His speeches present democracy as both India's moral compass and its greatest export. "भारत में लोकतंत्र एक प्रणाली नहीं, यह जीवन शैली है। (UNGA, 2014)

Security and resolve

Only a few leaders in India have spoken as directly about national security as Modi. As Chief Minister, he refused to back down in the face of terrorism and pledged an uncompromising fight.

"मैं आतंकवाद के विरुद्ध अपनी लड़ाई छोड़ने वाला नहीं हूँ।"

As Prime Minister, he sharp ened this resolve into a national doctrine, shown by his blunt messaging after the Balakot strikes. His words carried both deterrence and defiance, reflecting a muscular security posture. "घर में घुस कर मारेंगे।"

After Operation Sindoor, Prime Minister's address sparked a wave of patriotism in the country defining New Normal for India when it comes to fighting terrorism.

"ऑपरेशन सिंदूर ने आतंक के खिलाफ लड़ाई में एक नई लकीर खींच दी है एक नया पैमाना, न्यू नॉर्मल तय कर दिया है

"हम आतंक की सरपरस्त सरकार और आतंक के आकाओं को अलग अलग नहीं देखेंगे"

नहीं बह सकता" (May 2025)

'पानी और खुन भी एक साथ

Hasna Zaroori Hai - Modi's lighter side

n politics, humour is a powerful force—an artful tool that can disarm tension, foster connection, and illuminate truth. For Prime Minister Narendra Modi, humour is far more than embellishment; it's a vibrant thread woven into his leadership style.

Whether through poetic flourishes and clever wordplay in Parliament, spirited satire in Gujarat's public gatherings, or sparkling repartee on the global stage, his wit brings warmth and relatability to political discourse. His lighter side is ever-present, suggesting a belief that truth, when shared with a smile, resonates more deeply. What delights, endures—and in Modi's case, humour becomes a bridge to hearts and minds alike.

Gujarat years: Satire as sword and shield

When Modi became Chief Minister of Gujarat, his humour acquired a sharper edge. In crowded rallies, satire evolved into a powerful political tool. Congress leaders' promises became caricatures, likened to Bollywood dialogues: "Congress ke neta aise vaade karte hain jaise Sholay ka Gabbar -'Arre O Sambha, kitne vote laaye?"

At Garib Kalyan Melas, where welfare schemes were showcased, he lampooned his critics saying "Unko Gareeb Kalyaan Mela pasand nahi, shayad wo Gareeb Rulao Mela karna

chahte hain.'

And when asked how he survived the barrage of attacks from rivals, his response was pure street wit: "Main roz 2-3 kilo gaali khata hoon, isliye mujhe kuch hota nahi." The quip became so memorable that he repeated it years later as Prime Minister. In the Assembly,

humour doubled as armour. When Opposition MLAs accused him of authoritari-

anism, he shot back: "Shayad aapko problem hai ki main aapki tarah 'holiday CM' nahi hoon.'

From domestic wit to global repartee

As PM, Modi's wit found a bigger stage. Parliament - often a crucible of confrontation - frequently became an arena of wit and humour. Rahul Gandhi's 2018 wink, for instance, turned into comedy when Modi mimicked it, leaving MPs in laughter. His humour, in such moments, disarmed tensions without diminishing seri-



Modi's 30-40

With students, his jokes

have entered popular culture. The spontaneous 'PUBG Wala Hai Kva?" became an instant meme, reflecting his knack for speaking the vouth's idiom. Later. while learning the term "noob" from gamers, he chuckled: "Toh main bhi noob hoon kva?' - a towering leader momentarily made relatable.

The famous 'Tubelight' comeback A notable exchange took place in

February 2020 during a Lok Sabha debate. After Rahul Gandhi made a remark that "youth will beat Modi with sticks in six months," Modi gave a memorable response that drew widespread attention.

rally: "Narendra Modi, who is giving speeches now, will not be able to get out of his home in six-seven months. The youth of India will beat him with sticks."

When Gandhi finally interrupted

Rahul Gandhi had declared at a

delivered his devastating punchline: "I have been speaking for 30-40 minutes but it took this long for the current to reach. Bahut se tubelight aise hi hotey hai." The BJP members

burst into laughter

minute speech, the PM

and thumped their desks in delight. Modi then mockingly said he would prepare for Gandhi's threatened beating: "I will do more surya namaskar so that my back is ready for the beat-

ing... I will make myself gaali-proof (abuse-proof) and also danda-proof (stick-proof). In a way, I am grateful that I have been given the advance Modi once joked about Congress

leader Adhir Ranjan Chowdhury's frequent interruptions, saying he was "publicising the 'Fit India' campaign in Parliament" by constantly getting up from his seat.

Similarly, when responding to unemployment criticism, Modi quipped: "I will resolve unemployment in the country but not his [the Opposition's] unemployment."

Again showcasing his wit, in another parliamentary gem, Modi told critics: "If I start answering you point by point, I'll become like Google search," drawing laughter from MPs across party lines.

Diplomacy with levity

On the world stage, humour also became a diplomatic tool. Modi ribbed Emmanuel Macron with a cheeky, "Nowadays, you are fighting on Twitter?"

With Caribbean cricketers Chris Gayle and Darren Sammy, he bantered about six-hitting and dance moves. In these moments, diplomacy and playfulness met.

In politics, laughter is rare, but when it comes, it can be more powerful than a speech. The PM has often shown that a sharp sense of humour can disarm opponents, win hearts, and deliver truths in the most unexpected way. His witty one-liners, playful jabs, and lighthearted moments remind us that even in the heat of politics, hasna zaroori hai.

ore than 1,300 items, including a Tanjore painting of Ram Durbar, a metallic Nataraja statue, a handwoven Naga shawl and a set of sporting memorabilia from the Paralympic Games 2024. gifted to Prime Minister Narendra Modi are part of an e-Auction that begins here September 17, officials said Tuesday.

The start of the seventh edition of the online auction will coincide with the birthday of Modi, who turns 75 Wednesday. It will be held till October 2.

Union Minister of Culture and Tourism Gajendra Singh Shekhawat announced the launch of the latest edition of the PM's Mementoes e-Auction at a press interaction hosted at the National Gallery of Modern Art (NG-MA) here.

The first edition of the e-Auctions was held in January 2019.

To stand for the Truth in all circumstances, to declare it if necessary in the teeth of the worst opposition and to be ready to all you can for its sake, is the definition of heroism



THE MOTHER

Stirring The Pot

ore than half a million people marched along the streets of London 13 September protesting against immigration. This was one of the country's biggest Right-wing demonstrations ever, with some protesters clashing with the police and wounding at least 26 officers.

Now contrast this with the picture of merely about 5,000 rival demonstrators who gathered at White Hall in central London the same day to slam hate-mongering and iterating the Labour government's policy of welcoming migrants. The inescapable conclusion from the two showdowns is that the Far-Right is on the upward move both in Europe and America. To bring home the point some of the current bright stars of white supremacist politics make their presence - virtual and real – felt at the London rally organised by the Far-Right and anti-immigrant activist Tommy Robinson. There were billionaire Elon Musk, who joined via video-link, French Far-Right politician Eric Zemmour, and Petr Bystron of the anti-immigrant Alternative for Germany (AfD) party. Musk was so delighted at the turnout that he called it "something beautiful." He cheered the demonstrators with the message that Britain is being destroyed. He thought there was "initially a slow erosion, but it has become a rapidly increasing erosion of Britain with massive uncontrolled migration." He gave the clarion call for a change of government in the UK. For his part, Zemmour iterated the Far-Right, white nationalist conspiracy theory of so-called "Great Replacement," which claims that white Europeans are being deliberately supplanted by non-white immigrants, mostly Moslems from the Middle East. Expressing solidarity with the British population, he said both France and England are subject to the same process of the great replacement of "our European people by peoples coming from the south and of Moslem culture." He signed off with the remark that Europeans are being "colonised by our former colonies.

This is might sound like xenophobic rhetoric but it surely seems to have struck a chord in the hearts of like-minded people in the UK in the backdrop of the killing of US conservative activist Charlie Kirk, who was remembered at the rally with a moment of silence. Robinson's latest "Unite the Kingdom" march came at the tail end of a highly charged summer in the UK that featured several protests staged outside hotels housing asylum seekers in England, following the arrest of an Ethiopian man who was later convicted of sexually assaulting a 14-year-old girl in a London suburb. Robinson's real name is Stephen Yaxley-Lennon and he is known for his anti-immigrant and anti-Islam views. He was so overjoyed at the massive gathering that he called it "the spark of a cultural revolution in Great Britain.

On the other hand, at the counterprotest, organised by the "Stand Up to Racism" campaign group and attended by Left-wing lawmakers Zarah Sultana and Diane Abbott, the crowd held signs saying, "Refugees welcome" and "Smash the Far-Right." Abbott accused Robinson and his allies of spreading "nonsense" and "dangerous" lies that asylum seekers were a threat.

Britain is being overwhelmed by the immigration of Moslems from $\,$ the Middle East and North Africa. According to some pollsters, if there is an election now the Far-Right, anti-immigrant Reform UK party would be the UK's largest political party. Interestingly, this outfit has distanced itself from Robinson. This could be happening because a feeling of insecurity has crept in among the established political outfits that non conventional actors are taking over main stage politics and they are no more in the eyes of the common voters.

The fast-paced developments in Europe and the US point to the fact that populist movements are winning more people on their side more because of what the people see around them and their homes. The recent battle cry of implementing Sharia laws in the host countries has offended the most tolerant of Westerners. Earlier, migrants were moving out of strife torn areas to safer locations along with their children and womenfolk. Recent reports suggest the new crowd of illegal immigrants are all able bodied young Moslems, between 25 to 45 years of age. General impression spreading in Europe is that this is an undercover invasion and an effort by Islamists to move fighting fit men into Western countries and spread Islam and the Sharia.

Usual politicians and political parties seem to be falling by the roadside in this new scenario. The new players have the possibilities to change the situation that seems to be looming large.

WISDOM CORNER

If most of us remain ignorant of ourselves, it is because self-knowledge is painful and we prefer the pleasures of

The mind is by nature restless. Begin liberating it from its restlessness; give it peace; make it free from distractions; train it to look inward; make this a habit. This is done by ignoring the external world and removing the obstacles to

Do not go where the path may lead, go instead where there is no path and leave a trail

RALPH WALDO EMERSON

THIS DAY IN HISTORY

- **1809:** Treaty of Fredrikshamn is signed between Sweden and Russia. Also known as the Treaty of Hamina, it concluded the Finnish War and ceded Swedish territories, which later formed Finland to Russia.
- **1849:** American Harriet Tubman escaped from the Southern plantation where she was enslaved and later led other enslaved people to freedom in the North along the route of the Underground Railroad.
- **1862:** Bloodiest single day of the American Civil War takes place. The Battle of Antietam was fought near the Antietam Creek in Sharpsburg, Maryland. Thought to be the deadliest single day of the American Civil War - at least 4000 soldiers on both sides died - the battle ended Confederate General Robert E. Lee incursion into the North. While there were no clear victors, many believed that the withdrawal of Confederate soldiers from the battlefield before the Union Army did meant that the Union had won the battle.
- 1926: Mexican artist Frida Kahlo was severely injured in a bus accident, and during her recovery she began painting and soon abandoned her plans for a career in medicine.
- 1939: During World War II the Soviet army invaded Poland from the eastjoining Germany, which had launched its attack several weeks earlier—and the Polish government fled to Romania
- 1978: Camp David Accords concluded. The Camp David Accords, negotiated by U.S. President Jimmy Carter, were completed this day in 1978, leading to a peace treaty between Egypt and Israel and a broader framework for pursuing peace in the Middle East.

FOCUS GEOPOLITICS

RIPPLES FROM DOHA

s Israel continues to intensify its ground offensive in Gaza there are indications that the Israeli attack on the Hamas office in Doha on 9 September is heavily recoiling on the Netanyahu government. Wes Streeting, UK's Health Secretary warned on the same day that the "Netanyahu government's handling of the Gaza war is leading Israel to pariah

This was on the eve of Israeli President Herzog's visit to the UK to express solidarity with the British Jewish community, which, Herzog's office alleged, "is under severe attack and facing a wave of antisemitism." However, Streeting insisted that Herzog "needs to answer the allegations of war crimes, of ethnic cleansing and of genocide that are being levelled at the government of Israel."

"+ 972 Magazine," an Israeli Left-Wing periodical said in a survey in December 2014 that over 70 per cent of Israelis were worried about international isolation. Israel, which is heavily reliant on foreign trade and investment, always wishes to be part of the Western democracies as it has less resilience, unlike Iran and Russia, to "cope economically, militarily, and psychologically with sanctions and global disapprobation," as the magazine "Foreign Policy" said recently.

Significantly on 8 September British Prime Minister Keir Starmer hosted Palestinian Authority President Mahmoud Abbas at 10 Downing Street. The PM is reported to have promised "to recognise a Palestinian State ahead of the UN General Assembly later this month unless Israel changes course." Spain, Ireland and Norway have already announced recognition while Belgium, Australia, Portugal, Canada and Malta have stated plans to go with Britain and France in recognising Palestinian statehood joining more than 140 countries.

Los Angeles Times (11 September) said that American credibility in the Gulf States was the first casualty when Is-



It was particularly incredulous that Israel, which depends mainly on America for its existence, could attack Qatar, which hosts Al **Udeid Air Base, the largest American military** installation in the region

rael attacked the Hamas office in Doha as these States thought that their security was assured with "tens of billions of their petrodollars and agreements that allowed the US to dot the Middle East with some of its largest military facilities." It was particularly incredulous that Israel, which depends mainly on America for its existence, could attack Qatar, which hosts Al Udeid Air Base, the largest American military installation in the region.

It was also a personal insult to President Donald Trump as he had signed the US-Qatar economic agreement valued at \$1.2 trillion in May this year, which he had described as "historic." besides accepting a luxury jet as an "unconditional donation." As a result, the US joined other members at the UNSC in condemning the attack, an unprecedented action, as America always vetoes anti-Israel resolutions. During the UNSC meeting Qatari Prime Minister Sheikh Mohammed bin Abdulrahman al-Thani alleged that the Israeli government was "led by blusterous extremists."

Personally, Trump exhibited his exasperation by saying that the raid did not "advance Israel or America's goals" as Qatar was hosting Hamas leaders since 2012 for "indirect negotiations" with Israel, as desired by America. Also, the Abraham Accords initiated by Trump in September 2020 towards normalisation of Israel - Arab States relations lay in tatters as UAE, one of the important signatories, slammed the "blatant and cowardly Israeli attack that targeted the State of Qatar.'

Abu Dhabi also summoned the Israeli ambassador to convey that any aggression against a Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) member State was considered "an attack on the collective Gulf security framework. The attack marked the first direct strike by Israel on one of the member States of the GCC Even before this, relations between UAE and Israel had begun to deteriorate after the Netanyahu government's open threat over a planned discussion on the West Bank annexation, which the UAE had said would constitute a "red line."

"Politico" reported on 9 September that Trump and his top aides had come to question whether Netanyahu, who authorised the strike, "was trying to sabotage the talks." It quoted a White House insider: "Every time they're making progress, it seems like he bombs someone. That's why the President and his aides are so frustrated with Netanyahu."

The Israeli newspaper "Haaretz" reported on 13 September that Trump had dinner with the Qatari PM in New York, days after Israel's attack in Doha. They were joined by US special envoy Steve Witkoff.

Netanyahu had alleged that Qatar was the chief financier of Hamas terrorists besides hosting them in their country. This was contested by independent observers who quoted an op-ed piece in The Wall Street Journal (WSJ) in 2023, by the Qatari ambassador to the US, Sheikh Meshal bin Hamad Al Thani that Washington wanted Qatar "to establish indirect lines of communication with Hamas.

Al Thani had added: "The presence of the Hamas office shouldn't be confused with endorsement but rather establishes an important channel for indirect communication." The New York Times on 10 December, 2023 confirmed that Netanyahu had secretly approved this contact through Doha.

In a video address on the 9/11 anniversary, Netanyahu had invoked Israel's right to attack the 'terrorists' base in Doha just as the US had invaded Afghanistan on 7 October 2001. This argument has not impressed anybody as the US had first moved UNSC which had passed Resolution No. 1368 that condemned the "horrifying terrorist attacks which took place on 11 Sept. 2001" and called on "all States to work together urgently to bring to justice the perpetrators, organisers and sponsors of these terrorist attacks." The US had taken this as UN authorisation and invaded Afghanistan which had given shelter to Osama bin Laden.

As against this, Israel had continuously been attacking and killing UN personnel extending humanitarian assistance to the Gaza civilians, including women and children. US Democrat senators Chris Van Hollen and Jeff Merkley confirmed this during their visit (August 24 to September 1) that Israel was doing "ethnic cleansing" of the local population and starving them of food, using hunger as a weapon.

On 12 September, Trump predicted that Zohran Mamdani would win the New York City Mayor elections on 4 November. The next day Mamdani told the media that he would honour the International Criminal Court arrest warrant against Netanyahu and take him into custody if he visits New York.

> The writer is a former Special Secretary, Cabinet Secretariat.

IN JEST THIS

Vappala

Balachandran

NETANYAHU

HAD ALLEGED

THAT QATAR

FINANCIER

OF HAMAS

BESIDES

HOSTING

COUNTRY

TERRORISTS

THEM IN THEIR

WAS THE CHIEF

Honest cabbies restore faith in humanity



Melvin Durai

THERE ARE LOTS **OF HONEST PEOPLE OUT** THERE. SO WHATEVER YOU **LOSE IN THE FUTURE, I WISH YOU MANY HAPPY RETURNS**

🜓 ome years ago, I lost a laptop computer at a grocery store. I had placed it in a shopping cart while buying groceries and absentmindedly left it there when I unloaded the cart. I realised my mistake at home and rushed back to the store, but my laptop had disappeared. I put up signs offering a reward, but got no responses, much to my dismay.

Meanwhile, someone else went to the grocery store and came home with a laptop. It was their lucky day. Even on Christmas Day, Santa is not so generous. Did they spare a thought for the rightful owner? Perhaps they did, saving to themselves, "What an idiot! He didn't protect his laptop with a password.'

One person's misery is another person's joy. But to be joyful about claiming a lost item for yourself, you can't think about the other person. You can't put yourself in their shoes, except if it's shoes that they've lost.

Thankfully, there are many people in the world who just can't live like that. They return the laptop. They return the cellphone. They even return the

Rather than taking possession of a lost item, they do the honest thing — and take pleasure in the owner's relief and gratitude.

Who are these people? Cab drivers!

Well, not just cab drivers, but it was an honest cab driver who reminded me of my lost laptop. A college student in Gurugram recently shared his gratitude for a returned MacBook on social media. The student had taken a cab to get to college and left one of the two bags he was carrying in the vehicle. Inside the bag was the laptop. Even worse, he had borrowed the laptop from a friend for the weekend. Imagine his panic he was about to lose a laptop and a friend on the same day!

He called the cab driver's number, but got no answer. "My mind almost accepted that it was gone," he wrote on Reddit.

Along with his friend, he ran to the front gate, where he had been dropped off, and that's where he spotted the cabbie, talking to security guards while attempting to return the laptop directly to the student.

"The rush of calmness I felt in that moment OMG," the stu-

The grateful student offered the cab driver a reward of ₹500, but "despite my repeated requests, he refused, saying I was like a kid to him. It truly felt like humanity is still alive.'

Cab drivers may not have a reputation for honesty, partly because some of them try to maximise their fare by any means possible, but a good many of them will go out of their way to return items that passengers leave behind. One of the best examples of this happened earlier this year, when a Bangalore man left his phone in a cab. The man (who also shared his story on Reddit) had been trying to catch a ride late at night, but his phone's battery died in the process. He decided to walk to his destination, which was only 2 km away. During the walk, he passed a cab on the side of the road and asked the driver for a ride. The driver took him on the short trip and declined to accept a payment, which in itself made the driver eligible

for sainthood. The driver got another opportunity to demonstrate his high character when the passenger's phone slipped out of his pocket. The cab driver not only found the phone, he charged the battery, allowing the passenger to contact him. And then he traveled from Mysore to Bangalore to return the phone.

"I gave him 1000 rupees as a reward for his honesty, and although he was reluctant to accept, I insisted," the passenger wrote. "The cab driver's kindness restored my faith in humanity."

There are lots of honest people out there. So whatever you lose in the future, I wish you many happy returns.

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:

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

Judicious balance

Sir, The Supreme Court's interim order on the Waqf (Amendment) Act, 2025 strikes a judicious balance between constitutional safeguards and the State's interest. By staying Section 3C—which arbitrarily empowered the executive to alter Waqf records and dispossess trustees—the Court has rightly reaffirmed the doctrine of separation of powers. Title determination of property, being a quintessential judicial function, cannot be usurped by administrative fiat. Equally significant is the Court's insistence on procedural fairness: the requirement of a five-year Islamic practice, absent a clear mechanism, was stayed as violative of natural justice. At the same time, the Court upheld long-standing obligations of registration, recognising that statutory compliance cannot be waived by mere usage. By restraining Mutawallis from creating third-party rights and limiting non-Muslim representation in Waqf institutions, the Court has attempted to protect both public assets and minority rights. This nuanced order ensures interim equity while leaving constitutional questions open for fuller adjudication...

Gopalaswamy J, CHENNAI

Equitable healthcare

Sir, More than two million deaths in hospitals of low and middle income countries are reported annually due to less than adequate safe healthcare. One in every ten patient deaths is directly attributed to adverse effects resulting from harmful healthcare and avoidable practices. Fifty per cent of these are preventable, and therefore ways have to be found to undertake assured health practices. Improving diagnosis for patient safety is definitely one way forward as is safe care for every newborn and every child. Efficient and equitable healthcare, amalgamated into one, with an active patient involvement, could go places. Errors may occur at any point in time; solidifying the system to ensure a flawless healthcare is critical. Augmented investment, tackling hospital acquired infections and early detection of diseases cannot be overstressed on the World Patient Safety Day observed every year on September 17.

Ganapathi Bhat, AKOLA



TWO STATES







US tariff threatens traditional biz Maha clears Animation, VE Policy

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Thiruvananthapuram, Sept 16: Kerala's traditional export industries are staring at one of their toughest challenges in years, with the state government warning that new penalty tariffs imposed by the United States could slash revenues, disrupt supply chains and throw thousands of workers.

Finance Minister K N Balagopal said the new tariff regime was already causing deep concern across marine products, spices, cashew, coir, tea and rubber-sectors that remain the According to him, marine

Kerala accounts for around 12-13 per cent of the country's

"Orders are being cancelled, stocks are piling up in cold storages and the utilisation of processing plants has slumped be-

oleoresins. Balagopal said the US imports spice products worth over \$700 million each year.

growing competition from Vietnam, while higher tariffs are squeezing coir exporters and shutting the door on niche mar-

kets for handicrafts in the US. Tea, another staple of the state's economy, is also vulnerable. With annual exports to the US worth around \$700 crore, growers are already seeing sharp order declines. Rising production costs and climate change impacts have pushed plantations to the edge,

Rubber exports, too, are expected to suffer. Balagopal said only greater emphasis on value-added products can cushion the blow. The government's concern is not limited to revenue loss. Balagopal warned that the tariff shock could trigger wide social impacts.

In traditional industries such as cashew, coir, handloom and seafood processing, women form the vast majority of workers. Any fall in earnings, he said, will hit household security directly and create new pockets of rural distress.

Mumbai. Sept 16: The Maharashtra cabinet Tuesday cleared the new Animation, Visual Effects(VE), Gaming, Comics and Extended Reality (AVGC-XR) Policy 2025 with a roadman till 2050 projecting the industry to create two lakh jobs and attract Rs 50,000 crore investment over the next

Under the policy, dedicated AVGC-XR parks will be developed with world-class infrastructure and special hubs will come up in various parts of the city, including Mumbai, Navi Mumbai, Pune, Satara and Nagpur.

The state's AVGC-XR Policy 2025 was approved during a meeting of the state cabinet chaired by Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis.

This is considered an important step towards making Mumbai the capital of the entertainment and tourism sector, a statement issued by the Chief Minister's Office (CMO) said.

OFFICE OF THE NOTIFIED AREA COUNCIL, KHARIAR ROAD

Mail: nackhrd@rediffimail.com, Phone No.-06678-221239

INVITATION FOR BIDS

Bid Reference No.2540/KHRD/2025-26

Tender Call Notice No.2540/15.09.2025

Bid documents consisting of specification the schedule of quantities and the set of terms and condition

Rs.171.78 Lakhs

Civil Works as mentioned in website

10.00 AM 16.09.2025 to 5.00 PM 04.10.2025

contract and other necessary document can be seen in the Govt. website i.e. www.tendersodisha.gov.in.

7 Name and address of the Officer Inviting Bid : Executive Officer, Khariar Road NAC, Dist-Nuapada

OIPR-13136/11/0052/2526 Sd./- Executive Officer, NAC, Khariar Road

F.No. P-L-02001/1/2025-PL

Government of India

Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change

Policy and Law Division

NGT Cell

Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change invites applications for filling up

The qualifications, terms of office, age limit, conditions of service etc. are available

The last date for submitting the application in the Ministry is four weeks from the date of

of the five (05) vacant posts each of Judicial and Expert Members in the National Green

on the Ministry's website www.moef.gov.in. Details of the advertisement including the

Application Form is available at https://parivesh.nic.in/newupgrade/#/legal-vacancies in

publication 17/10/2025 (23:59 hours (midnight). All applications together with enclosures

have to be submitted online (https://parivesh.nic.in/newupgrade/#/legal-vacancies). The

Ministry shall not entertain any other mode of submission of application nor shall process

advertisement dated 29.03.2025, need not apply again and their applications will be

considered against all the vacancies notified in the fresh advertisement.

Note: Applicants who have already submitted applications in response to the earlier

Further the details can be seen from the "Procurement Portal" www.tendersorissa.gov.in

The AVGC-XR sector has been granted industry and infrastructure status, it said.

AVGC-XR is an important component of India's Media and Entertainment (M&E) industry, which is projected to grow from \$27 billion to over \$100 billion by 2030, generating over 30 lakh direct jobs and 51.5 lakh indirect jobs.

Maharashtra's Economic Advisory Council (EAC), in its vision document for making the state a USD 1 trillion economy, also highlighted the importance of this sector. Recently, the central government organised the international WAVES (World Audio Visual & Entertainment Summit) 2025 conference in Mumbai, during which MoUs worth Rs 8,000 crore were signed.

The EAC also recommended a dedicated policy for the sector, similar to Karnataka, Telangana, Rajasthan, Kerala and Madhya Pradesh.

Maharashtra already has more than 295 studios in the

sector - the highest in India accounting for 30 per cent of all studios nationwide. Educational facilities for animation VFX (visual effects) and gaming are offered by 20 institutes in Mumbai and Pune, the statement said.

The state had earlier de clared this sector as an "emerging industry" under its IT & ITeS Policy 2023. Applications of AVGC-XR technology extend across healthcare (medical sim ulations), education, marketing (immersive branding), defence (simulation training), agricul ture and real estate (3D modelling, virtual tours).

OVERHAULING(POH) & MODIFICATION OF INSPECTION CARRIAGE AT CARRIAGE REPAIR WORKSHOP MANCHESWAR FOR A PERIOD OF 24 MONTHS.

EMD: ₹88,000/-, Period of Completion

Bidding Start Date: 19.09.2025 Tender Closing Date and Time :

At 1500 Hrs. of 03.10.2025. Manual offers are not allowed against thi Manual offers are not allowed against this tender, and any such manual offer received shall be ignored.

Complete information including e-tender documents and corrigendum is available in website www.ireps.gov.in

Dy. Chief Electrical Engineer PR-603/Q/25-26 CRW/Mancheswa

EAST COAST RAILWAY

NAME OF WORK : REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL (RFP) FOR 3RD AND 4TH LINE BETWEEN NERGUNDI-BARANG

(22 KM.) AND KHURDA ROAD-VIZIANAGARAM (363 KM.) ON BHADRAK-VIZIANAGARAM SECTION (385 KM.): CONSTRUCTION OF IMPORTANT BRIDGE NOS. 539 (16 X 30.5 M OPEN WEB STEEL GIRDER OVER RIVER BIRUPA AT CH. 402521 M), 544 (32 X 65.84 M OPEN WEB STEEL GIRDER OVER RIVER MAHANADI AT CH. 406305 M), 553 (18 X 45.70 M OPEN WEB STEEL GIRDER OVER RIVER KATHJORI AT CH. 411589 M), 557 (20 X 45.70 M OPEN WEB STEEL GIRDER OVER RIVER KUAKHAI AT CH. 414607 M) ON EPC

Lakh, EMD : ₹ 2,00,00,000/-, Completion Period of the Work: 36 (Thirty Six) Months Tender Closing Date & Time : At 1200

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

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

The tenderers should read all instructions to the tenderers carefully and ensure compliance of all instructions

Chief Administrative Officer (Con)

PR-107/CI/25-26 **GOVERNMENT OF ODISHA**

Level-I, Jal Wing,

Indira Paryavaran Bhavan,

Jor Bagh Road, New Delhi-03

PANCHAYAT SAMITI, NARAYANPATNA PR & DW DEPARTMENT, ODISHA

E-Mail ID: ori-narayanpatna@nic.in

Letter No. 3054/2025/TCN 07/2025-26

NOTICE INVITING TENDER

any application received beyond the due date and time.

Dated: 16.09.2025

Bid Identification No. 07 of 2025-26 of B.D.O., Narayanpatna

1. Bid documents consisting of specification the Bill of Quality and the Tender Call Notice can be

seen in the Govt, website http://tendersorissa.gov.in/nicgep/app.

SI. No.	Name of the Work	Amount put to Tender (Approx. In Lakhs)	Class of Contractor	Cost of Tender Paper	E.M.D. (Bid Security) in Rs.	Period of Completion (Calendar Month)
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1	Construction of Natya Mandap at Bus Stop at Narayanpatna	12,31,614.00	"C" & "D"	6000/-	12000/-	06 Months
2	Construction of Additional Classroom at Bari PS	7,88,971.00	"C" & "D"	6000/-	7900/-	06 Months
3	Construction of Market	11 50 087 00	"C" & "D"	6000/-	12000/-	06 Months

Complex at Narayanpatna	
03 (Three) Nos.	of Works Only
Tender documents are available on website	Can be downloaded from Website: (http://www.tendersodisha.gov.in)
Bid documents available date and time	From 22.09.2025 at 11.00 hours to 06.10.2025 upto 17.30 hours
Bid clarification start date & closing date	22.09.2025 to 06.10.2025 during office hours
Offline documents received through Speed	From 22.09.2025 at 17.30 hours to 10.10.2025
Post/Registered Post	at 11.00 hours
	(10.10.2025 at 11.00 hours), Office of the
Date, time and venue of opening of bid online	Block Development Officer, Panchayat Samiti,
	Narayanpatna

Offline documents shall be opened in presence of participate, bidders in chamber of BDO, Narayanpatna

10.10.2025 at 11.00 hours onwards.

(10.10.2025 at 02.30 hours) Office of the If stipulation arises the tender will be decided

Narayanpatna

tion over the cyber attack

against the veteran writer

and to provide her with

He also sent a letter to

the state police chief de-

manding that a case be

registered in this regard

and that the online attacks

adequate protection.

low 20 per cent," Balagopal said.

The impact is being felt most sharply along Kerala's coastline, where lakhs depend on seafood exports for their livelihood. Women form the majority of the workforce in shrimp processing units, and their jobs are now at risk.

More than 80 per cent of India's pepper exports originate

Kerala's cashew sector faces

from the state, along with car-

damom, ginger, spice oils and

and the tariff shock threatens to tip them into deeper crisis, the minister said.

Nature of Work

in the portal

Estimated Cost

Offline Submission of Bid

the Ministry's website

CBC 13101/11/0018/2526

Date and Time of availability of the documents

CORRIGENDUM to

e-Tender Notice No. e-Tender-Elect-G-45-25 made in the Tender Notice which may Particulars : e-Tender Notice No. and

Tender Closing Date and Time:-Now To be Read As -G-45-25 26.09.2025

As Published e-Tender-Elect e-Tender-Elect-G-49-25 advised to visit the website: www.ireps.gov.in Sr. Divisional Electrical Engineer (G)



Education (Shiksha Mantralaya), Govt. of India)
Plot No. FA7, Zone P1, GT Karnal Road, Delhi-110036, INDIA द्रभाष / Tele:+9111-33861000, 1001, वेबसाइट / Website: www.nitdelhi.ac.in F. No.: NITD/01/Admn/625/2025-26 Dated: 16.09.2025 ADVT. NO.: 14/2025

(शिक्षा मंत्रालय, भारत सरकार के अधीन एक स्वायत संस्थान) (An autonomous Institute under the aegis of Ministry of

RECRUITMENT OF FACULTY POSITIONS

Online applications are invited from Indian Nationals for recruitment to faculty positions in various departments of NIT Delhi at different Pay Levels. Reservations shall be applicable as per the Government of India Norms.

Detailed information regarding Eligibility Criteria, Department-Wise Vacancies, Pay Levels, and other relevant instructions is available on the Institute's official website: www.nitdelhi.ac.in.

• The online application portal shall remain open from 18.09.2025 to 17.10.2025. The hard copy of the duly filled -in and signed application form, along with

all requisite self-attested supporting documents, must reach the Institute on or before 31.10.2025 (till 5.00 PM). CBC 21275/12/0002/2526

GOVERNMENT OF ODISHA

WORKS DEPARTMENT

Bid Identification No. SE(R&B) Puri-31/2025-26 No. B-523: The Superintending Engineer, Puri (R&B) Division, Puri on behal

Nature of Work

No. of Work Tender Cost Class of Bidders

MV/HT

Available of Bid document

Date of Opening of Bid : Dt.U4.10.2025 at TH.U0 A.M.
The bidders have to participate in ONLINE bidding only. Further details can
be seen from the Website: https://tenderodisha.gov.in. Any addendum/
corrigendum/cancellation of tender can also be seen in the said website.
Sd./- Superintending Engineer, Puri (R&B) Division, Puri
OIPR-34064/11/0042/2526



MINISTRY OF MINES

DESIGNATED OFFICER, MINISTRY OF MINES GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

New Delhi - 110001, 011-23384593

for Grant of Mineral Concession of Critical and Strategic Minerals"

In exercise of the power of auction conferred by Section 11(D) of the Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Act, 1957 to the Central Government to grant mineral concession for minerals specified in the Part D of the First Schedule and in accordance with the Mineral (Auction) Rules, 2015 as amended from time to time notified thereunder, the Government of India has directed the Designated Officer, Ministry of Mines to undertake the auction of 23 Blocks in Sixth Tranche of Auction of Critical and Strategic Minerals. The notice inviting tender (NIT) has been published on MSTC e-auction portal and on the Ministry of Mines website. The commencement of sale of tender document will begin on Tuesday, September 23 2025. Tender document and other details can be accessed on (https://www.mstcecommerce.com/

CBC 26101/11/0003/2526

through Lottery System

Block Development Officer, Panchayat Samiti,

Sd./- Block Development Officer, Narayanpatna

ing through the balcony

backbone of Kerala's economy. exports are among the first ca-

seafood exports, with shrimp its biggest earner.

Eminent writer Leelavathi faces online backlash

Thiruvananthapuram, silent about that. Speaking to a television Sept 16: Eminent Malaychannel, the academic alam writer and literary critic M Leelavathi faced said she bore no enmity toonline criticism over her wards anyone who hated her, and that all children, remarks expressing sympathy for children in Gaza. wherever they were in the world, were equal to her. but received backing from

in other parts of the world

and why she had remained

"I look at them through a mother's eyes... There is no background of religion. caste or colour attached to that," Leelavathi said.

People from various walks of life came out in support of her against the cvberattack. Senior CPI(M) leader

strongly condemned the incident, saying it called into question the virtue and cultural ethos of Keralites. Sharing similar views, prominent writer C Radhakrishnan said such an online attack should not have happened to

anyone. Congress leader and

Leelavathi, popularand General Education ly known as Leelavathi Teacher, recently said she Minister V Sivankutty did not wish to celebrate her birthday, asking how she could enjoy food while

go well with a section of netizens, allegedly from right-wing groups, who vehemently trolled and criticised the veteran writ-

er on social media. The critics questioned whether Leelavathi failed

seeing the children of Gaza starving. Her remarks did not

both the Left and the Con-

Reacting to the crit-

icism, the 98-year-old

academic said Tuesday

that she bore no enmity

towards anyone and re-

garded all children in the

gress parties.

world as equal.

to see the plight of children

Flyover disrupts house balcony



PRESS TRUST OF INDIA Nagpur, Sept 16: A viral video from Nagpur shows an under-construction flyover slicing through the balcony of a residential building, raising eyebrows over urban

An official from the National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) told PTI Tuesday that the balcony falls under an encroached area and they have asked the Nagpur Municipal Corporation (NMC) to remove it.

The house owner, however, claimed the flyover beam was passing through the balcony but not touching the building, and was not a safety concern. Some videos have surfaced on social me-

dia, showing a part of

the under-construction Indora-Dighori flyover slicing past the residential building located at Ashok Square in Nagpur. The house owner said

a part of the flyover's rotary beam was passbuilding. He claimed that portion is in the no man's

has no utility. The house owner said the flyover road was 14 to 15 feet above the balcony and he has no problem with it, claiming there

was no safety concern.

falls in an encroached area, and a flange portion of the rotary beam is passing through the balcony. "Our flyover is not inside the outer balcony portion. The balcony

have already written to the NMC to remove the encroachment," he said. removed shortly, the official added. A senior NMC official said the building concerned

look into the status of the lease, and action to vacate the premises is expected as per the proper procedure, he added.

and not touching the

land of the balcony which

The NHAI official said one portion of the house

encroached area and we The encroachment will be

was previously given on

concerned falls in an

lease to the land owner. The authorities will

KPCC general secretary Pazhakulam Madhu has urged the authorities to take stringent legal ac-

GOVERNMENT OF ODISHA
"e" - PROCUREMENT NOTICE OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDING **ENGINEER, PURI (R&B) DIVISION, PURI**

SHORT TENDER CALL NOTICE of Governor of Odisha inviting percentage rate bid in Single Cover System of NouNet MoDe from the eligible class of contractors registered with the state Governments and contractors of equivalent Grade/Class registered with Central Government/Railways.

Electrical Works 3 Nos. Rs.6000.00/- (Online)

From 10.00 A.M. of Dt.19.09.2025 to in the website
Last date of receipt of tender
Date of Opening of Bid 05.00 P.M. of Dt.03.10.2025 Dt.03.10.2025 upto 05.00 P.M. Dt.04.10.2025 at 11.00 A.M.



Room No.: 310, 'D' wing, 3rd Floor, Shastri Bhawan, "Invitation of Bids for Sixth Tranche

auctionhome/mlcln/).

national



township project is progressing fast on the 64.475 hectares of land in Elston estate taken over by the government PINARAYI VIJAYAN KERALA CM

Rain wreaks havoc; 15 killed in U'khand

GOVT ASKS STATES TO IDENTIFY 16K 'OVERSTAYING' FOREIGNERS

The Centre has asked all states and Union territories to identify about 16,000 foreign nationals, mostly from African countries, who are "overstaying" in the country and could be involved in crimes including drug trafficking, official sources said Tuesday





taxis or City Flo buses, the BJP and Shiv Sena government is resorting to privatisation



AADITYA THACKERAY | SENA (UBT) LEADER

Although the practice of jhum cultivation can't be shunned abruptly, the

used to receive

₹2,000 per month.

heads of sub tribes

MANIK SAHA | TRIPURA CM

SHORT **TAKES**

We have hiked it to ₹5,000 per

month. Now, we are planning

to provide the benefit to all the

Dhinakaran defends

walking out of NDA

Thanjavur (Tamil Nadu):

Amma Makkal Munnetra

defended walking out of the

National Democratic Alliance

and hit out at AIADMK chief

Speaking to reporters here,

Dhinakaran said his party, the

AMMK, had been a part of the

NDA in Tamil Nadu when the

AIADMK was not a part of it.

After the AIADMK revived its

alliance with the BJP this year

in April, the AMMK continued

Old man dies as tree

falls in fish market

man lost his life, while four

others were injured when

Fish Market area Tuesday

afternoon, a police official

said. The deceased has been

identified as Ramu Devnath,

searches in 8 states

NIA conducts

New Delhi: The National

Tuesday searched multiple

locations across eight states

in the Vizianagaram (Andhra

Pradesh) ISIS case linked to

the conspiracy to spread terror

through the use of improvised

explosive devices, backed by

radicalisation and recruitment of

vulnerable youth through social media platforms, officials said.

Indore truck rampage:

Death toll rises to three

Indore: The death toll in the Indore road accident where

a truck ploughed into several pedestrians has gone up to three, with one more person succumbing to injuries

Tuesday, police said. The

incident took place Monday

night when the out-of-control

truck ran over pedestrians on

Aerodrome Road in Indore,

rammed into some vehicles,

Three killed, more

Mumbai: Three people

have died and more than

than 120 evacuated

and caught fire.

Investigation Agency

a Peepal tree uprooted and

fell in Lucknow's Kaisarbagh

Lucknow: A 70-year-old

to be with the NDA for about

4 months before finally

deciding to snap ties.

Edappadi K Palaniswami.

Kazhagam chief TTV

Dhinakaran Tuesday



dun district alone reported 13 has been taking steps to wean and Nainital and Pithoragarh farmers away from this tradidistricts one each. Sixteen tional practice gradually people are reported missing in different parts of the state cap-LALDUHOMA | MIZORAM CM ital, the Uttarakhand Disaster

When we Three people were also incame to jured in the incidents, it said, power, only adding that they are under a few commutreatment. nity headmen

Search for the missing continued amid inclement weather while NDRF, SDRF and fire brigade personnel brought most of the stranded people to safety, the State Emergency Operation Centre (SEOC) here said.

Management Authority said.

Dehradun, Sept 16: Cloud-

bursts and heavy rains over-

night left a trail of destruction

in Uttarakhand's capital Deh-

radun and several other parts

of the state Tuesday as swollen

rivers washed away buildings,

roads and bridges, leaving 15

people dead, 16 missing, and 900

stranded in different locations

Of the total fatalities, Dehra-

in the hill state

It said that 900 people stranded in different locations were rescued by the SDRF, NDRF and Fire Brigade personnel.



Most rivers were in spate following the showers. The Tamsa River, also known as the Tons River, inundated the famous Tapkeshwar Temple on its bank, submerging the gigantic Hanuman statue near its entrance up to the shoulders. The temple's priest, Bipin Joshi, said that he has not seen the river waters rise so high in the past 25 to 30 years.

Luckily, there were a few devotees within the temple premises in the early morning hours when the inundation occurred, he said, adding that the priests staying at the temple are

safe. Roads were breached, and several bridges were washed away in Dehradun district.

With the swollen rivers flowing over the roads, evacuating people to safety was a huge challenge. Videos shared on social media showed SDRF personnel helping stranded people wade through the violent currents of flooded rivers in which vehicles, including

cars and trucks, were left stuck. About 400-500 students trapped due to waterlogging at the Devbhoomi Institute campus in Paundha area of Dehradun were rescued by an SDRF

About 400-500 students trapped due to waterlogging at the **Devbhoomi Institute** campus in Paundha area of Dehradun were rescued by an **SDRF team**

team, said Banshidhar Tiwari, Director General, Information.

A boy clinging precariously to an electric pole, which he had climbed to save himself from the swirling waters of a river raging below, was brought to safety by an SDRF man with the help of a rope, risking his own life.

Sahastradhara, Maldevta, Santla Devi and Dalanwala were the worst-hit by the disaster, according to the district disaster management office here. Sahastradhara received 192 mm of rain, followed by Maldevta (141.5 mm), Hathi Barkala and Jolly Grant (92.5mm each) and Kalsi (83.5 mm). Several roads. houses and shops were damaged, and bridges washed away.

Dehradun-Mussoorie road was also breached at several points, prompting the police to appeal to tourists and visitors to stay wherever they were for their own safety, whether in hotels, homes or homestays, till the road is restored.

Waterlogging in Tehri left people stranded at Geeta Bhawan, Tiwari said, adding that they were later rescued.

A road in Nainital was blocked by debris brought by a landslide triggered by heavy rain, an official said. Residents of Majhara village were forced to take shelter on the road, having survived what they called a landslide that hit their dwellings early in the morning. They claimed that some people have gone missing.

Chief Minister Pushkar Singh Dhami visited the rain-affected areas of Dehradun district to review the situation on the ground. Local MLAs and senior officials accompanied him. Dhami briefed Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Union Home Minister Amit Shah about the situation in Uttarakhand following heavy

ONLINE BETTING APP ED summons Robin,

Yuvraj, Sonu Sood

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, Sept 16: Widening its probe into an alleged illegal online betting linked money laundering case, the Enforcement Directorate (ED) has summoned cricketers Rob in Uthappa and Yuvraj Singh and actor Sonu Sood for gues tioning, officials said Tuesday



Uthappa (39), Singh (43) and Sood (52) have been asked to de pose beginning next week at the agency's headquarter investigation unit in Delhi and get their statements recorded under the Prevention of Money Launder ing Act (PMLA) in a case linked to a platform named 1xBet, the officials said. While Uthappa has been asked to depose September 22, Singh has been called September 23 followed by Sood September 24, they said.

The federal probe agency has questioned former cricketers Suresh Raina and Shikhar Dha wan apart from former TMC MF and actor Mimi Chakraborty over the last few weeks as part of this investigation. Bengali actor Ankush Hazra (36) appeared before the ED on Tuesday on his scheduled summons in the case while actor Urvashi Rautela (31), the India brand ambassa dor of 1xBet, is yet to appear on her given date for Tuesday, the sources said.

Meghalaya CM Sangma effects cabinet reshuffle

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Shillong, Sept 16: Eight MLAs, including seven new faces, were inducted into the Meghalaya cabinet Tuesday as Chief Minister Conrad K Sangma effected a reshuffle in his coalition government

The reshuffle took place after eight ministers were dropped from the cabinet.

NPP's Timothy D Shira, Sanbor Shullai of BJP, UDP's Met bah Lyngdoh took oath at a function at Raj Bhavan here.

Wailadmiki Shylla, Sosthenes Sohtun, Brening A Sangma of NPP, HSPDP's Methodious Dkhar and former home min ister Lahkmen Rymbui of UDP were also inducted into the coun

cil of ministers. Ahead of a reshuffle in the Meghalaya cabinet, eight of the total 12 ministers had resigned from their posts, the officials said. CM Sangma, who heads the NPP-led Meghalaya Democratic Alliance government, met Governor C H Vijayashankar at Raj Bhavan here and submitted the resignations of the minis

"Eight ministers, who have resigned from their posts, are Ampareen Lyngdoh, Comingone Ymbon, Rakkam A Sangma and Abu Taher Mondal of the NPP Paul Lyngdoh and Kyrmen Shy lla of the UDP, Shakliar Warjri of the HSPDP and AL Hek of the BJP," another official said.

ters, they said.

Mumbai, other civic polls to be held by Jan 31: SC



PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, Sept 16: Pulling up the Maharashtra State Election Commission for non-compliance of its order, the Supreme Court Tuesday directed the state local body polls, stalled since 2022, to be completed by January 31, 2026 without further extension.

The bench was irked over the failure of the state election commission (SEC) to comply with its order mandating a timely conclusion of the stalled local body elections.

"Elections of all local bod-

ies, including Zila Parishads, Panchayat Samitis and all municipalities shall be conducted by January 31, 2026. No further extension shall be granted to the state and the State Election Commission. In case any other logistic assistance required. application can be filed promptly before October 31, 2025. No prayer will be entertained thereafter," a bench comprising Justices Surya Kant and Joymalya Bagchi said.

The bench was informed that the delimitation for municipalities was underway and the SEC had sought an extension on grounds including insufficient EVMs besides the unavailability of school premises due to board exams.

"We are constrained to observe that SEC has failed to

take prompt action for compliance of this court's directions in the prescribed time schedule. However, as a one-time concession, we deem apt to issue following directions," it said.

The bench added, "Pending delimitation shall be completed by October 31, 2025. No further extension shall be granted. Delimitation exercise shall not be ground to defer elections."

The bench rejected the plea for postponement of polls on the ground that due to upcoming board exams, schools premises will be unavailable, saving the exams will take place in March next year. "The Chief Secretary, Maha-

rashtra to immediately deploy requisite staff to perform duties of returning officers and other assisting staff as may be required," it directed.

It also asked the state poll panel to submit details of staff required for polls to the chief secretary within two weeks.

It said the chief secretary in consultation with secretaries of other departments, if required, will provide requisite staff to the SEC within four weeks after the request is made by the poll panel.

"As regard to non-availability of requisite EVMs, we direct the SEC to make necessary arrangements and file a compliance affidavit regarding availability of EVMs by November 30, 2025," it ordered.

The bench was hearing petitions concerning the long-pending civic elections in Maharashtra.

In May, the court issued an interim order directing conclusion of polls within four months, which is September.

POLITICKLE BY MANJUL

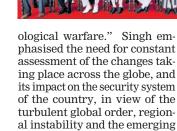


Rajnath exhorts Armed Forces to remain alert

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Kolkata, Sept 16: Asserting that the nature of warfare is continuously evolving. Defence Minister Rajnath Singh Tuesday exhorted the Armed Forces to go beyond the traditional concepts of war and remain alert and ready to deal with invisible challenges.

He said that the recent global conflicts have underlined the relevance of a "technology-friendly" military. Addressing the 16th Combined Commanders' Conference (CCC) 2025 in Kolkata. the defence minister asked the Armed Forces to be ready to deal with "invisible challenges emanating from unconventional threats such as information, ideological, ecological and bi-



security landscape.

"Wars of today are so sudden and unpredictable that it is extremely difficult to foretell their duration. It can be two months.

a year, or even five years. We need to ensure that our surge capacity remains sufficient," he said. He commended the Armed Forces for their "outstanding performance" and "exemplary professionalism" in the planning and execution of Operation Sindoor in May, that was launched in the aftermath of the Pahalgam terror attack, which claimed the lives of 26 civilians,

mostly tourists.

Stigma a 'silent epidemic' blocking mental health care: Experts

New Delhi, Sept 16: Stigma and lack of awareness are among the major roadblocks towards making care for mental health conditions accessible to people who require help, experts have said, while underlining that early diagnosis is key to better treatment.

"People hesitate to even acknowledge mental illness," said Dr Neerja Agarwal, a psychologist and the founder of Emoneeds, which provides care to people struggling with mental health problems.

She said it is important to recognise mental illness as a health condition and should be treated as such, not as a personality flaw. "Just as diabetes and blood pressure need lifelong treatment, so too do conditions like schizophrenia or bipolar disorder," Dr Agar-

wal said. Dr Deepika Dahima, a scientist at AIIMS, Delhi, also pointed out that stigma remains one of the greatest silent epidemics surrounding mental health in

Dr Agarwal emphasised the need for consistency in following medical advice for treating mental health issues. "Only then can patients live a normal life.

Her Emoneeds colleague, Dr Prerna Chaudhary, spoke of a marriage on the brink of collapse because the woman's parents stopped medication in the days leading up to her

"While on regular medication and treatment for one-and-ahalf years, the woman's condition had been improving. But when her marriage was fixed,

her family members discontinued her medicines," said Dr Chaudhary

Soon after the wedding, her illness resurfaced with symptoms becoming visible, and she was eventually sent back to her parents. "Schizophrenia requires lifelong treatment. She

has now resumed treatment

with us," the doctor said. Dr Agarwal explained that schizophrenia can cause excessive anger, delusions, slow functioning, and poor social skills. It can be trauma-induced or hereditary

Highlighting the importance

are identified early, treatment

Deople respond faster, have fewer relapses, and regain their confidence more quickly

of early diagnosis, Dr Jitender Jakhar, a consultant psychiatrist at the Sitaram Bhartia Hospital, said when it comes to mental health, psychiatrists often use the phrase "duration of untreated illness.

According to experts, when mental health conditions are identified early, treatment works better. People respond faster, have fewer relapses, and regain their confidence more quickly. But if the illness goes untreated for years, the consequences are more serious, Dr

Jakhar pointed out.

Dr Dahima is of the opinion that sustained community sensitisation can dismantle the stigma. She highlighted that at the policy level, integration of mental health services into pri mary healthcare through initia tives like the District Menta Health Programme is essential to close India's 70 per cent to 80 per cent treatment gap. On making mental health

care accessible, Dr Jakhar said India now has more resources for mental health care than ev

He said that mental health treatment is becoming more ac cessible through telepsychiatry and video consultations. Now people can speak to mental health professionals from the privacy of their homes, he said, adding that many small towns now have trained psychologists and psychiatrists.

in the last 24 hours, the The National Disaster other rescue teams were

120 were evacuated amid heavy rains in Maharashtra State Disaster Management Department said Tuesday. Response Force (NDRF) and involved in evacuations in the affected districts, the department stated in a



national



We wish for everybody's welfare and progress in the world, even those who oppose NITIN GADKARI | UNION MINISTER

TEJASHWI LAUNCHES 'BIHAR ADHIKAR YATRA'

RJD leader Tejashwi Yadav Monday launched a 'Bihar Adhikar Yatra' with back-to-back rallies in Patna and Jehanabad districts, besides Nalanda, the home turf of Chief Minister Nitish Kumar whom he vowed to defeat in the upcoming Assembly polls



India, US agree to speed up talks

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, Sept 16: The daylong discussions with the visiting US team on a bilateral trade deal were positive, and both sides agreed to push for an early and mutually beneficial conclusion of the agreement, the Commerce Ministry said

"It was decided to intensify efforts to achieve early conclusion of a mutually beneficial trade agreement," the ministry said in a statement after a day-long meeting with the US officials. The discussions with visiting US Chief Negotiator Brendan Lynch on the proposed bilateral trade agreement were positive and forward looking. Lynch, Assistant US Trade Representative for South and Central Asia, reached the na-



tional capital Monday evening to hold deliberations on the proposed India-US bilateral trade agreement

From India's side, the discussions were led by Rajesh Agarwal, Special Secretary, Department of Commerce. An official said that both sides will continue the discussions in virtual mode and will also decide on a mutually convenient date for the next physical meeting.

The day-long talks are important as the US has imposed a steep 50 per cent tariff on Indian goods. This was the first visit by a high-ranking US trade official after the imposition of a 25 per cent tariff and an additional 25 per cent penalty on Indian goods entering the American market for buying Russian crude oil. India has earlier described the steep 50 per cent tariff as unfair and unreasonable. In February, the leaders of the two countries directed officials to negotiate a proposed Bilateral Trade Agreement

(BTA). It was planned to conclude the first tranche of the pact by the fall of 2025.

So far, five rounds of negotiations have been held, and the talks for the sixth round, which were scheduled from August 25-29, were postponed following the imposition of the high import duties.

A senior commerce ministry official had said this meeting should not be viewed as the 6th round of negotiations, but a precursor to it.

Shimla, Sept 16: Heavy overnight rains triggered massive landslides and flash floods in Himachal Pradesh, leaving three members of a family dead and submerging a bus stand and commercial establishments in Mandi district, officials said.

Moderate to heavy rains have lashed several parts of the state since Monday evening. In Shimla, which received 142 mm of rain in 12 hours since Monday evening, several vehicles were buried in a landslide near Himland in the heart of the city.

Many buses and other vehicles were swept away in the floods in Mandi, where one person has been reported missing.

Officials said a house collapsed following a landslide in Bragta village in Mandi district, leaving two women and a



More landslides, flash floods in HP

Deputy Commissioner, Mandi, Apoorv Devgan, told PTI that three bodies have been recovered, while two persons have been rescued. The critically injured persons were rushed to the nearest hospital.

A flash flood struck the Dha-

rampur area in Mandi district late Monday night, causing significant destruction to public infrastructure and private property.

Officials said the rains led to flooding of the Son and Bharand drains in Dharampur in Mandi district, resulting in damaging a workshop, pump houses, shops and over 20 Himachal Road Transport Corporation (HRTC) buses

One person is reported missing in the flash flood incident and a search is currently underway.

Deputy Chief Minister Mukesh Agnihotri, who also holds the Transport portfo lio, said in a Facebook post "Dharampur bus stand, over two dozen HRTC buses, shops, pump house and workshop has

Chief Minister Sukhvinder Singh Sukhu mourned the death of three persons and said that the state government stands in solidarity with the bereaved families.

been damaged".

He directed the district ad ministration to provide all possible assistance to the next of kin of the deceased.

Anti-conversion Laws: SC seeks responses from states



PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, Sept 16: The Supreme Court Tuesday sought the stand of several states on pleas seeking a stay on their respective anti-conversion laws.

While issuing notices to the states, a bench of Chief Justice B R Gavai and Justice K Vinod Chandran made it clear that it will consider the prayer for staying the operation of such laws once the replies were in.

The bench then granted four weeks to the states for their responses and allowed the petitioners to file rejoinders two weeks thereafter. The matter was posted after six weeks.

The bench, in the meantime, permitted senior advocate C U Singh, appearing for one of the petitioners against the anti-conversion laws, to amend the petition keeping in mind the "more draconian" changes made by states like Uttar Pradesh in the existing statute.

The bench was hearing petitions challenging the constitutional validity of anti-conversion laws enacted by several states, including Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Himachal Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Chhattisgarh, Gujarat,

Haryana, Jharkhand, and

It heard arguments from senior advocates and others on the contentious issue of religious conversions happening either through marriage or other

Singh stressed on the urgency in the matter, warning "anybody who marries in an interfaith marriage, bail would become impos-

He highlighted many states had already enacted such laws, with Rajasthan being the latest to pass a legislation in this regard.

Singh said amendments introduced in Uttar Pradesh allowed third parties to lodge complaints, leading to "huge amounts of harassment" in interfaith marriages besides observances, church where mobs intervene.

He sought the amendment applications filed in the special leave petitions to be allowed.

Senior advocate Indira Jaising, on the other hand, requested an interim stay on the law passed by Madhya Pradesh to be continued. Additional Solicitor General K M Natraj opposed the plea for interim relief on behalf of some states and said, "After conversions.



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Shri Narendra Modi Hon'ble Prime Minister



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AIADMK gen secy Palaniswami arrives in Delhi

New Delhi/Chennai: AIADMK general secretary Edappadi K Palaniswami called on Union Home Minister Amit Shah in the national capital Tuesday. The former chief minister was accompanied by the party's deputy general secretary K P Munusamy, headquarters secretary S P Velumani, and MPs. Earlier, the AIADMK leaders called on the newly elected Vice President C P Radhakrishnan in Delhi and congratulated him on his victory. Their meeting lasted for nearly one-and-a-half hours, a party senior said.

SC junks plea to bring political parties under POSH ambit

New Delhi: The Supreme Court has dismissed a plea seeking to bring registered political parties under the ambit of the Sexual Harassment of Women at Workplace (Prevention, Prohibition, and Redressal) Act, 2013. The Sexual Harassment of Women at Workplace (Prevention, Prohibition and Redressal) Act came into being in 2013 to protect women from sexual harassment at workplaces and ensuring a safe work environment. A bench of Chief Justice of India B R Gavai and Justices K Vinod Chandran and Atul S Chandurkar said applying the POSH Act to political parties would open a Pandora's box and become a tool for blackmail

Boy sexually assaulted by 14 men in Kerala for 2 years, nine arrested

Kasaragod (Kerala): Nine people, including two government employees, have been arrested from this district for allegedly sexually assaulting a 16-year-old boy after befriending him on a mobile app for the LGBTQ community, police said Tuesday. Of the two government employees, one was a Railway official and the other a Kasaragod Bekal sub-district education officer, according to the police. Later in the day, the education officer, Sainuddin V K, was suspended by the General Education Department Director for his involvement in the POCSO case, which had tarnished the department's image.









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National Gallery of Modern Arts, Delhi Time: 10 am - 6 pm

Details: pmmementos.gov.in

SCAN THE QR CODE

international



time to implement the joint protection of our **European skies with** a multilayered air defence system. All the technologies for this are available

VOLODYMYR ZELENSKYY

SPAIN'S HOTTEST SUMMER

Spain said Tuesday that this summer was the hottest on record for the southern European nation. which, like the entire Mediterranean region, is being hard hit by climate change. Spain's national weather service said that the country had an average temperature of 24.2 °C between June 1 and August 31.





people in the **Netherlands** seem increasingly street, online, at

our universities, and not least in

WILLEM-ALEXANDER | DUTCH KING



foremost a citizen. All rights of citizens are guaranteed in the Constitution...We -- the entire nation is a broader family. The government is committed to ensuring equal rights and dignity MUHAMMAD YUNUS

BANGLADESH INTERIM GOVT CHIEF ADVISER





COO OF WORLD FOOD PROGRAMME

SHORT TAKES

US sanctions **Iranian financiers**

Washington: A pair of Iranian financiers and more than a dozen people and firms across Hong Kong and the United Arab Emirates were sanctioned Tuesday for allegedly coordinating \$100 million worth of cryptocurrency transfers from the sale of Iranian oil for the benefit of Iran's government and military. Treasury alleges that Iranian nationals Alireza Derakhshan and Arash Estaki Alivand facilitated the purchase of over \$100 million worth of cryptocurrency for oil sales for the Iranian government. The pair then used a network of front companies across countries to transfer the cryptocurrency funds, Treasury says. So-called "shadow banking" networks like these evade sanctions by laundering money through overseas front companies and cryptocurrency. Treasury **Under Secretary for Terrorism** and Financial Intelligence John K Hurley said in a statement that the US "will continue to disrupt these key financial streams that fund Iran's weapons programmes and

Singapore buys

East and beyond".

malign activities in the Middle

carbon credits Singapore: Singapore will spend SGD76.4 million to buy more than two million tonnes of nature-based carbon credits from four projects in Ghana, Paraguay and Peru, a media report said. This is the first time the commercially vibrant city state is sourcing carbon credits from nature-based projects, said the National Climate Change Secretariat (NCCS) and the Ministry of Trade and Industry (MTI). This is significant as it marks the first tranche of carbon credits that the city state has secured, according to a report by The Straits Times reported Tuesday. The projects aim to preserve Peruvian forests and prevent deforestation, reforest degraded pastureland in Ghana and sequester carbon in soil in the grasslands of Paraguay through sustainable management practices, said NCCS and MTI. The 2.175 million tonnes of carbon credits are equivalent to offsetting close to 4 per cent of Singapore's greenhouse gas emissions in 2022. One carbon credit represents one tonne of carbon dioxide that is either removed from the atmosphere, such as through restoration efforts, or prevented from being released, such as when a

forest is saved from the axe,

according to the daily report.

Israel begins Gaza ground offensive

Jerusalem, Sept 16: The Israeli military began its ground offensive in Gaza City Tuesday, slowly closing in on the Palestinian territory's largest city, where block after block has already been destroyed in the Israel-Hamas war. Thousands of people streamed out in vehicles laden with their belongings, but hundreds of thousands more remain.

The operation marks yet another escalation in a conflict that has roiled the Middle East for nearly two years and likely pushes any ceasefire farther out of reach. The military wouldn't offer a timeline for the offensive, which it says aims to "destroy Hamas' military infrastructure," but Israeli media suggested it could take months.

It began the same day that independent experts commissioned by the United Nations' Human Rights Council accused Israel of committing genocide in Gaza. Israel fiercely rejected the allegation, calling the experts' report "distorted and false."

Israeli Defence Minister Israel Katz declared that "Gaza is burning" as the operation began, and heavy bombardment battered the city overnight and into the morning.

Long lines of cars and trucks strapped with mattresses and other belongings stretched down Gaza's coastal road, as people fled the city. Some crowded on top of vehicles, while others made their way on foot.

On a brief visit to the region, US Secretary of State Marco Rubio warned that there was a "very short window of time in which a deal can happen" to

An Israeli military official, speaking on condition of an-



onymity in line with military guidelines, said that the "main phase" of the Gaza City operation had begun, with troops moving in from the city's outskirts toward its centre. Airstrikes have pounded Gaza City for some time in the lead-up to the operation, knocking down towers in the city.

The official said the Israeli military believes there are approximately 2,000 to 3,000 Hamas militants left in Gaza City, as well as tunnels used by the militant group. Hamas' military capabilities have been vastly diminished over nearly two years of war, and nowadays it mainly carries out guerril la-style attacks, with small groups of fighters planting explosives or attacking military outposts before melting away.

An estimated 1 million Palestinians were living in the Gaza City region before warnings to evacuate began ahead of the offensive, and the Israeli military estimates 350,000 people have left the city.

A UN estimate on Monday, however, said that over 220,000 Gaza over the past month. By the end of the current

operation, an Israeli military graphic suggested its troops hope to control all of the Gaza Strip except for a large swath along the coast.

IDF launches airstrikes on Yemen's port city

Aden: Yemen's Iranian-backed Houthi rebels activated their air defences after Israel launched airstrikes on the port city of Hodeida, a spokesperson for the group said. "Our air defences are currently confronting the Israeli aircraft that are launching an aggression against our country," spokesperson Yayha Saree posted on X. The Israeli military said in an update that it struck "military infrastructure" used by the Houthis at the port of Hodeida. "The Hudaydah Port is used by the Houthi terrorist regime for the transfer of weapons supplied by the Iranian regime, in order to execute attacks against the State of Israel and its allies," the statement read. Saree said in a statement that the Houthi air defences "caused great confusion" for Israeli aircraft and forced some combat formations to leave Yemeni airspace before carrying out the attacks, thwarting Israel's incursion deep into Yemen. The latest strikes came as hundreds attended funeral services for 31 Yemeni iournalists who were reported killed in Israeli airstrikes last week that targeted Iran-backed Houthi rebels in the Yemeni capital, Sanaa.

Tensions flare as Chinese, Philippine ships collide in SCS

ASSOCIATED PRESS

Beijing, Sept 16: China's coast guard accused a Philippine ship of deliberately ramming one of its vessels Tuesday near Scarborough Shoal, a disputed territory that both countries claim in the South China Sea.

A coast guard statement said more than 10 Philippine government ships coming from various directions entered the waters around the shoal, which is called Huangyan island in Chinese. It said it deployed water cannons against the vessels.

The encounter came six days after China announced it was designating part of Scarborough Shoal as a national nature reserve.

There was no immediate comment from the Philippines. The government in Manila said last week it was filing a diplomatic protest against the designation of a nature reserve at what it calls Bajo de Masinloc.

China and the Philippines have clashed repeatedly around outcroppings in the South China Sea, which China claims almost in its entirety. The two countries are among several that have competing claims to territory in the waters, which are of strategic importance and home to valuable fishing grounds.

The Chinese coast guard statement blamed the Philippines for Tuesday's collision, calling its actions both provocative and egregious.

Several friendly countries have backed the Philippines on the nature reserve.

A statement from US Secretary of State Marco Rubio called the Chinese action "yet another coercive move to ad vance sweeping territorial and maritime claims in the South China Sea at the expense of its neighbours.'

Great Britain and Australia expressed concern about the announcement in social media posts. The Canadian Embassy in the Philippines said: "We oppose attempts to use environmental protection as a way to take control over the disputed Scarborough Shoal.



3 members of polio monitoring team abducted in Pak

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Peshawar, Sept 16: Unidentified armed men abducted three members of a polio monitoring team in Pakistan's northwestern Khyber Pakhtunkhwa province, police said Tuesday. The incident happened Mon-

day in the Union Council of Umerkhel in Tank district, bordering South Waziristan, police added. District Surveillance Officer Dr. Ihsanullah was among those who were kidnapped. According to the police, the polio surveillance team, affiliated with the World Health Organisation, was monitoring the ongoing fourday anti-polio campaign from September 15 to 18 in the Union Council of Umerkhel when the gunmen intercepted them and took them hostage. Police teams immediately launched a search operation in the area.

Pakistan is one of the last two countries in the world, alongside Afghanistan, where polio remains endemic.

Denmark leads military exercise in Greenland

Nuuk, Sept 16: Denmark is leading a military exercise with hundreds of troops from several European NATO members in Greenland, a maneuver that coincides with months of tensions over the Trump administration's desire for US jurisdiction over the vast Arctic territory.

The Arctic Light 2025 exercise, which follows maneuvers with identical or similar titles in previous years, involves more than 550 service members from Denmark and NATO allies France, Germany, Sweden and Norway, according to the Danish military.

The chief of Denmark's Joint Arctic Command pointed to wariness toward Russia as a "regional superpower" in the far north and highlighted what he called "a very good relationship with the US military".

On Monday, Danish forces trained boarding ships with special forces as military observers from the United States,

Britain, Canada, Sweden and Germany looked on. Troops descended from helicopters on ropes and climbed up from speedboats in temperatures barely above freezing.

The guests from allied nations aboard the Danish frigate Niels Juel saw Danish F-16 fighter jets fly by, as well as live-fire exercises.

The stated aim of the exercise is to strengthen the operational readiness of the Danish armed

forces and Greenland, a strategically located island that is a semiautonomous territory of Denmark

The military says its personnel is training along with allies to reinforce "their joint response capabilities against destabilising threats to Greenland, the Kingdom of Denmark, and NATO in the North Atlantic and Arctic regions"

Denmark is moving to strengthen its military presthe wider North Atlantic. In late January, the government announced a roughly 14.6 billion-kroner (\$2.3 billion) agreement with parties including the governments of Greenland and the Faeroe Islands to "improve capabilities for surveillance and maintaining sovereignty in the region."

ence around Greenland and in

Those will include three new Arctic naval vessels, two additional long-range surveillance drones and satellite capacity.

In the Arctic Light exercise, which started Sept 9 and ends Friday, Denmark is deploying the frigate, two helicopters, two F-16s and personnel from all three branches of the armed forces, including special forces. France is sending a naval ship. a tanker aircraft and mountain infantry equipped with drones.

The Danish military didn't mention the current tensions with Washington in announcing the exercise, and the chief of Denmark's Joint Arctic Command pointed to good relations with the American military.

"We have worked together with the US for decades, both in exercises and also operations in Afghanistan, Iraq and so on,' Maj Gen Søren Andersen said on Monday. That will continue this week, because Denmark will be taking its fighter jets to the United States' Pituffik Space Base in northwestern Greenland, he added.

So, we will land up there and I think the pilots will have a cup of coffee with the base commander there," Andersen said. This year's Arctic Light is taking place against a backdrop of growing wariness toward

Russia in the region. "I think it's fair to say that Russia has built up in the Arctic for the last 20 years, and Russia is a regional superpower

in the Arctic," Andersen said. When the war in Ukraine ends, "I think most of us working in this business... think that Russia will start building up again other places and use their resources not in Ukraine, but other places in the world," he said.

Endangered pink river dolphins face mercury threat in Amazon

Puerto Narino, Sept 16: A flash of pink breaks the muddy surface of the Amazon River as scientists and veterinarians, waist-deep in the warm current, patiently work a mesh net around a pod of river dolphins. They draw it tighter with each pass, and a spray of silver fish glistens under the harsh sun as they leap to escape the net.

When the team hauls a dolphin into a boat, it thrashes as water streams from its pink-speckled sides, and the crew quickly ferries it to the sandy riverbank where adrenaline-charged researchers lift it onto a mat. They have 15 minutes — the limit for how long a dolphin can safely be out of the water — to complete their

Fernando Trujillo, a marine biologist leading the effort, kneels beside the animal's head, shielding its eye with a small

cloth so it can't see what's happening. He rests his hand gently on the animal and speaks in low tones.

"They've never felt the palm of a hand. We try to calm them,' said Trujillo, sporting a pink dolphin bandana. "Taking a dolphin out of the water, it's a kind of abduction.'

One person counts the dolphin's breaths. Another wets its skin with a sponge while the others conduct multiple medical tests that will help show how much mercury is coursing through the Amazon's most graceful predators.

Trujillo directs the Omacha Foundation, a conservation group focused on aquatic wildlife and river ecosystems, and leads health evaluations of river dolphins. It's a painstaking operation involving experienced fishermen, veterinarians and locals that takes months of planning and happens a couple "We take blood and tissue

samples to assess mercury. Trujillo told The Associated Press from the Colombian riverside town of Puerto Narino. "Basically, we're using dolphins as sentinels for the river's health." Mercurv contamination

comes mainly from illegal gold mining — a growing industry across the Amazon Basin and forest clearing that washes mercury that naturally occurs in soil into waterways

The miners use mercury to separate gold from sediment, then dump the sludge back into rivers, where it enters fish eaten by people and dolphins. Rising global gold prices have fueled a mining boom, and mercury pollution in remote waterways has increased.

Mercury can damage the brain, kidneys, lungs and immune system and cause mood swings, memory loss and muscle weakness in people,



according to the World Health Organisation and the US Environmental Protection Agency Pregnant women and young children are most at risk, with prenatal exposure linked to developmental delays and re-

duced cognitive function. "The maximum any living being should have is 1 milligram per kilogram," Trujillo

said. "Here, we're seeing 20 to 30 times that amount.'

In previous years, his team found 16 to 18 milligrams per kilogram of mercury in dolphins, which can suffer the same neurological damage, organ damage and other problems as humans. In Colombia's Orinoco River, levels in some dolphins have reached as high as 42, levels scientists say are among the most extreme ever recorded in the species. Trujillo said it's difficult to

prove the toxin is directly kill ing dolphins. Further studies are underway, he added, noting that "any mammal with a huge amount of mercury will die."

When Trujillo and his team tested their own blood three years ago, his results showed more than 36 times the safe limit — 36.4 milligrams per kilogram — a level he attri butes to decades working in mercury-affected areas and a diet heavy in fish. With medical assistance, his levels have dropped to about 7 milligrams.

"Mercurv is an invisible en emy until it builds up to a suf ficient amount, then it starts to affect the central nervous sys tem," Trujillo told AP after his team managed to capture and test four pink dolphins. "We're already seeing evidence of it in Indigenous communities.'

business



We reaffirmed our strong commitment to strengthening our Green Strategic Partnership and to an early conclusion of the **India-EU Free Trade Agreement. Conveyed best** wishes for Denmark's **Presidency of the Council** of the European Union

MOTHER DAIRY PRICE CUT

Mother Dairy Tuesday announced it will pass on GST reduction benefits to consumers from September 22. Following the GST revisions, UHT milk (tetra pack) and paneer will attract zero GST instead of the earlier 5 per cent, while other dairy products and value-added horticultural items will see rates drop from 12 per cent to 5 per cent. The price reductions include toned tetra pack UH milk (1 litre), double toned UHT milk (450 ml), paneer (200 gm), ghee carton pack (1 litre), and butter (100 gm)



The growth of the medical technology sector in the country is crucial



IAGAT PRAKASH NADDA UNION MINISTER

All the stories you hear about biofuels being harmful for engines, there's a lot of 'BS' - 'B' capital, 'S', capital. and I don't know what that means, but it's a specializer HARDEEP SINGH PURI OIL MINISTER

India is set to attract investments worth ₹80 lakh crore, generate over 1.5 crore jobs, and accelerate

green shipping practices in the coming years SARBANANDA SONOWAL | UNION MINISTER

SHORT **TAKES**

Rupee rises 7 paise

Mumbai: The rupee appreciated 7 paise to close at 88.09 against the US dollar Tuesday, tracking US-India talks on the proposed trade agreement to iron out issues in the wake of steep Trump Tariffs. Forex traders said the rupee strengthened on positive domestic markets and a weak greenback, which is trading at a two-month low ahead of the two-day FOMC meeting commencing Tuesday and disappointing US economic data.

AHPI demand

New Delhi: Many member hospitals of the Association of Healthcare Providers of India (AHPI), including some of the large tertiary care hospital chains, are facing an alarming situation, where 'Star Health Insurance' has suspended cashless services, leaving hospitals to manage distressed patients, a statement said Monday. Hospitals and nursing homes, part of the Indian Medical Association Hospital Board, also share the same concerns, AHPI said in the

iPhone17 cosmic pro max out of stock

New Delhi: Apple's iPhone Pro Max 17 in cosmic orange has witnessed a considerable surge in demand, and it has gone out of stock within three days after pre-booking went live for pick up of the devices at the company's official stores in the US and India, as per information shared by company staff. In India, the entire iPhone Pro Max series is not available for pre-order with pick-up option at Apple stores, according to information sourced from the Apple India website. The cosmic orange devices were not available for pre-orders in both iPhone Pro Max and iPhone Pro series in India for the pick-up at store option.

Zepto, ClearTax to offer **ITR filing services**

New Delhi: Quick commerce firm Zepto Tuesday said it has partnered with ClearTax to offer income tax return filing services for its delivery workforce, enabling refunds worth over ₹1.5 crore to date. As many as 49 per cent of Zepto's delivery partners opted to file ITRs via ClearTax this year, with a significant share comprising first-time filers using a WhatsApp-based, multilingual interface available round the clock, a company statement said. The initiative helps workers to file returns through a chat-led process



India, ILO to advance 'International Reference Classification Occupations'

In order to fill these skill gaps, the G20 leaders during India's Presidency in 2023 committed to working towards ensuring well-managed, regular and skills-based migration pathways.

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, Sept 16: The government has inked an initial pact with the International Labour Organisation (ILO) to advance 'International Reference Classification of Occupa-

tions' and facilitate youth in availing global employment opportunities, a Labour Ministry statement said Tuesday. Labour & Employment and

Youth Affairs & Sports Mansukh Mandaviya virtually attended the signing of Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between Government of India and International Labour Organisation (ILO) for collaboration to develop 'International Reference Classification of Occupations', the ministry said.

The Labour Ministry said that significant skill shortages are being faced by many countries due to demographic deficits and digitalization.

In order to fill these skill



gaps, the G20 leaders during India's Presidency in 2023 committed to working towards

ensuring well-managed, regular and skills-based migration pathways.

To this end, they endorsed the development of International Reference Classification of Occupations by skill and qualification requirements. Mandaviya highlighted that

the partnership between the Government of India and the ILO reflects shared commitment to shaping the future of work in times of rapid trans-'The International Reference

Classification will enhance comparability of data and promote mutual recognition of skills," he further said. Mandaviya drew attention

to India's steady progress towards greater formalisation of the economy.

ILO Director General Gil bert F Houngbo noted that the MoU would have far reaching impact for countries across the globe. He further underlined the good work that India has been doing in matters related to labour mobility and social protection.

During this event, Secretary (L&E), Vandana Gurnani em phasized that the MoU provides a framework for undertaking a feasibility study and pilot exer cise in crucial areas such as the green, digital, and care sectors

She outlined that this MoU presents an opportunity for wider collaboration in the future, benefitting the global

DoT extends broadband gear testing deadline by foreign players on various

New Delhi, Sept 16: The telecom department's communication security wing NCCS has deferred the rollout of mandatory testing of optical fibre-based broadband gears for the third time until December 31, an official notification said. Industry body VoICE, repre-

senting domestic telecom gear makers, has alleged that the mandatory testing has been deferred again amid reluctance by foreign vendors to go for security testing but NCCS has denied the charges.

The National Centre for Communication Security (NCCS) under the Department of Telecommunications (DoT) is responsible for the implementation of 'Communication Security Certification Scheme' (ComSec) to ensure devices installed in telecom networks are safe and secure.

Optical Network Terminal (ONT) and Optical Line Terminal (OLT) products will be under Voluntary Security Certification (VSC) regime till December 31, 2025. During the VSC period, administrative fee and Security Test Evaluation Fee shall not be levied.

Subsequently, from January 1, 2026, such products shall be mandatorily certified for their compliance with ITSAR under ComSec scheme," the notification dated August 29 said.

ONTs are devices installed at customer premises like modems, wifi routers etc for providing broadband services while OLTs facilitate transmission of broadband signals in the

Voice of Indian Communication Technology, Enterprises (VoICE), Director General RK Bhatnagar said, "One of the possible reasons for the extension could be the ongoing tariff negotiation with the US which has raised the compliance as costly and cumbersome.

"The issue is related to 'security' issues and we should not compromise. It will keep the door open for foreign players for more time and domestic players will be forced to share the same market with them even when they are compliance-ready," Bhatnagar said.

An email query sent to foreign vendors such as Cisco, Nokia, and Ericsson did not elicit any reply.

A source representing a European telecom vendor said that the industry has submitted representation to the NCCS through Cellular Operators Association of India (COAI) suggesting changes in the norms.

When contacted, a DoT

spokesperson denied the allegation of extension due to resistance from foreign telecom gear makers.

The spokesperson said that the extension has been granted to simplify the ComSec process and to address the product grouping concerns of Indian startups, MSMEs, etc.

The National Centre for Communication Security (NCCS), under DoT, has been mandated to implement security testing and certification under the ComSec scheme.

As per the updated framework, OEMs, importers, and dealers who wish to sell, import, or use telecom equipment in India must ensure their products undergo security testing and certification under the said scheme.

NCCS is also reviewing the ComSec process to make it simple and effective, the spokesperson said.

The DoT has been deferring the mandatory testing following objections raised mainly The NCCS has already ad-

dressed concerns of foreign vendors' apprehensions over the chances of source code leaks. It has been clarified that telecom gear makers can bring the source code on their own media which will not be copied to any device in the Telecom Security Testing Lab (TSTL) while performing source code

After the test, all intermediate test data will be deleted as well as there will be no manual review of source code avoiding any compromise on intellectual NCCS started the processes

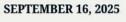
of certifying broadband gears with the commencement of voluntary security certification (VSC) of optical network terminal (ONT) from August 1, 2024, and OLTs from September 1, 2024, under which it waived the administrative fee and security test evaluation fee.

The notification mandated certification for ONTs from February 1, 2025, onwards that have not undergone certification for essential requirements (ERs) proposed by the government under mandatory testing norms and were meant to be sold by OEMs or importers in India.

In April 2025, the deadline for VSC was extended for the second time until August 31 from April 1, directing optical fibre-based broadband gear makers to mandatorily get their equipment and products certified under the rules. The third extension has now been given

Stock markets rebound; Sensex jumps 595 points

BSE SENSEX





TOP AINER PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Mumbai, Sept 16: Stock markets rebounded Tuesday with the benchmark Sensex climbing nearly 595 points on renewed optimism over the resumption of the India-US trade talks. The 30-share BSE Sensex

jumped 594.95 points or 0.73 per cent to settle at 82,380.69 following buying in auto and IT shares. During the day, it surged 657.74 points or 0.80 per cent to 82.443.48. The 50-share NSE Niftv

climbed 169.90 points or 0.68 per cent to 25,239.10. Chief negotiators of India and

the US have commenced talks on the proposed trade agreement to iron out issues in the wake of steep tariffs that have created uncertainties for exporters, an official said Tuesday.

A rally in Asian and US peers also instilled optimism in the domestic stock market ahead of this week's US Federal Reserve

Among Sensex firms, Kotak Mahindra Bank rose the most by 2.55 per cent. Larsen & Toubro, Mahindra & Mahindra Maruti, Bharti Airtel and Tata Steel were also among the ma-

Asian Paints and Bajaj Fi nance closed with losses.

The BSE smallcap gauge climbed 0.66 per cent and mid cap index went up by 0.62 per cent. Among sectoral indices services jumped the most by 1.67 per cent, followed by tele communication (1.50 per cent) auto (1.43 per cent), teck (1.05 per cent), industrials (1.05 per cent), realty (1.02 per cent), consumer discretionary (0.96 per cent) and commodities (0.90 per cent).

FMCG emerged as the only laggard. In Asian markets, South Korea's Kospi, Japan's Nikkei 225 index and Shanghai's SSE Composite index set tled in positive territory while Hong Kong's Hang Seng ended

JSW Group receives "Star Employment Award"



SW Group has received the "Star Employment Award 2024-25" (Conventional Industries) for generating highest numbers of employment in various categories, September 15 by Anil Kumar Singh, President, BPSL/JUSL/ISP & Mines/ Coal Mines & Group Corporate Affairs (Odisha) in a prestigious

ceremony held at the OUAT Conference Hall, Bhubaneswar, Odisha in the presence of CM Mohan Charan Majhi, Minister (Industries)Sampad Chandra Swain, senior officials, industry leaders, and media.

Airtel's fight against fraud reduces financial losses New Delhi: Bharti Airtel today announced

that its anti-fraud initiatives have resulted in a significant decline in cybercrime complaints, and that this has been further endorsed by recent information from the Indian Cyber Crime Coordination Centre (I4C), Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA), According to the MHA-I4C, there has been a staggering 68.7 per cent decrease in the value of financial losses and a 14.3 per cent drop in overall cybercrime incidents on the Airtel network, thereby validating the efficacy of Airtel's fraud detection solutioning curbing cybercrime and creating a safe network for its customers. The data analyzed by MHA-I4C compares key cybercrime



indicators from September 2024-prior to the launch of Airtel's Fraud & spam detection solution—with those from June 2025. Commenting on the initiative, Gopal Vittal, Vice Chairman and Managing Director, Bharti Airtel, said, "We are on a mission of eliminating Spam and financial frauds for our customers. In the past one year, our Al-powered network solutions have identified over 48.3 billion spam calls and blocked 3.2 lakhs fraudulent links. However, we see this as small steps in a much larger fight. We will continue to innovate and invest heavily in this area until our networks are free of digital spam and scam." "The impact shared by the Indian Cyber Crime Coordination Centre (I4C) - Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) encourages us tremendously and validates our efforts in this mission. I would like to commend the MHA I4C and DoT for their initiatives to curb spam and fraud and we will look forward to collaborating deeply with the authorities to eliminate the threats of cyber-crimes & frauds." Vittal added.

'Legal framework for private players in nuclear sector'

The Atomic Energy Commission chairman said the government has allocated more than \$2 billion for research and development on Small Modular Reactors with a plan for at least five indigenously designed and operational SMRs by 2033

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, Sept 16: India is creating an enabling legal framework to encourage active participation of private players in the nuclear sector, Atomic Energy Commission Chairman Ajit Kumar Mohanty said Tuesday. Addressing the 69th General

Conference of the International Atomic Energy Agency in Vienna, he said India has launched the Nuclear Energy Mission with a target to increase its nuclear power capacity to 100 GW by 2047.

Currently, India operates 24 nuclear power reactors with a cumulative capacity of 8,190

MWe and plans to raise it to 22 Mohanty said to achieve the goal of 100 GW by 2047, India

has been undertaking strate-

gic policy interventions and



ments with an emphasis on the development and deployment of indigenous nuclear technologies and public-private collaborations. 'To encourage active partic-

ipation of the private sector in this transformative initiative, the Government of India is also creating an enabling legal framework in the nuclear sector," he said. The Atomic Energy Commis-

sion chairman said the government has allocated more than \$2 billion for research and de velopment on Small Modular Reactors with a plan for at least five indigenously designed and operational SMRs by 2033.

Mohanty said that during 2024-25, the power plants of Nuclear Power Corporation of India Limited (NPCIL) achieved a Plant Load Factor of 87 per

cent. "For the first time in its

operational history, the nucle-

ar power plants of NPCIL have

generated 50 billion units in the

Mohanty said the Bhabha

Atomic Research Centre was committed to developing a light water-based 200 MWe Bharat SMR, a 55 MWe SMR and a High Temperature Gas Cooled Reactor for clean hydrogen production by integrating it with a thermochemical plant. The Fast Breeder Test Re-

actor built by Indira Gandhi Centre for Atomic Research (IGCAR) has completed 34 irradiation campaigns at the target power of 40 MWt, he said. The Demonstration Facility

for recycling of Fast Reactor Spent Fuel was also successfully operated, Monhanty said.

"India firmly believes that ensuring the safety and security of nuclear and radiological materials is a core responsibility of all member states. India affirms its support to the Agency in its resolve to provide a robust, sustainable and visible global nuclear safety and security framework," he added.

RBI guidelines for regulating payment gateways

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Bank Monday issued directions to regulate payment aggregators, which came into effect immediately. As per the Reserve Bank of

Mumbai, Sept 16: The Reserve

India (Regulation of Payment Aggregators) Directions, 2025, payments aggregators are cat egorised into three categories as per the work they undertake. These categories include

PA-P for physical PAs; PA-CB for cross-border and PA-O for online PAs, as per the direc tions. A bank does not require authorisation to carry out PA business, while for non-banks the RBI has set specific capital requirements. "An entity seeking authori-

sation to commence or carry on PA business shall have a minimum net-worth of ₹15 crore at the time of tendering applica tion for authorisation; and shall attain a minimum net-worth of ₹25 crore by the end of the third financial year of grant of authorisation," it said. The directions have provi-

sions on escrow accounts and fund management, cross-border limits for PA-CBs and also on governance, wherein the promoters will have to adhere to the 'fit and proper' criteria, it said. The central bank in April 2024 issued draft directions on PAs: the final guidelines have been issued after getting feed back from all stakeholders.



ICC rejects Pak demand to remove Pycroft Fielding, spin bowling in focus

Dubai, Sept 16: The ICC Tuesday rejected Pakistan's demand to remove match referee Andy Pycroft from the panel of officials for the ongoing Asia Cup despite the PCB's reported threat of a pullout that would cause heavy financial loss to the country.

The Pakistan Cricket Board (PCB) had filed a complaint with the ICC alleging that Pycroft asked its captain Salman Ali Agha not to shake hands with his Indian counterpart Suryakumar Yadav at the time of toss in their Asia Cup match

"Late last night, ICC had sent a reply to PCB stating that Pycroft won't be removed and their plea has been rejected," an ICC source told PTI

The 69-year-old Zimbabwean is due to officiate Pakistan's final group stage game against the UAE Wednesday.

Pakistan cancelled a scheduled pre-match press conference here Tuesday with team sources saying that it was done to "avoid" questions on the widely reported threat of a pullout.

Pakistan team manager Naved Cheema had also filed a complaint with the Asian Cricket Council alleging that it was on Pycroft's insistence that team sheets weren't exchanged between the two skippers on Sunday as is the norm.

After the match that India won by seven wickets, Suryakumar and his men did not exchange handshakes with their cross-border rivals as a mark of respect for the Pahalgam terror attack victims and their

A pullout is not an easy decision to pull off for Pakistan

which stands to lose upto USD 16 million from the Asian Cricket Council's revenue for such a move.

'Can Naqvi risk Pakistan losing around USD 16 million out of a projected budget of USD 227 million for the fiscal year? That will be roughly seven per cent of the annual PCB revenue gone," a source close to developments in PCB told PTI.

Naqvi, as the head of ACC, will also have to bear the brunt and face the ire of the official broadcaster, which can refuse to pay the agreed upon fee.

Pycroft is one of the senior-most match referees in ICC Elite Panel with 695 inter-

Apollo Tyres new jersey sponsor

New Delhi: Apollo Tyres has

been locked in as the new jersey sponsor for the Indian cricket team following the exit of online game platform Dream 11. a senior BCCI official told PTI Tuesday. The BCCI was left without a shirt sponsor for the team after the government banned real money gaming platforms including Dream 11 under a new legislation. The team is currently playing the Asia Cup in Dubai without a title sponsor. "The deal has been signed with Apollo Tyres. We will announce it soon.' said a senior BCCI official. It is reliably learnt that the threevear deal is valued at Rs 579 crore, higher than the Rs 358 crore agreement with Dream 11 for the same duration. The deal with the tyre major covers 121 bilateral games and 21 ICC games.

national games to his credit (men and women across three

to level up against Aussies

Mullanpur (Punjab), Sept 16: India's big defeat against Australia in the opening women's ODI may have come as a dampener ahead of the World Cup, but the team would look to level the series against Alyssa Healy's side with a stronger bowling and fielding effort in the second match here Wednesday.

Skipper Harmanpreet Kaur's wards did well with the bat by putting up a challenging total courtesy half-centuries from batting mainstays Pratika Rawal, Smriti Mandhana and Hareen Deol.

But poor fielding came back to haunt them yet again in the opening game of the threematch series.

The four dropped catches let Australia, who would be India's toughest opponents apart from England in the women's World Cup scheduled later this month, off the hook and they managed to finish



the task of chasing 281 runs in double-quick time. On the eve of the second game, senior India all-rounder Deepti Sharma refused to read much into India's fielding errors

"There was no problem as such. We have done well in past few series fielding-wise as a unit," Deepti told the media.

"There can be an off day for any team, any team can make mistakes but we will not focus much on that. We will focus on all that we did right and take it

Squads:

India: Harmanpreet Kaur (c), Uma Chetry, Harleen Deol, Richa Ghosh (wk), Kranti Goud, Smriti Mandhana, Pratika Rawal, Sneh Rana, Arundhati Reddy, Renuka Singh, Jemimah Rodrigues, Sayali Satghare, Deepti Sharma, Shree Charani, Radha Yadav

Australia: Alyssa Healy (c & wk), Tahlia McGrath, Darcie Brown, Nicole Faltum, Ashleigh Gardner, Kim Garth, Grace Harris Alana King, Charli Knott, Phoebe Litchfield, Sophie Molineux, Beth Mooney, Ellyse Perry, Megan Schutt, Annabel Sutherland, Georgia Voll, Georgia Wareham.

forward," she said.

Australia, on the other hand, seem to be pacing their preparations in a manner which could make them unstoppable in their quest for a record-extending eighth ODI World Cup title, something the Indian team management would be

Kalinga Lancers rope in Jay Stacy as head coach

Bhubaneswar: Kalinga Lancers have roped in Australian legend Jay Stacy as the new head coach of the team, ahead of the upcoming Hockey India League season. Stacy, who represented Australia in 321 international matches and four Olympic Games, winning three medals in 1992, 1996, and 2000, takes over from German coach Valentin Altenburg, who led the side in the previous campaign. "I am excited to begin a new chapter with Vedanta Kalinga Lancers and am thrilled to be returning to the Hockey India League, which has evolved significantly since my earlier stint," Stacy said in a statement.

Oslo, Sept 16: Money pledged to humanitarian work in Gaza from ticket sales at a Norway-Israel qualifying game for soccer's 2026 World Cup will go to Doctors Without Borders.

The Norwegian Football Association Monday announced its choice of a partnership with the Nobel Peace Prize-winning health NGO ahead of the soldout October 11 game in Oslo. It's likely to be worth hundreds of thousands of dollars.

"The money is earmarked for

the organisation's relief work PRESS TRUST OF INDIA on the ground in Gaza and the surrounding areas affected by the war," the Norwegian soccer

body said.

Norway's pledge last month of soccer money to help Palestinian people comes after Israel which has played in European soccer competitions for security reasons since joining UE-FA in 1994 — has faced almost no pressure within the sport to be suspended or have games boycotted since the conflict in Gaza escalated in October 2023.

"As a member of FIFA and



UEFA," Norwegian FA Lise Klaveness said at a news conference, her federation "has to deal with Israel participating in their competitions."

"At the same time, we cannot and will not be indifferent to the humanitarian suffering that is

taking place in the region, especially the disproportionate attacks against civilians in Gaza."

Norway has taken the political stand when its men's national team is the best for a generation and led by superstar striker Erling Haaland. It is set to qualify for a first World Cup since 1998, leading a qualifying group that includes Italy.

It's unclear how much profit the Norwegian FA will earn from sales of about 23,000 tickets for the game at Ullevaal Stadium which will have extra security for the Israel visit.

Private donor

A further 3 million Norwe gian kroner (\$305,000) was promised by "one of the country's largest investment com panies," the federation said, adding the donor's identity is known to Doctors Without

Norwegian soccer has long been among the most politically engaged of FIFA's 211 members. It was praised for its solidarity by the Geneva-based NGO which is known widely by its French name Médecins Sans

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