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BHUBANESWAR | WEDNESDAY | OCTOBER 1, 2025

12 PAGES | ₹5.00

Scam stink in SI exam

Berhampur, Sept 30: A major racket involving police sub-inspector recruitment examination has come to light in this city just days before the scheduled written examination. Authorities allege that a



The offices and press of Orissa POST will remain closed October 1st and 2nd on account of Dussehra. Hence, there will be no edition of the paper October 2nd and 3rd. However, OP web will be available to readers on both the days.

conducting the test had taken more than 120 job aspirants by three buses from Bhubaneswar to Hyderabad, claiming to provide "special coaching" ahead of the exam.

Acting on a complaint, a team led by Berhampur SP Dr Sarvana Vivek M. intercepted the buses near Srikakulam in Andhra Pradesh.Preliminary questioning revealed that each candidate had allegedly paid about ₹20 lakh to the agency.

An investigation was on to bust the alleged job racket.

Meanwhile, the written exam was postponed for the third time, according to an official statement issued on Tuesday.

"In view of some unforeseen development, the Board decided to postpone the Written Examination CPSE-2024, which was earlier scheduled to be held on 05.10.2025 & 06.10.2025. Fresh date will be announced later," it said.



SPIRITUAL FERVOUR: Idol of goddess Durga dazzling in gold and silver on Maha Ashtami at Saheed Nagar in Bhubaneswar, Tuesday

OVER 10K FARMERS DED LIVES IN 2023

New Delhi, Sept 30: More than 10,700 people from the farming sector committed suicide during 2023 and 38.5 per cent of them were from Maharashtra and 22.5 per cent from Karnataka, according to a report of the National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB).

A total of 66.2 per cent (1,13,416) of the total suicide victims (1,71,418) in 2023 were having an annual income of less than ₹1 lakh.

As many as 10,786 people involved in the farming sector, consisting of 4,690 farmers or cultivators and 6,096 agricultural labourers, committed suicides during 2023, accounting for 6.3 per cent of total suithe report said. Out of the 4,690 farmer or cultivator suicides, a total of 4,553 were male and 137 were female and out of the 6,096 suicides committed by agricultural labourers during 2023, as many as 5,433 were male and 663 were female.

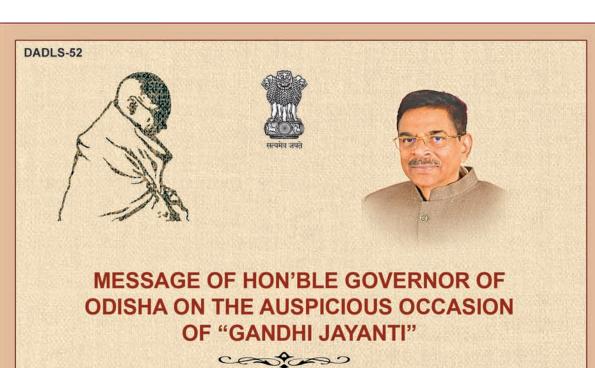
Majority of suicide victims engaged in the farming sector were reported in Maharashtra (38.5 per cent), Karnataka (22.5), Andhra Pradesh (8.6), Madhya Pradesh (7.2) and Tamil Nadu (5.9 per cent).

However, certain states and union territories namely, West Bengal, Bihar, Odisha, Jharkhand, Himachal Pradesh, Arunachal Pradesh, Goa, Manipur, Mizoram, Nagaland, Tripura, Chandigarh, Delhi

and Lakshadweep reported no suicides of farmers or cultivators as well as agricultural labourers

The NCRB also reported on the economic status of suicide victims. A total of 66.2 per cent (1,13,416) of the total suicide victims (1,71,418) in 2023 were having annual income of less than 1 lakh. As many as 28.3 per cent (48,432) of suicide victims belong to annual income group of 1 lakh to less than 5 lakh.

Among the suicides committed by un-employed persons, 15.4 per cent were in Kerala (2,191 out of 14,234 suicides), 14.5 per cent in Maharashtra (2,070 suicides), 11.2 per cent in Tamil Nadu (1.601 suicides) and 9.1 per cent in Uttar Pradesh (1,295 suicides).



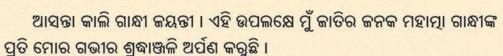
On the auspicious occasion of 'Gandhi Jayanti', I pay heartfelt homage to the Father of the Nation, Mahatma Gandhi.

Let us get inspired by the timeless ideals of Gandhiji and take pledge to dedicate ourselves to building of a Viksit Odisha and Viksit Bharat.

(Hari Babu Kambhampati)



ଗାନ୍ଧୀ ଜୟନ୍ତୀ ଉପଲକ୍ଷେ ମୁଖ୍ୟମନ୍ତ୍ରୀଙ୍କ ଶୁଭେଚ୍ଛା



ମହାତ୍ମା ଗାନ୍ଧୀ ଥିଲେ ସତ୍ୟ, ନ୍ୟାୟ ଓ ଅହିଂସାର ପ୍ରତୀକ, ଯାହାଙ୍କ ଜୀବନ ଦର୍ଶନ ସମଗ୍ର ବିଶ୍ୱକ୍କ ପ୍ରଭାବିତ କରିଛି । ତାଙ୍କ ସ୍ୱଦେଶୀ ଓ ସ୍ୱଚ୍ଛତା ବିଚାର ଆଜି ବି ଆମ ଜୀବନ ଓ ସମାକ ପାଇଁ ଅତ୍ୟନ୍ତ ମହତ୍ତ୍ୱପୂର୍ଣ୍ଣ । ଆସନ୍ତ୍ର, ତାଙ୍କ ନୀତି ଓ ଆଦର୍ଶରେ ଅନୁପ୍ରାଣିତ ହୋଇ ଆମନ୍ତର୍ଭର ଓ ସ୍ପଳ୍କ ଭାରତ ଗଠନ ଦିଗରେ ସମସ୍ତେ ସମର୍ପିତ ହୋଇ କାମ କରିବା ।

> ompanis (ମୋହନ ଚରଣ ମାଝୀ)

OIPR-1500

ମୁଖ୍ୟମନ୍ତ୍ରୀ, ଓଡ଼ିଶା

DADLS-53







MESSAGE OF HON'BLE GOVERNOR OF ODISHA ON THE AUSPICIOUS OCCASION OF "VIJAYA DASHAMI - 2025"



On the auspicious occasion of 'Vijaya Dashami', I extend my warm greetings and best wishes to the people of the State.

'Vijaya Dashami' stands as a symbol of the victory of truth over untruth, justice over injustice and peace over disharmony. I call upon everyone to strive with sincerity to nurture truth, justice and peace in their personal lives as well as in the society.

(Hari Babu Kambhampati)



ମୁଖ୍ୟମନ୍ତ୍ରୀଙ୍କ ଶୁଭେଚ୍ଛା ଶାରଦୀୟ ଦୁର୍ଗାପୂଜା ଅବସରରେ ରାଜ୍ୟବାସୀ ଭାଇ ଓ ଭଉଣୀ ମାନଙ୍କୁ ମୋର

ଶୁଭେଚ୍ଛା ଜଣାଉଛି । ମା' ଦୁର୍ଗା ଆମ ପାଇଁ ଶକ୍ତି ଓ ସୁରକ୍ଷାର ନିଦର୍ଶନ । ଆମ ସମାକରେ ଦୁର୍ଗାପୂଜା କେବଳ ଏକ ଧାର୍ମିକ ଉତ୍ସବ ନୁହେଁ, ଏହା ହେଉଛି ଶକ୍ତି, ସାହସ ଓ ନୈତିକ ବିକୟର ପ୍ରତୀକ । ମା' ଙ୍କ ଧରାବତରଣ ସମସ୍ତଙ୍କ ପାଇଁ ଶୁଭମୟ ହେଉ ।

କଗତ୍କନନୀ ମା' ଦୁର୍ଗାଙ୍କ ଅପାର କରୁଣାରୁ ସମୟଙ୍କ ଜୀବନରେ ସୁଖ, ଶାନ୍ତି ଓ ଆନନ୍ଦ ଭରିଉଠୁ, ପାର୍ବଣର ଏହି ଅମୃତ ଲଗ୍ନରେ ମା'ଙ୍କ ନିକଟରେ ଏତିକି ପ୍ରାର୍ଥନା ।

> STEPROMICE (ମୋହନ ଚରଣ ମାଝୀ) ମୁଖ୍ୟମନ୍ତ୍ରୀ, ଓଡ଼ିଶା

OIPR-15001/13/1204/2526

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eisure



JK ROWLING SLAMS **EMMA WATSON**

JK Rowling took to X to address her rift with Emma Watson, saying the actor cannot denounce her publicly while hoping for reconciliation. Calling Watson 'ignorant' due to her 'cushioned' upbringing, the Harry Potter author strongly criticised the actress in a lengthy note.

KIDMAN, URBAN PART **WAYS AFTER 19 YEARS**

Nicole Kidman and Keith Urban have reportedly split after 19 years of marriage, with sources calling the separation 'inevitable.' While Kidman is fighting to save the marriage and holding the family together, Urban has acquired a Nashville residence and is moving out. The couple, married since 2006, shares two daughters.



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You have decided to give more importance to your inner voice, and Ganesha feels it's a good thing. It supports you to strive for perfection in whatever you do. You will remain your sensible and realistic self. A little adventure will not hurt, says Ganesha.

TAURUS

Touchdown! Ganesha senses a strong possibility that you will achieve an important milestone today. Emotional well-being is important for physical health. You may spend your evening in the company of like-minded sions and musings, feels Ganesha

GEMINI

Unlike the last few days. today will be hectic and demånding. You will need to attend a few social get-togethers and functions. Socializing with friends and relatives is on the cards. However, you need to be careful about your health. Expenses on medicines are indicated, says Ganesha.

CANCER

Today, you are likely to address all problems with a human touch, predicts Ganesha. You are likely to play Agony Aunt to one and all. But for that, you will have to learn to leave your problems at the workplace. In relationships, you need to open up to your near and dear ones.

LEO

Are you sure you did not marry your boss? Well, f you haven't, then you might have some problem with your spouse's bossy attitude. The best thing would be for you to try and sort out the individual differences with your partner. On the work front, the day will be satisfying, as you continue to mystify your opponents with your wits.

VIRGO There is an indication that you may assume a leadership

role and dictate the agenda at work today, predicts Ganesha. You may spend your afternoon window-shop ping, looking for a gift that you feel like giving to a loved one. You will spend the evening planning your long-term goals with a close friend or family

Ganesha says that today you will spend with close friends or beloved people. Your romantic nature will surely please the opposite sex. By evening your imagination will be at its peak. Ganeshji wishes you all the very best and sends you his greetings

SCORPIO

Today, you are likely to make a fine show of your knack of organising things, predicts
Ganesha. At the workplace, you will develop a special liking for your job. Later in the day, you may find lasting solutions to pending problems. Take the trouble to research any decisions you make so that you are liable to make well-informed decisions about your future.

SAGITTARIUS

Ganesha sees you being the good Samaritan, heralding better things for a brighter future. Household affairs will remain quiet and sublime. At work, however, expect smoother sailing in the latter part of the day.

CAPRICORN

You will settle for nothing less than excellence in whatever work you choose to take up, says Ganesha. In fact, working extra hours may leave you a little exhausted in the afternoon. Here's the remedy: delegate work to those around you and see that they meet your high standards.

AQUARIUS

Your curiosity will work wonders for you today. You have spent a lot of time and energy for planning your future, be it a business venture or higher studies, and now you will start executing those plans, foresees Ganesha. Keep working hard, you will surely get the rewards for your efforts.

PISCES You will be ready to lay down your life for your near and dear ones today. Even if you don't do anything so melodramatic, you will end up sacrificing your comfort to benefit someone close to vou. It is best to postpone important decisions for a day, or three. Do not indulge in taking risks, for

they are unlikely to pay off, says Ganesha.



MUMBAI: Actress Saba Azad is no stranger to the spotlight, but she admits that it isn't always her work that garners attention. Despite delivering notable performances and celebrating milestones like her film Bandar premiering at the Toronto International Film Festival (TIFF), Saba often finds her personal life dominating headlines. Yet, she refuses to let the noise overshadow her journey as an artist. "I don't really spend time think-

ing about what others make of me. she says with quiet confidence. For Saba, learning to block out unnecessary chatter has been essential to sustaining both her sanity and creativity. A single piece of wisdom has guided her through the storm: "Don't take critique from those you wouldn't take advice from." It's a reminder that not all voices deserve space in her mind, especially in a world where judgments are quick and often uninformed. Instead, she chooses to focus on

her craft and the joy of collaboration in cinema. For her, platforms like TIFF are a reminder of why she chose this path in the first place. "Filmmaking collaborative;

no one person is bigger than the story Festivals like TIFF put the focus back where it belongson the art."



MUMBAI: Bollywood Reddy Vanga's *Spiri* over disagreements egarding an eight hour workday She also stepped away from *Kalki 2*, citing differences

DEEPIKA ON HER CAREER CHOICES exits stirred

tion, Deepika addressed the matter ndirectly, emphasising her approach to her career. In a recent interview, she said, "

have never been afraid to ask ques-tions, challenge norms, and push-boundaries to redefine the expectations placed on women."
In related news, IMDb's report 2

Years of Indian Cinema (2000–2025) ranked Deepika fourth among actors with the most popular titles, featuring in 10 of 130 films analysed. She trails Shah Rukh Khan with 20 titles and Aamir Khan and Hrithik Roshan with 11 each, placing ahead of actors including Amitabh Bachchan, Ranbir Ka poor, Salman Khan, and Priyanka Chopra. Reacting to this recognition, Deepika re

flected on her career journey. "From the very beginning, I was never afraid to ask questions ruffle feathers, walk a more difficult path, and cha lenge the status quo," she said. She added that the support of her family, fans, and collaborators has empowered her to make choices that she hopes will reshape the path for those who follow. Deepika is currently working on Shah Rukh

Khan's *King* and will next star op posite Allu Arjun in direc **MUMBAI:** Bollywood actress Huma Qureshi, known for her versatiltatively titled ity and fearless performances, shared that if she had been part of the 1970s Bollywood era, she would to work alongside Shabana Azmi

In an exclsuive conversa-

tion with this news agency

Huma shared "It's the 70s.

It was such a bold decade.

Experimental, political, and

stylish, all at once. I would

have loved to do a parallel cin-

ema classic with Shabana Azmi

Huma shares her 70s bold cinema dream

have loved

or Smita Patil and then also a glamorous masala entertainer in the same year. That versatility Huma also shared her experiences at the Toronto International Film Festival this year, where her movie Bayaan

premiered. She said "Watching my movie with a packed house of people from all over the world was one moment that really

stayed with me. Feeling their reactions in real time was ethereal." Talking about turning producer with Bayaan, Huma stated that the experience was extremely enriching. "This film is very close to my heart because I was not just acting in it but also serving as an executive producer, which meant every choice from script to screen carried a deeper responsibility. To see Bayaan, travelling from TIFF to BIF, and witness audiences connect with it exactly the way we had dreamed of was extremely overwhelming" added Huma.

MANUSHI'S LIFE LESSONS

Miss World and now actress, recently paused her shoot to host an engaging "Ask Me Anything" session on social media, offering fans a candid look into her thoughts and experiences. From witty exchanges to heartfelt reflections,

she touched upon topics ranging from failures to fitness, leaving her followers inspired. Sharing her

perspective on setbacks, Manushi emphasised that failure should be seen as a teacher rather than a defeat. "Failure is an important experience to have... it's not failure, it's a learning

World journey taught her another valuable lesson — "it's not about the destination, it's about the iournev.' The actress also

opened up about her health struggles after COVID. revealing how she lost significant muscle mass and weight. With her

lifestyle changes, she rebuilt her strength. On dealing with stress, her mantra was simple: "A good workout, good sleep, and a hug from Mom." Speaking on motivation, she

credited early mornings, daily exercise, and meditation for keep ing her focused. If given a superpower, she'd choose tele portation to

> escape long flights. When asked about Rajkummar Rao, her Maalik costar, she warm ly praised him, calling him one of her favour-

ite co-actors.

experience," she explained, adding that her Miss

PEANUTS



IF BEETHOVEN NEVER OWNED A DOG, I GUESS I SHOULDN'T EITHER...I'M SORRY, CHARLIE BROWN ..





CALVIN AND HOBBES



BREVITY



POST **CROSSWORD**

25

Copyright ©2025 PuzzleJunction.com 22 Zoo members Across

1	Horrible		
5	Scrooge.	for	

- one
- 8 Daydream
- 9 Whimsical
- 10 Latin dance
- 11 Catch-22
- 12 Ointments
- 14 Blue blood
- 17 Full 19 Edge tools

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- 3 Garden seating

23 Finger protector

24 Rope fiber

25 Beryl variety

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CHECK FOR SOLUTIONS OF THE PUZZLES TOMORROW

- 13 Some computers

7 Set free

5 Award

6 Winter yard

decoration

12 Extra amount

- 15 Understand
- 16 Water heater
- 18 Canvas support
- 20 African grazer
- 21 Knight's need

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

CAMERASHY

SUDOKU

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SOLUTIONS

To solve the Sudoku puzzle, fill in the boxes in such a

manner that every row, column and 3x3 box contains

6

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2

4

the digits 1 to 9, without repeating any.

3

8 5

SUDOKU

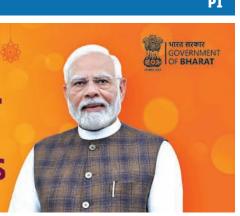
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State tops nation in assault on women second-highest number of cases of assault on women with increased to 1,99,954 in 2023, from tops of the contract of the

Bhubaneswar, Sept 30: Odisha reported the highest number of incidents of assault or use of criminal force on women with intent to disrobe

tent to outrage their modesty.

While Rajasthan topped the list with 6,758 cases under Section 354 of IPC in 2023, Odisha came second with 5,937 such incidents, NCRB data said.

In terms of crime rate per lakh population, Odisha ranked first with 25.8 per cent, followed by Rajasthan at 17.1 per cent.

According to the report, the total number of cases of crimes registered under different Sec1,78,190 in 2022.

Crimes against women rose to 25,914 in 2023 from 23,648 in the previous year, while offences against children increased to 8,577 from 8,240 during the period, the report added.

Odisha also topped the nation in registration of disproportionate assets (DA) cases with 85 such incidents, followed by Karnataka, where 84 such cases were registered in 2023.



faith and provide a response.'

Speaking to reporters in Washington, Trump said Israeli and Arab leaders had already endorsed the plan and that "we're just waiting for Hamas" to make its decision. He gave the group "three or four days" to respond.

"Hamas is either going to be doing it or not, and if it's not, it's going to be a very sad end," Trump said as he left the White House. Asked whether there was scope for further

HIGHLIGHTS OF US' GAZA PEACE PLAN

- Gaza will be a deradicalised terror-free zone that does not pose a threat to its neighbours.
- Gaza will be redeveloped for the benefit of the people of Gaza, who have suffered more than enough.
- If both sides agree to this proposal, the war will immediately end. Israeli forces will withdraw to the agreed upon line to prepare for a hostage release. During this time, all military operations, including aerial and artillery bombardment, will be suspended, and battle lines will remain frozen until conditions are met for the complete staged

plied: "Not much."

The plan specifies an immediate ceasefire, an exchange of all hostages held by Hamas for Palestinian prisoners held by Israel, a staged Israeli withdrawal from Gaza, the disarmament of Hamas and the introduction of a transitional government led by an international body.

A source close to Hamas told Reuters the plan was "completely biased to Israel" and imposed "impossible conditions" that aimed to eliminate the group.

Many elements of the 20 points have been included in numerous ceasefire deals proposed over the last two years including those accepted and then subsequently rejected at various stages by both Israel and Hamas.

One of Hamas's main conditions since the outset of the war has been a full Israeli withdrawal from Gaza in return for the release of the remaining hostages. And while the group has indicated its readiness to relinquish administrative authority, it has consistently ruled out disarming.

Trump's 20-point plan explainer

EXPENSES ARE

in 2023, registering 1,978 cases under Section 354B of IPC, followed by Uttar Pradesh with 1,750 such cases, according to the latest report of the National Crime Records Bureau

If someone earning ₹250 crore

wants to join politics, imagine the

potential earnings in politics

The state also recorded the

Mediators Qatar and Egypt shared the 20-point plan with Hamas late Monday after Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu had appeared alongside Trump at the White House and endorsed the document, saying it satisfied Israel's war aims.

> Hamas was not involved in the negotiations that led to the proposal, which calls on the Islamist militant group to disarm, a demand it has previously rejected. However, an official briefed on the talks told Reuters that the group "would review it in good

Dubai/Cairo, Sept 30: US

President Donald Trump gave

Hamas three to four days

Tuesday to accept a US-backed

peace plan for Gaza, warning of

"a very sad end" if the group

rejected the proposal that he

said was close to ending the

two-year-old conflict.

Bihar SIR: Final roll down by 47 lakh list issued on August 1, which

total number of electors in pollbound Bihar have come down by nearly 47 lakh to 7.42 crore in the final electoral roll published Tuesday from 7.89 crore before the Special Intensive Revision (SIR) of the voter list carried out

New Delhi/Patna, Sept 30: The

by the Election Commission. The final figure has, however, increased by 17.87 lakh from 7.24 crore electors named in the draft

had removed 65 lakh voters from the original list on various accounts, including deaths, migration and duplication of voters. While 21.53 lakh new electors have been added to the draft list, 3.66 lakh names have been removed from there, resulting in a net increase of 17.87 lakh.

The final figure may change marginally after supplementary lists are published during the poll process. The EC's exercise has drawn sharp protests from the Opposition, which has accused the poll watchdog of working at the behest of the ruling BJP, a charge it has flatly rejected.

The Commission has asserted that it will not allow any eligible citizen to be left out of the voter list and at the same time, not let any ineligible person be on the list. The assembly election schedule is likely to be announced by the EC next week and the polls are expected to be held soon after

Chhath, an important festival in Bihar that would be celebrated in the last week of October. As of June 24 this year, when the SIR orders were issued by the poll authority, the state had 7.89 crore electors.

The EC said that 3.66 lakh vot ers were removed from the draft roll while 21.53 lakh were added following the month-long evaluation of documents submitted by prospective voters and objections filed by parties and individuals.



RAIN PAIN: Vehicles negotiating a waterlogged road amid heavy downpour, in New Delhi, Tuesday

Odagaon, Sept 30: Three bikers were killed Tuesday afternoon when two motorcycles collided head-on near the Godipali petrol pump on State Highway 21 under Model (Adarsha) police limits in Nayagarh district.

The deceased were identified as bullet rider Mohan Barik, 28, of Chemedi village under Banthapur panchayat under the police limits, Santosh Kumar Routray, 35, of Kendrapara and his cousin Silu Nayak, 24, of Karasingh village in neighbouring Ganjam district.

According to police, Mohan was riding his bullet (OD 25Q

9285) towards Komanda via Baghua Square when it crashed into the oncoming motorcycle (OD 29D 2448) carrying Santosh and Silu, who were returning to Karasingh after shopping at Karasingh market.

Eyewitnesses said the impact was so severe that all three riders were flung nearly 10 feet into the air before crash landing on the road. They died on the

Fire service personnel shifted the bodies to the local hospital, where doctors confirmed their deaths. Police registered a case-307/25, seized both vehicles and three mobile phones, and launched an investigation.

IRREGULAR by MANJUL 3 killed in bike collision ₹FALLS TO 88.80

MUMBAI: The rupee fell 5 paise to an alltime low of 88.80 against the US dollar on Tuesday, pressured by sustained foreign capital outflows amid global trade uncertainties. However, a steep fall in global crude oil prices, along with a weaker greenback, prevented a sharp decline in the local unit, according to

The markets are also awaiting the Reserve Bank of India's (RBI's) Monetary Policy Committee decision, which will be announced on

rupee opened at 88.73 against the dollar and traded in the range of 88.69-88.85 before settling at 88.80, lower by 5 paise against its

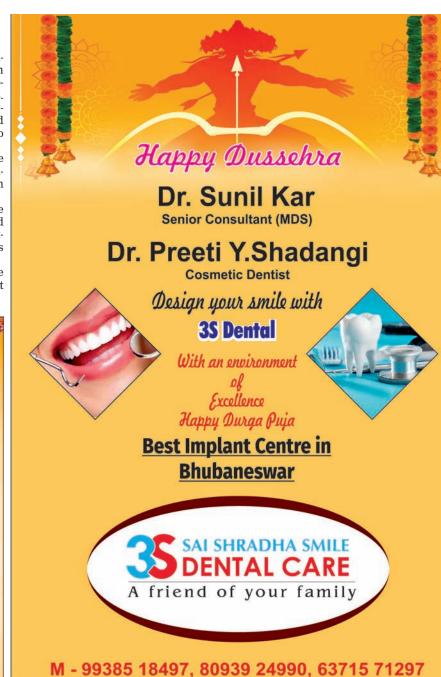
The rupee consolidated in a narrow range and settled lower by 3 paise at 88.75 against the greenback on Monday.

forex traders.

Wednesday. At the interbank foreign exchange, the

previous close.





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Heavy showers likely from today



PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Bhubaneswar, Sept 30: A fresh low-pressure area over the Bay of Bengal (BoB) could intensify into a depres sion and cause heavy rainfall across Odisha 30 districts from Wednesday, coinare likely to xperience rainfal ciding with the Durga Puia festivities, the October 2

Department (IMD) said. The low-pressure area formed over west central BoB around 5:30 pm, it said in a bulletin Tuesday evening.

India Meteorological

"It is likely to move northwestwards and intensify into a depression over west central and adjoining northwest BoB by morning of October 2 and cross south Odisha-North Andhra Pradesh coasts around morning hours of October 3,"

Bhubaneswar: Assembly Speaker

AIIMS-Bhubaneswar and took part

in the Swasth Nari Sashakt Parivar

campaign, an initiative promoting

women's health and empowering

families. During her visit, Speaker

for hypertension and non-

LOST

Padhy underwent health screening

CLASSIFIED

I, Sri Suresh Kumar

Krushna Chandra

of Plot No.- 1888,

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Kuradhamala, Khata

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Surama Padhy recently visited

IMD has advised fishermen not to venture into the sea along and off the **Odisha coast during** October 1 to October 4

The IMD has issued an alert for light to moderate rainfall across 25 districts and isolated rainfall of 7 cm to 11 cm in Ganjam, Gajapati, Rayagada, Koraput, Malkangiri and Naba-

rangpur for Wednesday. October 2, all the 30 districts of Odisha are likely to experience rainfall, the bulletin said.

Moderate rainfall (7 cm to 20 cm) is likely in insolated places of Kandhamal, Gajapati, Rayagada, Koraput and Malkangiri, and 7 cm to 11 cm in the districts of Nayagarh, Khurda, Puri, Jagatsinghpur, Cuttack, Balasore, Mayurbhanj and Keonjhar, October 2, it

The IMD has advised fishermen not to venture into the sea along and off the Odisha coast during October 1 to October 4.

executive director Ashutosh Biswas

expressed his appreciation, stating,

"Her noble gesture of participating

interacting with beneficiaries will

certainly inspire all stakeholders

to make the Swasth Nari, Sashakt

Parivar Abhivan a grand success.

AIIMS-Bhubaneswar in organising

comprehensive health screenings for

women as part of the campaign. She

also commended the dedication and

providers for their exemplary service.

professionalism of the healthcare

The Speaker was accompanied by

senior dignitaries, faculty members,

in the health screening and

Padhy lauded the efforts of

Speaker Padhy joins Swasth

Nari campaign at City AIIMS

communicable diseases (NCDs). She also engaged with the beneficiaries and

healthcare providers involved in the campaign, gaining first-hand insight

into the impact of the programme. Welcoming the Speaker, Institute's

AICCTU, AIUTUC slam govt Majhi visits Keonjhar over extended work hours



Bhubaneswar, Sept 30: The state units of All India Central Council of Trade Unions (AICCTU) and All India United Trade Union Centre (AIUTUC) Tuesday slammed the Odisha government's move to extend labourers' working hours, terming it an anti-worker policy favouring corporates.

In its statement, the AICCTU said the state cabinet September 29 approved raising the standard workday from eight

to ten hours and increasing the quarterly overtime cap from 50 to 144 hours, a move officials linked to the government's "Ease of Doing Business" push.

AICCTU leaders condemned the cabinet decision as an assault on workers' rights, alleging it was part of a larger plan to legitimise exploitation. They pointed out that similar provisions were introduced through the BJP government's four Labour Codes during the Covid-19 crisis without parliamentary debate, and since nationwide resistance has delayed their full implementation, these measures are now being pushed in BJP-ruled states like Odisha. Odisha AICCTU president Radhakanta Sethy and state secretary Mahendra Parida demanded the decision be rolled back immediately. AIUTUC's state committee

also opposed the cabinet's amendments to the Odisha Shops and Commercial Establishments Act, 1956, and the Factories Act, 1948, permitting 10-hour workdays, 144 hours of quarterly overtime, and night shifts for women. Calling the decision inhuman and undemocratic, leaders said it would overburden workers and compromise women's safety amid rising crimes. State president Shambhu Nath Nayak and secretary Jayasen Meher urged workers to unite and resist the move, warning the Mohan Maihi-led government of intensified protests if the decision is not withdrawn.



POST NEWS NETWORK

Keonjhar, Sept 30: Chief Minister Mohan Charan Majhi arrived on a one-day visit to Keonihar district and landed at Raisuan Airstrip Tuesday in a special aircraft. At the airstrip, he was given a guard of honour by the district administration.

Party workers, leaders and well-wishers welcomed him with flowers and bouquets. Later he visited Jhumpura by road and participated in the Durga Puja festival in the area by taking part in the rituals and in the

'Yagnya' in the puja mandaps. Later, CM Majhi went to his native village Raikala where the villagers gave him a grand welcome as he interacted with them and their family members.

From there, he left for Ke onihar and visited the Durga puja pandals at Puruna Bazar Raspuja Market and Jagnnath pur Sahi amid the grand wel come by the puja committees. He also held discussions with the committee members on var

From there, the CM went to the Circuit House and took rest. Later, at night, he joined the "Dandia dance" programme organised by the Gujarati Sam aj at the local Gujarat Bhawan

Puja pandals: Devotion meets selfie obsession

Bhubaneswar, Sept 30: Amid Bhubaneswar's vibrant Durga Puja celebrations, with over 172 pandals across the City, a growning cultural trend is drawing attention — the obsession with selfies.

While the grandeur of the decorated pandals and the spiritual fervour draw thousands of devotees, an increasing number of visitors are more focused on capturing the perfect photo than seeking the goddess's blessings. The practice, though seemingly harmless, is raising eyebrows among heritage experts, sociologists, and even pandal organisers.

"Selfies are a modern trend and part of everyday life now," said Taranisen Patnaik, a City heritage expert. "But inside pandals, especially near the Maa Durga idols, this should be restricted. It disrupts the sanctity of the puia, interferes with rituals, and often troubles other dev-

otees who come with devotion.' The concern is echoed by Meena Rath, a sociologist, who believes the selfie craze reflects a deeper societal shift. "Selfies during festivals are a new way

of engaging with culture, but they also reveal our growing need for digital validation. When it begins to interfere with religious rituals or public movement, it becomes more about self-centeredness than celebration."

However, not everyone agrees. "I dress up for the occasion, and taking a selfie at the pandal is my way of preserving the moment," said Shruti Nayak, a college student. "It doesn't

mean I'm disrespectful — I just want to share my joy with friends online."

Akhil Das, a local photographer, adds another perspective.

"These selfies promote the art and effort behind the beautiful pandals. They help spread awareness and attract more

Caught between devotion

and digital expression, puja organisers are treading a delicate line.

'We can't ban selfies altogether," said Nabakishore Behera, an organiser from the popular Nayapalli Durga Puja Committee. "It's true that people taking selfies disrupt the lines and sometimes the rituals. But banning them is not an easy decision — we need consensus from all stakeholders. We are considering ways to manage this better."

Some pandals have even introduced 'selfie zones', designated areas where vis-

itors can take photos without disturbing the rituals or the crowd flow. Organisers hope this will strike a balance between

modern trends. As Bhubaneswar continues to celebrate

tradition

Durga Puja with grandeur, the debate between devotion and digital obsession remains very much alive reflecting the changing face of culture in a smartphone-driven

ious issues.

CM thanks PM for Bahuda Port project

Bhubaneswar, Sept 30: Chief Minister Mohan Cha ran Majhi Tuesday expressed gratitude to Prime Minister Narendra Modi for approving the Bahuda Port project. "On behalf of the people of

Odisha, I extend my heartfelt gratitude to Prime Minister Narendra Modi ji for his vi sionary leadership, and to the Union Minister of Ports Shipping and Waterways Sarbananda Sonowal Ji for enabling the historic Bahuda Port project," Majhi wrote on social media platform X.

The Chief Minister stated that Odisha, with its 575 km coastline and rich maritime heritage, is poised to emerge as a key gateway for trade and industrial growth.

He further said the Ba huda Port, with a capacity of 150 MTPA, will catalyse port-led industrialisation create thousands of jobs, and strengthen Odisha's position in India's global maritime network, while attracting an estimated investment of ₹21,500 crore.

Cuttack Durga Puja dazzles with silver, green hues

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

and staff during her visit

Cuttack, Sept 30: Cuttack has transformed into a spectacle of light, artistry and devotion with the 'Millennium City' celebrating Durga Puja at 176 pandals. Known for its distinctive

'Chandi Medha' tradition -- silver filigree backdrops adorning the goddess -- the puja blended age-old heritage with fresh innovations and a touch of social responsibility. The highlight of 2025 was the

Jobra puja committee's first-ever 'Chandi Medha', unveiled to mark its 75th year of celebra-Crafted from 2.5 quintals of

pure silver, the decorations showcased intricate peacock motifs, making Jobra the 36th committee in the city to enter this elite club.

Not to be left behind, the Mangalabag puja committee added nearly 12 kg of silver to refurbish the weapons of the deity -- from trishul to bow and arrow -- enhancing both visual splendour and ritual sanctity.

Cuttack's unique blend of faith and food was also wit-

The Chandni Chowk puja committee, famous for its 'fish bhog', has scaled up preparations to serve fish curry to



nearly 10,000 devotees today on Navami.

This centuries-old practice not only reinforces community bonding but also sustains local fish markets that thrive during

Beyond silver and cuisine, this year's festivities also carried a message of environmental stewardship.

The Khannagar puja committee launched a green initiative, pledging to distribute between 500 and 1,000 fruit and flower-bearing saplings to visitors

on each of the five puja days. Organisers hope the gesture will inspire households to contribute to a greener city long after the festive lights dim.

Even as the celebrations grow in scale, they remain under watchful regulation. Responding to concerns over noise and safety, the Orissa High Court has restricted the use of firecrackers, loud music, and extravagant gates with

light decorations at pandals. While some committees view these as constraints, many

Chandni Chowk Puia Committee to serve fish curry to nearly 10,000 devotees today on Navami

agree that responsible celebrations are the way forward for a city already grappling with congestion and pollution.

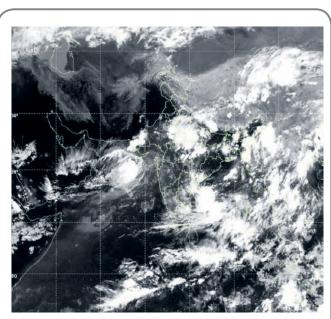
From Balu Bazar, where the first puja is believed to have begun nearly 500 years ago, to today's themed pandals with dazzling silver artistry, Cuttack's Durga Puja has travelled a long journey

This year's blend of tradition, innovation, and social conscience ensured that the festival continues to embody the city's spirit -- where devotion meets craftsmanship, and celebration embraces responsibility.

The five-day puja festivals that began on Monday will continue till Friday, when the immersion of the idols will be conducted.

Massive colourful processions accompanied by music of all hues will lead the idols to makeshift water bodies prepared by the local administration for bidding farewell to the deities.

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WEATHER									
	BBSR	СТС	FORECAST						
Max Temp	35.2°	33.4°	mostly						
Min Temp	24.8°	23.6°	cloudy sky						
Humidity	79%	88%	-						
Rainfall	TRACE	Nil							

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Lakhs witness 'Chhatar Jatra'

Bhawanipatna, Sept 30: Nearly five lakh people took part in the famous 'Chhatar Jatra' of Goddess Manikeswari celebrated with grandeur in Bhawanipatna city of Kalahandi district Tuesday. Hundreds of goats and hens were slaughtered on the roads here during the rituals, marking the Maha Ashtami celebrations of Durga Puja.

Kalahandi Superintendent of Police Nagaraj Devarakonda said the festival passed off peacefully and no untoward incident was reported.

In order to maintain law and order, 20 platoons (one platoon comprises 30 personnel) of the state police were deployed, as nearly five lakh people took part in the festival, he said.



Despite repeated appeals by the administration to desist from animal sacrifice, thousands are killed every year, a senior official of the district administration said. "We cannot stop the practice unless locals cooperate," he added.

The official said that Kalahandi

district administration, like every year, had launched an awareness campaign against animal sacrifice this time as well

"We used local media and social media, and held meetings to persuade people to desist from animal slaughter," a senior police officer said.

He said the practice is deeply entwined with the religious sentiments of the local population, including the Kondh tribe.

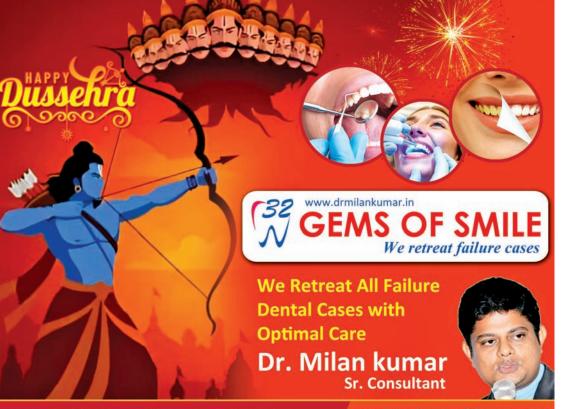
'Chhatar Jatra' is a blend of tribal, royal, and non-tribal cultures. Kondh tribe, which boast of a rich tradition, culture, and musical heritage, dominates Kalahandi, said tribal researcher Bhagaban Sahu.

As per the tradition, Maa Manikeswari secretly goes to Jenakhal, a place about three km from the temple, at night on Maha Asthami and 'Chhatar Jatra' is held when the goddess returns to her main temple. The event starts with a sacrifice of a buffalo, followed by mass animal sacrifice on the streets, a priest said.

The erstwhile king of Kalahandi, Maharaja Anant Pratap Deo, received the procession at the temple gates.

OAV student

Hatadihi: A Class VIII student of



drowns in pond

Odisha Adarsha Vidyalaya (OAV) at Sundarapal under this block in Keonjhar district drowned while bathing in a pond Tuesday. The deceased was identified as 13-year-old Sai Prakash Jena, son of Susanta Jena of Bishnupur. He had been staying in a private hostel at Jalakalanga along Anandapur-Bhadrak State Highway 53, about 10 km from the school. Sai had gone home during the Dussehra holidays, but was returned by his family members to the hostel Tuesday morning. Later in the day, he went to a nearby pond in Jalakalanga with two fellow students to bathe. While in the water, he slipped into the deep water and drowned. On being informed by his two friends, residents alerted Nandipada police and Hatadihi fire brigade. After a prolonged search, firefighters pulled Sai from the water and rushed him to Hatadihi hospital, and later to Anandpur Sub-Divisional Hospital, where doctors pronounced him dead. Nandipada police registered an unnatural death case (13/2025) and handed over the body to the family members after a postmortem, station in-charge Rabindra Patra said, adding that a probe is on.

Man kills uncle over petty issue

Keonjhar: A man succumbed to injuries he sustained in an attack by his nephew at Dudhaposhi village under Navakote police limits in Keonjhar district over soil collection. The deceased was identified as Maheswar Mahakud, 55, Police arrested accused Dharanidhar Mahakud, 25, and produced him in court Tuesday. Reports said work was underway on a new concrete road from Dudhaposhi Square to Similisahi September 22 when a dispute arose between Maheswar and Dharanidhar over taking soil from the excavation site. In a fit of rage, the latter allegedly attacked Maheswar on the head with a spade, leaving him critically injured. Maheswar was initially rushed to Banspal CHC and later shifted to Keonjhar DHH. However, he was again shifted to a hospital in Cuttack where he died at 10:30pm Monday. A murder case (172/25) has been registered and a probe is in progress.

Paradip Port inks pact with AM/NS Ports

Bhubaneswar: Paradip Port Authority (PPA) and AM/NS Ports have signed a concession agreement for the mechanisation of the CQ-III berth to handle dry bulk cargo. This marks a significant step toward enhancing port infrastructure and operational efficiency, said a PPA official. The project is for a concession period of 30 years. It envisages the shipment of iron ore pellets of AM/NS India through mechanised convey ing and a ship loader system equipped with state-of-the-art handling facilities. The pact highlights a strong, long-term commitment to sustainable and efficient cargo handling. The agreement was executed by Himanshu Sekhar Rout, Chief Engineer, PPA, and Subhakant Dash, Authorised Signatory, AM/NS Ports. Suresha G, Chief - Odisha Operations, AM/NS India, said, "This partnership marks a pivotal moment in our journey to modernise port operations and support industrial growth in the region. The mechanisation of CQ-III berth will reinforce our commitment to operational excellence and environmental sustainability." PPA Chairman PL Haranadh emphasised that the project is an important step towards improving berth productivity and promoting eco-friendly coastal cargo

handling operations.

Pugmarks trigger alarm

POST NEWS METWORK

Deogarh, Sept 30: Panic gripped Riamal forest region in Deogarh after pugmarks of a tiger were spotted for the first time, confirming suspicions that a big cat has been roaming the area for the past several days.

The pugmarks were found near Jharamunda

forest close to Babaji Math village. Following the discovery, the Forest department collected samples of the pugmarks and sent them for verification by a special expert team.

Although reports of tiger movement in Riamal forests had reached the department earlier, this is the first physical evidence.



To monitor the animal's activities, the department has installed trap camer as at multiple locations A dedicated team has also been formed, and regular patrolling is being conducted in the affected area.

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THE MOTHER

French Justice

t a time when many people across the globe holding high offices or having money power and political clout are continuing to evade the laws despite their wrongdoings - economic or political-, it does great credit to the French legal system that it could send former President Nicolas Sarkozy to jail for corruption. For the first time in the history of the French Fifth Republic, the Paris criminal court sentenced Sarkozy to serve time in prison for five years. It has found him guilty of the charge of "criminal conspiracy," with the help of his close associates, to indulge in corruption "at the highest possible level" when he was a candidate in the 2007 presidential election.

The case relates to alleged Libyan funding of his 2007 presidential election campaign. The verdict is apt considering the seriousness of the accusation against him. The ruling brought back memories of Sarkozy's hobnobbing with Muammar Gaddafi, one of the world's most infamous dictators. The four months of hearings, during which Sarkozy continually pleaded his innocence and contended that there was no evidence against him, fully exposed the weakness of his testimonies. The prosecution revealed a web of corruption and the modus operandi of the perpetrators of fraudulent transactions between Sarkozy's men and high-ranking Libyan officials.

According to the court, these "secret meetings" would only make sense "due to the need to obtain funds" for Sarkozy's campaign. As per French law, mere preparation to commit an offence is sufficient to establish a charge of criminal conspiracy, and it was through this angle that the court brought to light the defendants' serious conduct that ran counter to principles of morality and national independence.

It has taken over 10 years from the time of the initial suspicions of gross wrongdoing to the final judgement of the court. This is not the proverbial law's delay. On the contrary, it is proof of the determination that the investigators showed to piece together facts ferreted out by the investigative journalism website Mediapart that could otherwise have remained buried in the heat and dust of an election campaign.

This is a triumph of democracy as justice has finally been done. It is heartening to note that the judiciary could not be manipulated as is being done in many countries and the court has reassuringly sent across the message that no one is above the law. This is all the more important when public trust of politicians has severely eroded. Eruption of violent protests by ordinary citizens and young groups in Nepal, Bangladesh, Sri Lanka are glaring instances of how the people can even resort to lawlessness to end corruption and nepotism of those whom they have entrusted with the task of running the government and working for their welfare.

Significantly, the head judge, Nathalie Gavarino, justified the sentence by saying the facts of the case were of an "exceptional gravity" and "likely to undermine citizens' trust." The French judiciary has for some time been trying to restore the people's faith in democratic principles by ensuring that wrongdoers holding high offices are punished with immediate effect. The fact that Judge Gavarino's sentence was given in the same spirit was a shock to the Far-Right politician Marine Le Pen. After a nine-week trial, Marine Le Pen had been found guilty in March of the embezzlement of European parliamentary funds through a fake jobs scam of an unprecedented scale and duration. She was banned from running for office for five years with immediate effect, which could prevent her from making a fourth bid for the

Sarkozy, on the other hand, has already been convicted in two separate cases and stripped of France's highest distinction, the Legion

The wheels of justice appear to be turning so that high dignitaries $% \left(\frac{1}{2}\right) =\frac{1}{2}\left(\frac{1}{2}\right) =\frac{1}{2}$ are not spared for criminal acts. There cannot be one system of justice

WISDOM CORNER

The best remedy for those who are afraid, lonely or unhappy is to go outside, somewhere where they can be quiet, alone heavens, nature and God. Because only then does one feel that all is as it should be.

Peace in the world starts with peace in oneself. If everyone lives mindfully, everyone will be more healthy, feel more fulfilled in their daily lives and there will be more peace.

Work is love made visible. And if you cannot work with love but only with distaste, it is better that you should leave your work and sit at the gate of the temple and take alms of those who work with iov.

THIS DAY IN HISTORY

- **1946:** The verdict was handed down on 22 of the original 24 defendants in the Nürnberg trials, a series of trials held after World War II in which the International Military Tribunal indicted and tried former Nazi leaders as war criminals.
- 1949: In Beijing, with most of the Chinese mainland held by the communist People's Liberation Army, its dynamic leader, Mao Zedong, proclaimed the establishment of the People's Republic of China on this day in 1949.
- **1960:** Nigeria gained its independence from Britain but remained a member of the Commonwealth.
- **1961:** British Cameroon or Southern Cameroon joined the Republic of Cameroon to form the Federal Republic of Cameroon.
- **1975:** In what is regarded by many as the greatest prizefight of all time (the "Thrilla in Manila"), Muhammad Ali defeated Joe Frazier after the

latter's corner called a halt to the bout after 14 brutal rounds.

THE AMAZING GOLF BALL

golfer, playing a round by Ahimself, is about to tee off, and a greasy little salesman runs up to him, and yells, "Wait! Before you tee off, I have something really amazing to show you!"

The golfer, annoyed, says, "What

"It's a special golf ball," says the salesman. "You can never lose it!" 'Whattaya mean," scoffs the golfer, "you can never lose it? What if you

hit it into the water?" "No problem," says the salesman. "It floats, and it detects where the shore is, and spins towards 'Well. what if it into the woods?'

"Easy," says the salesman. "It emits a beeping sound, and you can find it with your eyes closed."

"Okay," says the golfer, impressed. "But what if your round goes late and it gets dark?'

"No problem, sir, this golf ball glows in the dark! I'm telling you, you can never lose this golf ball! The golfer buys it at once. "Just one question," he says to the salesman. "Where did you get it?" "I found it."

FINANCE

CHANGING FACE OF FDI

Donald Trump's protectionist trade policies dominate news headlines, they are far from the only forces shaping global production. New investment patterns have been reshaping the global economic landscape since well before Trump's tariffs.

Nowhere is this more evident than in flows of foreign direct investment (FDI). According to the latest World Investment Report from United Nations Trade and Development (UNCTAD), FDI inflows to Europe, South America, and much of Asia de clined in 2024. By contrast, FDI flows to Africa surged by 75 per cent, to \$97 billion, while those to Southeast Asia increased by 10 per cent, to \$225 billion.

Behind these trends lies a broader restructuring of multinational supply chains, which are steadily shifting toward Southeast Asia, Eastern Europe, and Central America. Consequently, FDI patterns are also changing: while the United States, Japan, and China remain the largest outward investors, the Middle East has emerged as a major source of FDI.

Flush with oil revenue, the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) countries - Bahrain, Kuwait, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, and the United Arab Emirates invested roughly \$113 billion in Africa in 2022 and 2023, dramatically expanding their economic footprint on the continent. Most of this capital has gone into logistics and infrastructure projects such as ports, airports, and transportation networks, as well as oil and gas.

The centre of gravity, however, is rapidly shifting toward China, especially when it comes to green investment. A new report from the Net Zero Industrial Policy Lab highlights the scope of Chinese outward FDI, showing how China's push into clean energy is boosting its economic influence.

Drawing on a database of 461 China-backed greentech manufacturing projects announced



FDI - whether from the West, China, or the Gulf - is profit-driven, and sometimes motivated by rent-seeking. It can deliver significant benefits, but it also carries risks

between 2011 and mid-2025, the report finds that Chinese firms have invested more than \$220 billion in 387 projects across 54 countries since 2022. These include solar and wind power facilities, large-scale battery plants, new-energy vehicles, charging infrastructure, and even early-stage green-hydrogen startups.

According to the report, Chinese investments are largely driven by firms' search for market access and reliable supplies of raw materials. While ASEAN countries remain the leading destination for such projects, the Middle East and North Africa's share rose sharply to over 20 per cent in 2024: Latin America and Central Asia also attracted a significant share of Chinese FDI.

Importantly, this wave of Chinese FDI is not led by state-owned enterprises but by private companies that have relied neither on large loans from state-owned banks nor on subsidies from host governments. As one of the study's authors observed, "Chinese government officials themselves may not be aware of the full range and aggregated total of these private-sector green investments overseas.'

Taken together, these developments signal a new phase in China's global economic expansion. Unlike President Xi Jinping's state-led Belt and Road Initiative, profit-oriented investments reflect both supply-side pressures – such as industrial overcapacity within China – and demand-side dynamics, with recipient countries increasingly tying market access to value-added processing rather than natural-resource extraction.

Given that the full impact of these projects will become clear only years from now, many observers – particularly in advanced economies - could be caught off guard. While Chinese exports and extractive investments have often been viewed as threats to industrialisation in recipient countries, the current wave of manufacturing FDI has the potential to strengthen domestic production, create jobs, and promote broader development goals. Even limited technology transfers could prove transformative, accelerating the clean-energy transition and reshaping global trade.

To be sure, China is not in the business of philanthropy. FDI - whether from the West, China, or the Gulf – is profit-driven, and sometimes motivated by rent-seeking. It can deliver significant benefits, but it also carries risks: environmental degradation, displacement, labour exploitation, foreign-exchange losses through profit repatriation,

and costly technical fees or royalties. And when expected linkages and spillovers fail to materialise, the benefits remain highly localised.

As always, much depends on the policies adopted by host countries. Encouragingly, some export-oriented developing economies appear to have learned from Indonesia, where the government compelled Chinese firms to generate more domestic value-added production (particularly in nickel processing) as a condition for investment. Inspired by this, several governments are seeking to impose similar requirements on foreign investors, with greater emphasis on local production and knowledge transfer. For example, in Brazil, the consumer-electronics company Lenovo has established a joint research and development department to enhance its local digital intelligent manufacturing capabilities.

That said, even Indonesia's relative success has not translated into higher real wages and better working conditions. Welcoming FDI is not enough; host countries also need stronger domestic regulation, public intervention, and regional cooperation to ensure that the gains are broadly shared.

A similar demand was at the heart of the 1955 Bandung Conference, hosted by Indonesia, which called for a fairer global economic order and greater cooperation among Asian and African countries. Notably, the resolution is still cited on Chinese government websites.

But fulfilling the Bandung Conference's call for a fairer international economic order requires more than profit-driven investment. It requires governments that are willing to work together to develop markets that serve societies, not just shareholders.

The writer is Professor of Economics at the University of Massachusetts

Amherst.

INVESTMENT

PATTERNS

HAVE BEEN

RESHAPING

ECONOMIC

LANDSCAPE

SINCE WELL

BEFORE

TRUMP'S

TARIFFS

THE GLOBAL

There's help available for phone addiction



Melvin Durai

EVERYONE IS ADDICTED TO SOMETHING. THAT'S WHAT **KEEPS OUR ECONOMY GOING**

addicted to their phones. That's why the Addictions Center in New York City has a weekly sup port group for them. About 20 people meet every Friday in a large room on the first floor. The sign on the door just says "PA Support Group," so the counselor wasn't surprised on a recent Friday evening when a young woman peeked inside and asked, "Is this the poetry addiction support group?"

"No," he said. "That's on the second floor, between shopping and eavesdropping.'

As the woman left, a bearded man named Arjun asked, "Poetry addiction? Is that a thing?

The counselor nodded. "You'd be surprised how many addictions we help people with. Everyone is addicted to something. That's what keeps our economy going."

"That kind of makes me feel better," said a college student named Julie. "I hate being addicted to my phone. But I just

can't put it down." "Me neither," said a middle-aged man named Malik.

"I look at it more often than I look at my wife. I might as well be married to it.'

The group had been meeting for more than 10 weeks. but everyone was still wearing a nametag, just in case a new member showed up. (The counselor's nametag said, "Hello, my name is John and I am phone-free." But nobody could miss the Apple watch on his wrist.)

"Let me ask you a question, Malik," the counselor said. "How much time do you spend daily talking directly to your

"Two or three minutes, John. We usually just text each other during the day."

'When was the last time you told her you loved her?"

"Last week. I sent her a heart emoji."

"That's so sweet," Julie said. "My boyfriend sends me lots of heart emojis. And kiss emojis

"How much time do you spend talking directly to your boyfriend?" John asked. "Without my iPhone?"

"Yes, without your iPhone." "I've never met him in person."

And soon we were texting, talking and developing a relationship.'

relationship.

"Do you know his name?" "Yes, it's Arthur Isaac."

Not a single eyebrow was

raised, not a single gasp was

uttered. No one seemed sur-

prised that Julie and her boy-

friend had a purely iPhonic

"How did you meet?" John

"He sent me a text. It was

iust a question: how are vou?

"So his initials are A.I.?" "So what? "Are you sure he's real?"

"Of course, he's real. Would a fake person be so interested in how I'm feeling each day, what I cook for dinner, and where I deposit my paycheck?"

"Oh no, it sounds like a romance scam," Arjun said. "You're just jealous!"

Julie said. "Yeah, I want to be

scammed too.' "Come on, you two," John

said. "This is supposed to be a support group. We are supposed to support each other and help everyone with their phone addictions. If you have a

strong relationship with your phones, as many of you do, what is the best way to break the relationship?" A man named Diego raised

his hand. "My suggestion is that we all take the elevator to the 15th floor and drop our phones off the balcony. The best way to break up with your phone is to break your phone.

'That's murder!'' Julie said. "It's not murder," John said. "Murder is for humans."

Julie smirked. "I'll murder anyone who murders my phone. "Relax, Julie," John said.

"It was just a suggestion. No one's going to harm your phone. Breaking a phone probably won't work for most people. They'll just buy another phone. Their addiction is too strong."

"What about shock therapy?" Arjun asked. "That's too

severe, John said.

"Not for Julie," Arjun said. "If you don't give her shock therapy, she's soon going to be shocked to find her bank account empty.

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

Unprecedented move

Sir, This refers to "Now, Trump imposes 100% tariff on movies," Orissa POST, Sept 30. In a shocking move, US President Donald Trump announced a 100% tariff on all films produced outside the United States, sending shockwaves through the global entertainment industry. The unprecedented decision threatens to disrupt not only Hollywood collaborations but also international streaming platforms like Netflix and the vibrant Indian film sector. India, the world's largest film-producing nation by volume, stands to incur major losses. Annually, Indian films earn roughly \$100-150 million from the US market, spanning theatrical releases, digital rights, and satellite distribution. Blockbusters in Hindi and Telugu alone can generate \$10 million or more from North American audiences. The move mirrors tariffs on goods, potentially forcing American viewers—particularly the South Asian diaspora—to pay double the current ticket prices and higher subscription fees. Yet, these inflated costs may deter audiences, ultimately reducing revenues. Producers may have to compromise on profits, and the seamless global film ecosystem could face significant strain. The measure underscores growing protectionist tendencies and highlights the vulnerability of international creative industries to political whims.

 ${\it N}$ ${\it Sadhasiva}$ ${\it Reddy}$, BANGALORE

Coffee connects

Sir, Coffee denotes energy; coffee symbolises joy. Above all, it is a celebration of friendship. Though the beverage is confined to some pockets in India, the liveliness and aura surrounding coffee are unbeatable. Old timers say that coffee could connect people and create communities. Amidst more than four hundred million cups of coffee consumed annually, in more than 85 coffee growing countries, coffee growers are in a dilemma. Climate change that has resulted in global warming, and untimely and scarce rainfall, coupled with lack of sufficient shade and moisture, has knocked the living daylights out of the coffee producers. Shortage of skilled labour and unattractive prices have added to the farmers' woes. In India, there has been a large scale migration of coffee plantation workers from the eastern part to some southern states due to better options. 1 October is celebrated as International Coffee Day. Ganapathi Bhat, AKOLA

Tera Vaibhav Amar Rahe Maa...



MOHAN CHARAN MAJHI

he centenary year of the Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangha will begin this Vijayadashami. 100 years ago, the seed planted at Reshamibag in Nagpur has today grown into a mighty tree. Not only has the Sangha expanded in size, but also in these 100 years, it has also clearly presented the depth of its ideology before the entire world.

Starting with just a handful of boys and youths in a playground by the leadership of Dr Keshav Baliram Hedgewar, the Sangha has today become the world's largest organization. The journey of the Sangha in the last 100 years was full of challenges, but it stood firmly on the foundation of the sacrifices, dedication, and tireless efforts of many uncountable swayamsevaks.

On this centenary as a humble swayamsevak, I extend my heartfelt wishes to all the generations of adhikaris, karyakartas, swayamsevaks, well-wishers, thinkers, intellectuals, and countless others who have carried the Sangha's message to every part of the society.

I pray to Maa Durga that for centuries to come, for eternity, the Sangha, the Sangha Parivar and above all the core foundation of Bharatiya thought and Bharatiyata, continues to inspire and influence the entire humanity. On this sacred occasion. I offer my prayer to Maa Durga, that Bharat sits once again on the seat of Vishwaguru and inspires the entire

I had started attending the Sangha

Shakha during my school days as a child. When I look back, the memories of my days of higher studies, the struggle for livelihood, and my initial involvement in jana seva and politics to connect with society, I realize that behind me there has always been the invisible guiding hand of the inspiring ideology of the Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangha.

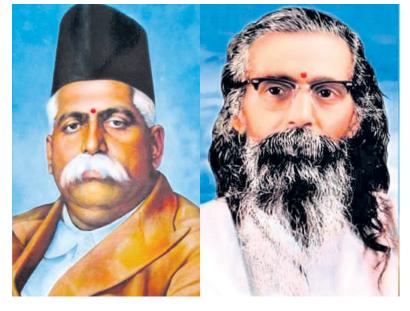
In early school days, it was not just attending sangha sakha. The ideology of the Sangha has not only shaped my life but also has millions like me. We the swayamsevaks have the highest regard for the sacred saffron flag and consider this as our Guru. The individual is secondary, mortal, and merely a medium. The ideology is eternal and unbroken. The Sangha has not brought any new thought but has reoriented the people towards the fundamental principles of Bharatiya civilization and culture that are timeless and infinite.

For thousands of years, foreign invaders like by Shakas, Huns, Tatars, Mughals, and later the Britishers sought to tarnish the brilliance of civilization and implant disbelief and disrespect for Bharativata in the minds of our own people. In the 19th and 20th centuries, it was the Sangha that gave the mantra to counter this conspiracy and live as proud Bharativa.

The efforts of Sangha Founder Dr Keshav Baliram Hedgewar, has influenced crores of Indians like me across the country. At a time when Indian society, under Mughal and then British rule, was forgetting its glorious history, the Sangha instilled a sense of pride in our belief, culture, tradition, and history throughout the nation. Its resonance has even influenced the entire world.

As a swayamsevak, what I have understood is that the Sangha has been engaged solely and entirely in the work of nation-building through byaktinirmana. The firm belief of the Sangha is that nation-building is possible only through the making of strong individuals.

The individuals nurtured by the Sangha have gone into various spheres of social life and, inspired by the eternal Bharatiya or Hindu



thought that the Sangh propagates, have made tireless efforts to organize and influence society. Till date the struggle continues and will keep continuing for generations to come as civilization itself is eternal and flows without end.

The individuals reared by the Sangha have, in later years, gone on to establish some of the country's largest mass organizations. In the sphere of students, the Akhil Bharativa Vidvarthi Parishad (AB-VP) has become the largest student organization. In the sphere of religion, the Vishwa Hindu Parishad (VHP); in the labor field, the Bharativa Mazdoor Sangha; in the field of education, Vidya Bharati, in the field of tribals Banabasi Kalvan Ashram and many others.

In the political sphere, the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) founded by people nurtured by the Sangha has now become the largest political organization in the world.

In post-Independence India, the reins of governance laid with the Congress. But under the influence of leftist ideology, knowingly or unknowingly under the impact of international conspiracies many echoed the spirit. The Government of the country gave free hand to efforts that distanced the Indian mind from its own Dharma, Civilization, and Culture.

If Doctorji would not have founded the Sangha a hundred years ago, had he not made it a centre of byaktinirmana, and had it not mass organizations and mass movements taking place had we continued Bharat as desired by us?

You must have heard the name of Macaulay, who during British rule in India implemented a new education policy with the larger plan of alienating the new generation of Indians from their own roots. I quote his words, "I have travelled across the length and breadth of India and I have not seen a person who is a beggar, or a thief. Such wealth I have seen in this country, such high moral values, such people of calibre, that I do not think we can ever conquer this country. Unless we break the very backbone of this nation, which is her spiritual and cultural heritage, we will not be able to dominate them. If the Indians think that all that is foreign and English is good and greater than their own, they will lose their self-esteem, their native culture and they will become what we want them to be, a truly dominated nation." This was Lord Macaulay's speech in the British Parliament on 2nd February, 1835

Perhaps what the Mughal invaders from Babur to Aurangzeb, with their swords and forceful conversions, could not achieve in damaging Indian civilization and culture, Macaulay sought to have achieved through his education policy and to a large extent succeeded by attempting to make India's new generations 'Black in skin but English in mind.'

But what Macaulay and the British failed to understand was how deep rooted the world's oldest civilization truly was! Its root went into the very depths of the earth. Though its branches and leaves were broken, new life and creation would still emerge from the resilient roots beneath.

The British may have tried very hard to create a generation of "Macaulay's children" through their educational institutions. Yet it was our family system, our Ramayana, Mahabharata, Vedas, Upanishads, and our festivals and rituals and Sanskrit language that preserved and safeguarded our civilization.

In 1925, Doctorji sowed the seeds of a silent revolution in the name of the Sangha. From Nagpur and other parts of Maharashtra, he influenced the young men to become intellectual and organizational warriors Through the ideologies of the Sangha, the shakhas were established in the playgrounds and across every state of Bharat and demolished the conspiracies of Macaulay and the leftists, firmly rooted the victory of eternal Bharatiya Hindu Sanatani thought.

The shakha functioned like an open university, exposing the youth to the truth and awakening their inner strength. The Congress's support for Macaulay and leftist ideas was exposed in this process.

I have been fortunate to meet and receive guidance from individuals like Baburao Paldhiji, Baburao Deshpandeji, and Aravind Chauthaiwaleji, who hailed from Maharashtra and devoted their lives to establishing the Sangha's presence in our state.

They were pracharaks, who left their families, remained unmarried, faced stiff opposition from sizeable sections of the society, and still

worked tirelessly for the Sangha. For them, the Sangha was only a medium; their true dedication was entirely for the nation. Across the length of our land, from Kanyakumari to the Himalayas, the selfless sacrifices of pracharaks have built a strong foundation of byaktinirmana. paving the way for a resurgence of national pride and self-respect.

Our esteemed Prime Minister,

Narendra Modi ji, is one such illustrious figure shaped by the Sangha's byaktinirmana mission. His philosophy can be summed up in two words, "Vikasbhi, Virasatbhi." As the Sangha enters its centenary year, its greatest contribution has been in preserving and protecting the nation's heritage. For us, our motherland is not just a piece of land; but a living Rastra Purush. Where would our nation be today, if the Sangha and other spiritual organisations and likeminded individuals had not fought against the colonial and ideological threats of Mughals, British, leftists, and Congress, protecting them?

Time and again, the Sangha has been the target of conspiracies and even faced bans. Yet, in wars with Pakistan, conflicts with China, or the liberation of Bangladesh, the government of the country turned to the Sangha for cooperation, and the Sangha proved its lovalty and patriotism. In every natural disaster, swayamsevaks have been the first to reach and serve. The enduring dedication of pracharaks and swayamsevaks is what gives substance and significance to their work, and the sadhana they have done

For us, the individual is nothing the nation is everything. "Tera vaibhav amar rahe maa, hum din char rahen na rahe." This is the essence of the Sangha's spirit of dedication.

May the Bharatiya thought remain eternal! May Bharat once again rise as Vishwaguru! On the occasion of Sangha's centenary, this is my heartfelt prayer to Mahaprabhu Shri Jagannath and Maa Durga.

Bharat Mata Ki Jai!

13,366 CASES IN 2023

Crime against women

highest in Delhi: NCRB

The writer is the Chief Minister of Odisha.

TRUTH WILL COME OUT: VIJAY

TN govt releases videos to allege violation of norms by TVK; NDA panel visits Karur

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Chennai/Karur, Sept 30: The Karur stampede at actor-politician Vijay's rally escalated into a DMK vs TVK slugfest Tuesday, with the top star accusing Tamil Nadu Chief Minister MK Stalin of taking "revenge" on him and asserting that the "truth will come out", and the state government releasing videos to allege violation of norms by his party.

Shortly after Vijay issued a video statement, saying that the DMK government may do anything to him, but should not touch TVK party people, senior state officials held a press conference where they made a presentation on the sequence of events that unfolded in the western Tamil Nadu district before and during the stampede in which 41 people have died and over 60 were injured.

Talking to reporters later, senior DMK leader and Lok Sabha MP Kanimozhi said the wails and tears of the affected persons were unending.

The DMK government immediately stood with the peo-



for leaving the place after the stampede. As a political party leader, he should not have done that, she said.

"Leaving the place without even saying comforting words and mindful of his own security---according to me, this is unprecedented," she told reporters.

Meanwhile, a panel of NDA MPs constituted by the BJP, and headed by party MP from Mathura, Hema Malini, visited the stampede site and also ating in a hospital. The panel questioned the choice of venue allotted to Vijay for the September 27 rally, which he addressed from atop a vehicle.

Although Vijay had responded to the incident Saturday itself, hours after the stampede happened, sympathising with the victims' families and promising compensation, he uploaded a detailed video response on his 'X' page Tuesday.

The 49-year-old top actor said he has never faced such a "painful situation" in his life.

"I didn't visit Karur as it would lead to an unusual situation. I will meet you (families of victims, the injured) soon, he said in the video message.

His response came following criticism from various quarters for not visiting Karur and meeting the victims' families and the injured

Vijay said the truth about the incident will come out soon, and that he was ready to face action, "You may do anything to me, but don't touch my party people," he said in the wake of his party colleagues, including senior leaders Bussy N Anand and CTR Nirmal Kumar, facing a police case in connection with the stampede in Karur district, located about 400 km from the state capital Chennai.

Seeking to take on the ruling DMK over the matter, he, referring to Stalin, said, "CM sir, if you have a thought of seeking revenge, you may do anything to me and not touch the party men." Vijay, who launched his party TVK in February 2024, has been highly critical of the ruling DMK and its president, Stalin.

Air India, Airbus set up pilot training facility in Haryana

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi. Sept 30: Air India and Airbus have established a joint venture training facility in Haryana to train pilots for A320 and A350 family aircraft, with a planned investment of over Rs 1,000 crore for simulators.

The advanced pilot training centre at the Air India Aviation Training Academy will train more than 5,000 new pilots over the next decade, the airline said in a release Tuesday.

The equal joint venture facility, spread over 12,000 square metres, will have 10 full-flight simulators, along with advanced classrooms and briefing rooms. It was inaugurated by Civil Aviation Minister K Ram mohan Naidu Tuesday.

Currently, it has two fullflight simulators for A320 family aircraft. The remaining six A320 simulators and two A350 simulators will be installed progressively.

Naidu, in a post on X, said

the simulators will be installed with an investment of more than Rs 1.000 crore.

against women was highest in Delhi with over 13,000 cases registered in 2023 alone, as the national capital recorded the most number of dowry death and rape cases among 19 metro-

Overall, crimes against women in Delhi registered a 5.59 per cent decline in 2023 compared to 2022, when 14,158 cases were reported. In 2021, the figure

Kidnapping and abduction of women remained a major concern, with 3,952 cases reported in 2023. The rate of 52.2 per cent placed Delhi second only to Patna with 71.3 per cent. The capital also saw the highest cases of acid attack with six such incidents recorded that year,

Delhi reported the highest number of dowry deaths among other metro cities with 114 cases, though the rate (1.5 per cent) was lower than in six cities. including Jaipur, Kanpur and

Cases of cruelty by husband were also the highest in Delhi at 4,219, as were cases of assault with intent to outrage modesty,

Under the Protection of Children from Sexual Offences Act, Delhi again reported the highest number of girl child rape cases at 1,048

dren from Sexual Offences Act

(POCSO), Delhi again reported

the highest number of girl child

rape cases at 1,048, the reports

against women were relative-

ly lower in Delhi, with 36 cases

registered in 2023. Bengaluru

(127), Hyderabad (53) and Luc-

know (41) reported higher fig-

ures. These included offences

such as publishing or trans

mitting sexually explicit ma-

terial, blackmail, defamation

morphing and creation of fake

Police officials attributed

Delhi's high figures to a 'ze-

ro-tolerance policy' towards

crimes against women, citing

prompt and fair registration of

FIRs as a factor.

In contrast, cybercrimes



PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, Sept 30: Crime politan cities, according to the latest National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB) report.

While Delhi's crime rate per lakh population stood at 14.4 per cent, lower than that of Indore and Jaipur, the city lodged 1,088 cases of rape. Jaipur registered 573 rape cases and Mumbai 196.

stood at 13,982.

the reports stated.

Ghaziabad.

which stood at 1,791.

Under the Protection of Chil-

Personal disputes, petty quarrels behind most murders Delhi recorded 503 murder cases in 2023, the highest among all

metropolitan cities, with most killings linked to personal disputes and petty quarrels, according to the latest National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB) data. According to the data, the number of murder cases in the national capital has shown a rising trend in the last three years -- from 454 in 2021 to 502 in 2022 and 503 in 2023. Personal disputes accounted for the largest share of the killings. O the 503 murders reported in 2023, 242 were due to disputes, 115 due to petty guarrels and 59 because of family conflicts. Enmity or personal vendetta led to 89 murders, while property and money-related issues caused 46 killings. It said murders over illicit relationships (28 cases) and love affairs (21 cases) were also reported. while 43 killings took place during robberies or dacoities. Seven murders were committed for gain, 18 over land disputes and one dowry-related case was recorded. Eight cases remained "blind murders", while 64 were listed under other causes. In terms of the victims, the NCRB said 38 children were killed in Delhi till 2023, including four aged below six years and 10 between six and 12 years. The data showed that 15 boys and three girls were killed in the 16-18 age group.

BJP veteran Vijay Kumar Malhotra passes away at 93

POLITICIAN WHO FORGED BJP IN DELHI, GROOMED FUTURE LEADERS FOR 45 YRS

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, Sept 30: Veteran BJP leader Vijay Kumar Malhotra, the first president of the party's Delhi unit and a five-time former MP from the city, passed away here Tuesday morning. He was 93.

Malhotra was undergoing treatment at the All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS) for the last few days.

He was one of the prominent faces of the Delhi BJP who served as the leader of opposition in the Assembly and was also projected as the party's chief-ministerial face during the 2008 election, in which the Congress under Sheila Dikshit maintained its winning streak. His mortal remains will be

kept at the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) office on Pandit Pant Marg from 12 noon to 2 pm on October 1 for mourners to pay their last respects. The cremation will take place at the Lodhi Road crematorium.

His family includes his wife, Krishna Malhotra, son Ajav Malhotra and daughter Anupa ma Malik.

President Droupadi Murmu, Vice-President CP Radhakrishnan and Prime Minister Narendra Modi, among others, expressed grief over Malhotra's demise. The Delhi government has cancelled several scheduled

Murmu, Radhakrishnan, Modi, Union Home Minister Amit Shah, Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla, Delhi Chief Minister



Rekha Gupta, former president Ram Nath Kovind and BJP chief JP Nadda visited the veteran leader's residence and paid their last respects.

Earlier, Modi lauded Malhotra's contribution to public life and remembered him for strengthening the saffron party in Delhi.

'Shri Vijay Kumar Malhotra Ji distinguished himself as an outstanding leader, who had

a very good understanding of people's issues. He played a vital role in strengthening our party in Delhi," the prime minister said in a post on X. Radhakrishnan expressed

anguish over the passing away of the BJP stalwart. Nadda and Gupta also paid

The Delhi government has announced a daylong state mourning Wednesday.

tributes to Malhotra.

Gupta called Malhotra the guardian of all our (BJP) karyakartas" and said his death is "an extremely painful and irreparable loss' 'From the days of the Jana

Sangh to the establishment of the BJP, his life remained a living example of nationalism, organisational skills and disci-

in a post in Hindi on X. Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) supremo Arvind Kejriwal said

pline," the chief minister said

the death of the BJP veteran is "extremely heartbreaking". Incidentally, Malhotra's demise came a day after the Delhi BJP got a permanent office at

DDU Marg, which was inaugu-

rated by Modi Monday.

A five-time former MP and two-time former MLA from Delhi, Malhotra defeated Congress candidate Manmohan Singh from the South Delhi constituency in the 1999 Lok Sabha polls. Singh went to become the prime minister in 2004

Several of the scheduled events of the Delhi government have been cancelled in view of Malhotra's demise.

national



President Droupadi Murmu paid last respects to the eminent leader Shri Vijay Kumar Malhotra at his residence. She also offered her condolences to the family members of Shri Malhotra

ED QUESTIONS ACTOR URVASHI RAUTELA

The Enforcement Directorate (ED) Tuesday questioned actor and model Urvashi Rautela in a money laundering case linked to an online betting and gaming platform named 1xbet, official sources said. The 31-year-old is the India ambassador of the platform, registered in the Caribbean island of Curacao



Saddened was an effective

sports administrator too, and his contributions were significant. I knew him well and had occasions to work with him

MAMATA BANERJEE | WEST BENGAL CM

Operation Sindoor, the

new infra-

structure.

our talented ar-

tisans will shine

and reach great

PEMA KHANDU | ARUNACHAL PRADESH CM

Pawan Singh meets

New Delhi: Bhojpuri actor and

singer Pawan Singh Tuesday

met senior BJP leaders Amit

Shah and party president JP

Upendra Kushwaha, in what

wrinkles in its social alliance

ahead of the Bihar assembly

Rashtriya Lok Morcha (RLM)

president Kushwaha, who

had suffered defeat in the

He was accompanied by

2024 Lok Sabha polls due to

Singh's decision to contest as

an independent from Karakat.

BJP general secretary Vinod

Tawde and party secretary

Rituraj Sinha. The meetings

marked his return to the NDA

fold after the split in the Lok

Sabha elections. However,

both sides insisted that he

has remained in the BJP.

Top court upholds

New Delhi: The Supreme

Court has said all kinds

of services rendered by

the Airports Authority of

India (AAI) in any airport

are taxable and liable to

the appeal of the airport

tax liability between 2003

upheld the March 1, 2017

order of Customs, Excise &

service tax as it dismissed

regulator against the service

and 2007. A bench of Justices

Pankai Mithal and P B Varale

Service Tax Appellate Tribunal

(CESTAT) that approved the

service tax demand from the

Praveer Ranjan takes

New Delhi: Praveer Ranjan, a

1993-batch IPS officer, Tuesday took charge as the new

director general of the Central Industrial Security Force (CISF) at its headquarters here. He was handed over the ceremonial baton from retiring DG R S Bhatti, a senior

officer said. Ranjan, an Indian

Police Service (IPS) officer from the AGMUT cadre, was earlier

serving in the CISF as the Special

charge as CISF DG

AAI on services, including

export cargo, it provides.

service tax demand

is being seen as the ruling

alliance's bid to iron out

elections. He first met

Nadda besides their Bihar ally

top BJP leaders

SHORT **TAKES**

even brighter

er heights



Apex Body, to advance talks with the Centre on the demands for statehood and extension of the Sixth Schedule to Ladakh

by a constituent of the Leh

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Leh, Sept 30: Authorities relaxed the curfew for almost the entire day Tuesday in the violence-hit Leh town of Ladakh, allowing markets to gradually reopen and providing relief to the people who were reeling under week-long curbs, officials said.

Earlier, restrictions were eased for two hours from 4 PM Monday, shortly after completion of the last rites of four people -- including a retired Army personnel -- who lost their lives in the widespread clashes between protesters and security personnel September 24.

"Barring the violence last Wednesday, there was no untoward incident reported from anywhere. Police and paramilitary forces are deployed in strength as a precautionary measure in the sensitive areas

New Delhi, Sept 30: President

Donald Trump's peace plan for

Gaza will allow countries like

India to carry out reconstruc-

tion activities in the region as

New Delhi has been playing a

positive role for peace in the

Middle-East, Israeli ambassa-

dor Reuven Azar said Tuesday.

Prime Minister Narendra Mo-

di's reaction to the 20-point

India can contribute signifi-

The plan, unveiled after talks

between Trump and Israeli

Prime Minister Benjamin Net-

anyahu, proposes an immediate

end to the war in Gaza and re-

lease of all the hostages held by

the peace plan. In a post on

X, Modi welcomed Trump's

Hamas has not yet accepted

Hamas within 72 hours.

peace plan and said

cantly to the region.

The envoy also welcomed

INDIA IS NEW BUILDER

OF WORLD, SAYS ISRAEL

and are maintaining strict vigil to maintain law and order," a police official said.

Curbs eased for full day in

Leh; markets return to life

The curfew was initially relaxed from 10 AM to 2 PM Tuesday and the period was subsequently extended till 5 PM. With the situation remaining by and large peaceful, the authorities did not go for restrictions after 5 PM, but the shopkeepers downed the shutters of their establishments at the end of the relaxation deadline on their own, the officials said. While the markets were teeming with people and vehicles were also plying on all routes. educational institutions remained closed, they said.

Additional District Magistrate in Leh, Ghulam Mohammed, earlier ordered the opening of all grocery stores, essential services, hardware and vegetable shops during the relaxation period.

Earlier Saturday, the curfew was relaxed for the first time for two hours each from 1 PM and from 3.30 PM in separate areas. The officials said mobile internet services continued to be suspended in Leh town, and prohibitory orders banning assembly of five or more persons are still in force in other major parts of the Union Territory. including Kargil. Lieutenant Governor Kavinder Gupta has been chairing high-level security review meetings almost

announcement of a compre-

hensive plan to end the Gaza

conflict."It provides a viable

pathway to long term and sus-

tainable peace, security and de-

velopment for the Palestinian

and Israeli people, as also for

the larger West Asian region," he said. "We hope that all con-

cerned will come together be-

hind President Trump's initia-

tive and support this effort to

end conflict and secure peace,'

he said. Asked whether India

was briefed before the peace

plan was firmed up, Azar told

reporters that he was not aware

about it but indicated that sev-

eral countries were unofficially

apprised about the move.

he appealed to the people to maintain peace, calling it "the cornerstone of development".

"I urge all sections of society to maintain unity and harmony and not fall prey to the designs of anti-social and anti-national elements. The administration stands firmly with the people and will ensure their safety, dignity and progress," Gupta had said.

He also hailed the people for showing remarkable restraint and commitment in challenging circumstances and promised to address their every legitimate issue through dialogue and democratic means.

The lieutenant governor also issued clear directions for enhanced intelligence gathering, regular community engage ment and swift redressing of public grievances to strengthen trust between the administration and the citizens.

The curfew was imposed in Leh town on the evening of September 24 following violent protests during a shutdown called by a constituent of the Leh Apex Body (LAB), to advance talks with the Centre on the demands for statehood and extension of the Sixth Schedule to Ladakh.

More than 60 people, including two councillors, were taken into custody following the incident. These included climate activist Sonam Wangchuk, who was detained under the National Security Act September 26 and subsequently lodged at Jodhpur jail in Rajasthan.

Meanwhile, the Ladakh BJP called for a thorough investigation into the incident to ensure 'accountability and justice".

"At the same time, we demand the immediate release of all innocent persons charged with minor offences," the BJP said in a statement, expressing condolences to the families of the deceased.

Chaitanyanand's phone reveals predatory behaviour

New Delhi, Sept 30: Chaitanyanand Saraswati, accused of sexually harassing 17 students at a private institute here, was found to have secretly clicked photos of women and staff, engaged in lewd chats, and spied on students through a CCTV monitoring

app, police said Tuesday. Saraswati, arrested from Agra on Sunday after being on the run for several days, is also being confronted with his three female aides -- sisters who allegedly threatened victims and forced them to delete his lewd messages. One of them served as the Dean of the institute, and the other two were wardens, police said. The seizure of the self-styled godman's phone revealed a disturbing pattern of predatory behaviour.

India may get surplus post-monsoon rain; NW to be warmer in October

New Delhi, Sept 30: Most parts of India, except some areas in the northwest, are likely to receive above-normal rainfall during the post-monsoon season of October to December, the India Meteorological De partment (IMD) said Tuesdav.

The four-month southwest monsoon season ended Tuesday with the country recording eight per cent above normal rainfall. At an online press conference, IMD Director General Mrutyunjay Mohapatra said most regions are expected to get above-normal rainfall in the October-December period, while parts of northwest India may see normal to below-nor mal showers

He said rainfall in October is expected to be 15 per cent higher than normal, following the abundant rains during June-September. "Maximum temperatures are expected to remain below normal in October in the northern plains, central and peninsular India. They will be above normal in Jammu and Kashmir, Himachal Pradesh, Uttarakhand, eastern Uttar Pradesh and the Saurashtra and Kutch regions of Gujarat," Mohapatra said.

India received 937.2 mm of rain against the normal of 868.6 mm this monsoon season, a surplus of 8 per cent. East and northeast India recorded 1,089.9 mm rainfall, 20 per cent below the normal of 1,367.3 mm. Bihar, Arunachal Pradesh, Assam and Meghalaya saw deficient rainfall in three of

the four monsoon months. 'Rainfall over east and northeast India this season was the second lowest since 1901. The lowest was in 2013 (1.065.7 mm). Studies show rainfall in this region has decreased over the last two decades," Mohapatra said.

Northwest India recorded 747.9 mm, 27.3 per cent above normal, the highest since 2001 and the sixth highest since 1901. All districts in the region saw above-normal rain in June, August and September, Punjab witnessed its worst flood-



People give finishing touch to effigies of 'Ravana' ahead of the 'Dussehra' festival in Prayagraj, Uttar Pradesh FR PHOT

The four-month southwest monsoon season ended **Tuesday with the** country recording eight per cent above normal rainfall

ing in decades, while Himachal Pradesh, Uttarakhand and Jammu and Kashmir reported cloudbursts, flash floods and landslides that damaged infrastructure and displaced people. The IMD attributed the surplus rain to active monsoon conditions supported by frequent western disturbances that enhanced rainfall over the region.

Central India received 1,125.3 mm rainfall, 15.1 per cent above normal, while the southern peninsula recorded 9.9 per cent surplus. India saw 8.9 per cent above-normal rainfall in June, 4.8 per cent in July, 5.2 per cent in August and 15.3 per cent in September.

Mohapatra attributed the high September rainfall to neutral ENSO conditions with sea surface temperatures close to La Nina thresholds, which favoured good rainfall activity. Four low-pressure systems formed in September. This year's monsoon saw 18 low-pressure systems and 69 system days, against the average of 13 systems and 55 days.

The monsoon set in over Kerala May 24, its earliest arrival since 2009, and covered the entire country by June 29, nine days ahead of the normal July 8. Withdrawal began two days early from northwest India but is expected to be delayed by a week in central, east and northeast India due to new low-pressure systems over the Bay of Bengal and the Arabian Sea, the IMD chief said.

FEMA case: ED raids Anil **Ambani's Reliance Infra**

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, Sept 30: The Enforcement Directorate Tuesday conducted searches in Maha rashtra and Madhya Pradesh as part of a FEMA investiga tion being conducted against Anil Ambani Group company Reliance Infrastructure, official sources said.

At least six premises of some linked entities in Mumbai and Mhow in Indore were searched, they said. The surprise action was part of a For eign Exchange Management Act (FEMA) investigation being conducted against Reliance Infrastructure on charges of making some illegal remit tances abroad, they said.

The company said in a state ment that the ED action was in relation to a matter "dating back 15 years". "In 2010, the company had awarded an EPC contract for the construction of the JR Toll Road (Jaipur ?Ringus Highway) to Prakash Asphaltings & Toll Highways. The work was completed and the company has no continuing connection or relationship with

the said contractor.

The toll road is with the NHAI for the last 4 years, Reliance Infra said. The ED has already been investigating alleged financial irregulari ties and collective loan "di version" pegged at more than ₹17,000 crore by multiple group companies of Anil Ambani, including Reliance Infrastructure (R Infra), under the criminal provisions of the anti-money laundering law (Prevention of

Money Laundering Act). The agency action under the PMLA came on a SEBI report alleging that R Infra "diverted funds disguised as inter-corpo rate deposits (ICDs) to Reliance Group companies through a company named CLE. It was alleged that R Infra did not dis close CLE as its "related party" to avoid approvals from share

holders and audit panels. The Reliance Group had earlier denied any wrongdo ing and said in a statement that the allegation regarding the diversion of ₹10,000 crore to an undisclosed party was a 10-year-old matter and the company had stated in its financial statements that its exposure was only around ₹6,500 crore.

'Marriage to minor no shield from rape charges under POCSO'

Justices Urmila Joshi Phalke and Nandesh Deshpande of the HC's Nagpur bench, in the order passed September 26, refused to accept the man's contention that he was in a consensual relationship with the 17-year-old girl and had registered the marriage only when she turned 18

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Mumbai, Sept 30: The Bombay High Court has refused to quash a rape case against a 29-year-old man, noting that he cannot be absolved of charges under the POCSO Act merely because he married the minor girl and now they have a child together.

Justices Urmila Joshi Phalke and Nandesh Deshpande of the HC's Nagpur bench, in the order passed September 26, refused to accept the man's contention that he was in a consensual relationship with the 17-year-old girl and had registered the marriage only when she turned 18.

The court said factual consent in a relationship between or with minors is immaterial under the provisions of the Protection of Children from Sexual Offences (POCSO) Act.

The court rejected the application filed by the man and his family members seeking that the FIR lodged against them in July this year by the Akola police be quashed. They were booked under

provisions of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita, POCSO Act and the Prohibition of Child Marriage Act.

As per the prosecution, the victim was 17 years old when she got married and gave birth to a child in May this year.

The victim was married off to the accused after her family



learnt that she had been sexually assaulted by him.

The accused claimed he was in a consensual relationship

with the girl and that their marriage was legally regis tered after she turned 18.

He further claimed that if he

raphy and to provide a supportive environment for such

quashed.

POCSO Act provisions is to protect all children below the age of 18 from sexual assault. harassment and child pornog-

is prosecuted and punished,

then the victim and their child

would suffer, and they wouldn't

The girl also appeared be-

The bench in its order said

fore the court and said she has

no objection to the FIR being

the primary objective of the

be accepted in society.

"The POCSOA was introduced to protect children," HC said, adding that the question of what should be the age group for adolescent love is pending before the Supreme Court.

In the present case, though the accused and the victim girl say the marriage was performed as per Muslim rites and religion, but the fact remains that she was below 18 years of age at the time, the HC said.

The victim was not 18 years old even at the time when she delivered her baby, it noted. The accused was 27 years old when he got married and he ought to have understood that he should wait till the girl attains 18 years of age, the court said.

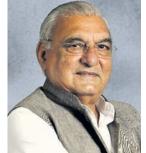
It refused to quash the FIR against the man and his family members, noting that it was not a fit case to do so.

DG of the airports sector. **Court reserves order on** Bangalore: A court here Tuesday reserved its order for October 9 on a petition concerning the jail facilities

Darshan's jail facility plea

provided to actor Darshan, who is currently lodged in Bengaluru prison as an accused in the Renukaswamy murder case. Jail authorities submitted a report to the 57th Sessions court here during the hearing, and the Judge heard extensive arguments from both sides.

nationa



Before 2014, Haryana was number one in per capita income, per capita investment and growth, but has now fallen behind on every development metric

BHUPINDER SINGH HOODA

Ladkahi woman tells a media "Where were you when we were protesting peacefully? You came a only when the tamasha

started.' The media is supposed to raise issues of the people. But Indian media has become a sarkari

@PunsterX

SHORT **TAKES**

Kerala Assembly adjourned

Thiruvananthapuram: The Kerala assembly was adjourned for the day Tuesday following a vociferous protest by opposition members over the Speaker's refusal to allow a discussion on the alleged death threat remark made by a BJP leader against Congress leader Rahul Gandhi. The Congress-led UDF moved an adjournment motion demanding discussion on the matter, halting other business in the House. The protest came a day after police registered a case against BJP leader Printu Mahadevan for remarks he allegedly made during a television debate September 26, stating that "bullets would be fired at Rahul

Girl, aunt die due to snakebite

Thane: A four-year-old girl

and her soon-to-be-married aunt died following bites by a highly venomous snake in Dombivli town of Thane district, Maharashtra health department officials said Tuesday. The relatives and local activists blamed the civic hospital for not stocking antivenom injections and delays in treatment. Pranvi Vicky Bhoir and her aunt Shruti Anil Thakur (24) were bitten by a 'manyar' (common krait) Sunday night as they were asleep at a relative's house in Thakurli

Three UTA militants surrender in Arunachal

Khambalpada area of Dombivli.

Itanagar: Three militants belonging to the banned United Tani Army (UTA) outfit surrendered before the police in Arunachal Pradesh's capital Itanagar Tuesday. The operatives were identified as Jonali Basumutary, a self-styled corporal, Jummik Riba, the group's finance secretary and self-styled lieutenant; and Sengseng Thowmoung, a self-styled major and area commander of eastern Arunachal. They laid down arms at the police headquarters in the presence of state Home Minister Mama Natung, his advisor Mutchu Mithi and Director General of Police Anand Mohan.

ZUBEEN DEATH PROBE

India invokes treaty with S'pore



Guwahati, Sept 30: Assam Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma said Tuesday that the Centre has formally invoked the Mutual Legal Assistance Treaty (MLAT) with Singapore, seeking cooperation in the investigation into the death of singer Zubeen Garg in the southeast Asian country.

The Assam government had submitted a request Monday to the Ministry of Home Affairs, seeking the invocation of the treaty with Singapore in connection with the singer's death in the island country.

'The Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) has now formally invoked the Mutual Legal Assistance Treaty (MLAT) in connection with the FIR lodged by Assam Police regarding the unfortunate demise of our beloved Zubeen,' the chief minister

'I LOVE MUHAMMAD' ROW

AIMPLB condemns

New Delhi, Sept 30: Amid the

'I Love Muhammad' campaign

row, the All India Muslim Per-

sonal Law Board (AIMPLB)

arrest of cleric

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

The MHA's Under Secretary (Legal) Parveen Singh, in a communication to the First Secretary (Commerce) in the High Commision of India in Singapore T Prabhakar, stated that the 'original Mutual Legal Assistance request may be forwarded to the Attorney General of Singapore (the central authority of that country) suitably indicating the requirements for legal assistance in investigating the case registered with Assam police, India," the chief minister said.

'It is further requested that on receipt of response/execution report. the same may please be forwarded to this ministry (MHA) for onward transmission to the investigating agency', the letter stated.

Sarma had said Monday that once the MLAT was invoked, it would ensure full cooperation from Singaporean authorities, give access to case details and assistance to bring back the accused and secure justice. Assam government

has constituted a 10-member SIT. led by Special DGP M P Gupta, to investigate the singer's death in Singapore due to drowning in the sea September 19.

Two Assam Police officers are already in Singapore to seek assistance from the authorities concerned Singapore, Sarma said

The SIT has already issued notices to several people who had gone to attend the North East India Festival in Singapore, before it and record their statements.

Chief Organiser of NEIF Shyamkanu Mahanta, Garg's manager Siddharth Sharma, and members of the Singapore Assam Association are among those who have been served such notices.

The chief minister had said earlier that a 'lookout notice' through the Interpol had been issued against Mahanta and Sharma, asking them to appear before the CID October 6. The singer, whom the NEIF organisers claimed to be their brand ambassador, had gone to Singapore on September 17 and was scheduled to perform on September 20.

The festival was cancelled following the death of Garg, who had gone with members of the Assamese community in Singapore on a yacht trip and drowned in the sea while swimming.

More than 60 FIRs, including one by his family, have been filed.

9 workers killed in accident at TN thermal power plant site



PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Tuesday strongly condemned the arrest of Bareilly cleric Maulana Tauqeer Raza Khan along with several others, the "threatening statements" issued by Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath and the "vindictive" attitude of police. The AIMPLB demanded an immediate and unconditional

release of Khan and all those arrested. It also expressed grave concern over the "brutal" police action against peaceful demonstrations taking place across the state in response to the Kanpur incident. The controversy erupted September 9, when the police

in Kanpur filed an FIR against 24 people for allegedly installing boards with 'I Love Muhammad' written on them during an Eid-e-Milad-un-Nabi procession September 4. Clashes broke out in Bareilly on the afternoon of September 26 after a large crowd carrying 'I Love Muhammad' posters assembled outside a mosque in Kotwali area after Friday prayers. In a major crackdown, the police arrested 39 people, including local cleric Khan, in connection with the violence.

Chennai, Sept 30: Nine migrant workers died after an under-construction building collapsed at the Ennore thermal power station here Tuesday,

Chief Minister M K Stalin expressed sadness over the death of 9 people and conveved condolences.

"I am deeply saddened to hear that nine workers from Assam lost their lives in an accident that occurred during the construction work carried out by BHEL in Ennore. I convey my deepest condolences to the families of those who lost their lives," he said in a social media post

The CM ordered Minister for Electricity SS Siyasankar and senior IAS officer and TANGEDCO Chairman K Radhakrishnan to immediately oversee relief work at the

hief Minister M K Stalin expressed sadness over the death of 9 people and conveyed condolences

he CM ordered Minister for The CM ordered Williams Co. Electricity SS Sivasankar and senior IAS officer and TANGEDCO Chairman K Radhakrishnan to immediately oversee relief work at the accident site

accident site.

Stalin announced a compensation of ₹10 lakh to the families of each deceased and ordered that steps be taken to transport the mortal remains to their home state.

"The officers have gone to the spot... We are investigating it, police sources said. Tamil Nadu Congress Committee President K Selvaperunthagai expressed grief over the demise of the nine people.

Citing media reports, he said those injured are being treated at the Government Stanley Medical College in the city. He called for rigorous safety measures to prevent such incidents in future.

"On behalf of the Tamil Nadu Congress, I extend my deep condolences to the bereaved family members. I wish those injured a speedy recovery," he added. The accident has raised urgent questions about the safety oversight at large-scale industrial projects where migrant workers form the backbone of the

Juvenile crime cases rise by 2.7% in 2023

New Delhi: A total of 31,365 cases were registered in the country against juveniles in 2023, marking a 2.7-per cent rise over 2022,

with Delhi recording the highest crime rate

latest NCRB report, Nationwide, the crime

at 41 per one-lakh children, according to the

to 7.1 in 2023, according to the data from the National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB). The

were apprehended in 31,365 cases, including 34,674 under cases of the Indian Penal Code

the missing children were deemed

report also said a total of 40,036 juveniles

(IPC) and 5,362 under Special and Local

Laws (SLL) cases, in 2023.

Crime against kids records 9.2% rise in 2023

New Delhi, Sept 30: A total of 1,77,335 cases of crime against children were registered in the country in 2023, showing an increase of 9.2 per cent over 2022, according to the latest NCRB report. The data compiled by the Na-

tional Crime Records Bureau (NCRB) showed that the crime rate in 2023 stood at 39.9 per one-lakh child population, in comparison to 36.6 in 2022. In 2022, a total of 1,62,449 cases

of crimes against children were recorded, while the number stood at 1,49,404 in 2021. "A total of 1,77,335 cases of crime against children were registered during 2023, showing an increase of 9.2 per cent over 2022 (1,62,449 cases)," the NCRB report said.

In percentage terms, major crime heads under "Crime Against Children" in 2023 were "Kidnapping and Abduction of Children" (79,884 cases or 45 per cent) and "Protection of Children from Sexual Offences (POCSO) Act" (67,694 cases or 38.2 per cent).

Victim demographics show that

762 victims were aged below six years, 3,229 aged between six and 12 years, 15,444 aged between 12 and 16 years and 21,411 aged between 16 and 18 years, bringing the total number of child victims to 40,846. Most were girls in rape-related sections. Of the 40,434 cases, the offenders were known to the vic-

tims in 39,076, which included fam-

ilv members in 3.224 cases, family

friends or neighbours or employers

or other known persons in 15,146

cases and friends or online friends

or live-in partners on the pretext of

marriage in 20,706 cases

These figures include 40,434 cases of penetrative sexual assault (sections 4 and 6 of the POCSO Act, often combined with IPC section 376 for rape), affecting 40.846 victims. Aggravated assaults and harassment (sections 8 and 10 of the POCSO Act with IPC section

354) followed with 22,444 cases. Kidnapping and abduction emerged as the largest contributor, with 79,884 IPC cases reported. victimising 82,106 children -- a rate

of 18 per one lakh. Over 58,927 of

these were general abductions,

including 37,844 instances where

kidnapped. Notably, 14,637 cases involved abducting minor girls to compel marriage. Other significant IPC crimes included 1,219 murders (1,384

victims), with 89 linked to rape or POCSO violations; 3,050 simple-hurt cases and 373 cases of abetment to suicide. Special and Local Laws (SLL) beyond the POC-SO Act added to the tally, with 6,038 cases under the Prohibition of Child Marriage Act and 1,390 under the Child Labour (Prohibition and Regulation) Act

National Highways Authority of India

(Ministry of Road Transport and Highways, Govt. of India)
Project Implementation Unit, Badadera, Mandua, Keonjhar-758014, Odisha

PUBLIC NOTICE

The Public is hereby informed that pursuant to approval of RO, NHAI, Odisha, towards revised user fee rates for use of four lane to be applicable w.e.f. 01.10.2025 (for the FY 2025-2026) for the areas under Toll Plazas under PIU-Keonjhar in the state of Odisha mentioned below. (a) Four Laning of Panikoili-Rimuli section of NH-215 (New NH-20) from Km. 0.000 to Km. 163.000 (Design Length 166.173) in the state of Odisha.

Hasanpur Toll Plaza

	Tradailpai Tott Laza							
SI. No.	Type of Vehicles	One way in ₹	Double way in ₹	Monthly Pass	Commercial Vehicle registered in the distric			
1	Car, Jeep, Van or Light Motor Vehicle	95	140	3145	45			
2	Light Commercial Vehicle, Light Goods Vehicle of Mini Bus	150	230	5080	75			
3	Bus or Truck (Two Axles)	320	480	10645	160			
4	Three Axles Commercial Vehicles	350	525	11615	175			
5	MAV (Four - Six Axles)	500	750	16695	250			
6	Oversized Vehicle (Seven or more Axles)	610	915	20325	305			

	Khantaghar Toll Plaza						
SI. No.	Type of Vehicles	One way in ₹	Double way in ₹	Monthly Pass	Commercial Vehicle registered in the distr		
1	Car, Jeep, Van or Light Motor Vehicle	80	120	2720	40		
2	Light Commercial Vehicle, Light Goods Vehicle of Mini Bus	130	200	4395	65		
3	Bus or Truck (Two Axles)	275	415	9215	140		
4	Three Axles Commercial Vehicles	300	450	10050	150		
5	MAV (Four - Six Axles)	435	650	14445	215		
6	Oversized Vehicle (Seven or more Axles)	530	790	17590	265		

	Banajodi Toll Plaza							
SI. No.		One way in ₹	Double way in ₹	Monthly Pass	Commercial Vehicle registered in the district			
1	Car, Jeep, Van or Light Motor Vehicle	90	140	3055	45			
2	Light Commercial Vehicle, Light Goods Vehicle of Mini Bus	150	220	4935	75			
3	Bus or Truck (Two Axles)	310	465	10345	155			
4	Three Axles Commercial Vehicles	340	510	11285	170			
5	MAV (Four - Six Axles)	485	730	16220	245			
6	Oversized Vehicle (Seven or more Axles)	590	890	19745	295			
(b) F	Rehabilitation & Upgradation to four laning	of Singara	to Binjaba	hal sectio	n from Ch. Km. 311.000 to			

Km. 414.000 (Design Chainage from Km. 310.806 to Km. 414.982) of NH-6 (New NH-49) in the state of Odisha under Hybrid Annuity Mode Khireitangiri Toll Plaza

Type of Vehicles

Car, Jeep, Van or Light Motor Vehicle

One way Double way in ₹

3495

2	Confident Commercial Vehicle, Light Goods Vehicle of Mini Bus	170	255	5645	85		
3	Bus or Truck (Two Axles)	355	530	11830	175		
4	Three Axles Commercial Vehicles	385	580	12905	195		
5	MAV (Four - Six Axles)	555	835	18550	280		
6	Oversized Vehicle (Seven or more Axles)	680	1015	22585	340		
	Jansanpur Toll Plaza						
SI.	Type of Vehicles	One way	Double	Monthly	Commercial Vehicle		
No.	,,,,	in₹	way in ₹	Pass	registered in the district		
	Car, Jeep, Van or Light Motor Vehicle			Pass 2140	registered in the district		
No.		in ₹ 1 65	way in ₹		registered in the district 30 50		
No. 1	Car, Jeep, Van or Light Motor Vehicle Light Commercial Vehicle, Light	in ₹ 65	way in ₹ 95	2140	30		
No. 1 2	Car, Jeep, Van or Light Motor Vehicle Light Commercial Vehicle, Light Goods Vehicle of Mini Bus	in ₹ 65 105	way in ₹ 95 155	2140 3460	30 50		
No. 1 2 3	Car, Jeep, Van or Light Motor Vehicle Light Commercial Vehicle, Light Goods Vehicle of Mini Bus Bus or Truck (Two Axles)	in ₹ 65 105 215	95 155 325	2140 3460 7245	30 50 110		

(c) From Rimuli-Koida Section from Km.163.000 to Km.206.200 on NH-215 (New NH-520) at Kandra Toll Plaza at Km.176.060 in the state of Odisha.

SI. No.	Type of Vehicles	One way in ₹	Double way in ₹	Monthly Pass	Commercial Vehicle registered in the district
1	Car, Jeep, Van or Light Motor Vehicle	70	110	2395	35
2	Light Commercial Vehicle, Light Goods Vehicle of Mini Bus	115	175	3865	60
3	Bus or Truck (Two Axles)	245	365	8100	120
4	Three Axles Commercial Vehicles	265	400	8840	135
5	MAV (Four - Six Axles)	380	570	12705	190
6	Oversized Vehicle (Seven or more Axles)	465	695	15465	230

(d) From Design Km.216.200 to Km.237.100 of Biramitrapur-Brahmani Bypass end section and Design Km.0.100 to Km. 3.300 of Brahmani Bypass and from Design Km.240.350 to Km.287.200 of Brahmani Bypass to Rajamunda Section of National Highway No. - 23 (New NH - 143) at Darjing Toll Plaza at Km.280.215.

Dariing Toll Plaza

	Darjing for Fraza							
SI. No.	Type of Vehicles	One way in ₹	Double way in ₹	Monthly Pass	Commercial Vehicle registered in the distric			
1	Car, Jeep, Van or Light Motor Vehicle	130	195	4295	65			
2	Light Commercial Vehicle, Light Goods Vehicle of Mini Bus	210	310	6940	105			
3	Bus or Truck (Two Axles)	435	655	14540	220			
4	Three Axles Commercial Vehicles	475	715	15860	240			
5	MAV (Four - Six Axles)	685	1025	22800	340			
6	Oversized Vehicle (Seven or more Axles)	835	1250	27760	415			

(e) Koida-Rajamunda Section from Design Km. 206.200 to Km. 259.362 of NH-215 (New NH-520) at

	Jamudihi Toll Plaza							
SI. No.	Type of Vehicles	One way in ₹	Double way in ₹	Monthly Pass	Commercial Vehicle registered in the district			
1	Car, Jeep, Van or Light Motor Vehicle	80	125	2735	40			
2	Light Commercial Vehicle, Light Goods Vehicle of Mini Bus	135	200	4420	65			
3	Bus or Truck (Two Axles)	280	415	9260	140			
4	Three Axles Commercial Vehicles	305	455	10100	150			
5	MAV (Four - Six Axles)	435	655	14520	220			
6	Oversized Vehicle (Seven or more Axles)	530	795	17675	265			

(f) Rehabilitation and Up-gradation to 4-laning of Rajamunda-Barkote Section of NH-23 (New NH No. 143) (Km.287.200 to Km. 337.185) in the state of Odisha under NHDP-IV on EPC Basis.

i	Balani Toli Plaza						
SI. No.	Type of Vehicles	One way in ₹	Double way in ₹	Monthly Pass	Commercial Vehicle registered in the district		
1	Car, Jeep, Van or Light Motor Vehicle	70	100	2270	35		
2	Light Commercial Vehicle, Light Goods Vehicle of Mini Bus	110	165	3665	55		
3	Bus or Truck (Two Axles)	230	345	7685	115		
4	Three Axles Commercial Vehicles	250	375	8380	125		
5	MAV (Four - Six Axles)	360	540	12050	180		
6	Oversized Vehicle (Seven or more Axles)	440	660	14665	220		
(a) D	lababilitation and Un Cradation to Four lan	ing of Dini	ababal to	Tolohonio	action Km 414 000 to Kr		

(g) Rehabilitation and Up Gradation to Four laning of Binjabahal to Telebani section, Km 414.000 to Km 491.710 (Design Chainage Km 414.982 to Km 493.300) of NH-6 (New NH-49) in the state of Odisha under NHDP-IV on Hybrid Annuity Mode

	Bideibadakudar Toll Plaza							
SI. No.	Type of Vehicles	One way in ₹	Double way in ₹	Monthly Pass	Commercial Vehicle registered in the district			
1	Car, Jeep, Van or Light Motor Vehicle	145	215	4810	70			
2	Light Commercial Vehicle, Light Goods Vehicle of Mini Bus	235	350	7775	115			
3	Bus or Truck (Two Axles)	490	735	16285	245			
4	Three Axles Commercial Vehicles	535	800	17765	265			
5	MAV (Four - Six Axles)	765	1150	25540	385			
6	Oversized Vehicle (Seven or more Axles)	935	1400	31095	465			

commercial vehicle residing within a distance of 20 Km. of the toll plaza is Rs.340/-As per user fee notification, the concessionaire shall issue 50 or more one-way tickets at a discounted rate equivalent to 2/3rd of the fee payable during the period of one month from the

Remarks: Applicable as per Fee Rules, 2008 as amended in 2011. The monthly pass for non-

date of payment of fee. If any person asks more than 50 trips during a period of one month the concessionaire shall be required to issue such tickets at a discounted rate as above (i.e. If 60 trips are asked in a month by any person for a car the amount will be [60 x pre-rounded fee for single trip x 2/3 rounded to nearest 5]).

Project Director

international



The Kremlin has already stated quite clearly that even if Tomahawks emerge in Ukraine, this will not change the front-line situation

SERGEY LAVROV

RAY OF HOPE IN YEMEN

Yemen's first large-scale solar plant is helping to alleviate electricity shortages in the southern port city of Aden, bringing some relief to residents and businesses which suffer losses particularly when the intense summer heat hits. Funded by UAE and operational since July 2024, Aden Solar Power Plant marks a significant shift towards RE in a country IEA lists as the Middle East's least electrified.





politically correct, overly sensitive do n't-hurt-anyone s-feelings lead-



PETE HEGSETH | US DEFENCE SECRETARY

Ukrainian (drone) experience is the most relevant in Europe right now. and it is our experience, our



Russia always efforts by Trump





SHORT TAKES

Pak test-fires cruise missile

Islamabad: Pakistan Tuesday successfully conducted a training launch of the newly inducted and indigenously developed cruise missile 'Fatah-4' that can strike targets up to 750 kilometres. the army said. The army carried out the launch of the missile with a range of 750 kilometres, Inter-Services Public Relations (ISPR), the army's media arm, said in a statement. "Equipped with advanced avionics and stateof-the-art navigational aids, this weapon system is capable of evading enemy's missile defence system due to terrainhugging features and engaging targets with high precision. the army said. As part of the Army Rocket Force Command, Fatah-4 "will further enhance the reach, lethality and survivability of Pakistan Army's conventional missile systems," it said. The launch was witnessed by the chief of general staff, senior officers from Pakistan's armed forces, scientists and engineers. The president, prime minister, Chairman Joint Chiefs of Staff Committee (CJCSC) and services chiefs congratulated the participating troops, scientists and engineers on the successful conduct of Fatah-4's training fire, the statement

UN to Taliban:

Restore internet Islamabad: The United Nations mission in Afghanistan urged the Taliban Tuesday to restore internet and telecommunications access across the country, saying the blackout imposed by the government in Kabul has left the nation almost entirely cut off from the outside world. The outage, reported the previous day, was the first nationwide shutdown since the Taliban returned to power in August 2021 and was part of their professed crackdown on immorality. Earlier this month, several provinces lost their fibre-optic connections after Taliban leader Hibatullah Akhundzada issued a decree banning the service to prevent immorality. The disruption threatened economic stability and deepened one of the world's worst humanitarian crises, said the UN Assistance Mission in Afghanistan. It warned that the blackout is crippling banking and financial systems, isolating women and girls, limiting access to medical care and remittances, and disrupting

aviation. The UN said such

restrictions further undermine

freedom of expression and the

right to information. It noted

that telecommunications are

also crucial during disasters

- Afghanistan has recently

suffered major earthquakes

in the east and is struggling

neighbouring countries.

with mass forced returns from

What is Trump's 20-point Gaza peace plan

Cairo, Sept 30: After Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu threw his support behind the US peace plan for Gaza, the question now is whether Hamas will agree.

Hamas faces a bitter tradeoff the proposal demands that the militant group effectively surrender in return for uncertain gains. But if it rejects the deal, the US could give Israel an even freer hand to continue its punishing campaign in the already devastated territory.

Under the proposal, the militant group would have to disarm in return for an end to fighting, humanitarian aid for Palestinians, and the promise of reconstruction in Gaza all desperately hoped for by its population.

But the proposal has only a vague promise that, one day, perhaps, Palestinian statehood might be possible. For the foreseeable future, Gaza and its more than 2 million Palestinians would be put under international control. An international security force would move in, and a "Board of Peace" headed by Trump and former British Prime Minister Tony Blair would oversee Gaza's administration and reconstruction. The territory would remain surrounded by Israeli troops.

Trump and Netanyahu said they agreed on the plan Monday after talks at the White House.

The proposal includes one provision that Netanyahu and his hard-line government most strongly oppose: It says the Palestinian Authority will eventually govern Gaza. But Netanyahu is likely betting that it will



rejects a Palestinian state.

The White House issued the text of its 20-point proposal. Here is what to know.

The ceasefire

The plan calls for all hostilities to immediately end. Within 72 hours, Hamas would release all hostages it still holds, living or dead. The militants still hold 48 hostages - 20 of whom are believed by Israel to be alive. In return, Israel would free

250 Palestinians serving life sentences in its prisons as well as 1,700 people detained from Gaza since the war began, including all women and children. Israel would also hand over the bodies of 15 Palestinians for each body of a hostage

handed over. Troop withdrawal

The plan calls for an Israeli troop withdrawal. But it would only take place after Hamas disarms and as the international security force deploys to fill in areas that Israeli forces leave.

Israel would also maintain a "security perimeter presence" a vague phrasing that could mean it would keep a buffer zone inside Gaza

Those terms could bring pushback from Hamas, which has said it will not release all its hostages unless it receives a "clear declaration" that the war will end and Israel will leave Gaza completely.

statehood During this interim admin-

istration, the Palestinian Authority would undergo reforms so it could eventually take over governing Gaza. The plan has only a slight nod to the issue of statehood. It says that if the Palestinian Authority reforms sufficiently and Gaza redevelopment advances, "the conditions may finally be in place for a credible pathway to Palestinian self-determination and statehood."

The response so far

Qatar's prime minister and Egypt's intelligence chief shared the 20-point plan Monday evening with Hamas negotiators. The Hamas negotiators said they would review it in good faith and provide a response. Hamas has so far rejected disarmament, saying it has a right to resist until Israeli occupation of Palestinian lands ends. Arab countries appear to back the outline. The governments of Egypt, Jordan, Indonesia, Pakistan, Turkey, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, and the United Arab Emirates issued a joint statement applauding Trump's proposal.

Netanyahu could face resistance from within his own ultra-nationalist coalition allies.

Finance Minister Bezalel Smotrich, who is part of Netanyahu's security cabinet, published a list of his "red lines" on X on Monday. Top among them. he wrote, any deal must not allow involvement of the Palestinian Authority in Gaza or allow a Palestinian state. Smotrich is one of the more vocal members of the right-wing bloc of Netanyahu's coalition who have previously threatened to leave the government if Net-

Blast targeting Pak paramilitary kills 10

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Karachi, Sept 30: At least 10 people were killed and over 30 others injured Tuesday in a bomb attack against the paramilitary forces in Pakistan's troubled Balochistan province The blast ripped through a

busy street close to the headquarters of Frontier Constabulary (FC) in Quetta, capital of the province. Balochistan Health Minister

Bakht Muhammad Kakar con firmed the attack. "Ten people have been killed while 32 were injured in the blast," he told the The injured were rushed to

the city's various hospitals, where an emergency was de

"An emergency has been declared at the Quetta Civil Hospital, Balochistan Medical College (BMC) Hospital Quet ta, and the Trauma Centre,' according to a statement by Health Secretary Mujeebur Rehman.

Television footage and social media clips showed the powerful explosion ripping through the street, which also caught several civilians present in the vicinity. While no group has claimed responsibility for the blast, Baloch insurgent groups frequently carry out attacks targeting security personnel in the province. Balochistan Chief Minister Mir Sarfraz Bugti strongly condemned the incident, calling it a "terrorist attack.'

"The terrorists cannot weak en the nation's resolve through cowardly acts. The sacrifices of the people and security forces will not go in vain. We remain committed to making Baloch istan peaceful and secure," he said in a statement on X.

UK probes 'racially aggravated' vandalism of Gandhi's statue

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

London, Sept 30: Britain's Metropolitan Police said Tuesday that it has begun its investigation into the criminal damage caused to Mahatma Gandhi's statue at Tayistock Square in London, a crime which the force is treating as "racially

The police said it was called to the iconic statue on Sunday evening as reports emerged of the plinth being defaced with disturbing graffiti, condemned by the High Commission of India in London as a "violent attack".

"We have begun an investigation into reports of criminal damage to a Mahatma Gandhi statue at Tavistock Square Gardens in Camden," a Metropolitan Police statement said.

"The incident is being treated as racially aggravated and enquiries are ongoing. No arrests have been made at this time," it said, appealing for witnesses to come forward with any information that could assist the investigation.

The local Camden Council authorities, meanwhile, confirmed that their cleaning teams were sent to the site to assess the damage and are involved with the restoration work.

On Monday, the Indian High Commission in the UK strongly condemned the vandalism as an

attack on the legacy of the Mahatma just days before Gandhi Javanti on Thursday

'The High Commission of India in London is deeply saddened and strongly condemns the shameful act of vandalism of the statue of Mahatma Gandhi at Tavistock Square in London," the mission's social media

"This is not just vandalism, but a violent attack on the idea of non-violence, three days before the International Day of Non-Violence, and on the legacy of the Mahatma. We have taken this up strongly with local authorities for immediate action, and our team is already on site, coordinating with authorities to restore the statue to

its original dignity," it states. Gandhi Jayanti, designated as International Day of Non-Violence by the United Nations. is commemorated with floral tributes and Gandhiji's favourite bhajans at the monument in London annually on October 2.

The bronze sculpture, created with the backing of the India League, was unveiled in 1968 at the square as a nod to Mahatma Gandhi's days as a law student at the nearby University College London. The sculpture depicts Gandhi in a classic meditative pose, with the inscription on the plinth saying: "Mahatma Gandhi, 1869-1948".

Sidoarjo, Sept 30: Parents

were desperately searching for scores of missing teenage boys feared trapped under huge piles of concrete on Tuesday, after an Islamic boarding school collapsed in Indonesia as pupils were praying inside.

Authorities said 91 people were listed as missing, after the Al Khoziny school building collapsed while pupils held late afternoon prayers in a mosque housed on a lower floor of a building whose upper floors were under construction.

The boarding school is in

Holy Abdullah Arif, 49, wept as he held up a picture on his mobile phone of his nephew Rosi, still listed among the missing. He described his frantic search for the boy in the ruins.



the East Java town of Sidoario. about 780 km (480 miles) east of Jakarta. By late evening on Tuesday, three bodies had been recov-

ered, with the vast majority of presumed victims still trapped under huge slabs of concrete. Ninety-nine children and workers at the school survived.

"I ran around screaming, 'Rosi! Rosi! If you can hear me and can move, get out!' And then a child was screaming back from the rubble, he was stuck. I thought that was Rosi, so I asked, 'Are you Rosi?' and the





child said, 'God, no, help me!" Families clustered around a whiteboard with a list of the known survivors, searching for names of their children.

war Gaza Hamas would have no

part in administering Gaza, and

all its military infrastructure

including tunnels — would

be dismantled. Members who

pledge to live peacefully would

be granted amnesty, and those

who wish to leave Gaza would

Meanwhile, humanitarian

aid would be allowed to flow

into Gaza in large amounts

and would be run by "neutral

international bodies," includ-

ing the U.N. and the Red Cres-

cent. It is unclear whether the

Gaza Humanitarian Fund, a

controversial alternative food

distribution system backed by

Israel and the US, would con-

be allowed to.

An excavator and a crane had been deployed to help rescuers shift the rubble, but Nanang Sigit, a local search and rescue official, said authorities would not use heavy

equipment for fear of causing the remaining structure to collapse. "The rescuers are still searching for 91 people,' spokesperson of the disaster mitigation agency Abdul Muhari told Reuters, adding that 26 of the injured were still being treated at local hospitals.

The disaster mitigation agency said the building's foundations may not have been able to support the weight of con struction on its fourth floor The Antara state news agency quoted school caretaker Abdus Salam Mujib as saying building work had ended for the day be fore the prayers but that the foundations could not support the construction that had taken place on the floors above.

Nepal chooses 2-year-old girl as new living goddess

ASSOCIATED PRESS

Kathmandu, Sept 30: A twoyear-old girl chosen as Nepal's new living goddess was carried by family members from their home in an alley in Kathmandu to a temple palace Tuesday during the country's longest and most significant Hindu

Aryatara Shakya, at 2 years and 8 months, was chosen as the new Kumari or "virgin goddess," replacing the incumbent who is considered by tradition to become a mere mortal upon reaching puberty.

Living goddesses are worshipped by both Hindus and Buddhists. The girls are selected between the ages of 2 and 4 and are required to have unblemished skin, hair, eyes and teeth. They should not be afraid of the dark.

During religious festivals the living goddess is wheeled around on a chariot pulled by devotees. They always wear red, pin up their hair in topknots and a "third eye" is painted on their forehead.

Family, friends and devotees paraded Shakya through the streets of Kathmandu on Tuesday, before entering the temple palace which will be her home for several years. Devotees lined up to touch

the girls' feet with their foreheads, the highest sign of re-

new Kumari will bless devospect among Hindus in the tees including the president Himalayan nation, and offered her flowers and money. The on Thursday.

"She was just my daughter yesterday, but today she is a goddess," said her father Anan-

He said there were already signs she would be the goddess before her birth. "My wife during pregnancy dreamed that she was a goddess and we knew she was going to be someone very special," he said.

The former Kumari Trishna Shakya, now aged 11 years old, left from a rear entrance on a palanquin carried by her family and supporters. She became the living goddess in 2017.

Tuesday is the eighth day of Dashain, a 15-day celebration of the victory of good over evil. Offices and schools are closed

as people celebrate with their families. Kumaris live a sequestered life. They have few selected playmates and are allowed outside only a few times a year for festivals. Former Kumaris can face

difficulties adjusting to nor mal life, learning to do chores and attending regular schools According to Nepalese folklore, men who marry a former Ku mari will die young, and so ma ny girls remain unmarried.

Over the past few years, there have been many changes in tra dition and the Kumari is now allowed to receive an education from private tutors inside the temple palace and even have a television set.

also sought views on the auction of spectrum in the 6 GHz frequency band, for which both mobile service providers and WiFi players have been fighting to secure a higher chunk of radio waves for their services

AUCTION OF RADIO WAVES

Telecom regulator has floated a consultation paper to explore pricing and norms for the auction of over 12,000 megahertz of radiowaves across 10 spectrum bands, used for 4G and 5G services, an official statement said also sought views on the auction of spectrum in the 6 GHz

SENSEX FALLS 97 POINTS

Benchmark indices Sensex and Nifty closed lower Tuesday after a volatile session, marking the eighth consecutive session of southward movement due to relentless foreign fund outflows and caution ahead of the RBI's interest rate decision. In eight trading days, the Sensex has tanked 2,746.34 points or 3.30 per cent. The 50-share NSE Nifty fell by 23.80 points or 0.10 per cent to 24,611.10. Among Sensex firms, ITC, Bharti Airtel, Trent, Bajaj Finserv, Titan and Reliance Industries were the major laggards



RBI eases lending rules for mfg

Mumbai, Sept 30: The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has allowed banks to grant need-based working capital loans to manufacturers using gold as raw material, extending the provision currently available only to

Banks are generally prohibited from lending for the purchase of gold/silver in any form, or lending against the security of primary gold/silver.

However, a carve-out has been allowed by the RBI for scheduled commercial banks (SCBs) for granting working capital loans to jewellers

The Reserve Bank of India (Lending Against Gold and Silver Collateral) (1st Amendment) Directions, 2025 issued Monday, has extended the carve-out for granting any need-based working capital requirements of a borrower that uses gold as a raw material or input in its manufacturing or industrial



processing activities.

Scheduled Commercial Bank or a Tier 3 or 4 UCB may extend need-based working capital finance to borrowers who use gold or silver as a raw material, or as an input in their manufacturing or industrial processing activity, for which such gold or silver can also be accepted as security," the directions said.

A bank extending such finance shall ensure that borrowers do not acquire or hold gold for investment or speculative purposes,

can be altered only once in three vears.

"Banks may reduce the other spread components for the benefit of the borrower earlier than three years," said the amended directions on interest rate

spect of equated monthly instalments (EMI) based personal loans, requires banks to provide a mandatory option to the borrowers at the time of reset of interest rates

The central bank also released directions, which revise the existing eligible limit applicable to perpetual debt instruments (PDI) denominated in foreign currency/rupee denominated bonds overseas, thereby providing greater headroom to banks for augmenting their tier 1 capital via







ଶ୍ରୀ ମୋହନ ଚରଣ ମାଝୀ ମୁଖ୍ୟମନ୍ତୀ, ଓଡ଼ିଶା

ବିଶ୍ୱ ଜରା ଦିବସ

୧ ଅକ୍ଟୋବର ୨୦୨୫

ସୁସୁ ଓ ଆନନ୍ଦମୟ ଜୀବନ - ପ୍ରତ୍ୟେକ ବୟୟଙ୍କ ଅଧିକାର

- ସମୟ ଜିଲ୍ଲା ମୁଖ୍ୟ ଚିକିହାଳୟରେ ବୟୟଙ୍କ ପାଇଁ ୧୦ ଶଯ୍ୟା ବିଶିଷ୍ଟ ଜରା ରୋଗ ଓ୍ୱାର୍ଡ଼ ଏବଂ ଚିକିସ୍ଥା ବ୍ୟବସ୍ଥା ଉପଲନ୍ତ
- ସରକାରୀ ସ୍ୱାସ୍ଥ୍ୟ କେନ୍ଦ୍ରମାନଙ୍କରେ ବାର୍ଦ୍ଧକ୍ୟ ଜନିତ ସ୍ୱାସ୍ଥ୍ୟ ସମସ୍ୟାର ଉପର୍ବର ନିମନ୍ତେ ପରୀକ୍ଷା, ନିଦାନ, ଚିକିତ୍ସା, ଯୋଗ ଓ ବ୍ୟାୟାମ ଆଦି ଉପଲବ୍ଧ
- ସନ୍ତୁଳିତ ଖାଦ୍ୟ, ଯଥେଷ ବିଶ୍ରାମ, ନିୟମିତ ସ୍ୱାସ୍ଥ୍ୟ ପରୀକ୍ଷା, ହାଲୁକା ଶାରୀରିକ ଶ୍ରମ ଏବଂ ସାମାଜିକ ସୁସମ୍ପର୍କ ଆଦି ଦ୍ୱାରା ବୃଦ୍ଧାବସ୍ଥାକୁ ଆନନ୍ଦମୟ କରାଯାଇପାରିବ

ବିଶ୍ୱର ସମୂଦ୍ଧିରେ ବୟୟଙ୍କ ଅବଦାନ ଅତୁଳନୀୟ

ରାଜ୍ୟ ସ୍ୱାସ୍ଥ୍ୟସେବା ହେଲ୍ଲଲାଇନ୍ : ୧୦୪

ସ୍ୱାସ୍ଥ୍ୟ ଓ ପରିବାର କଲ୍ୟାଣ ବିଭାଗ, ଓଡ଼ିଶା ସରକାର 1

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Zoho Arattai downloads jump 185X

New Delhi, Sept 30: Zoho Corporation will make its homegrown messaging app Arattai interoperable like UPI and email, as the platform witnesses an unprecedented surge in downloads, Chief Scientist and Co-founder, Sridhar Vembu said Tuesday

Vembu said the company does not want Arattai to be a closed ecosystem like WhatsApp, but instead an open network that works seamlessly across platforms. "I am a huge fan of UPI and hugely respect the work the team did," Vembu wrote on -X, adding that Zoho does



not aspire to become a monopoly.

He said the goal is to ensure that Arattai remains open, secure and collaborative, just like email and UPI

The announcement comes at a time when Arattai has seen explosive growth. Data from Sensor Tower shows that downloads in India jumped 185 times week-overweek between September 21 and 27, while daily active users rose 40 times during the

benchmark.

The surge began after government representatives highlighted the app, driving it to the top of India's app charts. Since September 25, Arattai has been averaging around one lakh downloads per day, compared to just 300 earlier.

The central bank has

also issued Reserve Bank

of India (Interest Rate on

Advances) (Amendment

Directions), 2025 to benefit

borrowers while provid-

ing greater flexibility to

lenders. As per the extant

norms, banks are required

to benchmark all float-

ing rate personal or retail

loans (housing, auto), and

floating rate loans extend-

ed to MSMEs, to an external

While banks are free to

decide the spread over the

external benchmark, other

than credit risk premium,

Vembu also moved to clear speculation around Zoho's operations, stressing that all products, including Arattai, are built in India. He said user data is stored entirely within the country across centres in Mumbai, Delhi and Chennai, with a new facility planned in Odisha.

He clarified that Zoho

on public cloud platforms like AWS, Azure or Google Cloud, but instead relies on its own hardware and software built on open-source systems.

The sudden growth has brought technical challenges. Daily sign-ups have soared from 3,000 to 3.5 lakh in just three days, forcing Zoho to add infrastructure on an emergency basis.

Vembu said the company is preparing for another potential 100x surge as new features and campaigns, originally planned for November, are rolled out earlier.



ଶ୍ରୀ ନରେନ୍ଦ୍ର ମୋଦୀ ପ୍ରଧାନମନ୍ତୀ





ଶୀ ମୋହନ ଚରଣ ମାଝୀ ମୁଖ୍ୟମନ୍ତୀ, ଓଡ଼ିଶା

ଜାତୀୟ ସ୍ୱେଚ୍ଛାକୃତ ରକ୍ତଦାନ ଦିବସ ଅକ୍ରୋବର ୨୦୨୫



ରକ୍ତଦାନ ମହତ ଦାନ

ଆପଣ ବି ଜଣେ ସ୍ୱେଚ୍ଛାକ୍ତ ରକ୍ତଦାତା ହୋଇପାରିବେ ଯଦି ଆପଣଙ୍କର;

- ବୟସ ୧୮ ରୁ ୬୫ ବର୍ଷ ମଧ୍ୟରେ
- ଶରୀରର ଓଜନ ୪୫ କି.ଗା.ର ଅଧିକ
- ନାଡ଼ିର ଗତି ପ୍ରତି ମିନିଟ୍ ୬୦ରୁ ୧୦୦ ମଧ୍ୟରେ ଓ ନିୟମିତ ଅଛି
- ରକ୍ତଚାପ: ସିଷ୍ଟୋଲିକ୍ ୧୦୦ରୁ ୧୪୦ ମି.ମି. ଓ ଡାୟାଷ୍ଟୋଲିକ୍ ୬୦ରୁ ୯୦ ମି.ମି. ମଧ୍ୟରେ ଅଛି
- ହିମୋଗ୍ଲୋବିନ୍ର ୟର ଅତି କମରେ ୧୨.୫ ଗ୍ରା.ରୁ ଅଧିକ ଅଛି
- ପାଟିର ତାପମାତ୍ରା ୩୭ ଡିଗ୍ରି ସେଲସିୟସରୁ ଅଧିକ ନାହିଁ

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OIPR-10003/13/0292/2526



KISNA opens 2nd showroom in Odisha BHUBANESWAR: KISNA Diamond and Gold Jewellery, a leading

name in the Indian jewellery industry, has launched its second exclusive showroom in Odisha, located at Soubhagya Nagar, Bhubaneswar. The grand opening was inaugurated by Ghanshyam Dholakia, Founder & Managing Director of the Hari Krishna Group. KISNA is offering up to 75 per cent off on making charges of diamond jewellery and up to 25 per cent off on gold jewellery. Bank cards. The brand also announced a 'Shop & Win' campaign, offering customers a chance to win over 1000 scooters and 200 cars on purchases. "Odisha has always been known for its artistry and craftsmanship. With the inauguration of our Bhubaneswar showroom, we bring jewellery that mirrors this legacy," said ihanshyam Dholakia. Parag Shah, Director, KISNA, added, "Launching during Navratri makes this milestone even more

special. Just as the festival celebrates new beginnings, this marks a new chapter for KISNA in Odisha."

Govt extends export benefits under RoDTEP scheme till March 2026

New Delhi, Sept 30: The government Tuesday announced the extension of fiscal benefits under the RoDTEP scheme for exports for six more months till March 2026.

The scheme ended September 30 this year. The scheme for Remission of Duties and Taxes on Exported Products (RoDTEP) provides for the refund of taxes, duties and levies, which incurred by exporters in the process of manufacturing and distribution of goods and not being reimbursed under any other mechanism at the Centre, state, or local level.

Launched in January 2021, the scheme was valid till September 30.

The Directorate General of Foreign Trade (DGFT), in a notification, said exporters of Advance Authorisation (AA) holders, Export Oriented Units (EOUs) and entities in the Special Economic Zones (SEZs) will also avail the scheme benefits till March next

"The RoDTEP scheme stands extended and shall be applicable for eligible exports from domestic tariff area, AA, SEZ and EOU units up to March 31, 2026," it added.

The revised rates under the scheme will continue to apply for all export items, it said. The rates of refund of taxes range from 0.3 per cent to 3.9 per cent.

Federation of Indian Export Organisations (FIEO) President SC Ralhan said the timely extension has removed the uncertainty, which was weighing on the exporting

This step comes at a critical juncture when exporters are navigating global headwinds, and it provides the much-needed policy continuity to plan exports with greater confidence.

Jayadurga Chemicals marks 26th foundation day

BHUBANESWAR: Jayadurga Chemicals celebrated its 26th Foundation Day with a grand musical event Tuesday at a city resort, organised by its group entities-Jayadurga Pet Industries, Jayadurga Home Care Products Pvt Ltd, Smile Health Care, and Smile Gold Jewellers. Renowned actress Varsha



Privadarshini graced the occasion as Chief Guest, while Director Baburam Swain presided over the celebrations. As part of the program, 10 entrepreneurs were felicitated for their achievements. The evening also featured the announcement of 13 lucky draw winners from Smile Gold Jewellers. Among the top prizes, one winner

received a scooter, while another walked away with an LED TV and refrigerator. The remaining 10 winners were gifted wristwatches. The lucky draw announcements were made by anchor Prerana, in the presence of film director Ashwani Tripathi.

Gold price skyrocketing

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, Sept 30: Gold prices Tuesday climbed Rs 500 to touch a lifetime high of Rs 1.20 lakh per 10 grams in the national capital due to a weak dollar and expectations of further rate cuts by the US Federal Reserve.

According to the All India Sarafa Association, the yellow metal had rallied Rs 1,500 to close at Rs 1,19,500 per 10 grams in the previous session on festive demand.

Gold of 99.5 per cent purity extended the gains for the fourth straight session by rising Rs 500 to hit a record high of Rs 1,19,400 per 10 grams (inclusive of all taxes) in the local bullion market. The precious metal had settled

at Rs 1,18,900 per 10 grams in the

surging from Rs 78,950 per 10 grams December 31, 2024.

peak of Rs 1,50,500 per kilogram (inclusive of all taxes) Tuesday. It had surged Rs 7,000 to hit a fresh peak of Rs 1,50,000 per kg Monday. So far in this year, silver prices have zoomed by Rs 60,800 or 67.78 per cent, rallying from Rs 89,700 per kg on December 31, 2024.

Meanwhile, the dollar index, which gauges the greenback's strength against a basket of six currencies, was trading at 97.80, lower by 0.10 per cent, further lending support to the bullion prices.

on advances. It further said banks may,

at their discretion, provide the option to switchover to fixed rate at the time of reset at their discretion. The current norms, in re-

to switch over to a fixed rate.

overseas markets.



The yellow metal prices have risen by Rs 41,050 or 52 per cent in the current calendar year,

> In addition, silver prices increased by Rs 500 to hit a new

ASIAN CRICKET COUNCIL'S AGM

BCCI raises objection over trophy fiasco

Dubai, Sept 30: The BCCI Tuesday raised "strong objection" in the Asian Cricket Council's AGM over India not being presented the winner's trophy of the Asia Cup but the body's chairman Mohsin Nagyi remained defiant by "still not agreeing" to it.

India were not awarded the trophy Sunday after their refusal to take the silverware from Nagyi, who is also a minister in the Pakistan government and chairman of the country's cricket board. He also has a pronounced anti-India political position.

BCCI vice President Rajeev Shukla and former treasurer Ashish Shelar were the Board representatives in the AGM

The Asia Cup trophy remains in the ACC office and it is still not clear when it will duly reach the members of the win-

"India raised strong objection in the ACC meeting today on not handing over of the trophy and the drama by ACC chairman (Naqvi) during the post-match award event," an ACC source told PTI.

However, the source said Naqvi "still hasn't agreed to give the trophy'

"Shukla and Shelar categorically said that the trophy should be handed over to the winning team. It is an ACC trophy and doesn't belong to an individual. Naqvi did not

say no to it, he was passing the buck," the source added.

"Naqvi insisted that the matter should not be discussed in the AGM and brought up separately at some other time. The single point agenda of the meeting was to elect a vice chairman but even that was deferred."

Nagyi, it is learnt, did not congratulate the BCCI members for India winning the Asia Cup but was forced by Shelar to formally praise the Suryakumar Yadav-led side's unbeaten performance.

"When the meeting started, chairperson (Naqvi), in his brief opening remark, congratulated Nepal for winning against the West Indies and Mongolia for becoming an ACC member and concluded.

"That was when Shelar raised the point that 'why are you not congratulating India for the Asia Cup title?' He forced Nagvi to congratulate and the PCB chief agreed and duly congratulated," the source

The BCCI will take the matter to the ICC which will have its meeting in November.

"Shukla and Shelar argued that the ACC should keep trophy in the office and BCCI would get it collected. They said 'we want the trophy as legitimate winners.' Naqvi was passing the buck not saying no at the same time.

"It was made clear that the BCCI will complain to ICC and Shelar briefly left the meeting.' said the source who quoted

Naqvi as saying that the latter felt "like a cartoon" and was embarrassed while waiting for the victorious Indian team at the dais.

The two teams played each other thrice in the tournament with India winning each time, including the final. India maintained a 'no handshake policy with Pakistan players during the event, infuriating the PCB.

The hostilities between the two neighbours are at an alltime high after the Pahalgam terror attack in which 26 Indian tourists were gunned down by Pakistan-backed terrorists.

India had subsequently launched military action under 'Operation Sindoor' to dismantle terror infrastructure across the border.

ISSF JUNIOR WORLD CUP

Gold & silver for air rifle mixed team; Chandrawat bags bronze

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, Sept 30: Isha Anil Taksale and Himanshu staged a thrilling fightback to win the 10m air rifle mixed team gold against country-mates Shambhavi Kshirsagar and Naraen Pranav, while Vinay Pratap Chandrawat bagged a bronze in men's trap as India maintained its No. 1 spot in the ISSF Junior World Cup with 23 medals, here

On the penultimate day of the event when India took its tally to seven gold, nine silver and seven bronze, the pair of Isha and Himanshu defeated Sham bhavi and Pranav 17-15 after trailing 9-15 at one stage.

showcased Both pairs high-quality shooting with Shambhavi hitting two perfect 10.9s and Isha adding one, while only five of the 64 shots fired in the gold-medal match dipped below 10.

The bronze medal went to Individual Neutral Athletes (AIN) Varvara Kardakova and Kamil Nuriakhmetov, who defeated compatriots Mariia Kruglova and Timofei Aleinikov 17-9.

Croatia's 20-year-old Toni Gudelj delivered a commanding performance in the men's trap iunior final, hitting 44 targets to give his country its first gold medal here.

Spain's Isaac Hernandez, who topped qualification with 120+6. settled for the silver (41).

Chandrawat claimed bronze



rapid-fire stage to be completed Wednesday, the cumulative scores will determine the medal winners

with 34, while his teammate Arjun finished fourth on 29.

Czech Republic's Lea Kucerova took the women's trap junior gold with 41 hits, securing her nation's first medal of the competition, Italy's Sofia Gori earned silver with 37, while AIN's Kseniia Samofalova took

Earlier, Kucerova and Lucy Myers of the USA had prevailed in a tense qualification shootoff to secure the final berths

ahead of India's Sabeera Haris who finished seventh despite ty ing on 112 hits.

In women's 25m pistol precision stage, India's Tejaswani led the standings with 288, ahead of Italy's Alessandra Fait (287) and AIN's Viktoriia Kholodnaia (286). India's Naamya Kapoor (284) was fourth, followed by Aleksandra Tikhonova (283) and Riya Shirish Thatte (281).

The rapid fire stage will follow on Wednesday, after which the top-six will move into the final.

In men's 25m pistol, a non-olympic event, India's Raghav Verma led with 290 in precision stage. Teammate Mukesh Nelavalli (289) is trail ing him closely. AIN's Georgii Tarasov is placed third on 285

With the rapid-fire stage to be completed Wednesday, the cumulative scores will determine the medal winners.

SHORT **TAKES**

Jr women's hockey team defeats Canberra Chill

Canberra (Australia): Ishika scored a brace as the Indian junior women's hockey team defeated Canberra Chill 3-1 to notch its second win on the tour of Australia here Tuesday. Ishika scored in the 13th and 39th minutes, while Sonam slotted home a goal in the 27th as the visitors dominated the proceedings after conceding a goal in the 11th minute. For Canberra Chill, Naomi Evans converted a penalty corner. However, that was the only success for the home side as India bounced back two minutes penalty corner. Locked 1-1, India went ahead just before half time as Sonam scored a field goal. Midway through the third quarter, India added a third goal, as Ishika completed her brace and gave her side a 3-1 lead. India, who have won two games and lost two in Australia so far, will play their final tour match against Canberra Chill Thursday.

Rain washes out first unofficial ODI

Kanpur: The first unofficial ODI between India A and Australia A was abandoned without a ball being bowled due to persistent rain here Tuesday. Incessant showers at the Green Park Stadium did not allow even the toss to take place, leaving players and fans frustrated. The drainage system at the Green Park stadium had come under scrutiny last year during India's Test against Bangladesh, when brief spells of rain resulted in entire days of play being washed out. The second game of the three-match unofficial ODI series is scheduled at the same venue Friday. Earlier. the two-match unofficial Test series between the sides had ended 1-0 in India A's favour after the hosts won the second match.

Gauray, Jamal in joint lead at TN Open golf

Coimbatore: Noida-based golfer Gaurav Pratap Singh and Bangladesh's Jamal Hossain overcame extremely windy condition to emerge joint leaders at three-under 69 on the opening day of the Tamil Nadu Open here Tuesday. Delhi-based Arjun Prasad, currently second on the PGTI Order of Merit, returned a two-under 70 to be placed third at the Coimbatore Golf Club. Manu Gandas of Gurugram, rookie Joysurjo Dey of Kolkata and Ahmedabad's Anshul Patel were in tied-fourth position with scores of 71. Gauray, currently 31st in the PGTI Order of Merit, began the week with a bogey on the first hole but rallied with five birdies over the next 14 holes, thanks to some fine chip-putts. He dropped another bogey on the 17th but still ended the day with the joint-best score.

Sumit's golden hat-trick Lightning Bolt takes over Delhi's Khari Baoli



PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, Sept 30: Sumit Antil became the most successful Indian in the history of World Para Athletics Championships. clinching his third straight javelin title to help the country pocket two gold and as many silver on the most productive day here Tuesday.

Cheered on from the stands by two-time Olympic medallist Neeraj Chopra, 27-year-old Sumit Antil claimed the men's javelin F64 title with a championship-record throw of 71.37m on his fifth attempt, dominating a field he commanded throughout. He bettered his own champi-

onships record of 70.83m set in the 2023 edition, but was nearly 2m away from his world record of 73.29m which he had set while winning the 2023 Asian Para Games gold. No Indian has won three gold in World Para Athletics Championships.

India also won a surprise gold medal through Sandip Sargar in the men's javelin F44 event with a throw of 62.82m in a 1-2 finish for the hosts. Sandeep won the silver with an effort of 62.67m. Earlier in the morning session. Yogesh Kathuniva won yet another silver medal in the men's F56 discus throw event with a throw of 42.49m as his quest for a maiden gold at the global level continued.

With the four medals on the day, India moved up to fourth sport with 4 gold, 4 silver and 1 bronze, below Brazil (7-14-6).

Poland (6-1-5) and China (5-7-4). "I wanted to break my own world record. I was trying but I don't know. The day before yesterday, when I woke up, my hand was not working. I don't know what happened," Sumit said after his win.

'I might have slept in the wrong position. I don't know. But at the end, I am happy that I got the championship record. I treated with my physio for a short period of time, but I was able to warm up a little bit. I was struggling a little bit, but at the end it was good.'

In men's javelin throw F44 event, Sargar won gold with a throw of 62.82m while Sandeep took silver with 62.67m. Brazil's Edenilson Roberto was third with an effort of 62.36m.

In the morning session, Kathuniya sent the disc to 42.49m in his second attempt to win the silver. He has been winning a medal in all the four world championships since 2019.

"It is a different feeling since I won a silver on my home ground. My family members are here, very happy to have performed in front of my family. They have always been very supportive, so it's special,"

New Delhi, Sept 30: The national capital Tuesday woke up to a burst of speed, colour, and culture as Old Delhi transformed into a playground for the world's fastest man, Usain

Against the backdrop of Khari Baoli, the largest spice market in Asia, history met sporting spectacle in a way India has never witnessed before.

For the first time ever, the heritage terrace of Delhi's Khari Baoli transformed into a sprint track

Bolt, joined by India's Olympic heroes such as PV Sindhu, PR Sreejesh, and Animesh Kuiur, turned the centuries-old rooftop, once a stage for spice trading, kite flying, and festi-



vals, into a relay of champions. Commenting on the occa-

sion, legendary athlete Bolt said, "Running through the spice-scented rooftops of Old Delhi was unlike anything I've ever experienced. To share the pians and fellow PUMAs like PV Sindhu, PR Sreejesh, and Animesh Kujur in such a historic setting was pure energy.

"This is what sport is all about, breaking boundaries, With the Red Fort looming in

the distance and spices drying under the morning sun, the race stitched together culture and competition in a way never

Indian badminton icon Sind hu said "It was inspiring to run shoulder to shoulder with Us ain Bolt at Khari Baoli in the heart of Old Delhi. As an ath lete, being part of such a once in-a-lifetime relay with a global legend felt surreal, it's the kind of moment that reminds me why I fell in love with sport in the first place.

Hockey legend Sreejesh added, "Being part of this relay with the legendary Usain Bolt on the rooftop of Khari Bouli was memorable.'

Amanjot, Deepti rescue after middle-order collapse

Guwahati, Sept 30: Amanjot Kaur displayed character and grit under pressure in her maiden Women's World Cup match as she teamed up with veteran Deepti Sharma to lift India from a precarious position and post a challenging 269 for eight against Sri Lanka in the tournament opener here Tuesday.

India were in deep trouble at 124/6, having lost four wickets in two overs, when the 24-vearold from Mohali, Amanjot, walked into the middle. The innings saw multiple rain breaks, reducing the contest to 47 over a side.

Alongside senior partner Deepti Sharma (53 off 53), Amanjot (57 off 56) rebuilt the innings with a 103-run partnership off 99 balls.

From the start, Amanjot

showed remarkable composure, rotating the strike and punishing loose deliveries. She also survived three reprieves -- dropped on 18, 37, and 50 -- as the inexperienced Sri Lankan fielders struggled to hold onto chances. She brought up her maiden

45 balls, featuring five fours and a towering six, blending aggression with control to keep India afloat. Senior batter Deepti an-

World Cup half-century off just

chored the other end and completed her 16th WODI fifty in the process. Sneh Rana also put on a fine

cameo of 28 not out from 15 balls with with two fours and two sixes to prop up the total.

Title favourites and playing at home, India had a terrible start to their tournament campaign, as Sri Lanka caught them by surprise, reducing them to 124/6 with a devastating spell from left-arm spinner Inoka Ranaweera. The 39-year-old Inoka ripped

through the Indian middle order, snaring three wickets in five balls -- a well-set Harleen Deol (48), Jemimah Rodrigues (0) and skipper Harmanpreet Kaur (21) -- to leave India reel-

Adding to the collapse, Sri Lankan captain Chamari Athapaththu dismissed Richa Ghosh in another shocker, as the Indians looked rusty and short on application, losing four wickets for just four

Following an 80-minute rain delay after the 10th over, Ranaweera had earlier struck in her very first over, removing well-set opener Pratika Rawal, who looked solid but played too many

Srihari wins his 5th; KONIT CIINCNES SIIVEI

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Ahmedabad, Sept 30: Star Indian swimmer Srihari Nataraj once again stood tall, bagging a bronze in the 100m freestyle to extend his personal haul to five medals at the 11th Asian Aquatics Championships here Tuesday.

Also making his mark was Rohit B Benedicton who claimed a silver in the men's 50m butterfly, taking India's overall medal tally to nine.

In the men's 50m butterfly Rohit started well and went on the clinch the silver medal with a time of 23.89, closely losing out to Kazakhstan's Adilbek Muss in, who finished first with 23.74

Meanwhile, Dhinidhi Desinghu and Shashidhara Rujula booked places in the women's 100m freestyle final but couldn't break through the top half of the field, finishing sixth and eighth respectively.

Real Madrid travel 4,000 miles for Champions League match

Madrid will hope to bounce back from a chastening 5-2 loss at city rival Atlético Madrid in La Liga Saturday - the team's first defeat of the season

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Almaty, Sept 30: Real Madrid takes a long, unprecedented trip to Kazakhstan to face Kairat Almaty in the Champi-

ons League Tuesday. Kazakhstan joined UEFA in 2002 having previously competed in the Asian Football Confederation. The western part of Kazakhstan is geographically

part of Europe, but Madrid - the record 15-time European champion - is traveling to the country's capital in the east, nearly 4.000 miles (6.500 kilometers) from the Spanish capital.

"You have to adapt, it's not a question of whether the trip bothers you or not," Madrid coach Xabi Alonso said. "It's just another game, and the trip is neither an impediment nor



an excuse." Madrid, which deing game, will hope to bounce feated Marseille 2-1 in its openback from a chastening 5-2 loss

at city rival Atlético Madrid in La Liga on Saturday – the team's first defeat of the season.

Kairat loss its tournament debut at Sporting Lisbon 4-1 but has a strong European record at home with just four defeats from its last 30 matches in Almaty.

Bayern Munich visits Pafos in Cyprus for another match against a tournament new-

Atlético is also playing, with Eintracht Frankfurt visiting after nearly throwing away a six-goal lead on Saturday in a 6-4 win over Borussia Mönchen-

gladbach. Chelsea welcomes Mourinho back to Stamford Bridge with Benfica. The Portuguese coach had two spells in charge of Chelsea, where he branded himself as the "Special

Tottenham already went inside the Arctic Circle to face Bodø/Glimt — winning in the Europa League semifinals in May — and returns for the Norwegian champion's first home game in the main stage of the Champions League.

In other games, Liverpool visits Galatasaray, Marseille hosts Ajax, and Club Brugge visits Atalanta in Italy where Inter Milan hosts Sla via Prague.

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