Tamannaah's philosophy

Actor Tamannaah embraces her philosophy of 'curated chaos', balancing spontaneity, structure, and calm confidence

LEISURE | P2



Lost childhood

Child labour remains a major menace in Pakistan as over 1.6 million children are engaged in child labour in Sindh province

INTERNATIONAL | P10



IDSF for growth

CII urges government to establish India Development and Strategic Fund to finance country's long-term growth

BUSINESS | P11



Golden trio

Pramod Bhagat, Krishna Nagar and Sukant Kadam clinch over half a dozen gold medals at Japan Para **Badminton International**

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Class XI student shoots friend using dad's pistol

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Gurugram, Nov 9: A Class XI student was shot at allegedly by his classmate using his father's licensed pistol in a flat in Sector 48 here, police said Sunday.

According to police, the bullet got lodged in the student's neck, and his condition remains critical. He is being treated at a private hospital.

An FIR has been registered

at Sadar police station, and two minor students have been apprehended in connection with Police said they recovered

one pistol, two magazines, 70 cartridges, and a bullet shell from the spot.

The incident took place around 9:30pm Saturday. Three classmates were in the accused's rented flat when a spat occurred, following which one of them allegedly shot another, according to police.

After receiving information, a police team reached the spot, rushed the injured to the hospital, and took the other two students into custody, police said.

BBC boss resigns over Trump speech editing

London: Director General of BBC, Tim Davie, and chief executive of news, Deborah Turness, have resigned following criticism that a BBC documentary misled viewers by editing a speech by US President Donald Trump. "This is entirely my decision, and I remain very thankful to the Chair and Board for their unswerving and unanimous support throughout my entire tenure, including during recent days," Davie said in a statement, "I've been reflecting on the very intense personal and professional demands of managing this role over many years in these febrile times, combined with the fact that I want to give a successor time to help shape the Charter plans

IRREGUI AR by MANJUI



What's wrong in it? All this is public welfare scheme's money



TIMELY CLICK: Indian Air Force's Sarang helicopters perform manoeuvres during an air show marking the 93rd anniversary celebrations at Lachit Ghat over Brahmaputra River in Guwahati, Sunday

Tiger scare in Sunabeda; four trap cams installed

POST NEWS NETWORK

Sunabeda, Nov 9: Panic gripped the locals in Old Sunabeda area of Koraput district after reports about a tiger roaming over there surfaced. The Forest department has launched an investigation to verify the claim and installed four trap cameras to track the animal's movement.

A video purportedly showing a tiger roaming near the Public Health department pump house has gone viral on social media, prompting swift action from forest officials. A special team from Semiliguda forest division has installed four trap cameras to track the big cat's movements. However, authorities said it is yet to be confirmed whether the creature seen in the footage is a tiger or any other wild animal.

A high-level team—including Koraput divisional forest offi-



cer KV Bhaskar Rao, assistant conservator of forests (ACF) Jagannath Prasad Bishoi Koraput range officer SK Pahadsingh, Semiliguda range officer Sushant Kumar Dalei and forester Niranjan Satapa thy-visited the site Saturday

According to reports, a security guard at the pump house spotted the reported animal Thursday night and captured its video. The Semiliguda range officer confirmed that surveillance is in progress.

"We have installed four trap cameras to monitor the animal's movement. It is not yet clear whether it is a tiger or another wild species," he said.

Campaign ends for Nuapada byelection

Nuapada, Nov 9: The high-decibel canvassing of votes by candidates from all three major political parties for the November 11 by election to Nuapada Assembly seat in western Odisha came to end, even as the Election Commission's silence period took effect from 4pm Sunday. The bypoll, necessitated by the

death of former MLA Rajendra Dholakia, has turned into a prestige battle between the ruling BJP and the Opposition BJD, while the Congress is seeking to reclaim lost ground by banking on local and

The BJP, determined to consolidate its growing footprint in Odisha, has brought in its top leadership to the ground. Chief Minister Mohan Charan Majhi, along with his Chhattisgarh counterpart Vishnu Deo Sai, held a series of roadshows and meetings in the final leg of campaigning.

"BJP is fighting a positive and principled battle in Nuapada. Our double-engine government will bring real development to the people," said Odisha BJP president Manmohan Samal Sunday, asserting confidence in party candidate



The administration has readied helicopter and drone surveillance for remote booths and forested zones

The BJD, on the other hand, has pulled out all the stops with party supremo and former CM Naveen Patnaik personally campaigning for Snehangini Chhuria. In a fiery speech at Khariar Road, Patnaik accused the BJP of "betraying the people's trust." "The BJP formed the government by stealing votes. Now, they have stolen our candidate," he said.

Meanwhile, Congress has tried to project itself as a viable alternative, releasing a manifesto focused on tribal development, employment generation, and better rural infrastructure. State Congress leaders said the party would

address long-standing issues like irrigation and migration.

With campaigning over, the focus now shifts to voter turnout and booth-level mobilisation. Over 2.48 lakh voters are eligible to exercise their franchise Tuesday, with the counting of votes set for November 14. Nuanada district administration

and police have announced extensive arrangements to ensure a smooth and peaceful polling. Over 2,000 security personnel, including Central Armed Police Forces (CAPF), have been stationed across all polling booths, with special deployment in 47 sensitive and Naxal-prone areas. Police and paramilitary units will conduct continuous area domination and route patrolling from early morning until the close of voting.

Each polling station will have a minimum of four armed personnel, while vulnerable locations will see increased presence, including Quick Reaction Teams. Inter-state check-posts along Odisha-Chhattisgarh border will remain under tight watch to prevent illegal transport of cash, liquor, or weapons. The administration has also readied helicopter and drone surveillance for remote booths and forested zones.

GOVT SHUTDOWN

At least 1,550 US flights grounded

Washington, Nov 9: Major airlines braced for a third day of government-mandated flight cuts Sunday, after rising air traffic control staffing shortages snarled at least 1,550 flights Saturday.

The Federal Aviation Administration instructed airlines to cut 4 per cent of daily flights starting Friday at 40 major airports because of air traffic control safety

oelsius o

concerns. The shutdown, which has reached a record 40 days, has led to shortages of air traffic controllers who, like other federal employees, have not been paid for weeks.

Reductions in flights are mandated to reach to 6 per cent Tuesday and then hit 10 per cent by November 14.

The FAA said Saturday there were air traffic control staffing shortages impacting 42 airport towers and other centers and

DHARITRI

delaying flights in at least 12 major US cities including Atlanta, Newark, San Francisco, Chicago and New York. Some 1,550 flights were

canceled and 6,700 flights were delayed Saturday, compared with Friday when 1,025 were cancelled and 7.000 were delayed.

During the government shutdown, 13,000 air traffic controllers and 50,000 security screeners have been forced to work without pay

2025 **CLIMATE CHANGE: FINDING SOLUTIONS** PERFORMANCE ■ 24 NOV, 2025 — • BHUBANESWAR LIVE STREAM ON **PARTNERS**

Centre earns ₹800cr from scrap; more than Chandrayaan mission cost spring-cleaning, turning into

New Delhi, Nov 9: The Union government's month-long cleanliness drive didn't just decongest offices, it also turned trash into treasure as the government has earned ₹800 crore from selling scrap in October alone, more than the ₹615 crore spent on India's Chandrayaan-3 lunar mission that made historv this year.

This year's figure brings total government earnings from scrap sales to nearly ₹4,100 crore since the first special campaign launched in 2021, according to a report.

Held between October 2 and 31, this year's campaign was the largest so far, both in scale and impact. During the drive, about 11.58 lakh government sites were covered across ministries, missions abroad, and public offices. The initiative



freed up a record 232 lakh sq ft of office space and weeded out over 29 lakh old physical files, marking the most extensive cleanup since the initiative

The campaign was coordinated by the Department of Administrative Reforms and Public Grievances (DAR&PG) and overseen by senior ministers Mansukh Mandaviya, K Ram Mohan Naidu, and Jitendra Singh. Effective coordination among 84 ministries and departments ensured the exercise went beyond routine

a large-scale efficiency push across the bureaucracy. Between 2021 and 2025, five

such special campaigns have been conducted, each expanding the government's focus on 'swachhata' (cleanliness), reducing file pendency, and modernising workspaces.

The effort has not only streamlined record-keeping but also created a new culture of accountability within ministries.

Cabinet ministers and ministers of state reviewed progress throughout October, holding regular staff interactions and a ministerial review on pending public grievances. Prime Minister Narendra Modi has personally urged ministries to maintain momentum beyond the campaign period, turning 'Swachhata' into a permanent governance practice rather than an annual ritual.

BALCONY COLLAPSE

COLLECTOR SEEKS REPORT IN 24 HRS

POST NEWS NETWORK

Cuttack/Bhubaneswar, Nov 9: A day after three people died when the balcony of an old apartment collapsed and fell on them near Mani Sahu Chhak in Cuttack, District Collector Dattatraya Bhausaheb Shinde Sunday ordered an inquiry into the incident and asked the officials concerned to submit a report within 24 hours.

Speaking to the media, Shinde said a committee comprising additional commissioner of Cuttack Municipal Corporation (CMC), CDA planning authority, City engineer and R&B executive engineer will submit the report through CMC commissioner-cum-vice chairman of CDA.

Three persons, including a child, were killed and three others were injured in the incident. The Collector said the injured persons are undergoing treatment at SCB Medical College and Hospital, and their health condition is stable.

The government and district administration has provided compensation to the victims, he said.

eisure



SANDRA TO STAR IN FAIRYHEART

Emmy and Golden Globe winner Sandra Oh joins the voice cast of Fairyheart, an animated adaptation of Magda Szabo's 1965 novel *Tunder Lala.* The film follows Lala, a young prince of Tundarra, who teams up with Bea, a courageous human girl, and Gigi, a magical capybara unicorn, to save humanity

RENNER RUBBISHES HARASSMENT CLAIMS

Avengers star Jeremy Renner has reportedly dismissed the harassment claims made by Chinese director Yi Zhou describing them as "totally inaccurate and untrue". Zhou accused Renner in a series of posts Monday on her Instagram handle, which included "#Cancel" and "#CancelJeremyRenner" hashtags

Secret behind

Rekha's eternal beauty

Mumbai: Veteran actress Rekha's grace and elegance wins over the audience every time

fans across generations.

she steps in public view. Her eternal beauty

has been lauded and commended by her

The actress once had shared the se-

cret behind her beauty. In a recently

resurfaced clip from the streaming

sketch comedy show The Great Indi-

an Kapil Show, the actress said that

for her, self-love is of prime import-

She said in the video, "I love every-

thing. I love my work, I love my friends,

I love the world, and I love the nature I love

everything but most importantly I love myself".

The last line summarises everything about

Rekha is one of Indian cinema's most

films, and later transitioned to Hindi

cinema in the late 1960s, facing early

criticism for her looks and diction.

However, she worked on the criti-

cism, and redefined herself into a

symbol of poise, talent, and time-

less beauty. Her breakthrough

came with films like Do Anjaane

and Ghar, but it was Umrao

Jaan that immortalised her

as a poetic blend of grace and

strength, earning her a Nation-

enigmatic and enduring icons. She began her career as a child actor in Telugu

the actress, her worldview, her philosophy

and her thought-process.



accuracy • reliability • trust

The stars are up to some mischief - you may get into some kind of trouble. But matters may settle down, and by noon, you may have forgotten all about it. The evening will find you quieter and reflective, sober

and wiser. Good thing, says Ganesha.

Today, your natural ability to deal confidently and successfully with problems and issues is likely to let you down. Ganesha sees this be particularly true in money matters. You will be caught up in financial problems without being able to resolve them suitably. Confusion and indecision will prevent you from finding a way out.

A day when you get the stuff you are made of. By afternoon, you will be in your elements and will feel almost invincible. Your optimism will rub off on your colleagues and the atmosphere at the workplace will be nothing short of electrifying, says Ganesha, Also, you will attract a lot of attention from the opposite sex.

Today you are likely to be full of enthusiasm, both at work and home, predicts Ganesha. At work, your convictions will get the better of other people's vindictiveness, and your colleagues will come around to your viewpoints. But don't take any critical decision without prior approval.

If you are the one who sets the corporate mantra each morning, then know that today, your mantra will be fabulous, and will be chanted by many in your organisation. Being a business magnate might not be the easiest thing, but you are who you are, and you are good at it. Your business-like approach shall come in handy later in the day, as you may launch new

products in the market, says Ganesha.

Share thoughts, concepts and ideas with people. You may get new perspectives, says Ganesha. Don't let any opportunity pass to make your loved one feel special. Ganesha predicts you might seek the counsel of riends on professional and ethical issues.

Today seems like a good day to take a break and go on a pleasure trip to revitalise yourself, says Ganesha. Even on the business front, it will do you a world of good to take a break from the usual routine. This evening, you are at your best winning the heart of the opposite sex at social gatherings.

SCORPIO

Today you are likely to remain the unvarying object of emotions and sentiments, predicts Ganesha. Your inkling for performing arts may draw you to take up some lessons in classical music and traditional dance. A romantic, candlelit evening with your sweetheart may be on the cards to wrap up the day.

SAGITTARIUS

Simple living and high thinking, says Ganesha, will be your mantra today. Approach your work with innovative thoughts and diplomatic words. Later in the day, family friends and relatives revel in the attention that you shower on them. Students will excel in their studies and marvel in leisure activities, says Ganesha.

CAPRICORN

The day will have a bundle of things to offer today, some good, some not so good. At work, you are likely to overlook the most obvious things, and come across some unexpected ones. But as dawn turns to dusk, a pleasant surprise may get you all pepped up.

AQUARIUS

It always pays to have extra cash, and in that regard, you will be a happy person today! You may carefully update and crosscheck your financial position. Of course, there are people who don't share your happiness and will try to advise you to the contrary. Ignore them, says Ganesha.

PISCES

A good day is in the offing, savs Ganesha. You are likely to receive news you will be glad to share and celebrate with your family. A few pending deals are likely to be finalised in the afternoon, and there are indications you will need to go off on a short visit for business purposes later on in the day.



Mumbai: In an industry obsessed with perfection, Tamannaah Bhatia stands out for her authenticity and calm self-awareness. In a candid conversation, she peeled back the layers of her public image to reveal her philosophy of "curated chaos." Laughing, she described herself as "half Sagittarius and half Capricorn — a mix of spontaneity and structure," adding, "I like adventure and freedom, but I like to structure that adventure.

For Tamannaah, staying real is her quiet rebellion in a digital world of filters. "I take my job very seriously, but I don't take myself seriously," she said. "There's so much pressure to project a perfect version of yourself, but honestly, we're all just winging it—and that's the Her career mirrors this balance—she gravitates toward

roles that push her boundaries. "It would be sad to only play yourself," she noted. "Acting is about exploring what's not you." Drawing inspiration from films, she added, "If anyone wants to understand me, they should watch Divergent-I've discovered so much about myself through To her, individuality is where true acceptance

lies. "It takes courage to be different," she said. acceptance begins when you embrace your uniqueness."



himself slipping into darkness. "I was all alone in my apartment. Luckilv. I had a small terrace where I could see the sky and feel connected to something. Otherwise, I would've gone mad. I felt lonely, afraid, and couldn't move from my couch for

Mumbai: Actor Vijay Varma

has opened up for the first

time about his struggle

with severe depression

and anxiety. In a candid

chat with Rhea Chakra-

DOST

Across

7 Gumdrop

10 Quarrel

area

11 Golf course

13 Intense hatred

15 Barrel part

8 Scottish clan

leader and

outlaw (3,3)

9 Blonde's secret?

borty on her podcast, he

ly phase in Mumbai, he found

days," he shared. Vijay credited Aamir Khan's daughter Ira Khan and actor Gulshan Devaiah for helping him during that difficult period. "Ira was assisting on Dahaad, and we became good friends. She noticed something was wrong and encouraged me to move, to work out. We'd do Zoom dinners and workouts togeth-

Eventually, Vijay sought therapy online and was diagnosed with depression and anxiety. "My therapist sug-

gested medication,

but I wanted to try managing it myself," he added. Yoga, especially surya namaskars, became On the profes-

his way of healing. sional front, Vijay was last seen in IC 814: The Kandahar Hijack and Murder Mubarak. He will next appear in Gustaakh Ishq, releasing November 28

SUDOKU

PEANUTS

every word"

mind.'



Sayani talks about her unusual memory

Mumbai: Actress Sayani Gupta, who will be next seen

in the 3rd season of the International Emmy-winning

streaming show Delhi Crime, has shared that she has

The actress spoke with this news agency in the

BKC area of Mumbai ahead of the release of season

3 of the show, and shared that her memory works

differently. She remembers certain things vivid-

ly but fails to recollect things which her mind

When asked about how she comes to ground

zero after performing heavy scenes, she told,

'My memory, in certain cases, is very good,

and in certain cases, very bad. And I have,

with time, realised that it's a thing of self-pur-

ging. So, in my hard disk (her mind) I mean,

automatically, to fill it up, I keep emptying

it. I'm really grateful, and I kept saying all

these years, 'Thank God, I don't forget the

dialogues'. And I know every character's

She further mentioned, "I know the

whole script. I'll come home, I'll go to my

notes, which note I haven't done, if I ha-

ven't followed it, I'll feel bad. But once

I'm done with a scene, that dialogue

automatically goes away from my

doesn't deem fit to remember in the long-run.

a very unusual memory.

CALVIN AND HOBBES



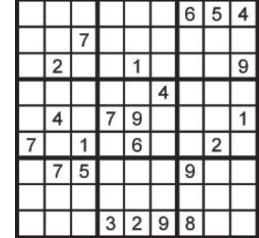
BREVITY



CROSSWORD

er." he said

To solve the Sudoku puzzle, fill in the boxes in such a manner that every row, column and 3x3 box contains the digits 1 to 9, without repeating any.



SOLUTIONS

CROSSWORD

SUDOKU

NPARALLELED ROUTSTRIKEUP C P E R

D R I G I N A L S E R F

D N E U Z L A

C E G N U N I N L A W

Y O D C N I S ATTACHECASES 8 5 1 2 6 3 9

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

CHECK FOR SOLUTIONS OF THE PUZZLES TOMORROW

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17 Busybody

21 Put together

accessory

24 Jamaica, e.g.

1 Olympic sled

3 Large seabird

2 Hearsay

23 Bucket

<u>Down</u>

20 Toward shelter

4 Salad oil holder

5 Died down

14 Diver's gear

6 Hairdo

12 Addax

(3,4)

16 City on the

Danube

18 Chin feature

19 Sheik's bevy

22 Air sac

owntown

PATRIOTIC HUES

A massive 'Bharat Mata' rangol decorates the main gate of Utkal University as hundreds of RSS members gather at the varsity auditorium for the Youth Conference, Sunday





Union min Chouhan to visit Odisha today



Bhubaneswar, Nov 9: Union Agriculture Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan will visit Odisha Monday, where he is scheduled to participate in a slew of official functions, a state

He will attend the inaugural session of an Odisha government programme to mark the 'Mandia Dibasa' (Millet Day) at the Lok Seva Bhavan Convention Centre in the morning. Chouhan will highlight the Central Government's initiatives to encourage the production, processing, and consumption of millets (Shri Anna/coarse grains) across Odisha and the rest of the country.

The event will also feature discussions on the promotion of millets as an instrument for augmenting farmers' income and strengthening the rural economy, according to a statement by agriculture ministry.

He will then visit the Sadar area of Cuttack, where he is scheduled to interact with farmers, listen to their experiences. learn about the challenges they face, and gather their suggestions regarding agricultural policies, the statement said. During this engagement, he will assess the on-ground status of various agricultural programmes being implemented by the Centre and review their impact at the grassroots level. it said. In the afternoon, Chouhan will participate in a meeting at the ICAR-Central Rice Research Institute (CRRI) in Cuttack.

NUAPADA BYPOLLS

BJP chief vows all-round devpt, slams BJD for 'negative politics'

The people of Nuapada

too have now decided to join

the journey of development

brought by the BJP govern-

He appealed to the people of

Nuapada to elect BJP candidate

Jay Dholakia in the Assembly

bypoll by casting their vote in

Targeting the BJD over al-

legations of 'traitor' and 'be-

trayal' made by the Leader of

Opposition and former chief

minister Naveen Patnaik, the state BJP president said: "Let

everyone recall what happened

March 7, 2009. The words they

are using - to whom do they

"In 2009, the BJD had bro-

ken the alliance and betrayed

the BJP. Whether betrayal or

ingratitude, the people of the

entire state are well aware

of it. Instead of engaging in

positive politics, the BJD is

avoiding the real issues by us-

ing cheap words like 'betrayal'

ment, Samal said.

favour of the party.

really apply?



Bhubaneswar, Nov 9: As the campaign for the Nuapada bypoll comes to an end, Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) state president Manmohan Samal Sunday said that the balanced and inclusive development of Nuapada is not merely a promise but a firm commitment of the party.

Speaking at a press conference in Nuapada, Samal alleged that the Biju Janata Dal (BJD) has resorted to low-level politics by making baseless allegations against the BJP and its Nuapada Assembly seat candidate Jay Dholakia.

"We are fighting a positive and principled battle in Nuapada. Whatever we have promised to the people of Nuapada will definitely be fulfilled," the state BJP president said.

He added that after the formation of the double-engine government in Odisha, people's faith in the BJP has increased.

Samal advised both the Congress and the BJD, who have ruled for more than 75 years combined, should introspect on what they have done for the people of Nuapada district.

Highlighting the developmental works undertaken by the BJP-led state government, Samal said that the BJP government has declared Khariar Road a municipality and Komna a notified area council.

A sub-registrar's office has also been opened in Komna, Samal added. Chief Minister Mohan Charan Majhi has announced projects worth Rs 1,421 crore for Nuapada, with a focus on tourism and irrigation development. The state BJP president assured that Nuapada will be developed as a hub for fish farming, and a fisheries college will be established in the district.

Meanwhile, the Nuapada railway station will be upgraded under the Amrit Bharat Station scheme, he said.

"Land acquisition for the Bargarh-Nuapada railway project is in its final stage. Agriculture-based industries will be given priority in the district, while medicinal plant cultivation will be promoted in Sunabeda. A modern Atal bus stand is being constructed at Khariar Road, and a sports complex is also being built. To improve transport convenience, a Rail Over Bridge will soon be established,

POLITICKLE by MANJUL



BJD urges CEO to seal Nuapada borders over 'outsider' influx

Bhubaneswar, Nov 9: Opposition Biju Janata Dal (BJD) Sunday urged the chief electoral officer (CEO) to take urgent steps to ensure free and fair polling, alleging infiltration of "outsiders" and misuse of money and muscle power in the November 11 Nuapada bypoll.

BJD spokesperson Lenin Mohanty said the party had called for sealing the borders of the Nuapada constituency amid "credible reports" of illegal influx of people from neighbouring Chhattisgarh allegedly supported by BJP leaders and workers.

"These outsiders intend to enter Nuapada to influence voters through coercion and financial inducements," Mohanty told reporters.

In its memorandum to the CEO, the BJD alleged that some people from Chhattisgarh had already entered the constituency and were working with local BJP leaders to sway the electorate "through coercive and unethical means".

The party also flagged the alleged creation and circulation of morphed videos and fake news targeting BJD president Naveen Patnaik and party candidate Snehangini Chhuria. It claimed such 'malicious acts', enabled by artificial intelligence, were part of an attempt by BJP's IT cell to defame BJD leaders and mislead voters.

"Despite repeated com plaints, no action has been taken by district authorities, who have reportedly demonstrated partisanship," the BJD said in the petition to the CEO.

The Opposition party also sought the immediate removal of unauthorised BJP banners and campaign materials that continue to violate the Model Code of Conduct on government property.

Entry to Konark Temple's Nata Mandap restricted



Bhubaneswar, Nov 9: The Archaeological Survey of India (ASI) barred tourists from entering the 'Nata Mandap' of the Konark Sun Temple in Puri district.

As per the directive issued by the ASI Saturday, tourists will no longer be allowed to climb the 'Nata Mandap' of the 13th-century temple or touch the sculpted stone artworks.

Security personnel have been

deployed to enforce the order. Justifying the move, ASI Superintendent Archaeologist DB Garnavak said there have been instances of tourists falling from the Nata Mandap structure while taking selfies and pictures due to their carelessness, and getting seriously injured.

Similarly, some visitors were

also seen touching and scratching the monument. So, for the preservation of the monument and the safety of the tourists, the restriction on entry of visitors to the Nata Mandap has been imposed, he said.

The temple attracts thousands of tourists from different parts of India and also foreigners daily.

The Konark Sun Temple was built by King Narasingha Deva I of the Eastern Ganga dynasty about 1250 AD. Dedicated to the Sun God, it reflects the pinnacle of Kalingan architecture and artistic excellence. The temple has the appearance of a 100-foot (30 m) high chariot with immense wheels and horses, all carved from stone.

The Konark Sun Temple was declared a UNESCO World Heritage Site in 1984.

Biased election, broken rules: Cong on Nuapada by-election

Nuapada/Bhubaneswar, Nov 9: Congress Sunday alleged that the connection between government officials and the BJP has become clear during this by-election.

Citing example of the Subhadra Mela, Congress said, it violated the Election Model Code of Conduct. Even after the event ended, the temporary structures and decorations have not been removed. Congress had lodged a complaint with the Election Officer about this, but no action has been taken. According to PCC media department chairman Aravind Das, the BJP has set up its election office right next to the fairground and is openly using the premises for campaign purposes. He also accused a certain web channel of attempting to malign the image of the PCC president and his legislator son. As a result, a delegation of Congress lawyers had met the State Chief Electoral Officer with evidence and for-

mally lodged a complaint. Similarly, the presidents of 34 organisational districts, along with hundreds of Congress workers, filed a complaint



at the cyber police station. Yet, the Election Commission has failed to take even minimal action, Das alleged.

This is an unprecedented violation of the model code," Das said. "It shows that the office of the State Election Officer is functioning in collusion with the BJP. The election is not being conducted impartially."

Despite this, he said, Congress remains the most popular, forward-looking, and organised party in Nuapada, Senior Congress leaders have been campaigning together across the district. "Unfortunately, the administration is denving us permission for rallies, meetings, and processions, while BJD and BJP are being given free rein," Das claimed.

"No matter how much they violate the code of conduct, their conspiracy will never suc-

ceed. Ghasiram Majhi will win, and he alone is the deserving da's development," he asserted. Das further alleged that the BJP is so afraid of the Congress that the Chief Minister has had to visit Nuapada thrice, using inappropriate language during his speeches. "He is forced to say ridiculous things like 'I've brought a new helicopter, come and see it,' because he has no

work to show," Das said. "Under the leadership of PCC president Bhakta Charan Das, Congress candidate Ghasiram Majhi will win, and the dawn of development will rise over Nuapada — not because the Congress says so, but because the people of Nuapada themselves are saying it," he added.

Former Union Minister and senior Congress leader Srikant Jena, who was also present, said: "Our leader Rahul Gandhi has already shown at the national level how the Election Commission is helping the BJP in vote rigging. What the Election Commission of India is doing nationally, the Chief Electoral Officer of Odisha is doing here. In Nuapada, the election officials are acting completely one-sided.'

Govt speeding up demolition of unsafe buildings: Minister PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Bhubaneswar, Nov 9: A day after three people were killed when the balcony of an old apartment collapsed near Mani Sahu Chhak in Cuttack, Housing and Urban Development Minister Krushna Chandra Mahapatra said the state government has expedited the demolition of unsafe government buildings across the state.

He said it is the duty of the Works department to identify unsafe government buildings for demolition. Similarly, owners must take responsibility for razing unsafe private structures, he added.

Meanwhile, Cuttack District Collector Dattatraya Bhausaheb Shinde Sunday ordered an inquiry into the collapse of the balcony of an old apartment building in the city.

Three persons, including a child, were killed and three others were injured when the balcony of an old apartment building collapsed and fell on them in Cuttack city, Shinde said. Speaking to media persons, the Collector said the injured persons are under treatment at SCB Medical College and Hospital, and their health condition is stable.

The government and district administration has provided compensation to the victims he said. He informed that a four-member committee led by the additional commissioner of **Cuttack Municipal Corporation** (CMC) will conduct the inves tigation and submit the report within 24 hours.

"It was alleged that the build ing is in an unsafe condition, and the planning permission was vi olated. So, the panel will probe into these angles and submit the report," the collector said.

After getting the report by Monday evening, necessary action will be taken on the basis of the findings, he stated.

"We will see whether it was just an accident or happened due to violation of norms or instructions made for unsafe buildings. Accordingly, action

will be taken," Shinde said. He said that the district ad ministration would take steps to vacate all unsafe buildings one by one, following due procedure and Supreme Court

guidelines. After completion of the ongoing Bali Yatra, a meeting will be convened of concerned department officers to finalise the further course of action.



FESTIVE CROWD: Bird's-eye view of Cuttack Bali Yatra as visitors throng the upper ground Sunday evening

CJI Gavai: Legal aid a moral duty

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, Nov 9: Chief Justice of India BR Gavai Sunday said that legal aid is not merely an act of charity but a moral duty, and those engaged in the legal aid movement must approach their role with an administrative imagination to ensure the rule of law extends to every corner of the country.

Speaking at the valedictory function of the national conference on 'Strengthening Legal Aid Delivery Mechanisms' and celebration of 'Legal Services Day', CJI Gavai suggested the creation of an advisory committee at NALSA and SLSAs, respectively, comprising the current executive chairpersons and two or three future executive heads to ensure continuity in policy planning.



"At the same time, those engaged in the legal aid movement, whether officers, administrators, or volunteers, must approach their role with an administrative imagination. Legal aid is not merely an act of charity but a moral duty. It is an exercise in governance, in ensuring that the rule of law extends to every corner of our country," he said.

The CJI further said they

must think like administrators of justice, planning, coordinat ing, and innovating to make sure that every rupee spent, every visit made, and every intervention carried out truly uplifts someone in need.

Gavai expressed the need for legal services authorities to conceptualise and execute their efforts with a long-term institutional vision. Current ly, he noted, priorities are often determined by the tenure of individual executive chairpersons, each of whom has a limited timeframe to implement initiatives.

While this brings diversity of ideas, it also makes continuity and sustained implementation a challenge, he said in the programme organised by NALSA (National Legal Services Authority) to mark its 30th year.

Guv meets Gujarat CM, lauds tourism initiatives



Ahmedabad, Nov 9: Governor Hari Babu Kambhampati, Sunday, paid a courtesy visit to Guiarat Chief Minister Bhupendra Patel in Gujarat's Gand-

Kambhampati praised the Guiarat government's efforts under CM Patel's leadership for developing Ekta Nagar into a world-class tourism destination, noting the excellent arrangements made for artistes, artisans, and visitors.

He also conveyed his appreciation for state's cultural and infrastructural initiatives pro-

Met the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Guiarat. Shri Bhupendrabhai Patel Ji in Gandhinagar. We discussed key aspects of development and shared perspectives on driving progress for a stronger and

prosperous nation нагі вави камвнамраті **І** GOVERNOR, ODISHA

moting national unity The governor was in Gujarat to attend 'Bharat Parv' celebra-

8, held as part of the nationwide observance of Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel's 150th birth anniversary, inspired by PM Narendra Modi's vision of unity.

grand celebrations, themed 'Ekta Prakash Parv', are being held at Ekta Nagar in Narmada district until November 15, featuring cultural performances by artistes from differ ent states to showcase India's strength in 'Unity in Diversity'.

Under the 'Ek Bharat, Shreshtha Bharat' initiative, artistes and dignitaries from across the country are participating, fostering cross-cultural appreciation.

Odisha's artistes performed on the occasion, with Kambhampati gracing the occasion as the guest of honour.

During his visit, the governor explored several key attractions at Ekta Nagar, including the 'Statue of Unity' -the world's tallest statue -- the Ekta Light Festival, Sardar Sarovar River Bed Power House, Butterfly Park, Food Court, Handicraft Haat, and Theme Pavilions.

CM presented a memento to Governor as a token of respect and goodwill.

The meeting was also attended by CM's Additional Chief Secretary Avantika Singh, who extended a warm welcome to the visiting dignitary.



SOULFUL ENSEMBLE: Odissi vocalist Mahapatra Minati Bhanja performs during 7th National Cultural Festival organised by Avantika Academy of Cultural and Social Welfare at GKCM Odissi Research Centre in Bhubaneswar, Sunday

URBAN MOBILITY INDIA CONFERENCE 2025

CRUT's Ama Bus, Ama E-Ride bag special mention award

POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar/New Delhi, Nov 9: For its innovative approach to sustainable urban mobility, Capital Region Urban Transport (CRUT) bagged the 'Special Mention Award in Urban Transport' for its flagship initiatives Ama Bus and Ama E-Ride under the category 'Running Trophy for State/ UT' which has implemented

best urban transport projects. The award was presented by Housing and Urban Affairs Minister Manohar Lal during the valedictory session of Urban Mobility India (UMI)

Conference 2025 held Sunday in Gurugram. Representing the state and Housing and Urban Development department Principal Secretary Usha Padhee, along with senior officials from CRUT received the

The Minister also announced that the 19th Urban Mobility India (UMI) Conference and Exhibition 2026 will be held in Bhubaneswar, from October 23 to 25, 2026.

In order to ensure a complete transformation of urban public transport scenario in City and its hinterland through use of smart technolo-



gy, service benchmarking and customer satisfaction, CRUT rolled out its new buses under the brand name of 'Ama Bus'. The service was launched November 6, 2018 to provide reliable and safe transportation

connecting neighbourhoods The aim of the initiative is not only to focus on customer service, employee development and technology but also to provide the best public transpor tation possible and continue to improve the quality of life.

CRUT's AMA E-Ride, aims at providing clean, eco-friendly, first and last-mile connec tivity to the public through e-rickshaws. With the intro duction of the service, CRUT is committed to providing seamless, reliable and afford able feeder transportation services to the citizens of the Capital region.

Repeal new labour codes: CITU

Bhubaneswar, Nov 9: Centre of Indian Trade Unions (CITU) organised Khurda District Conference here Sunday, reiterating its strong opposition to Central government's new labour codes, calling for protection of workers' rights, including strict mandate to eight-hour working hours.

A 33-member new district committee was unanimously elected for next three years, with CPIM's state secretary Suresh Routray as president and Pradipta Nayak as secretary. Addressing the conference, CITU's all India vice president and state general secretary Bishnu Charan Mohanty criticised the BJP government for repealing existing labour laws and replacing them with

four anti-worker labour codes. without consulting any central trade unions. He said the move aims to benefit corporate houses at the cost of workers

Mohanty alleged that although the government has passed these codes, it has not vet dared to implement them due to strong nationwide protests. He targeted the state government for proposing an amendment to extend the workday from eight to ten hours and allowing women to work in the third shift after 8 pm, calling it a move that encourages worker exploitation for corporate profit.

He urged workers to continue united struggles against privatisation of key sectors such as railways, ports, mines, airports and public enterprises.



Heavy rush of devotees near Srimandir entry gate in Puri Sunday

POST NEWS NETWORK Bhubaneswar, Nov 9: Larsen

Dream big, stay humble: L&T

chairman inspires KIIT students

& Toubro (L&T) Chairman and Managing Director S N Subrahmanyan visited KIIT and KISS campuses recently and interacted with students, emphasising them to dream big, stay humble and tap opportunities emerging out of the green hydrogen revolution, artificial intelligence and EV transformation.

'Never forget the sacrifices your parents and teachers make for your education. Be humble, never stop asking questions, and remember -Can do, will do, and will get it done' must be your spirit," Subrahmanyan said.

"Before you turn 35 achieve something significant," he added. Subrahmanyan attended Industry Symposium 5.0, organised by KIIT School of Management (KSOM), where he shared his vision of a rap idly transforming industrial landscape shaped by renewable energy, artificial intelligence, and sustainable technologies.

Describing KIIT and KISS as "humongous campuses with a Subrahmanvan praised the institution for empowering thousands of students through education.

In a wide-ranging and thought-provoking address, the L&T Chairman highlight ed major global shifts shaping the future — from the solar and green hydrogen revolution to the artificial intelligence and EV transformation.

"Energy transformation is happening at an unprecedented pace," he said.

"We are building some of the world's largest solar facilities in the Middle East and one of the world's biggest green hydrogen plants. Solar and hydro gen are the future," he stated.

KIIT-DU VC Saranjit Singh Registrar J R Mohanty, Dr KSOM Director Kumar Mohanty and other dignitaries were present on the occasion.

All Things Odisha hosts talk on knowledge,

belief systems Bhubaneswar: All Things Odisha hosted its 16th monthly discussion circle, Odisha Manaska, Sunday at the ExtraOdinari and Safe Odisha For Her (SOFH) headquarters here on the theme 'Between Knowing and Believing: How We Make Opinions and Identities'. Participants explored the complex relationship between knowledge and belief systems, and how these two elements shape personal identities and opinions. Moderated by Sandip Bal and Sonali Priyadarsini, the discussion centered on how our deeply held beliefs often create barriers to expanding knowledge. leading people to become trapped in echo chambers. The interactive session saw active participation from a wide range of attendees, including intellectuals, professionals, and students, each offering insights from their lived experiences. Among the participants were Monalisa Padhee, Nachiketa, Aditya, Akankshita, Alka, and Pranay Manjari, who shared their perspectives on how beliefs can sometimes limit the pursuit of objective knowledge. The session also delved into the importance of fostering critical thinking, especially in a world where social media and digital platforms often propagate misleading narratives. "Critical thinking is not just a skill; it's a responsibility. It will allow us to break free from the chains of blind beliefs and embrace more informed, rational decision-making," Bal said.

Research, practical application in road engineering emphasised at IRC

Bhubaneswar, Nov 9: Innovative research and practical applications in road engineering and infrastructure development came under sharp focus during the technical session of the 84th annual session of Indian Roads Congress (IRC) being held here. The session brought together experts and researchers presenting papers published in the IRC Journal, showcasing innovative approaches and solutions in highway engineering. It provided a platform to exchange ideas aimed at improving road design, construction, and maintenance practices.

The session was chaired by Mizoram Engineer-in-Chief H Zoramliana and co-chaired by Gujarat Roads and Building Chief Engineer Patanjali Mishra. The technical session highlighted the importance of research-based advancements in enhancing durability, cost-effectiveness, and technical efficiency in road projects across India.

The session featured presentations from key organisations like IIT Roorkee, PMGSY Jammu, Infrastructure Design



Consultants Pvt Ltd and GR Infraprojects Ltd. Discussions focused on durable bituminous mixtures, cost-effective SMA layers for low-volume roads, EPC and HAM project challenges, and the use of machine learning in pavement evaluation, highlighting innovation and practical advancements in road construction and maintenance.

The session underlined the growing integration of innova-

tion, data-driven analysis, and sustainable materials in modern road construction, aiming

to build stronger, smarter, and more resilient transport infrastructure. Another session Saturday showcased key advancements in sustainable and performance-based road engineering. Presentations included the Structural Health Monitoring of the Amarmahal Flyover in Mumbai, an FEA-based com-

EXHIBITION EXTENDED

thematic exhibition, organised as part of 84th annual session of Indian Roads Congress (IRC) will be open to the general public until the forenoon of November 11, said Law Works Minister Prithiviraj Harichan dan Sunday. The exhibition aims to showcase the latest developments, innovations, and initiatives in road infra structure, offering citizens a firsthand experience of the sector's advance ments. This initiative marks a significant step in bridging the gap between government planning and public awareness in infrastructure development.

with foamed bitumen-treated bases by CRRI researchers, and a paper on decarbonising road construction emphasising sustainability by experts from NHAI and IIT Roorkee.

Additionally, IIT BHU researchers discussed a novel methodology for selecting fillers to enhance the fatigue performance of asphalt pavements. The interactive session highlighted the importance of research-backed approaches in structural monitoring, pavement design, and sustainable construction for building a resilient road network



	WEATHER		
	BBSR	СТС	FORECAST
Max Temp	30.6°	30.1°	Dry weather very
Min Temp	17.4°	17.6°	likely to prevail over the districts
Humidity	66%	68%	of Odisha
Rainfall	Nil	Nil	

parative study on pavements FOR CLASSIFIED **ADVERTISEMENTS** CONTACT OUR BOOKING

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Anaesthesia services, surgeries to resume at Subarnapur DHH

two weeks of disruption, anaesthesia services at the Subarnapur District Headquarters Hospital (DHH) are set to resume from Monday. The announcement was made by Chief District Medical and Public Health Officer (CDM&PHO) Dr Usharani Dash, who issued an official directive outlining the new arrangements.

According to Dr Dash, trained anaesthetist and superintendent of Birmaharaipur Subdivisional Hospital Dr Subash Panda will serve at the DHH every Tuesday and Wednesday. In addition, Dr Panda will be available on call on Mondays and Saturdays for any emergency surgeries, including childbirths requiring anaesthesia.

Similarly, paediatric specialist and trained anaesthetist Dr Rabindra Panda, currently posted at the Dunguripali Community Health Centre, will serve at the DHH every Thursday and Friday. These measures are expected to restore essential surgical and obstetric services that have remained suspended since October 22 due to the absence of anaesthetists.

The velopment follows widespread concern over the suspension of operations, which was

published in OrissaPOST November 8 under the headline "Patients hit as surgeries stop at Subarnapur DHH." The report highlighted how the transfer of the only trained anaesthetist, Dr Subash Panda, had left the hospital unable to conduct even minor operations, forcing patients to seek costly treatment at private nursing homes.

Social workers and intellectuals had drawn the attention of Chief Minister Mohan Charan Maihi and Health Minister Dr Mukesh Kumar Mahaling to the issue through social media posts. In response, the state government instructed the district administration to take immediate steps, resulting in the CD-M&PHO's announcement.

Since the inauguration of the hospital's new building, surgical services in departments such orthopaedics, ophthalmology, and ENT had been

suspended due to the lack of anaesthesia support. Even simple procedures like plastering fractures were not being performed, severely affecting poor patients who could not afford private care. With the government's inter-

vention and the revised duty roster, there is renewed hope that surgical and maternal health services at the Subarnapur DHH will return to normal



MISTY MORNING: Bikers travel on a road blanketed by mist in Koraput town Sunday as winter sets in

Woman, son killed in hit-and-run

POST NEWS NETWORK

Sambalpur, Nov 9: A woman and her son were killed after an unidentified vehicle hit their vehicle head-on near Adarsha Vidyalaya Square under Redhakhole police limits in this district on Raipur-Vijayawada National Highway Sunday

The deceased were identified as Manju Majhi, 60, and her son Manoj Majhi, 30, of Pipilikani village in Badmal panchayat and under Charmal police limits in Sambalpur district.

POLICE ARE TRYING TO TRACE THE **UNIDENTIFIED VEHICLE, WHICH IS** SUSPECTED TO HAVE **BEEN INVOLVED IN MULTIPLE ACCIDENTS** WHILE FLEEING

Reports said the duo was from Naktideula towards Redhakhole when a vehicle coming from the opposite direction rammed into their bike around 6:30pm Sunday. The driver fled the scene immediately after the

Police said both victims sustained critical injuries and were taken to Redhakhole hospital in an ambulance, where doctors pronounced Manju dead on arrival. Her son succumbed to the grievous injuries a short while after treatment began.

Redhakhole police registered a case and launched an investigation. Officers are also trying to trace the unidentified vehicle, which is suspected to have been involved in multiple accidents while fleeing.

The bodies have been sent for postmortem and will be conducted Monday, police said.

Road accident claims 2 lives

Kabisuryanagar, Nov 9: Two persons lost their lives in a bike accident near Khajapalli village under this police limits in Ganjam district in the wee hours of Sunday.

The deceased were identified as Mitu Parida, 37, of Ranipada village and Kashinath Sethi, 70, of Mathasarasingh Salaban village.

After playing the role of Dushasana in a Mahabharata play at Ustali village under Kodala police limits Saturday night, Mitu was returning home on his motorcycle early morning. Near Khajapalli, he reportedly lost control of his two-wheeler and hit Kashinath, who was on a morning walk.

Both sustained critical injuries in the collision. Locals rushed Mitu to the Polasara Community Health Centre, where doctors declared him dead. Kashinath was taken to Kodala Community Health Centre, where he was also pronounced dead. Police have registered a case and are investigating the incident.

NH-20 land losers threaten protest over 16-yr delay in compensation



POST NEWS NETWORK

Dhenkikote, Nov 9: Residents who lost land during the expansion of National Highway 20, the lifeline of Keonjhar district, have warned of protest and road blockade if their long-pending compensation is not settled soon.

Although compensations were partly disbursed, several affected landowners said they are still waiting for the remaining amount even after approaching the court. The victims alleged that the National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) officials have disregarded court orders directing them to release the funds.

The land acquisition for ex-

pansion of the NH from Panikoili to Rajamunda began in 2009. In Dhenkikote panchayat alone, about 1 acre and 18 decimals were acquired, including 25 decimals from Maheswar Barik and 12 deci mals from a tribal widow, Sunei Nayak. The toll plaza was

later built on this land. Maheswar Barik received compensation for only 20 decimals, and despite passage of 16 long years, payment for the remaining 5 decimals is still pending. Similarly, Nayak has not received any compensation for her 12 decimals.

Barik had earlier approached the Orissa High Court, which directed NHAI officials to pay compensation within 15 days. However, three years have passed since the order and the payment has vet to be made.

Ghatagaon Tehsildar Charulata Singh, NHAI Manager Rajesh Kumar Gupta, Site Engineer of PRU Keonjhar Arun Kumar Das, Land Acquisition RI Tapas Kumar Nayak, Dhenkikote RI Shibashankar Singh, Land Acquisition Chairman Jagabandhu Sahu, Residential Engineer Madhusudan Raut, and Additional Surveyor Surendra Kumar Nayak, in the presence of Maheswar's son Santanu, Thursday initiated the process of investigation through mutual discussions.

However, during the inspection, Santanu insisted on identifying the 25-decimal plot (Khata No. 116/23, Plot No. 470/1129), leading to an inconclusive meeting. The tehsildar later said that a new date would be set to resolve the dispute and directed NHAI officials to expedite the process.

The land losers have warned that if the district administration continues to ignore the issue, they will block the toll plaza and take their protest to

Woman outfit to impose ₹40K fine on liquor sale



POST NEWS NETWORK

Angul/Chhendipada, Nov 9: In a unique drive to discourage liquor consumption, an associ ation of women in Badahinsara panchavat on the outskirts of Angul town has decided to impose ₹40,000 fine on those selling liquor and ₹10,000 for those consuming it. The decision came to the fore Sunday when they launched an anti-liquor campaign after repeated appeals to the Excise department and the local administration failed to yield any results.

Members of the association have begun visiting villages, spreading awareness among both liquor consumers and liquor sellers.

The campaigners urged residents to abstain from drinking alcohol. Carrying placards and raising slogans on the harmful effects of liquor consumption, the women organised awareness rallies across villages.

drive Khambeswar temple in Badahinsara, where the women gathered before marching through Nakchinipal and Bimalgarh villages and returning to the community centre of Badahinsara. The rally was led by association president Ambika Sahu, secretary Mamta Sahu, and naib sarpanch Khirodini Behera.

Mandodari Roul, district president of the All India Women's Cultural Organisation, attended the rally as the guest and spoke about the social and health impacts of alcohol addiction. Community members Debashis Pradhan, Mukta Sahu, Bishwanath Sahu, Ashamati Pradhan, Dushmanta Pradhan, Soudamini Sahu, Lochan Pradhan, and Rashmita Sahu supported the initiative.

Baripada, Nov 9: A cattle trader was shot dead by unidentified assailants in the Kendua area under Ghagarbeda police limits

The deceased was identified as Hara Mohanta of Kalanda vil lage. Police said the miscreants looted cash worth several lakhs

According to reports, Mohan ta had gone to the Angarpada weekly market to buy a bull The assailants allegedly fol-

Herd refuses to take elephant calf back; infection suspected

POST NEWS NETWORK

Angul, Nov 9: Forest officials' efforts to reunite an elephant calf with its herd went in vain as the pachyderms refused to take the new born calf back.

The 15-day-old elephant calf was rescued after it got trapped in the muck on a paddy field while feeding on the crops Friday night. Though forest officials released the calf near its herd the next morning, the animals refused to take it back, raising suspicion that the animal might be suffering from an infectious disease.

According to reports, a herd of around 45 elephants has been roaming near the villages on



the outskirts of Angul town for months. The herd had moved towards Shyamsundarpur to feed on paddy Friday night. By morning, they had crossed

towards the Mandargiri area, leaving the trapped calf behind in the slushy paddy field.

A rescue team led by Angul Forest department official Ranjan Pradhan reached the site, lifted the calf from the mud, and later shifted it near the Kulasinga forest beat house.

Acting on a veterinarian's advice, the team conducted a medical examination, which revealed that the calf's body temperature had dropped due to exposure to cold water and mud. The animal was given fluids and antibiotics.

Divisional Forest Officer Nitish Kumar supervised the rescue operation and stayed overnight at the site to monitor the

situation. To prevent the herd from rejecting the calf due to human body odour, forest staff smeared its body with mud and elephant dung before attempting to reunite it with the herd. Despite their efforts, the herd did not accept the calf.

Officials said another attempt to reunite the calf with its group will be made Sunday night. If the herd continues to reject it, the animal will be relocated as per the state Forest department's direction.

Meanwhile, blood samples from the calf have been collected and sent for examination. The infections, if any, will be confirmed once the reports arrive, officials added.

Farmer killed in elephant attack

RAIRANGPUR: A farmer was killed in elephant attack at Rajpal village under Jashipur police limits in Mayurbhanj district, police officials said Sunday. The incident occurred when Sanaga Bari, 55, was guarding his crops on his farmland. An elephant which had straved into the area attacked him at around 8pm Saturday. He died on the spot. Jashipur police Sunday conducted a post-mortem and handed over the body to his family members. A case was also registered in this connection. On being informed, Manada range officer and forester under Rairangpur forest division reached the spot and launched an investigation. Locals have demanded financial assistance to the bereaved family members who are financially weak

Determination paves the way to success for Rani

POST NEWS NETWORK

Baula, Nov 9: Once dropped out of school owing to abject poverty and worked as a labourer at a brick kiln, 20-vearold Rani Hembram of Sangam village under Dhenka panchayat in Hatadihi block of Keonjhar district has broken the glass ceiling by cracking the NEET exam even as she wishes to be a good physician.

Although financial burden had been a stumbling block for her path to success, Rani left no stone unturned and with help from generous individuals, she is now pursuing MBBS at Phulbani Medical College.

Rani passed her matriculation exam in 2021 with 85 per cent marks, scoring 511. However, her family members were reluctant to allow her to pursue higher studies. Determined to chase her dream, Rani decided to work as a labourer. She began working at a brick kiln in Soso village in the district.

Her commitment to education caught the attention of kiln owner and an Anganwadi supervisor Nirupama Rout, who in turn informed the local media persons. Former Anandapur MLA Bhagirathi Sethy promised to support her higher studies and provided financial assistance.

Later, after learning about her struggles, Bhubaneswar-based social worker Nibedita Lenka visited Rani's home and extended further support. With Nibedita's help, Rani enrolled at Navajyoti Science College in Bhubaneswar, setting her firmly on the path toward becoming a doctor.

College principal Shantanu Mohapatra not only provided free education but also medi-



cal coaching to Rani, a student from an impoverished background. After passing her Plus II examinations, she took medical coaching the next year. Her hard work paid off when she secured the 4,381 rank in the state

As the news of her admission

to the medical college spread, congratulatory poured in from all quarters, bringing a wave of joy to her tribal, economically disadvantaged family. Anandapur MLA Abhimanyu Sethi, the former MLA, Zilla Parishad Vice Chairman Somanath Das, Anchalika Baristha Nagarik Bikash Mancha president Parshuram Peda, working president Nrusingha Charan Dehury, senior educationist Mohan Kumar Mohanty, MP nominee Gyan Ranjan Samantsinghar, and educationist Madhusudan Jena wished her all success in life. Teachers from Swampatna

region also met Rani, offering her financial support and felicitated her with certificates for her success.

Expressing gratitude toward the media, Rani thanked the organisations and individuals who came forward to help after her story was published. She also extended her thanks to Nibedita Lenka, her college's principal, and all her teachers for their constant guidance.

Rani said she is determined to dedicate her life to serving people through her medical career.

POST NEWS NETWORK Nuapada, Nov 9: Ahead of the

IT raids on BJD, Cong

leaders' residences

Nuapada by-election, the district and police administrations have intensified inspection drives to ensure a free and fair poll. On Sunday, the Income Tax (IT) Department conducted raids on the residences of BJD leader Manoj Mishra and Congress leader Ankit Singha in the district.

According to reports, IT of ficials raided the Komna residence of Manoj Mishra, a former block chairman, former BJD district president, and the current state general secretary of the party around 10am.

Later in the afternoon, around 3pm, another IT team carried out a raid at the Khariar Road residence of Anki Singhai, a businessman and state general secretary of the Youth Congress. It remains unclear why the raids were conducted and what items, if any, were seized from their homes.

Cattle trader shot dead by miscreants POST NEWS NETWORK

in Mayurbhani district Sunday

from him before fleeing the spot

lowed him and tried to snatch the money near Kendua. When Mahanta resisted, they opened fire, killing him on the spot. Police reached the scene af-

ter receiving information and have launched an investigation into the incident.



4. STATION: PURI (PURI)

6. STATION: BRAHMAPUR (BAM)

Location: Platform No. 2 & 3 (In between 7. STATION: CHHATRAPUR (CAP) ocation: Platform No. 1 & 2 (Middle)

8. STATION: PALASA (PSA) ocation: Platform No. 2 & 3 (Brahind near Crew & Guard Office) 9. STATION: PALASA (PSA)

ocation: Platform No. 2 & 3 (Near Fo ver Bridge) Category of Reservation: General Mind Unit (for SI. No. 1, 2 & 5-8), General Mino Unit - Ladies (for SI. No. 3 & 4), Fresh Fruit & Juice Stall (General Minor Unit-Ladies) (for S

E-Tender Date & Time : 08.12.2025 a Note: Prospective bidders are advised t

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Trust the divine power, and she will free the godlike elements in you and shape all into an expression of divine nature





Mamdani's Sops

fter a year in the political wilderness, Democrats in the US have finally got the taste of convincing victory in elections to different bodies and posts that appear to puncture the pride and confidence of President Donald Trump and the Republican Party. This will be a big and much needed boost to the morale of the Democrats in their bid to try and bounce back in the mid-term polls slated a few months away. In every election held in the US on November 4, whether for Mayor of New York, Governor in Virginia and New Jersey, Supreme Court judges in Pennsylvania, or a redistricting referendum in California, the results clearly went in favor of the Democratic Party. This means the gains the Republicans had made among Latino and African American voters just a year earlier seem to have started to abruptly evaporate. It is certainly a cause of concern for the ruling dispensation even though Trump tries to brazen it out by asserting that his name in no way figured in the ballot papers of those elections. That could be a solace Trump may desperately need, but it does show how the white supremacist agenda that brought Trump back to power is losing its sheen and cost of living issues are swaying the common man far more than rhetoric on divisive politics.

It could be that Trump's approach to governance and the consequences of his economic decisions got rejected. With the current federal government shutdown - the longest in US history-. Republican candidates rather than the Democrats seem to have been held responsible at the polls, even though the latter had initiated the standoff to defend health insurance against proposed budget cuts. The very next day – November 5 - the Supreme Court justices examining the constitutionality of the tariffs the US President had unilaterally imposed on other countries showed their scepticism of the supposedly special powers Trump had used bypassing the Congress to launch his global tariff war. Some of the judges appointed by Trump also put tough questions to the Solicitor General. If the verdict goes against Trump, the fallout would damage his image.

Of all these Democratic successes one stands out as the most remarkable – the victory of Zohran Mamdani as the New York City mayor. The young Mamdani had entered the mayoral race in October as a socialist outsider who was not known beyond his constituency. Yet, what he did was a miracle of sorts, winning over 50% of the vote after the highest turnout in more than half a century. He was pitted against the former New York governor Andrew Cuomo as Independent and backed by billionaires. He becomes the youngest mayor of the US' largest city for more than 100 years and the first Moslem to assume charge. New York is a traditional Democratic stronghold and as such Mamdani's victory should not be hailed as a national bellwether but it has emboldened Islamists across the world. But, the significance of his victory lies in the specific challenge that he has thrown at the Republican Party by enlisting the support of working-class and immigrant voters. He steered the polarization politics Trump-led Republicans are good at and seems to have excelled them. He campaigned relentlessly and almost exclusively on the theme of affordability but underpinned by the immigrant story. His opponents sought to use his socialist credentials against him, but the charges of ideological extremism failed to cut much ice with the voters who responded overwhelmingly to his pledges of free childcare, free buses and a rent freeze offering public solutions to years of rising inequality. With Indian blood running in his veins, Mamdani seems to have worked out his American political dream with, probably, a huge dollop of the idea of sops for the poor iust as politicians do here in India.

Mamdani's promises persuaded a vast army of 100,000 volunteer canvassers to knock on millions of doors, akin to the early days of Kejriwal and his Aam Aadmi Party in Delhi.

It would be wrong to read too much into these Democratic victories. But at the same time it would be a mistake to dismiss green shoots of political recovery when they appear. US politics is now delicately poised with Trump's popularity sinking amid ongoing cost-of-living concerns, high inflation and the hollowness of MAGA pledges to improve blue-collar living standards. The new focus on affordability may turn out to be the right strategy for the Democrats to regain their lost ground.

WISDOM CORNER

When a man denies the power of women, he is denying his own subconscious.



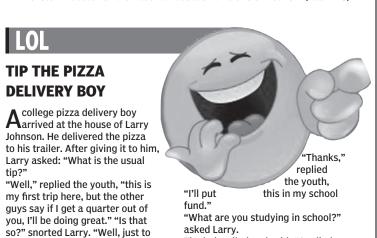
No worse fate can befall a young man or woman than becoming prematurely entrenched in prudence and negation.

THIS DAY IN HISTORY

show them how wrong they are,

here's five dollars."

- 1444: Turkish forces defeated the Hungarians in the Battle of Varna. securing Turkey's control over Constantinople (Istanbul) and assuring the Ottoman conquest in the Balkans.
- **1871:** According to his journal, explorer Henry Stanley greeted David Livingstone, the fellow explorer in search of the source of the Nile River, with the famous words "Dr. Livingstone, I presume?
- 1958: The Hope diamond, one of the largest blue diamonds known, was donated to the Smithsonian Institution in Washington, D.C., becoming one of its most-popular attractions.
- **1969:** The American children's TV series Sesame Street—which featured a cast of puppet characters that included Elmo, Big Bird, and the Cookie Monster-debuted on the National Educational Television network (later PBS).



The lad smiled and said: "Applied

psychology.'

FOCUS NYC MAYORAL POLL

CITY COSTS UNDER FIRE

he New York mayoral election is being watched far beyond city limits. New York is not just the largest city in the United States; it is a cultural and financial power centre whose policy choices often ripple across national politics. The contest has become a test of whether American cities can pivot towards more people-centric governance in an era of rising inequality, unaffordability, corporate dominance, and deepening mistrust in political institutions.

Even Indians are watching how it could change city governance and bring down rental, transport, health and overall living costs in major metros – Delhi. Mumbai, Chennai, Kolkata, Bangalore, Hyderabad, some major state capitals like Lucknow, Bhuwaneshwar or Guwahati. No less the Europe is watching it. Apparently, inflation rocks global living conditions.

Would it happen or once again the giant companies bolstering their profits remain the concern?

Zohran Mamdani's victory is striking because he entered the race with little funding, and low name recognition, yet defeated prominent figures like former Governor Andrew Cuomo; Republican Curtis Sliwa and threw up a challenge to US President Donald Trump.

The Wall Street and the finance industry had broad misgivings about Mamdani becoming mayor, but many are hopeful he will moderate his positions or face roadblocks to hiking taxes on corporations and the wealthy.

Mamdani has emerged as a symbol of the Democratic Party's diverse, progressive wing, pushing for free childcare, better public transit, and stronger public-sector intervention-prompting Donald Trump to denounce him as "communist" and threaten to



If New York proves that people-first policy is both possible and economically sustainable, the political signal could spread nationwide - and even internationally

defund New York City.

For decades, New York has symbolized both extremes of American urban life — immense wealth and stark inequality. Its next mayor will inherit challenges that sit at the very heart of US political debate: affordable housing, public transit decay, crime perception, migrant inflows, and the rising cost of living.

Cities like New York are where the real test of democracy happens — not in speeches in Washington, but in whether people can afford rent, commute safely, and access public services.

The results could influence national economic thinking. If the city pivots toward stronger public housing investments, expanded social services, and tighter regulation of price-gouging in rents and utilities, it could pressure both Democratic and Republican policymakers to rethink the role of government in ensuring basic urban stability.

However, entrenched corporate interests — from real estate lobbies to private transit contractors (a reign of Trump Towers as in India) are not likely to step aside easily. They may resist price controls, transparency requirements, and tax reforms, triggering battles at city hall and in the courts.

So, the real shift depends not just on the winner, but on how forcefully the next mayor can challenge corporate influence in day-to-day governance.

If New York aggressively targets cost-of-living inflation - especially rent, transit, healthcare billing, and essential goods - other cities may adopt similar models. Corporations might respond in one of two ways: Adapt, by cooperating with price stability measures, improving service quality, and taking on public-private responsibility roles; orpush backlobbying state and federal allies to override local regulations, delay reforms, or shift costs to consumers in different ways.

The question is not whether corporations can fight change they can — but whether they can afford to, as public living costs grows sharper.

President Trump has repeatedly signalled that he may cut federal funding to major Democratic-run cities, including New York, accusing them of mismanagement.

If such a defunding move is executed, New York could face significant fiscal strain, because a sizable portion of its social and civic infrastructure depends on federal grants.

The city runs the largest municipal budget in America, but it is not insulated from Washington. Funding squeeze could force the city to choose between raising local taxes or cutting critical services both politically combustible. Defunding could shape not only NYC but also global political and social trajectory.

Will This Matter to India and Europe?

Yes, indirectly. New York is a bellwether for global investment, financial regulation, and progressive governance models. These developments shape global debates on how cities finance infrastructure, regulate housing, reform metropolitan governance, and control speculation—from US urban bonds to EU affordability rules and India's major city reforms.

Moreover, a more socially balanced New York could become a test case for post-neoliberal urban policymaking something India and Europe are both debating intensely.

The New York mayoral election is about far more than who governs a single city. It is a referendum on what kind of urban life the future of America will support — a future driven by markets alone, or one that centres public welfare, affordability, and inclusive development.

When New York shifts, the world's major cities take note. Its governance experiments rarely stay local.

SPECTRUM

Shivaji Sarkar

A MORE

SOCIALLY

BALANCED NEW

BECOME A TEST

CASE FOR POST-

POLICYMAKING

— SOMETHING

INDIA AND

EUROPE ARE

INTENSELY

BOTH DEBATING

YORK COULD

NEOLIBERAL

URBAN

SUSTAINABILITY

Energy transition achievable in emerging markets



Rakesh Mohan & Janak Raj

NOW THAT DECARBONISING THE ENERGY SYSTEM IS **MUCH MORE** AFFORDABLE, **THERE IS NO EXCUSE NOT TO DO SO**

TO THE EDITOR

Readers of Orissa Post

(100 words), articles and

words). Contributors are

numbers and full postal

columns (between 600-1000

B-15, Rasulgarh Industrial Estate, Bhubaneswar-751010

mate change have largely focused on the shift away from fossil fuels in energy production. As a result, most climate-finance assessments have studied the costs of such a transition and determined that large investments are required to deploy cleaner sources of power. But in a new working pa-

per, we found that shifting the energy sector to renewables is relatively affordable for emerging-market economies (EMEs) in the G20. Our study measures the climate-finance needs from 2022 to 2030 of Argentina, Brazil, China, India, Indonesia, Mexico, Russia, South Africa, and Turkey to reduce carbon dioxide emissions in the power. road transport, cement, and steel sectors, which account for about half of such emissions in these nine EMEs.

For starters, we found that the clean-energy transition is advancing at a steady pace. The power sector accounts for about 27% of the CO2 emissions in these nine EMEs, which together account for 44% of global power-sector emissions. To meet increasing energy demand and climate targets, these economies have focused on incrementally phasing out the use of fossil fuels in power generation and replacing them with renewables. Between 2023 and 2030, the share of clean energy in their total installed capacity is projected to rise from 54% to 65%, while their total installed capacity of renewables should almost double, from 2,150 gigawatts to 4,220 gigawatts. The largest shifts during

this period are expected in India and South Africa, where the share of renewables is set to rise from 45% to 63% and from 25% to 42%, respectively. China is also making significant advances, with its share of renewables projected to increase from 55% to 65%. In seven of these EMEs (excluding Indonesia and South Africa), more than half of the total installed power capacity will come from non-fossil-fuel sources by 2030.

This is possible because

rapid technological developments and China's massive push into green manufacturing have dramatically lowered the cost of establishing solar and wind farms in recent years.

Given the falling costs of renewable energy, the G20's EMEs will need only \$121 billion in climate finance for power generation – the amount over and above the investment required in a business-as-usual scenario - between 2024 and 2030. According to our estimates, capital expenditure for fossil-fuel-based power plants will decline by \$156 billion over that period, while spending for clean power will increase by \$277 billion.

Of the nine EMEs we studied, India is projected to need the largest amount of climate finance - \$57 billion, or 38% of the total estimate to continue decarbonising the power sector, while China will require slightly less, around \$55 billion, because the increase in renewables' share of installed capacity is expected to be more pronounced in India than in

China. Climate finance as a percentage of GDP will likely be largest in South Africa, at 0.25%, followed by India (0.13%) and Mexico (0.09%)

A decade or so ago, a consensus emerged that financing the energy transition would require massive amounts of capital. But, in the intervening years, the cost of renewables has fallen dramatically. Compared to road transport, cement, and steel in the nine EMEs we studied, the power sector will require the least amount of climate finance for the foreseeable future, even after accounting for storage costs and low renewable load factors. Now that decarbonising the energy system is much more affordable in EMEs, there is no excuse not to do so.

Rakesh Mohan is President Emeritus and Distinguished Fellow Janak Raj is Senior Fellow at the Centre for Social and Economic Progress.

SC's impractical ruling

are most welcome to contribute letters requested to send their contact address/email ID. They may also send in their valuable comments, opinion and suggestions, preferably by email, to: OrissaPOST

Sir, The Supreme Court order to remove stray dogs from public institutions is totally 'illogical' because it conflicts with existing Animal Birth Control (ABC) rules that advocate a 'sterilize-vaccinate-return' approach. The order is also impractical and inhumane due to the immense logistical challenges and costs of building enough shelters and the negative ecological consequences of a 'vacuum effect' that could increase rabies risks. The order to permanently relocate dogs to shelters directly contravenes the ABC Rules, 2023, which mandate that sterilized and vaccinated dogs be returned to their original localities. The previous SC bench that issued the initial blanket removal order had explicitly dismissed these rules, leading to legal conflict and a re-examination by a larger bench. The 'sterilize-vaccinate-return' (Catch-Neuter-Release, or CNR) approach is endorsed by the World Health Organization (WHO) and is considered the most humane and effective method for long-term population control and rabies eradication. Mass sheltering is logistically impossible given India's large stray dog population (estimated at 8-10 lakh in Delhi-NCR alone). The cost of building and maintaining thousands of adequate shelters with proper veterinary care, food, and staff would be staggering, potentially running into thousands of crores of rupees, a sum unbudgeted by most municipalities.

Abhijit Roy, JAMSHEDPUR

Stalin's allegory

Sir, The TN Chief Minister MK Stalin said that the alliance of DMK, left parties and VCK cannot be defeated by the BJP and its alliance partners. When black, red and blue come together, saffron can't do anything he opined. But he shouldn't forget that the people of Tamil Nadu can't be taken for granted. They can turn colourblind if the CM overlooks the fact that the governance in this term missed most of the people's expectations. The government has failed in keeping up promises with respect to price rise and infrastructure development. It has mocked the people's mandate by applying a divide and rule policy

AP Thiruvadi, CHENNAI



TWO STATES





SMOG CHOKES DELHI-NCR

AQI BREACHES 400 IN SEVERAL AREAS

According to health advisories, prolonged exposure to such poor air quality can significantly increase the risk of lung and respiratory diseases, especially for children, the elderly, and individuals with asthma or heart conditions

New Delhi, Nov 9: Delhi-NCR woke up to a thick blanket of smog on Sunday as the Air Quality Index (AQI) plunged into the 'very poor' category across several parts of the city. In some areas, the situation was even grimmer, with AQI readings slipping into the 'severe' zone.

The Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) reported that the 24-hour average AQI stood at 361. Data revealed that 24 out of 39 monitoring stations in the region recorded AQI levels above 400, marking the highest pollution spike of the season so far.

Stations at Wazirpur (424), Bawana (424), and Vivek Vihar (415) were among those registering alarming figures. Areas worst affected included Rohini (435), Nehru Nagar (426), Bawana (426), RK Puram (422), and ITO (420). The average AQI was recorded at 391 in Delhi, 391 in Noida, 366 in Greater Noida, 387 in Ghaziabad, and 252 in Gurugram. On Saturday, CPCB data had already flagged Delhi as the most polluted city in India. Neighbouring NCR cities mirrored the crisis, as Noida (354), Greater Noida (336), and Ghaziabad (339) reported hazardous air quality levels.



Parents, activists protest at India Gate

New Delhi: Scores of people, including parents and environmental activists, staged a protest at the India Gate Sunday against the worsening air quality in the national capital. The protesters, many of them mothers accompanied by children, said they had gathered to demand urgent government action to ensure clean air. "We want to meet our elected officials. We had sought an appointment with the chief minister but were refused. So many parents are here because their children are suffering," environmentalist Bhavreen Khandari said. "Every third child already has damaged lungs; they will live nearly 10 years less than those growing up it cleaner air," she said. Another protester, Abhishek, said the government had failed to provide even the basic right, to breathe clean air.

According to the latest report from the India Meteorological Department (IMD) Saturday, the minimum temperature is expected to remain around 13 degrees Celsius for the next seven days. Cold morning and evening winds are further intensifying the winter chill. Rain is not expected at present, and the weather is likely to remain foggy. According to health advisories, prolonged exposure to such poor air quality can significantly increase the risk of lung and respiratory diseases, especially for children, the elderly, and individuals with asthma or

heart conditions.

The IMD stated that the worsening pollution is linked to falling temperatures, which make the air heavier and reduce wind speed, causing pollutants to remain trapped near the surface. The combination of fog and smog is making the haze denser. Construction activities and vehicular emissions continue to be major contributing factors. Health experts have advised residents to limit outdoor activities, especially during early mornings and late evenings, wear protective masks, and avoid direct exposure to polluted air.

Delhi zoo draws over 15K visitors on 2nd day

RESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, Nov 9: The Delhi zoo, which had remained closed for the last two months, witnessed a strong turnout on the second day of its reopening Sunday, officials said.

According to official data shared by authorities, the National Zoological Park in New Delhi witnessed 15,292 visitors, including 262 students from five schools, November 9.

Tt had drawn 8,065 visitors, including 954 students from 12 schools Saturday.

The Delhi zoo had been shut since August 30 following the detection of avian influenza virus in its water bird aviary, which led to the death of several birds.

According to officials, the high footfall in the first two days of the zoo's reopening reflects the public's excitement to return to one of the capital's most popular weekend spots.

They added that the recently introduced 'Insta Ticket Book-



According to officials, the high footfall in the first two days of the zoo's reopening reflects the public's excitement to return to one of the capital's most popular weekend spots

ing Service' -- which allows visitors to instantly book entry tickets by scanning a QR code at the gate, ensuring a smooth and quick access -- has been well received. In a statement,

the zoo management said it remains committed to improving visitor facilities and ensuring a safe and enjoyable experience for all. "The National Zoological Park always prioritises

the convenience and safety of its visitors and continues to enhance its facilities to offer a memorable experience of nature and wildlife," the statement said. The zoo is open from 9 am to 5 pm, with ticket booking and entry allowed till 4.30 pm and the last exit set at



People take part in 'Lawyers' Walkathon' organised by the Supreme Court Bar Association (SCBA) in New Delhi PTI PHOTO

Late flamingo arrival signals environmental stress, says experts

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Thane, Nov 9: The delayed annual arrival of flamingo flocks in Navi Mumbai's wetlands and Thane Creek is a critical warning sign of increasing environmental stress, experts said Sunday.

The prolonged monsoon and post-monsoon rains this year are believed to be the cause, reflecting how climate change challenges are disrupting local ecosystems, they added.

"Flamingos are more than a spectacle. They are ambassadors of a healthy environment. Their presence in declining numbers indicates the ecosystem is struggling. Wetlands are protective climate infrastructure. As filter-feeders, flamingos maintain ecosystem health through bioturbation, which oxygenates mudflats and balances nutrients," said Nat-Connect Foundation director

Mumbai: Panel to explore unified metro authority



PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Mumbai, Nov 9: In a significant step to streamline metro rail operations in the Mumbai Metropolitan Region (MMR), the Maharashtra government has constituted a high-level committee that will recommend measures for integrating multiple agencies under one unified authority.

The committee, under the chairmanship of Sanjay Mukherjee, Metropolitan Commissioner, MMRDA, will examine various aspects and recommend measures for integrating multiple metro rail agencies under one Unified Metro Rail Authority, the Maha Mumbai Metro Operation Corporation Ltd said in a post on X Saturday.

on X Saturday.

The state Urban Development Department's government resolution (GR) dated November 6 concerns the formation of a committee to recommend the integration of various metro rail agencies operating in the MMR.

The GR stated that the committee will study issues arising from the current multi-agency structure and propose a framework for establishing a unified metro rail entity.

are getting commissioned one by one and now that we, at MMRDA, have launched the Mumbai One App, where the entire journey through various modes of transport through MMR like bus, train, metro can be planned on the Mumbai One app, this step will go a long way in integrating the various metro lines which are operated today by various entities," Mukherjee said in a post on X.

"Now that the metro lines

The high-level panel includes the managing directors of the Maharashtra Metro Rail Corporation Ltd (Maha Metro), Mumbai Metro Rail Corporation Ltd (MMRCL), Maha Mumbai Metro Operations Corporation Ltd (MMMOCL), and senior officials from CIDCO and the Urban Development Department.

The committee will outline the stages of integration, prepare a roadmap for asset transfer and valuation, and study international models such as Transport for London (TfL) and Singapore's Land Transport Authority (LTA). It has been directed to submit its report within

three months.

Truth will surface soon: Ajit Pawar

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Pune, Nov 9: Forced to do the firefighting to defend his son in a controversial land deal, Maharashtra Deputy CM Ajit Pawar Sunday wondered how a document can be registered without a "transaction of one rupee" and sought to link the allegations with elections to

local bodies.

He reiterated that the ongoing inquiry will reveal the truth about the land deal to the public.

The sale of 40 acres of land in Pune's upscale Mundhwa area for ₹300 crore to a company in which Ajit Pawar's son Parth Pawar is a majority partner is under scrutiny amid allegations of irregularities and a lack of requisite clearances.

Öpposition leaders alleged that the market value of the land was ₹1,800 crore. "Earlier too, allegations of (irregularities of) ₹70,000 crore were raised against me; it's been 15 to 16 years since then. Whenev-

LAND ROW

The sale of 40 acres of land in Pune's upscale Mundhwa area for ₹300 crore to a company in which Ajit Pawar's son Parth Pawar is a majority partner is under scrutiny amid allegations of irregularities and a lack of requisite clearances

Opposition leaders alleged that the market value of the land was ₹1,800 crore

er there are elections, multiple accusations are made against us. We try to work transparently, but as soon as we do, people start digging up and alleging against random land deals," Pawar told reporters at Baramati in Pune district.

Elections to various local bodies in the state are scheduled to

be held December 2.
Pawar said he had already clarified his position on various ongoing issues over the past few days. "An inquiry has

begun, and the truth will soon come before the public. I still

ment can be registered without even a transaction of one rupee? We'll know within a month why the person who carried out this registration actually did it," the NCP leader said.

He further said Chief Minister Fadneyic has appointed.

don't understand how a docu-

NCP leader said.

He further said Chief Minister Fadnavis has appointed the inquiry committee. The NCP chief appealed to authorities to take appropriate action if his close associates or

relatives invoke his name and make any statements that violate the rules.

First Information Reports (FIRs) have been registered against signatories and vendors regarding the land deal involving Amadea Enterprises. However, the name of Parth Pawar has not been included in the police case, though his relative, who is a partner in the firm, has been booked.

The accused named in the FIR lodged by the Inspector General of Registrar's office include Digvijay Patil, Shital Tejwani (who represented the 272 'owners' of the land through the power of attorney), and sub-registrar R B Taru for alleged misappropriation and cheating.

appropriation and cheating. Facing flak, Pawar had announced that the sale deed executed by Parth's firm had been scrapped. According to officials, the company will have to pay double the stamp duty, which comes to ₹42 crore, to get the transaction cancelled.



Global bodies like Ramsar and UNEP recognize these coastal wetlands and mangroves as vital "blue carbon" sinks, storing vast amounts of carbon and reducing flood risk, and destroying these areas releases stored carbon and increases natural disasters. Kumar noted.

This science cannot be ignored, he said, adding authorities must stop debris dumping and treat wetlands as crucial climate assets rather than real estate ready for reclamation.

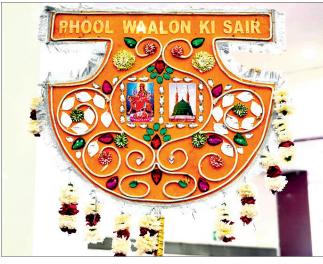
DDA grants permission for 'Phool Walon Ki Sair'

"Phool Walon Ki Sair" brings together Hindu and Muslim communities, who offer floral chaadars and pankhas at the dargah of Khwaja akhtiyar Kaki and the Yogmaya temple in Mehrauli. The festival traces its roots to the early 19th century

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, Nov 9: The Delhi Development Authority (DDA) has granted permission to organise "hool Walon Ki Sair", following the intervention of Lt Governor V K Saxena, Raj Niwas officials said Sunday.

Last week, the organisers announced that they had decided to postpone the event as the DDA did not grant permission to organise the festival in Meh-



rauli's Aam Bagh.

After Saxena's intervention, the DDA has granted permission to the Anjuman-Sair-E-Gul-Faroshan, the organising body, to hold the traditional festival at its original venue, an official said, adding that the approval has been conveyed to the organisers.

Following reports about the festival being cancelled due to a lack of permits from the DDA, Saxena ordered an investigation. It was revealed that the DDA's permit was delayed due to a Department of Forests and Environment direction dated November 28, 2023, prohibiting the organisation of such a festival in

the area, the official claimed.

The DDA had been granting permission for the festival regularly till 2023 and even facilitated the organisation of "Phool Walon Ki Sair" in 2024, despite the orders of the Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) government, he said. However, the organisers this time insisted on a written permission, which was issued

after the LG's intervention.

The officials said that a conditional permit has been granted, ensuring that no harm is done to the environment during the festival. Saxena urged action against the erring officials for their unresponsive and apathetic approach towards the issue, the official said. "He has reiterated that any official found acting in deterrence to public interest will be punished as per provisions." the official added.

provisions," the official added. Upon receiving permission, the organisers said that the event will be held in Febru-

ary-March next year.

The Lt Governor attended the festival last year, while the

then chief minister, Atishi, also joined the festivities.

Hitting back, AAP Delhi unit chief Saurabh Bharadwaj accused Saxena of lying.

"LG saab has an old habit of lying, we challenge LG saab to suspend the Secretary and IAS officers who took the decision to stop Phool waalon Ki Sair, this year as well as last year. We know he will not dare to suspend the officer because it was on his directions that such anti-people and communal orders were passed by officers," he said in a post on X.

Claiming that AAP raised the issue of "Phool Walon Ki Sair", Bharadwaj said the BJP government is stopping the "centuries-old heritage of the Ganga-Jamuni culture of Delhi".

"Phool Walon Ki Sair" brings together Hindu and Muslim communities, who offer floral chaadars and pankhas at the dargah of Khwaja Bakhtiyar Kaki and the Yogmaya temple in Mehrauli. The festival traces its roots to the early 19th century.

national



At many places, people said that even the polling officials such as the Booth Level Officers (BLOs) did not comprehend it

ANDHRA: CENTRAL TEAM TO ASSESS MONTHA DAMAGE

A seven-member central team will visit Andhra Pradesh Monday and Tuesday to assess the damages caused by cyclone Montha in six districts. The Inter-Ministerial Central Team (IMCT) led by Pousumi Basu, Joint Secretary, Ministry of Home Affairs, will inspect cyclonehit regions to evaluate the extent of losses



aimed at voting has failed.

voter turnout is a message of a bumper victory of democracy MUKHTAR ABBAS NAOVI | SENIOR BJP LEADER

along with bringing change, is going

to get a new chief minister, a young chief minister with new energy. Tejashwi Yadav, whose birthday is today. Today is the last day of campaigning (in Bihar). He has the support of

AKHILESH YADAV | SP PRESIDENT

argument made, and I will undoubtedly, it

is in our strategio interest to help create a constituency for peace in Pakistan

SHASHI THAROOR | CONGRESS LEADER

SHORT TAKES

Tremor hits Andaman Sea

Port Blair: An earthquake of 5.4 magnitude was recorded in the Andaman Sea Sunday, the National Center for Seismology said. The tremors were felt in parts of the Andaman and Nicobar Islands, but there was no immediate report of any loss of life or damage to property, an official said. The earthquake took place at 12.06 pm, and the depth of the tremor was 90 km, the seismology centre said. However, Andaman and Nicobar Islands Chief Secretary Dr Chandra Bhushan Kumar said, "An earthquake of 5.7 magnitude occurred November 9 around 12.08 pm. Tremors were felt at Mayabunder, Rangat and its adjoining areas in North and Middle Andaman.'

Three youths killed as car rams into tree

Palakkad (Kerala): Three vouths have been killed after a car in which they were travelling lost control and rammed into a tree and overturned into a paddy field in this district, police said. The incident occurred on Palakkad-Chittoor road late Saturday. they added. While three youths died on the spot, three other passengers of the car were rushed to nearby hospitals with injuries, they said Sunday. The deceased were identified as Sanoosh (19), Rohan Raniith (24) and Rohan Santhosh (22). all natives of Pakakkad. The iniured were Rishi (24), Jithin (21) and Adithvan (23).

Drunk man rapes minor daughter

Bijnor (UP): A man allegedly raped his six-year-old daughter under the influence of alcohol here, police said Sunday. The minor girl has been admitted to the district hospital in a critical condition Additional Superintendent of Police Krishna Gopal Singh said that a written complaint was received about the incident Saturday evening by the mother of the girl.

Parents held for killing daughter for honour

Prayagraj (UP): In a case of honour killing, a 15-year-old girl was killed by her parents in Kanti village here, police said Sunday. The girl identified as Sarita was killed November 5 and police received information about the body lying near bushes in the village the next day, Deputy Commissioner of Police (Yamuna Nagar) Vivek Yadav told PTI.

Drone near Uddhav's home sparks row

Mumbai, Nov 9: A drone was spotted near former Maharashtra chief minister Uddhav Thackeray's residence in Mumbai Sunday, prompting the Shiv Sena (UBT) to allege possible "surveillance" in a high security zone under a "police-state action". The Mumbai Metropolitan

Region Development Authority (MMRDA), however, clarified that the UAV was used for a POD taxi project survey with police's permission. In a post on X, Shiv Sena (UBT) leader Anil Parab demanded investigation by the police to identify the drone operator and the motive behind the aerial "filming". He also wondered if there was any "terrorist background" behind it. "A drone was spotted hovering over 'Matoshree'. This raises serious concerns about a potential security breach in a high-security zone," the legislator claimed. 'Matoshree', located in Mumbai's Bandra area, is a heavily guarded residence of the Thackerays, Parab said that flying a drone or filming with it in such a sensitive, high-security area without prior permission is a grave matter. Deputy Commis-

WB: Girl abducted

from railway shed,

sexually assaulted

Kolkata, Nov 9: A four-year-

old girl was allegedly abducted

from a railway shed and sexual-

ly assaulted at Tarakeshwar in

West Bengal's Hooghly district,

The incident took place Satur-

day when the child was asleep

beside her grandmother at the

The girl, who reportedly be-

longs to the Banjara communi-

ty, was initially taken to a local

hospital and later referred to

the Chandannagar sub-divi-

A police officer said one per-

son has been detained in con-

nection with the incident and

is being interrogated. Local

TMC MLA Ramendu Singha Roy told PTI, "It is a shocking

incident, but it took place in an

area under the jurisdiction of

the Railways. There should be

more security measures and

surveillance on the part of the

rail police. We stand with the

girl's family, and the police have

started a probe." National Com-

mission for Women member

Archana Majumdar said it

has taken suo motu cogni-

sance of the incident, but

parametres, as it also comes

under the jurisdiction of the

National Commission for

Protection of Child Rights.

If permitted, I will visit the

family in a day or two".

"we will examine the legal

officials said Sunday.

railway shed, they said.

sional hospital, he said.

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA



sioner of Police **LEADER AADITYA** (Zone 8) Man-THACKERAY, MEANWHILE, ish Kalwaniya, TERMED THE INCIDENT "SHAMEFUL", ALLEGING THAT IT however, said drone REFLECTED THAT THE COUNTRY WAS **TURNING INTO A** was part of a survey being "SURVEILLANCE STATE" conducted IN A POST ON X, HE CLAIMED THE with the per-DRONE WAS SEEN HOVERING AT mission of the WINDOW LEVEL UNTIL THEY MMRDA in the BEGAN RECORDING IT, AFTER

WHICH IT FLEW AWAY

ra-Kurla Complex **ERRATICALLY** area. "Please avoid misinformation," the DCP added to quell the speculation surrounding the sighting. Shiv Sena (UBT) leader Aaditya Thackeray alleged the drone

Band-

nearby

was peeping into our window, which shows the country was turning into a "sur-

state". a post on X, claimed the drone was seen hovering at window level until they began recording

veillance

it, after which it flew away erratically. "The drone surveillance of our house today is a shameful incident, yet doesn't shock us, with the kind of surthe Sena (UBT) leader said.

He further questioned why the residents were not informed that the drone was part of a survey of the BKC with police permission. The MMRDA, meanwhile, said the drone was used for a POD taxi project survey with prior permission of the police. The drone exercise was conducted to aid a visual study of the approved alignment for the Personal Rapid Transit (POD) taxi project along Bandra-Kurla Complex (BKC), it said. The authority had secured all necessary approvals from the police department on behalf of the concessionaire, and the survey, carried out over the past two days, was monitored by police personnel and officials concerned, it said.

Aaditya, however, sought to draw a comparison with the Election Commission's restrictions on releasing footage from voting booths to protect voter privacy. "The drone operator was peeping into our window, and later the MMRDA says it was for the whole of BKC (Bandra-Kurla Complex). No other government agency globally would be able to justify such police-state actions under the name of survey," he added.

'VANDE MATARAM' ROW

Congress cites CWC statement of 1937, says Modi 'insulted' Tagore



The Opposition party demanded an apology from PM Modi over the issue and asserted that he should fight his political battles on current issues of daily concern

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, Nov 9: Stepping up its attack on Narendra Modi over the Vande Mataram row, the Congress Sunday claimed the Prime Minister has "insulted" the Congress Working Committee of 1937, which issued a statement on the song, as also Rabindranath Tagore.

Opposition demanded an apology from PM Modi over the issue and asserted that he should fight his political battles on current issues of

The Congress' attack came after the Prime Minister said Friday that important stanzas of "Vande Mataram" were dropped in 1937, which sowed the seeds of partition, and asserted that such a "divisive mindset" is still a challenge for the country.

Modi had made the comments after inaugurating the year-long commemoration of

years of the national song.

Hitting out, Congress general secretary in-charge communications Jairam Ramesh said the prime minister insulting the Congress Working Committee and Tagore is shocking but not surprising "since the RSS had played no role in our freedom movement led by Mahatma

In a post on X, he said, "The Congress Working Committee met in Kolkata, October 26-No vember 1, 1937. Those present included Mahatma Gandhi, Jawaharlal Nehru, Sardar Patel, Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose, Rajendra Prasad, Maula na Abul Kalam Azad, Sarojini Naidu, J B Kripalani, Bhulabhai Desai, Jamnalal Bajaj Narendra Deva, and others.

The Collected Works of Ma hatma Gandhi Volume 66, page 46, reveals that October 28, 1937, the CWC issued a statement on Vande Mataram, and this statement had been profoundly influenced by Rabindranath Tagore and his advice, he said on X.

"The Prime Minister has insulted this CWC as well as Gurudev Rabindranath Tagore. That he should have done so is shocking but not surprising since the RSS had played no role in our freedom movement led by Mahatma Gandhi,'

TARN TARAN BYPOLL

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Tarn Taran, Nov 9: Punjab is set to witness a multi-cornered contest in the Tarn Taran Assembly bypoll, with the ruling AAP hoping to retain the seat and other major players -- Congress, SAD and BJP -- looking to turn a corner.

The AAP has won five of the six bypolls in Punjab since it came to power in March 2022. The Tarn Taran seat was previously held by its late MLA Kashmir Singh Sohal.

The AAP has fielded turncoat Harmeet Singh Sandhu. A threetime MLA from Tarn Taran, he

A farmer sprinkles fertilizer on his agricultural land being prepared for cultivation in Chikkamagaluru, Karnataka ртпрното

ioined the AAP in July He was elected to the assembly from Tarn Taran as an Independent in 2002 and in 2007 and 2012 on a Shiromani Akali Dal (SAD) ticket. He unsuccessfully contested elections from the

seat in 2017 and 2022. In the 2022 Punjab Assembly polls, AAP's Sohal won the seat with over 13,000 votes. The seat fell vacant following his death in June, AAP supremo Arvind Kejriwal, Punjab Chief Minister Bhagwant Mann, party state in-charge Manish Sisodia and several other leaders



campaigned for Harmeet Singh Sandhu. During campaigning, Kejriwal said the AAP candigive a further boost to the development of the border region, as he sought people's support to strengthen the hands of the Mann government.

On the last day of campaigning, Mann's wife, Gurpreet Kaur, and his mother campaigned for the AAP nominee. In Moose Kalan village, Kaur said she was deeply

grateful for the villagers' love and support. The enthusiasm of the people clearly showed how happy they were with the "pro-people" policies of the Mann government, she said.

Rape accused **Punjab AAP MLA** fiees to Australia

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Patiala, Nov 9: Punjab AAP MLA Harmit Singh Pathanmaira, who has been on the run since September 2 in a rape case, is learnt to have fled to Australia after his appearance

in a video interview. The development came as an embarrassment for the police as the Sanour MLA remained elusive despite raids at his pos-

sible hideouts. Patiala police also issued a look-out notice against the Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) MLA.

Pathanmajra appeared in the video interview on Friday with an Australia-based Punjabi web channel in which he claimed that he would "return home only after securing bail".

Denying all allegations he termed the case a "political conspiracy", aimed at silencing voices that speak for Punjab's

people. "In Punjab, ministers and MLAs are not consulted on key matters. Freedom of speech is being curtailed. After losing in Delhi, those leaders have now taken over Punjab, and they

are ruining it the same way, he alleged, while expressing full faith in the judiciary. A Patiala court has already initiated proclaimed offender

proceedings against Pathanma jra after he failed to appear in connection with the rape case The first-time MLA escaped

police custody when the Punjab Police went to Karnal in Hary ana to arrest him. Police had then claimed that

gunshots were fired, and stones were pelted by the legislator's supporters after a team went to arrest him in the Dabri village of Karnal district, where he was at a relative's residence.

Boost organ donation from accident victims, states told

The Central government has asked all states to organise state and district-level training programmes for first responders in emergencies, such as police personnel, ambulance drivers and para-medical staff, to facilitate organ and tissue donation from road accident victims

New Delhi, Nov 9: Training first responders, designating special teams in hospitals, upgrading trauma centres and registering them as organ retrieval centres are some of the steps suggested by the Centre to states to encourage organ donation, which is less than one deceased donor per million population in the country. In a letter, Dr Anil Kumar,

Director of the National Organ and Tissue Transplant Organization (NOTTO), which is under the Union Health Ministry, said that India faces a critical shortage of organs for transplantation, with thousands of patients on the waiting list for different organs.

A large number of deaths occur due to road traffic accidents (RTAs), especially involving young and otherwise healthy individuals. According to the report titled "Road Accidents

in India 2023" of the Ministry of Road Transport and Highways, around 1.7 lakh people were killed in road accidents in the year 2023 who could have been potential organ donors, the letter said.

the Transplantation of Human

Organs and Tissues Act, 1994 and its rules

Kumar said that mechanisms should be in place for the flow of information from the first responders to the transplant coordinators available in the nearest trauma centres or hospitals or medical colleges.

ising training programmes by ROTTOs/SOTTOs, in coordination with the state government authorities for the first

responders, incorporating basic knowledge about organ donation, identification and maintenance of potential donors, counselling and consent of the family members etc.

The timely and appropriate referral to designated trauma or organ retrieval centres can significantly enhance the rate of deceased organ donation in the country, it said.

According to the suggested action plan for implementation by the states and UTs. state-level and district-level training programmes should be organised for police personnel, ambulance drivers emergency medical technicians (EMTs) under government and private ambulance services. It can be a cascading mode of training through training of trainers.

State Ambulance Services, including 108, 102, and private operators, should ensure first responders attend training ses-

sions. Trauma centres must be upgraded with necessary infrastructure for organ harvesting and registered as organ retrieval centres. Additionally. support is sought to promote tissue and bone donation, establish counselling systems, and link with tissue banks.

India faces a significant shortage of tissues, with a demand for nearly 1 lakh corneas annually, but only one-third is nation. Proper arrangements for tissue retrieval and storage

through registered tissue banks

should also be made.

met. Bone donations are crucial for treating trauma, fractures. and bone disorders. Tissues like corneas, skin, bones, and heart valves can be donated in cases of brain-stem death, cardiovascular deaths, or natural deaths in hospitals. To address this, hospitals must form organ and tissue donation teams, notify deaths, and provide timely counselling to families for do-

While all efforts will be made to save the lives of accident The letter suggested organvictims, organ donation may be considered in identified brain stem death cases as per the procedures laid down in

national



Have you heard what the **Telangana chief minis**ter said? He said that **'Congress means Muslims and Muslims means Congress'. What** is the meaning of this statement? This statement is aimed at dividing the country. Is this the kind of politics you stand for? This is Congress culture

KERALA ORDERS PROBE INTO STUDENTS SINGING RSS SONG

The Kerala government Sunday ordered a probe into the singing of an RSS song by school students onboard the newly inaugurated Vande Bharat Express from Ernakulam to Bengaluru, even as union ministers strongly defended the act, calling it a patriotic song



PM inaugurates projects

Dehradun, Nov 9: Prime Min

ister Narendra Modi Sunday inaugurated and laid the foundation stone for various projects worth ₹8,260 crore in Uttara-

khand to mark 25 years of the

formation of the hill state, and

lauded the all-round progress

made by it in different sectors

He also noted that work on in-

frastructure projects worth ₹2

lakh crore is underway in Ut

At an event to celebrate the

Uttarakhand's budget was

silver jubilee of the state, the

only ₹4,000 crore 25 years ago

but it has now crossed ₹one

U'KHAND

world, he said referring to the

prime minister noted that

tarakhand.

lakh crore.

worth ₹8,260 crore

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

phase shows

government. The INDIA bloc will get 140-150 seats in the Bihar polls and the NDA will be reduced to

DIPANKAR BHATTACHARYA LIBERATION GENERAL SECRETARY

It is a matter of pride that Maharashtra has the highest number of regis tered startups in India and 45 per

cent of these are led by women. The state's youth and women entrepreneurs will play a crucial role in driving India's growth DEVENDRA FADNAVIS | CM, MAHARASHTRA



is a democracy in the party where all members are equal and treated as equals. There is no bossism in our party like in the BJP

ABHINAV BAROLIA CONGRESS MEDIA COORDI



now following footsteps of Rahul Today hundreds of youths came out at India Gate to

demand accountability from BJP on Just look at this girl she is flaunting

copy of Constitution.

@Politicx2029

SHORT **TAKES**

Man dies of stroke,

family links it to SIR

Kolkata: A booth-level officer

(BLO) engaged by the Election

suffering a brain stroke in West

Commission for the Special

Intensive Revision (SIR) of

Bengal's Purba Bardhaman

on Sunday, attributing the

district, her husband claimed

electoral rolls died after

Gujarat ATS nabs 3 Campaign ends for high-stakes Bihar polls hatching terror plot

Anti-terror ops

across Jammu

Jammu: Jammu and Kashmir

Pakistan and their overground

A massive search and cordon

of places in Ramban, Kishtwar,

and Rajouri districts, they

listrict of Jammu.

Joshi told reporters.

said. On Saturday, scores of

suspected persons were called

or questioning amid a massive

anti-terrorist operation in Doda

inally from Hyderabad, near

Adalaj in Gandhinagar Novem-

ber 7 with two Glock pistols, a

Beretta pistol, 30 live cartridg-

es and four litres of castor oil,

Saiyed, who earned his MBBS

degree in China, has been pre-

paring a highly lethal poison

named 'Ricin' to execute a major

terrorist attack. He had already

begun the necessary research,

procured the equipment and

Police Sunday extended the



PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Ahmedabad, Nov 9: The Gujarat Anti Terrorist Squad has husted a suspected terror syndicate by arresting a 'doctor' with a Chinese MBBS degree, who was allegedly preparing highly-lethal chemical poison, 'Ricin', and whose handler is associated with the Islamic State Khorasan Province, and two

One of the accused, Dr Ahmed Mohiyuddin Saiyed, and two other arrested accused, identified as Azad Suleman Sheikh and Mohammad Suhail Mohammad Saleem, had conducted a recce of several sensitive locations in Lucknow, Delhi, and Ahmedabad, a senior ATS officer said Sunday.

"Dr Ahmed Mohiyuddin Saiyed is highly educated and radicalised, and had planned to collect funds and recruit persons as part of a conspiracy to carry out major terrorist activities", Gujarat ATS DIG Sunil Joshi told reporters.

The accused men have also disclosed that their handler sends the arms consignment via a drone across the Pakistan border, he said.

Acting on a tip-off, an ATS team arrested Dr Saiyed, origthe initial chemical processing,

Ricin is a chemical poison and can be made from the waste material left over from processing castor beans.

Saived, Sheikh and Saleem were in Gujarat to exchange weapons and had conspired to carry out terrorist activities involving Ricin, Joshi said.

On interrogation, Saiyed revealed that he was plotting to carry out terrorist activities and had collected the weapons from an isolated place at Kalol in the Gandhinagar district. The officer said that Saiyed's

handler, Abu Khadija, was a resident of Afghanistan associated with the ISKP (Islamic State Khorasan Province), and he has also been in contact with several individuals from Pakistan.

The other accused. Sheikh and Saleem, both hailing from Uttar Pradesh, were arrested in Banaskantha district for allegedly supplying weapons to Saiyed based on information collected from his mobile phone, he said

Sheikh and Saleem had allegedly procured weapons from Hanumangadh in Rajasthan and supplied them to Saiyed, Joshi added. Joshi said that ATS also seized three mobile phones and two laptops from their possession.

"The CDR (call detail record) and interrogation of the accused showed they had been conducting reconnaissance (operations of sensitive locations) for the last year. We have not come across any local sleeper cell yet in their connection, but an investigation will be carried out on every aspect of involvement of local and international net-



While the first phase of polls, which registered a record 65 per cent turnout, was held November 6, voting for the second phase will be held November 11, followed by the counting

of votes November 14

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Patna, Nov 9: Campaign ended Sunday evening for the second and final phase of the highstakes Assembly elections in Bihar, bringing to a close a nearly month-long fierce battle of words and nerves among rivals vying for power in the state.

While the first phase of polls which registered a record 65 per cent turnout, was held November 6, voting for the second phase will be held November 11, followed by the counting of votes November 14.

Elections will be held in 122 seats in the second phase, while polling happened in 121 Assembly segments in the first round. Among the significant seats going to the polls in this phase are Chakai, from where JD(U) minister Sumit Kumar Singh is seeking a re-election, BJP MLA Shreyasi Singh's Jamui, JD(U) minister Leshi Singh's DhamKumar Singh's Chhatapur.

Finishing touches were given to the blitzkrieg on the closing day by Union Home Minister Amit Shah, Defence Minister Rajnath Singh and Leader of the Opposition Rahul Gandhi.

The former Congress president addressed rallies in Kishanganj and Purnea districts in the Seemanchal region, which has a sizeable population of Muslims, whose support is vital for the Opposition INDIA bloc.

It was an energetic campaign by Gandhi, who addressed 15 election meetings altogether. He led a fortnight-long Voter Adhikar Yatra a couple of months ago, during which he received a good response, even though his 'vote chori' allegations did not seem to catch enough public imagination to become a poll plank.

Shah, who has been staying in the poll-bound state for days on end, running, by far, the most intensive campaign by any national leader, addressed rallies in Sasaram and Arwal. places where the BJP is relatively weak and which are, therefore, on the radar of the party's veritable principal strategist. Singh, a former BJP presi-

dent himself, addressed rallies

in Aurangabad and Kaimur dis-

tricts, both bordering his home

state of Uttar Pradesh

FORMATION DAY Uttarakhand can also be come the spiritual capital of

> large number of pilgrimage centres in the state. The projects inaugurated by the prime minister cater to several key sectors, including drinking water, irrigation, technical education, energy,

urban development, sports, and skill development. The projects include Dehradun water supply coverage for 23 zones under AMRUT scheme, electrical substation in Pithoragarh district, solar power plants in government buildings, AstroTurf Hockey Ground at Haldwani Stadium

in Nainital, among others. Chief Minister Pushkar Singh Dhami and other senior leaders of the state were among those present at the function. Modi Sunday praised the Ut tarakhand government's "bold initiatives on demographic change, uniform civil code and checking illegal religious conversion, suggesting other

states should emulate them.

Tharoor's remarks on Advani draw rebuke from Congress

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, Nov 9: Congress leader Shashi Tharoor Sunday said reducing veteran BJP leader L K Advani's long years of service to one episode, however significant, is unfair, remarks his party distanced itself from.

The Congress said Tharoor speaks for himself and the fact that he continues to do so as a CWC member reflects the party's democratic and liberal spirit. The Thiruvananthapuram MP also said that when the totality of Jawaharlal Nehru's career cannot be judged by the China setback and Indira Gandhi's by the Emergency alone, he believes "we should extend the same courtesy to Advaniji".

Congress' media and publicity department head Pawan Khera said, "Like always, Dr. Shashi Tharoor speaks for himself and the Indian National Congress outrightly dissociates itself from his most recent statement."

"That he continues to do so

as a Congress MP and CWC member reflects the essential democratic and liberal spirit unique to INC," Khera said.

It started with Tharoor wishing Advani on his birthday on Saturday.

"Wishing the venerable Shri L.K. Advani a very happy 98th birthday! His unwavering commitment to public service, his modesty & decency, and his role in shaping the trajectory of modern India are indelible, the Congress leader said on X.

He described Advani as a true statesman whose life of service has been exemplary.

"Sorry Mr Tharoor, unleashing the 'dragon seeds of hatred' (to quote Kushwant Singh) in this country is NOT public service," a lawyer posted on X in response to Tharoor's post, alluding to Advani's role in the Ram Janmabhoomi movement.

Replying to the post, Tharoor said, "Agreed, @sanjayuvacha, but reducing his long years of service to one episode, however significant, is also unfair.



Visitors pose for a picture at the Chrysanthemum Garden, also known as 'Bagh-e-Gul-e-Dawood' in Srinagar

'New office supply up 26% in top 6 Indian cities'

US-based real estate consultant Vestian data showed that the new supply of office space was the highest in Pune at 3.70 million sq ft during the July-September period, an increase of 164 per cent

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, Nov 9: India's top six cities witnessed a 26 per cent annual growth in new supply of office spaces during the September quarter to 16.1 million sq ft as developers look to encash strong demand of premium workspaces from global and domestic firms, according to Vestian.

US-based real estate consultant Vestian data showed that the new supply of office space was the highest in Pune at 3.70 million sq ft during the

July-September period, an increase of 164 per cent from the

In Delhi-NCR, the new office supply increased 35 per cent to 3.10 million sq ft.

The fresh supply of office space in Chennai jumped 320 per cent to 2.1 million sq ft, while the supply doubled in Mumbai to 1.80 million sq ft.

However, Bangalore, the biggest office market in India, witnessed a 6 per cent drop in new office supply to 3.40 million



In Hyderabad, too, the new supply fell 51 per cent to 2 million sq ft during July-September period of this calendar year.

Interestingly, Kolkata, the seventh major cities tracked by Vestian, saw no fresh supply

of office space during the latest September quarter.

Vestian CEO Shrinivas Rao said, "The third quarter of 2025 reported the highest absorption of the current year, primarily driven by GCCs (global capability centres). This robust demand kept the office market buoyant amid global trade uncertainties and geopolitical tensions.

He noted that construction activity also gained momentum, with significant supply additions across key markets.

"Robust absorption, healthy supply, and a diversified occupier base are expected to drive the next wave of growth in the coming quarters. H-1B visa restrictions may further amplify the demand for offices in India as more and more GCCs expand their footprint in India," Rao

According to Vestian, the leasing or absorption of office space rose 6 per cent to 19.69 million sq ft during July-September period of 2025 across seven major cities in the coun-

Major developers who are constructing office spaces include DLF Ltd, Tata Realty & Infrastructure, Hiranandani Group, Embassy Group, Prestige Estates, Sattva Group, and RMZ Group.

There are four listed Real Estate Investment Trusts (REITs) that are backed by rent-yielding office assets. They have a huge portfolio of office assets and are also expanding through both greenfield and brownfield

The four listed REITs are Sattva-Blackstone backed Knowledge Realty Trust, Embassy Office Parks REIT, K Raheia-backed Mindspace Business Parks REIT, and Brookfield India Real Estate Trust.

death indirectly to extreme mental stress caused by work pressure. District officials said Namita Hansda (50) collapsed at her home in Memari late Saturday night due to "severe stress because of the mounting workload." She was taken to Kalna Subdivisional Hospital,

Indian Navy deploys warship INS Sahyadri

where doctors declared her

brought dead.

New Delhi: The navies of India, the US, Australia and Japan will kick-start the annual Malabar naval exercise in the Northern Pacific beginning Monday with an aim to further bolster interoperability among them. The Indian Navy has deployed its guided missile frigate INS Sahyadri for the mega exercise being hosted by the US.

MCD bypolls: AAP announces candidates

New Delhi: The Aam Aadmi Party Sunday announced its candidates for the November 30 bypolls to the 12 wards of the Municipal Corporation of Delhi. a day ahead of the conclusion of nomination submission. The list was approved by Delhi unit president Saurabh Bharadwai. A keen contest between the ruling BJP and AAP is likely during the polls. While it serves as an opportunity for AAP to regain lost ground in the MCD. the BJP will look to further strengthen its tally in the 250-member civic body.

from the year-ago period year-ago period.

international



Putin has repeatedly said that Russia adheres to its obligations under the nuclear tests ban and we are not going to carry them out, but if another country does, we will have to

INDIA DEBUTS AT SHARJAH

The National Book Trust (NBT) of India, the country's state-owned publishing body, is leading the first-ever India Pavilion at the Sharjah International Book Fair 2025, marking a milestone in India-Arab literary and cultural collaboration. The book fair, being held from November 5-16, features India's largest publishing showcase outside the country, offering multilingual titles across several Indian languages



between Pakistan

and India, restoring peace in South Asia, averting a major war, and SHEHBAZ SHERIF | PRIME MINISTER, PAKISTAN

We live in an era equivalent to 1938. where synagogues



WALTER BINGHAM | JOURNALIST, ISRAEL



know and play (games) and to reopen the agreement GILA GAMLIEL | MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND

SHORT **TAKES**

Polling starts in Iraq

Dohuk: Members of Iraqi security forces and displaced people living in camps, including minority Yazidis, cast their ballots Sunday in early voting ahead of this week's parliamentary election in Iraq. The election, which will help determine whether Iraqi Prime Minister Mohammed Shia al-Sudani gets a second term, comes against the backdrop of fears of another conflict between Israel and Iran, and Iraq's balancing act with Tehran and Washington. An estimated 1.3 million army and security personnel and around 26,000 displaced people are eligible to vote. Election day is set for Tuesday. Since the defeat of IS in Iraq and Syria, members of the Yazidi community have been trickling back to their homes in Sinjar, but many see no future there.

Strikes disrupt power

Kviv: Ukrainian strikes disrupted power and heating to two major Russian cities near the Ukrainian border. local Russian officials reported Sunday. The report comes as Russia and Ukraine have traded almost daily assaults on each other's energy infrastructure, and US-led diplomatic efforts to stop the nearly four-year war have not advanced. Elsewhere, Ukraine's top diplomat accused Moscow of deliberately endangering nuclear safety, as he said Russia's mass drone and missile attack on Friday struck substations that nower two nuclear nower plants. Russia's defence ministry said Sunday that its forces destroyed or intercepted 44 Ukrainian drones during the night that flew over southwestern Russia.

LOST CHILDHOODS

Over 1.6mn kids trapped in labour

Pakistan Sindh's silent crisis highlights 10.3% of children aged 5-17 engaged in child labour in the province



PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Karachi, Nov 9: Over 1.6 million children are engaged in child labour in Pakistan's Sindh province, a senior official said Sunday, citing a recent survey.

Child labour remains a major menace in the country despite efforts by the government to update and institute laws to protect children aged between 5 and 17, said Sindh Director General of Labour Syed Muhammad Murtaza Ali Shah.

A survey conducted by his department in July-August with the technical assistance of UNICEF and the Bureau of Statistics revealed that over 1.6 million (10.3 per cent of children aged 5-17) were engaged in child labour in the "The other province. provinces are also now car-

rying out fresh surveys on child labour but in Sindh we Until and unless more iobs are created, there is

greater access to educa-

NAZRA JAHAN | OFFICER, SOCIETY FOR THE PROTECTION OF RIGHTS OF CHILD

battle against child labour

tion for underprivileged children.

at least technical education and

poverty reduction, it is an uphill

found that as many as 800,000 children (50.4 per cent of those aged 10–17) are working in hazardous and exploitative conditions, which include excessive hours, extreme weather, and unsafe tools in agriculture and industrial sectors," Shah said.

The survey also showed that only 40.6 per cent of working children attend school, compared to 70.5 per cent of non-working children.

The Qambar Shahdadkot district had the highest prevalence of child labour of 30.8 per cent, followed by Tharparkar at 29 per cent, Tando Muhammad Khan at 20.3 per cent, and Shikarpur at 20.2 per cent. Karachi has the lowest rate, at just 2.38 per cent.

Shah said that the provincial government was working on updating laws, increasing projects to educate people about the illegalities of child labour and even conducting raids at workplaces to protect

He added that Chief Minister Syed Murad Ali Shah had also set up a special task force to mitigate and eliminate the menace.

According to the survey. child labour had declined by nearly 50 per cent since 1996. when the percentage was 20.6, he said.

Shah said the government had launched social protection schemes to support poverty-ridden families. However, activists working to protect vulnerable children say more action is required to change the environment.

The Society for the Protection of Rights of Child (SPARC) which has been advocating for stricter laws against child labour said that poverty, big families and a lack of empathy for children's rights are the main reasons for the high percentage of child labour in the country.

Nazra Jahan, a SPARC protection officer, said that in the poorest households, 33.7 per cent reported had at least one child engaged in work.

She said that many of these vulnerable households living in poverty were forced to send children to work to survive.



Britain's Prince William, left, King Charles III second from right, and Prince Edward, right, attend the Remembrance Sunday ceremony at the Cenotaph on Whitehall in central London, Sunday

India, Angola strengthen bilateral ties, sign MoUs

The development comes on the first day of President Droupadi Murmu's official engagements in the African country

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Luanda Nov 9: India and Angola on Sunday exchanged multiple Memorandums of Understanding (MOUs) to strengthen bilateral ties on subjects like fisheries, aquaculture and marine resources during the first day of President Droupadi Murmu's official engagements in the African country.

Murmu was officially welcomed at the Presidential Palace by Angolan President João Manuel Gonçalves Lourenço. starting with a 21-gun salute and a ceremonial guard of honour.

The two leaders later sat down for delegation-level talks, following which MOUs were exchanged between the two countries, followed by a joint reading of statements before the press.



Murmu said the partnership between India and Angola was built on "mutual trust, respect and a shared vision for the prosperity of our peoples.'

She thanked the Angolan people and the government for hosting her delegation in their country and also for inviting her to attend the 50th anniversary of their independence November 11.

Murmu, during the delegation-level talks, underlined the "thriving" energy trade partnership between the two countries and said that Angola plays an important role in India's energy security.

5-YEAR HIATUS

China resumes flight to New Delhi

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Beijing, Nov 9: China Eastern Airlines started its Shanghai-Delhi service Sunday with a 95 per cent occupancy, becom ing the first mainland Chinese carrier this year to resume direct flights to India after a gap of five years.

Flight MU563, carrying 248 passengers, departed from Shanghai Pudong International Airport for Delhi, the state-run Global Times reported.

Indian airline IndiGo will begin its daily Delhi-Guangzhou service from November 10.

The Shanghai-Delhi route is considered a key corridor linking two major economic centres and is expected to boost exchanges in trade, economy and culture, the report said.

Flights between India and Chinese mainland resumed October 26 when an IndiGo aircraft landed at Guangzhou in Guangdong province from Kolkata, ending a hiatus that began with the Covid-19 pan demic in 2020. Services were not restored due to the military standoff between the two countries in eastern Ladakh, which ended in October last year.

The airline plans to increase frequencies based on market demand and aims to resume the Kunming-Kolkata service and launch a new Shanghai-Mum

Pak SC faces threat, amendment passed

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Islamabad, Nov 9: Pakistan's joint parliamentary committee of the Senate and National Assembly Sunday approved the 27th constitutional amendment bill with the opposition alleging that the government was sounding "the death knell for the Supreme Court.'

The amendment proposes a change in Article 243, seeking to abolish the 'Chairman, Joint Chiefs of Staff Committee' and introduce a new 'Chief of Defence Forces.'

Other proposals under the same amendment include establishing a Federal Constitutional Court (FCC) and reducing the powers of the Supreme Court.

The Senate is scheduled to meet at 11 am Monday to take up the bill in the light of the committee report and vote on every amendment and pass it by a two-thirds majority.

Philippines braces for 21st storm this year Super Typhoon Fung-wong, the biggest storm to

threaten the Philippines this year, leaves 2 dead, forces more than 1 million to evacuate

REUTERS

Isabela, Nov 9: At least two people died in the Philippines as Super Typhoon Fung-wong lashed central and eastern parts of the country, with heavy rains and strong winds cutting power in large areas of the Bicol region ahead **Philippines** of its expected landfall

(115 mph) and gusts of up to

in northern Luzon. More than a million people have evacuated vulnerable areas ahead Super Typhoon Fungwong's projected land-

fall in Aurora province as early as Sunday night, with officials urging residents to heed evacuation orders. Sustained winds of 185 kph

battering many parts of Luzon with the Fung-wong's massive rain bands, the authorities

More areas across Luzon, the Philippines' most populous island, have been placed under the highest and second-highest

storm warning levels while Metro Manila and nearby provinces remain at level reeling from

As a safety precaution, the civil aviation regulator has closed sever-

200 al airports, including Bicol International Airport and Sangley in Metro Manila.

The civil defence office reported that one person drowned



in Catanduanes and firefighters recovered the body of a woman trapped under debris of a collapsed home in Catbalogan

Named locally as Uwan, Fung-wong is the 21st storm this year to hit a nation that

normally has about 20 a year and threatens to place further strain on disaster response efforts as the Southeast Asian archipelago recovers from Typhoon Kalmaegi, which killed 224 people in the Philippines and five in Vietnam.

NO BUYERS

Sri Lanka to overhaul loss-making nat'l airline

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

has said.

Colombo, Nov 9: The Sri Lankan government will re structure the loss-making na tional flag carrier after efforts to find a buyer for its manage ment control failed, President Anura Kumara Dissanavake

Presenting the 2025-26 bud get Friday, Dissanayake said, 'There are no buyers," referring to efforts by the succes sive governments to divest the Sri Lankan Airlines' man agement from government

The national carrier's divestiture became crucial with the tough conditions attached to Sri Lanka's International Monetary Fund (IMF) bailout of nearly \$3 billion, extended in 2023 after the island nation announced its first-ever sover

eign default. "We will restructure its management by early next year; the management has been asked to formulate a business plan for the work," said Dissanayake. who is also the finance minister

Successive governments have so far resisted the idea of completely shutting down the airline to prevent bleeding of the national treasury.

According to a report by the Auditor General, the airline's accumulated loss was SLRs 596,461 million (approximately \$2 billion) as of March 31, 2025

Dissanayake said the air-

line's defaulted debt stood at \$210 million.

230 kph (140 mph) are already Fedora and fame: Mysterious teen who fooled the Louvre

is still

recent storm

that killed over

Pedro's viral Louvre look wasn't a costume but a style he adopted less than a year ago, inspired by 20th century icons and detectives

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Paris, Nov 9: When 15-year-old Pedro Elias Garzon Delvaux realised an Associated Press photo of him at the Louvre on the day of the crown jewels heist had drawn millions of views, his first instinct was not to rush

online and unmask himself. Quite the opposite. A fan of Sherlock Holmes and Hercule Poirot who lives with his parents and grandfather in Rambouillet, 30 kilometres (19 miles) from Paris, Pedro decided to play along with the world's suspense.

As theories swirled about the sharply dressed stranger in the "Fedora Man" shot — detective, insider. AI fake — he decided to

stay silent and watch. "I didn't want to say immediately it was me," he said. "With this photo, there is a mystery, so you have to make it last."

For his only in-person interview since that snap turned him into an international curiosity, he appeared for the AP cameras at his home much as he did that on Sunday: in a fedora hat, Yves Saint Laurent waistcoat borrowed from his father, jacket chosen by his mother, neat tie, Tommy Hilfiger trousers and a restored, war-battered Russian watch.

In person, he is a bright, amused teenager who wandered, by accident, into a glob-

The image that made him famous was meant to document a crime scene. Three police officers lean on a silver car blocking a Louvre entrance, hours



after thieves carried out a daylight raid on French crown jewels. To the right, a lone figure in a three-piece ensemble strides past — a flash of film noir in a modern-day manhunt.

The internet did the rest. "Fedora Man," as users dubbed him, was cast as an old-school detective, an inside man, a Netflix pitch, or not human at all. Many were convinced he was

that with just one photo, you can become viral in a few days PEDRO ELIAS GARZON DELVAUX AI-generated.

a star. I was astonished

People said, you've become

Pedro understood why. "In the photo, I'm dressed more in the 1940s, and we are in 2025, he said. "There is a contrast."

Even some relatives and friends hesitated until they spotted his mother in the background. Only then were they sure: The internet's favourite fake detective was a real boy.

The real story was simple. Pedro, his mother and grandfather had come to visit the We wanted to go to the

Louvre, but it was closed," he said. "We didn't know there

They asked officers why the gates were shut. Seconds later, AP photographer Thibault

was a heist."

Camus, documenting the security cordon, caught Pedro midstride. "When the picture was taken, I didn't know," Pedro said.

"I was just passing through." Four days later, an acquaintance messaged: Is that you?

"She told me there were 5 million views," he said. "I was a bit surprised." Then his mother called to say he was in The New York Times. "It's not every day," he said. Cousins in Colombia, friends in Austria, family friends and classmates followed with screenshots and calls. One photo turned him into a symbol. Meeting him con-

firms he is, reassuringly, real.

business



expected to see some consolidation or more correction as focus will be on the inflation numbers, US **Supreme Court hearing on** tariffs, speeches from Fed officials, and Chinese data

PRANAV MER | VICE PRESIDENT,

SKODA TO EXPAND BIZ IN INDIA

Czech carmaker Skoda plans to bring more of its global nameplates into the Indian market as it looks to cater to a diverse set of customers, according to a senior company executive. The company, which now sells products in India ranging from over ₹7 lakh to upwards of ₹40 lakh, however, has no immediate plans to introduce electric cars in the country



first, then to cargo customers and eventually to private customers JULIEN MANHES | HEAD, SAF AND CDR SUSTAINABILITY, AIRBUS



SAM ALTMAN | CEO, OPENAI



try's expanding global clout and resilient growth engine

NILESH SHAH | MD. KOTAK MAHINDRA (AMC)

SHORT **TAKES**

Mcap of most valued firms erodes

New Delhi: The combined market valuation of seven of the top-10 most valued firms eroded by ₹88,635.28 crore in a holiday-shortened last week with Bharti Airtel and Tata Consultancy Services taking the biggest hit, in line with the weak trend in equities. BSE benchmark tanked 722.43 points or 0.86 per cent, and the Nifty declined by 229.8 points or 0.89 per cent. While Reliance Industries, HDFC Bank, Bharti Airtel, **Tata Consultancy Services** (TCS), ICICI Bank, Infosys and Hindustan Unilever faced erosion from their valuation, State Bank of India, Bajaj Finance and Life Insurance Corporation of India (LIC) were the gainers from the top-10 pack. The market valuation of Bharti Airtel tumbled ₹30.506.26 crore to ₹11,41,048.30 crore. TCS faced an erosion of ₹23,680.38 crore from its valuation, which stood at ₹10.82.658.42 crore.

Govt allows 1.5 MT sugar exports

New Delhi: The Centre has decided to allow export of 1.5 million tonne (MT) of sugar for the 2025-26 sugar season that started from October, according to Food Minister Pralhad Joshi. The Union Food Ministry has also decided to remove 50 per cent export duty on molasses, he said in a letter dated November 7 to Karnataka Chief Minister Siddaramaiah. The export decision was communicated to the chief minister while listing out the steps taken by the central government to protect the interest of sugarcane farmers in the country. The export allocation is lower than the 2 MT demanded by the industry. India exported about 8,00,000 tonnes of sugar against an allocation of 1 MT during the 2024-25 sugar season that ended in September.

Rapido to start

working on IPO New Delhi: Bike taxi aggregator Rapido expects to start working on the process for public listing by the end of next year, a top company official said. Rapido Co-Founder Aravind Sanka told PTI that the company expects to maintain its growth rate of 100 per cent year-on-year for the next few years and be a much larger player compared to its nearest competitor before going for the initial public offering (IPO). On whether Rapido is looking to start preparing for IPO after two years, Sanka said the timelines keep changing every quarter depending on the firm's performance but the company wants to be ready irrespective of the way things are outside.

Cll urges govt to setup IDSF FPIs resume selling

New Delhi, Nov 9: Industry lobby Confederation of Indian Industry (CII), Sunday urged the government to establish a professionally managed India Development and Strategic Fund (IDSF) to finance the country's long-term growth, resilience, and secure critical economic interests abroad.

Conceived as a national fund, IDSF would mobilise patient. long-horizon capital to build India's productive capacity at home and secure critical economic interests abroad, it

CII believes that with disciplined design and funding, IDSF could, over the next two decades, build a managed corpus in the range of \$1.3 to 2.6 trillion by 2047.

The proposed capitalisation roadmap includes a modest initial budgetary allocation to establish credibility, followed by systematic channelling of a share of asset monetisation proceeds, from roads, transmission lines, ports, and spectrum, into the fund instead of one-time deficit reduction.

Over time, a portion of the government's equity in select public sector enterprises could be transferred to the fund, turning these enterprises into instruments for India's global expansion, it suggested.



In addition, the fund could issue thematic instruments. such as infrastructure, green. and Diaspora bonds to mobilise long-term domestic and international savings.

Once macroeconomic buffers are adequate, a calibrated allocation of a small portion of India's foreign exchange reserves could also be considered for overseas strategic acquisitions in areas like critical minerals and energy, CII stressed.

Chandrajit Banerjee, Director General, CII, said the time has come for India to build its own enduring financial engine for development.

"India is entering a decisive window of opportunity. We are already among the world's largest economies, but to reach developed-economy status by 2047, we need

structural, perpetual sources of long-term capital that go beyond the annual budget cycle.'

The fund's developmental investment arm would focus on financing long-gestation domestic priorities, such as infrastructure, clean energy, logistics, industrial corridors MSME scale-up, education and skilling, healthcare and urban infrastructure.

This arm would provide patient equity and blended finance to commercially viable projects that require long-term commitment.

It would act as an anchor investor, crowding in pension funds, sovereign wealth funds, and institutional investors from India and abroad.

CII has suggested that India's existing National Investment and Infrastructure into this developmental arm, leveraging its governance ar-

On the other hand, the strategic investment arm would acquire and secure overseas assets critical for India's long-

These include energy assets such as oil and gas fields, LNG infrastructure and green hydrogen partnerships; critical minerals, such as lithium, cobalt, and rare earths; frontier technologies, including semiconductors, AI, and biotechnology; and key global logistics and port assets.

This arm would give India the ability to act proactively, own rather than merely buy, in critical supply chains and technologies shaping the future global economy.

It should retain majority ownership and strategic control with the government, CII said. adding that while being run by a professional board combining senior government representation and global investment expertise.

Annual withdrawal limits should be capped as a percentage of the corpus to prevent fis cal misuse, and independent audit and risk frameworks should manage currency, geopolitical, and governance risks.

after October hiatus

New Delhi, Nov 9: After a brief pause in October, foreign portfolio investors have resumed selling, pulling out a net ₹12,569 crore from Indian equities so far in November amid weak global cues and risk-off sentiment.

This follows a net inflow of ₹14,610 crore in October, which had come after consecutive months of outflows -- ₹23,885 crore in September, ₹34,990 crore in August, and ₹17,700 crore in July, according to data from depositories. The renewed selling trend,

which has continued on every trading day of November so far, has contributed to India's underperformance compared with other major markets this year, said VK Vijayakumar, Chief Investment Strategist at Geojit Financial Services.

He noted that a key feature of FPI activity in 2025 has been the divergence in flows, with hedge funds selling in India while buying in markets perceived as beneficiaries of the AI-driven rally, such as the US, China, South Korea, and Taiwan.

"India is currently being viewed as an AI-underperformer, and that perception is shaping FPI strategy," he explained. However, Vijayakumar added that AI-linked valuations are now stretched, and the risk of a potential bubble in global tech stocks could limit sustained selling in India.

Echoing a similar view, Vagarjaved Khan, Senior Funda mental Analyst at Angel One said FPIs sold Indian equities worth ₹12,569 crore in the first week of November amid a global sell-off in technology stocks across Asia and other major markets.

India Inc's Q2 FY26 results have been marginally better than expected, especially in the midcap segment, but global headwinds may keep foreign in vestors cautious toward riskier assets in the near term.

So far in 2025, FPIs have with drawn over ₹1.5 lakh crore.

Meanwhile, in the debt mar ket. FPIs withdrew ₹1.758 crore under the general limit while investing ₹1,416 crore through the voluntary retention route during the period under re-

CREDAI Bhubaneswar elects new Managing Committee Bhubaneswar: The Confederation of Real Estate



Developers' Associations of India (CREDAI). Bhubaneswar Chapter representing over 100 leading developers from the city has announced new Managing Committee for the term 2025-27. The election process was successfully concluded. Nov 8, under the supervision of Returning Officers Madhu Mohanty and Mohammed Moquim. Following a transparent selection process, the newly elected members are Sheikh Mairajul Haque - President, Manoj Kumar Sahoo - Vice President, Sarat Kumar Sahu - Vice President,

Kalinga Keshari Rath - Secretary, Naval Mahajan - Joint Secretary, Soubhagya Sundar Routray - Joint Secretary, Manmohan Agarwala - Treasurer, Aswini Kumar Padhi - Executive Member, Manas Kumar Behera - Executive Member, Aditya Das - Executive Member, and Abhava Kumar Panda - Executive Member, The announcement ceremony was graced by Swadesh Kumar Routray, CREDAI National Vice President & CREDAI Odisha President. and Anil Kumar Agarwal, CREDAI Odisha Secretary. Under the leadership of Sheikh Mairajul Haque, the new Managing Committee has outlined a progressive vision for the real estate sector in Bhubaneswar.

MERGER & ACQUISITIONS

SUZUKI MOTOR GUJARAT, **MARUTI SUZUKI MERGE**

New Delhi, Nov 9: The National Company Law Tribunal (NCLT) has approved the scheme of amalgamation, in which Suzuki Motor Gujarat is being merged with its parent entity, Maruti Suzuki India, the country's largest carmaker.

A two-member bench of the Delhi-based Principal bench of NCLT has approved the joint petition filed by Suzuki Motor Gujarat Pvt Ltd (Transferor Company) and Maruti Suzuki India Ltd (Transferee Company) and proposed the appointed date for the scheme of amalgamation, April 1, 2025.

Noting that the scheme is in the interest of both petitioner companies, their sharehold-

ers, creditors, employees, and all concerned, the tribunal said there appears to be no impediment in sanctioning the present scheme. It further observed that the Income Tax Department (I-T), which includes their Northern Region and Northwestern Region and the Official Liquidator, Ahmedabad, have filed their no further objections before this tribunal pertaining to the scheme being considered.

In light of the foregoing facts and discussion, particularly the positions taken by the relevant authorities, and upon considering the approval granted by the members and creditors of all the petitioner companies to the proposed scheme, there appears to be no impediment to sanctioning the scheme, subject to the con-

ditions stipulated hereinbelow. "Accordingly, the Scheme of Merger by Amalgamation proposed by the Petitioner Companies under Sections 230 to 232 of

the Companies Act, 2013, is hereby sanctioned," said the order. It further said the sanctioned Scheme of 'Merger by Amalgamation' shall be binding on the transferor and transferee

companies and their respective

shareholders and creditors. The NCLT order said upon the coming into effect of this scheme, the transferor company (Suzuki Motor Gujarat), "shall stand dissolved without the necessity of following the winding-up process, upon filing a certified copy of this tribunal's order with the Registrar of Com-

Inflation data, Q2 earnings; global trends to drive markets



PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, Nov 9: Inflation data, quarterly earnings and global trends will be the major driving factors for stock markets this week, analysts said.

Moreover, the trading activity of foreign investors would also influence the equity mar ket trends.

"This week will be crucial, with several key macroeconomic data releases scheduled. On the domestic front, focus will be on India's CPI inflation and WPI inflation data, which will provide insights into the inflation trajectory and policy outlook.'

"On the earnings front, quarterly results from prominent companies such as ONGC, Ba jaj Finserv, Asian Paints, Tata Steel and Oil India will be closely tracked for sectoral cues,' Ajit Mishra, SVP, Research, Religare Broking Ltd. said.

The rupee-dollar trend and movement of Brent crude, the global oil benchmark, would also be crucial in driving investors' sentiment. Ponmudi R, the CEO of En-

rich Money, an online trading and wealth tech firm, said, "A slew of key domestic and global macroeconomic factors are expected to shape market sentiment in the week.' Globally, all eyes will be on

the ongoing US government shutdown, which has halted the release of key economic data crucial to investors and policymakers in assessing the actual state of the economy, he added.

In a holiday-shortened last week, the BSE benchmark tanked 722.43 points or 0.86 per cent, and the NSE Nifty declined 229.8 points or 0.89 per

"Going ahead, market direction will depend on upcoming domestic inflation data, FII flows, developments related to the US government shutdown, and progress in trade negotiations involving the US, India, and China," Vinod Nair, Head of Research, Geojit Investments Limited, said.

largest scotch mkt PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

India to emerge as

New Delhi, Nov 9: India is poised to become the largest global scotch whisky market in value and volume terms over the next few years, fuelled by competitive intensity, premiu misation and economic growth, Scotch Whisky Association Chief Executive Mark Kent CMG has said.

Mark Kent also appreciated the rise of India's single malt whisky, saying the Scotch Whisky Association is looking for partnerships with them not only for export to the UK mar ket but also to explore other global markets together.

Noting the emergence of the Indian single malt category, some of which recently won several prestigious internation al accolades, the chief executive said he is going to speak with the Indian Malt Whiskey Asso ciation, as they share the same views on the importance of quality in manufacturing and

working together. This is a significant opportunity for both the Indian and Scottish industries. India is already the biggest market for Scotch in terms of volume out of 180 markets where it is exported, though in terms of value, it ranks among the top

five, he said. However, it will also depend on certain factors around the world economy, but Mark Kent said he is optimistic that India has a "very educated knowledge of scotch and whiskey" here.

GST 2.0 comes as boon for Indian artisans

INDO-ASIAN NEWS SERVICE

New Delhi, Nov 9: The next-generation GST(goods and service tax) 2.0 rate cuts on several handicraft items from 12 per cent to 5 per cent have come as a major boon for the country's artisans, as demand for their products has gone up, leading to higher earnings and also enabling them to compete with factory-made goods. The tax cuts have benefited

artisans producing items like wood-carved products, terracotta jute handbags, textile items, and leather goods.

The muga silk industry of Assam, operating mainly in Sualkuchi (Kamrup), Lakhimpur, Dhemaji, and Jorhat, along with other sericulture clusters across the state, is a legacy carried by women weavers. The reduced 5 per cent GST

rate on handloom and handicraft items will bring relief to weavers, who can now sell in competitive markets and earn better margins. It will also boost exports, as niche luxury buyers may be more inclined to purchase when prices are marginally lower. The entire handloom sector

in Assam stands to gain from the GST reforms. In a state with more than 12.83 lakh weavers and about 12.46 lakh looms, the impact is far-reaching.

efit Assam Jaapi, Asharikandi among others.

The GST rate cut on handlooms and crafts will also ben-

terracotta, Mishing handloom, Pani Meteka, and Bihu dhol, By lightening the tax load, the reforms will help build stronger markets for tradition-

al handlooms and crafts. This

can potentially boost incomes

and ensure that handmade Assamese textiles hold their own in an age of factory-made

West Bengal has long been known for traditional crafts and handlooms, from the terracotta temples of Bishnupur to the intricate embroidery of

Nakshi Kantha. The GST cut

from 12 per cent to 5 per cent directly benefits this sector by reducing prices and strengthits competitiveness against machine-embroidered or mass-produced imitations in domestic and foreign markets such as Europe, the US, and Japan

Himachal's famed handloom

products, especially its shawls and woollen textiles, are expected to get a boost as GST on these products has also been slashed from 12 per cent to 5 per cent. In the Kullu valley, over 3,000 weavers involved in self-help groups produce the brightly patterned, GI-tagged Kullu shawls. These weavers are part of an estimated 10,000-12,000 handloom artisans statewide. The Kinnaur district's shawl makers and those who derive their livelihood from these handicrafts will also benefit.

The Chamba rumal is a GItagged, miniature hand-embroidered cloth, made primarily by women artisans in the Chamba district of Himachal Pradesh, which will see a higher demand due to the cut in GST to 5 per cent for these handkerchiefs. Traditional leather slippers from Chamba are another GI-

tagged product, produced by hundreds of small cottage craft units. A lower GST will make their pricing more competitive against machine-made footwear and encourage sales of indige nous chappals. This will help artisans improve their margin

From intricate wooden doors and panels to furniture, carved wooden products are produced in areas like Chamba, Kinnaur and Kullu. This industry hires thousands of rural artisans in Himachal. The new GST rates put wooden articles in the 5 per cent category, which will stime ulate demand for locally made wooden furniture and souve nirs. It will not only make these items more affordable but also support local artisans. Certain parts of Himachal, which produce bamboo products such as baskets and other eco-friendly crafts, will also gain.

Choudhary's storm: Eight sixes, 11-ball fifty stun Ranji arena

Meghalaya's star becomes only the third player ever to hit six sixes in a row in First-Class cricket after the legendary Sir Garfield Sobers of the West Indies and India's Ravi Shastri

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Surat, Nov 9: Meghalaya's Akash Kumar Choudhary on Sunday became the first player to hit eight sixes in a row in First-Class cricket while also recording the fastest half-century in the format, off only 11 deliveries, during a Ranji Tro phy Plate Group match against Arunachal Pradesh here.

Batting at No 8, 25-year-old Choudhary achieved the stunning feat on the second day of the match at the CK Pithawala Ground here. He remained not out on 50 off 14 balls, helping Meghalaya declared their first innings at a mammoth 628 for 6.

Choudhary broke the previous record of fastest fifty in First-Class cricket, which was set by Leicestershire's Wayne White in 12 deliveries against Essex in 2012.

He also became only the third



with Meghalaya cruising at 576 for six. Having started his innings with a dot and two singles, the right-handed batter hit the next eight deliveries for sixes. He sent each of Limar Dabi's deliveries of the 126th

Choudhary averaged 14.37 with only two fifties in 30 First-Class matches, including this year's Duleep Trophy for the North East Zone. He has also played 28 List-A matches and 20 T20 matches.

Sobers was the first to re-

an over in August 1968 when he hammered Malcolm Nash during a County match between Nottinghamshire and Glamorgan. Former India all-rounder and head coach Shastri recorded his six consecutive sixes off Tilak Raj while playing for Bombay against Baroda during the Ranji Trophy 1984-85 match at the Wankhede Stadium.

In reply to Meghalaya's 628 for 6 declared, Arunachal Pradesh were shot out for a mere 73 in their first innings and were struggling again at 29 for three after following on, trailing by a massive 526 runs.

GOLDEN TRIO

Bhagat, Nagar, Kadam rule the court in Japan



so deeply. Each me mentally and physically, and I'm proud of how I handled the pressure

to perform in

a country that

para badminton

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Shizuoka City (Japan), Nov 9: India's para badminton stars Pramod Bhagat, Krishna Nagar and Sukant Kadam dished out commanding performances, clinching more than half a dozen gold medals at the Japan Para Badminton International

Odisha-born Bhagat led the charge by winning the singles, doubles and mixed doubles gold, while Tokyo Paralympics champion Krishna Nagar followed with two gold, winning singles and mixed doubles events, and Sukant clinched the top-podium spot in men's doubles along with a silver in singles.

Bhagat was the standout performer in SL3 category. He staged a remarkable comeback in the men's singles after losing the opening game to Japan's Daisuke Fujihara 17-21. Facing a 16-19 deficit in the second, Bhagat levelled the match and then dominated the decider with a flawless display to win 17-21. 21-19, 21-10 in a contest that

lasted one hour and 33 minutes. In the men's doubles, Bhagat teamed up with Sukant Kadam to defeat compatriots Jagadesh Dilli and Naveen Sivakumar 21-17, 18-21, 21-16,

He completed a golden hattrick by clinching the mixed doubles SL4-SU5 title with Manisha Ramdass, overcoming fellow Indians Nitesh Kumar and Thulasimathi Murugesan 21-19, 21-19 in a 29-minute contest.

Nagar once again proved his class by winning the SH6 men's singles and mixed doubles titles.

In the singles final, Nagar defeated USA's Miles Krajews ki 22-20, 21-13. Teaming up with Nithya Sre in mixed doubles the pair showcased their agility on the court to clinch the top podium spot. "I had to dig deep especially in the singles final, said Nagar

Sukant Kadam also had a strong outing, claiming gold alongside Pramod Bhagat in men's doubles (SL3-SL4) and securing a silver in the SL4 singles, where he went down to fellow Indian Naveen Sivaku mar in a spirited contest.

India's strong campaign also saw several other medal-winning performances.

Mandeep Kaur and Neeraj won a silver and a bronze respective ly in the women's SL3 category In women's doubles SL3-SU5 Mansi Joshi and Thulasimath Murugesan clinched a gold, while Neeraj-Arati and Sanjana Ku mari-Shanthiva bagged a bronze

Manasi Joshi and Ruthick Raghupati secured a bronze in mixed doubles (SL3-SU5). Surya Kant won a bronze in men's SL4 while Thulasimathi, Manisha Ramdass, and Shanthiva swept gold, silver, and bronze medals respectively in the women's SU5 category. Hardik Makkar and Ruthick Raghupati won a silver in men's doubles SU5, and Nithva Sre capped off In dia's medal tally with a gold in

SHORT **TAKES**

Jadeja, Brevis for Samson

New Delhi: Five-time champions Chennai Super Kings and inaugural winners Rajasthan Royals are reportedly in advanced stages of negotiations ahead of the 2026 Indian Premier League, with CSK trading Ravindra Jadeja for Sanju Samson. Both Jadeja and Samson are valued at Rs 18 crore each, and the deal may already be nearing completion. However, Rajasthan Royals are reportedly not in favour of a direct player swap. They are said to be demanding the inclusion of an additional player, which could ultimately become a major obstacle in finalising the agreement, as per a Cricbuzz report. The report stated that the Rajasthan Royals are reportedly demanding South African youngster Dewald Brevis, along with Jadeja, as part of the deal.

Messi's 400th assist

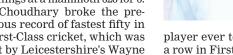
Fort Lauderdale: Messi leads Inter Miami to East semifinals with 2-goal, 2-assist. He grabbed his 400th career assist during Inter Miami's 4-0 win against Nashville SC in the Major League Soccer Cup playoffs decider match at the Chase Stadium in Fort Lauderdale, Florida Sunday. The 38-year-old bagged a first-half brace before assisting Tadeo Allende for Miami's fourth goal of the night as it progressed to the semifinal stage. Brace, Nutmegs and double assist for Messi in a single night. With the assist, he became the only active player to reach the 400 mark while just being four away from equalling Ferenc Puskás' alltime record.

Proteas A beat India A

Bangalore: South Africa A's top-order batters ran roughshod over a set of regular Test bowlers in the ranks of India A, etching a memorable five-wicket win on the fourth day of the second four-day match here Sunday. Chasing an improbable-looking 417, South Africa, overnight 25 for no loss, never looked daunted by the size of target, and if anything, were determined to overhaul it. It was the highest run chase in the 'A'

Williams joins camp

New Delhi: Forward Ryan Willaims, who has relinquished his Australian passport to become an Indian citizen, has joined the Khalid Jamil-coached national team camp in Bengaluru, the All India Football Federation (AIFF) said Sunday. "Forward Ryan Williams, and defender Jay Gupta have joined the senior men's national team camp in Bengaluru," the AIFF posted on X. The camp began in Bangalore Thursday.



Aryna Sabalenka

will end the 2025

tennis season as

world No 1, but it's

Elena Rybakina who

had the last laugh

Riyadh, Nov 9: Elena Rybaki-

na capped a flawless week at the

WTA Finals by stunning world

number one Arvna Sabalenka 6-3

7-6(0) in the final Saturday for her

first trophy in the season-ending

championships and a record

WTA Tour kicked off with four

different Grand Slam champions

in the field, but ultimately went

to a player who did not even

reach the quarter-finals of a

major in 2025 and was the last to

qualify with a win in Ningbo and

Rybakina earned 1,500 points

her biggest haul - after she was

denied any for her 2022 Wimble

don win when the ATP and WTA

penalised the major for banning

Russian and Belarusian players

from playing in the wake of Mos-

I honestly didn't expect any re-

sult and to go so far. I mean, it's just incredible," Rybakina said

after collecting the Billie Jean

Yashdeep leaves

Championships

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Koreans behind, rookie

India take second spot in

recurve in Asian Archery

Dhaka, Nov 9: Unheralded

Yashdeep Bhoge upstaged the

fancied Koreans to top the men's

recurve qualification, while

rookie Anshika Kumari also

produced a surprise top-five fin-

ish in the women's section as the

Asian Archery Championships

splendid performances pro-

pelled India to the second spot

in the team rankings, placing

them in the opposite half of

The inexperienced duo's

got underway, here Sunday.

Anshika impresses as

"It's been an incredible week,

cow's invasion of Ukraine.

a run to the Tokyo semi-finals.

The last stop of this season's

\$5.235 million in prize money.



India's Ravi Shastri.

player ever to hit six sixes in a row in First-Class cricket after the legendary Sir Garfield Sobers of the West Indies and

King trophy, her third title of

"Congratulations Aryna for

being number one (at the year-

end) for the second season in a

row, an amazing achievement.

Today was such a tough battle,

some moments I didn't like here

but it's tennis and I hope we're

going to play many more finals

In a rematch of the 2023 Aus-

tralian Open title clash won

by Sabalenka, it was Rybakina

who made early inroads with a

barrage of powerful winners to

shrug off concerns over a sore

shoulder and break for a 4-2 lead

Archers' bold show against heavyweights SK

The ice-cool world number

in the opening set.

in big tournaments together."

the season.

over flying over the ropes. Before Sunday's outing

cord the feat of six sixes in

Elena's maiden crown

six rallied from

15-40 down in

the seventh game

to tighten her hold

and secure the set with

more bold ball striking from

both flanks, leaving 2022 final-

ist Sabalenka with a mountain

to climb. Rybakina ramped up

the pressure in the next set as

she lost only two points in four

service games. She showed her

battling qualities for a clutch

hold in the 10th game when

Sabalenka crashed a forehand

Rybakina cranked up her

massive serve two games later

and forced a tiebreak, where the

Kazakh grabbed the early lead

at the 2023 edition where only

the women's team salvaged a

bronze. But Bhoge and Anshi-

ka's breakthrough performanc-

es have rekindled hopes of end-

Incidentally, the Koreans

have fielded a relatively sec-

ond-string side, especially in the men's recurve section which has

Meanwhile, there were some

major shockers too, as top-

ranked Indians Deepika and

Dhiraj both missed out on team

berths after finishing outside

the country's top-three bracket.

trying to regain the old mojo,

it was once again the com-

pound archers who underlined

India's strength. The women's

team dominated qualification.

with all four archers finishing

in the top-five.

With the recurve squad still

ing that drought this week.

lesser-known archers.

Flawless finish

•Rybakina beats No 1-ranked Sabalenka in straight sets

- •Rybakina stretches win streak to 11 straight matches
- •Kazakh earned \$5.235 million after
- •Tournament crowns 10th
- consecutive first-time winner

been an

incredible week, I honestly didn't

expect any result and

ELENA RYBAKINA

and never looked back to secure her 11th straight match victory and with it the title. Albania's top volleyball

> raised doubts about her gender without providing evidence. "It wasn't my best performance, but ve-

league, after rival teams

to go so far, I mean, it's ah, Elena you were definitely the better player," Sabalenka said. You literally smashed me

out of the court, so very well done. I'm happy to see you play your best tennis. It was a nice comeback at the end of this season. Now it's time to enjoy your off-season and enjoy this beautiful trophy," she added, before fighting off tears as she thanked her own team.

Sabalenka will finish ranked No 1 for a second straight season. This year, she won four titles, including the US Open, and had 63 match wins. She also reached the finals of the French Open and Australian Open.

WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS

Career-best silver for Anish

Cairo, Nov 9: India's Anish Bhanwala endured two nerve-wracking shoot-offs in a high-quality 25m rapid-fire pistol final to clinch the biggest medal in his shooting career, a silver at the ISSF World Championships (Pistol/Rifle) here Sunday.

The 23-year-old Haryana marksman more than made up for his 2024 Paris Olympics disappointment with a steady performance that saw him first survive a shoot-off for the third place, and then ward off the challenge from Ukraine's Maksym Horodynets to win the silver medal with a score of 28 in a competition that tested the resolve of all the six finalists.

The Sonipat shooter looked



determined Sunday as he first qualified for the finals in second place with a brilliant 585.

After shooting 291 in Stage 1 of the qualification Saturday, he came back determined to notch up 294 in Stage 2 Sunday and make it to the first pistol final of the World Championships. Frenchman Clement Bessa-

guet, who won the gold tallving 31 points, topped the qualification with a score of 589

Gujrathi bows out

World Chess Cup:

women's singles SH6.

Panjim, Nov 9: Indian Grandmaster Vidit Gujrathi bowed out of the World Chess Cup af ter a 2.5-3.5 loss to Sam Shankla nd of United States in the second set of tie-break games of third round here Sunday.

On what turned out to be a dramatic day, SL Narayanan also had to concede defeat against Yangyi Yu of China in the first set of tie-break games but V Karthik continued with his dream run and defeated Deac Bogdan-Daniel of Romania 1.5-0.5.

Karthik reached the fourth round which means there are five Indians left in the fray after the first three rounds.

The two favourites Arjun Erigaisi and R Praggnanand haa, and P Harikrishna who shown sublime form here and world junior champion V Pranay, who has proved that he is the next big Indian star in the making, have already qualified by winning the games under classical format itself.

Meanwhile, Gujrathi be came the third biggest casualty from Indian perspective in the tournament after the ouster of world champion D Gukesh who lost under clas sical games against Frederic Svane of Germany, and Ar avindh Chithambaram who went down to Karthik as early

RANJI TROPHY

Odisha under pressure against Vidarbha



POST NEWS NETWORK

Nagpur, Nov 9: At the Vidarbha Cricket Association Stadium in Nagpur, Odisha found themselves in a testing position at the end of Day 2 of their Ranji Trophy clash against Vidarbha here Sunday. After winning the toss and electing to field, Odisha's bowlers initially showed discipline, but Vidarbha's batting resilience, led by Dhruv Shorey's superb century, shifted the momentum.

Odisha's bowlers, however, can take heart from their effort on a flat surface. Sambit Baral bowled tirelessly to claim 3 wickets for 69 runs while Tapas Kumar Das supported him brilliantly, picking up 2 for 33 in a disciplined spell. Their combined effort ensured Vidarbha was eventually restricted to 286 all out, preventing what could have been a much larger first-innings lead.

Earlier, Odisha's batting lineup had struggled against Vidarbha's consistent attack. ending the first innings at 122/6in 58.2 overs. Subhranshu Senapati stood out as a pillar of resistance with a gritty 41 off 112 balls, while Gaurav Choudhary



qualifications.

the draw from their tradition-

al nemesis and heavyweights

South Korea, who expectedly

topped both men's and women's

endured a prolonged slump.

failing to secure a men's medal

Indian recurve archery has

Djoko oldest ATP champion

The Serbian wins at Athens, withdraws from ATP finals due to an ongoing injury

INDO-ASIAN NEWS SERVICE

Athens, Nov 9: Novak Djokovic captured his 101st career title in dramatic fashion at the Hellenic Championship, where he overcame Lorenzo Musetti in an absorbing three-hour clash.

The 38-year-old Serbian left it all on the court in a gutsy 4-6, 6-3, 7-5 victory in the final, which featured 13 break points and five breaks of serve in the deciding set alone.

With his 72nd tour-level title on hard courts, Djokovic also cut his tie with Roger Federer

for the most in the Open Era. Both players were pushed to their physical limits across the



heartbreak as he fell to his sixth consecutive defeat in an ATP Tour final. He captured his first two titles back in 2022 in Hamburg and Naples, ATP reports.

"I dedicate this win to the wonderful people of Greece. You support me, you support tennis, and you've made me feel at home. A win that feels

so to everyone who made this beautiful new tournament so special. To Musetti, what an epic battle. Congratulations on an incredible performance and tournament. Keep it going, your future is bright," Djokovic shared in an Instagram post.

Musetti needed to capture the title to leapfrog Felix Au-

the wonderful people of Greece. You support me, you support tennis and you've made me feel at NOVAK DJOKOVIC

ATP Finals.

However, after the Serbian withdrew later Saturday, Musetti will replace Djokovic and therefore compete at the season

finale for the first time. "I was really looking forward to competing in Turin and giving my best, but after today's final in Athens, I'm sad to share that I need to withdraw due to an ongoing injury. I'm truly sorry to the fans who were hoping to see me play - your support means so much. I wish all the players an amazing tournament, and I can't wait to be back on the court with you all soon!"



contributed 24 off 46, showing match, but particularly during even more special with much ger-Aliassime into the final flashes of determination. the final set. For Musetti, it was family here. Huge gratitude alqualification spot for the Nitto Djokovic said in a statement. as in round two. Printed and published by Adyasha Satpathy on behalf of Navajat Printers and Media Pvt. Ltd. and printed at Navajat Printers, B-15 Industrial Estate, Rasulgarh, Bhubaneswar -751010, Odisha; Phone: (0674) 2580385 (Advt.), Editor: Tathagata Satpathy, RNI No. ODIENG/2011/37159