



PROFESSIONAL APPROACH

Actor Sanya Malhotra says she never feels peer pressure at the success of her contemporaries

LEISURE P2



ALARMING SCENARIO

The world is not doing nearly enough to reach any of the global goals to limit future warming, a UN report says

INTERNATIONAL P10



EASY WIN FOR INDIA

3 players score half centuries as India crush the Netherlands in the T20 World Cup encounter

SPORTS P12

SHORT TAKES

Orissa HC relief for former IAS officer

CUTTACK: The Orissa High Court granted bail Thursday to former IAS officer Vinod Kumar who had been convicted by a Special Vigilance Court in connection with a corruption case in Odisha Rural Housing Development Corporation (ORHDC). The Vigilance Court, October 10 had sentenced Kumar along with three others including Cong MLA Mohammed Moquim to three years of rigorous imprisonment for loan scam in ORHDC. However, once Moquim got bail in the case from the Orissa HC, it was evident that Kumar would also get some relief. P3

Putin rules out use of nuclear weapons

MOSCOW: Russian President Vladimir Putin denied Thursday having any intentions of using nuclear weapons in Ukraine. Speaking at a conference of international foreign policy experts, Putin said it's pointless for Russia to strike Ukraine with nuclear weapons. "We see no need for that," Putin said. "There is no point in that, neither political, nor military," the Russian president added. In a long speech full of diatribes against the US and its allies, Putin accused the US and its allies of trying to dictate their terms to other nations in a 'dangerous, bloody and dirty' domination game. Putin also asserted that 'Western policies' will create more chaos across the world.

IRREGULAR by MANJUL



Now we need to work harder to defend and protect this govt... Rishi Sunak's govt!

MARKET WATCH

INDEX	SENSEX	59756.84	▲ 212.88
	NIFTY	17736.95	▲ 80.60
	DOLLAR	82.66	▼ ₹0.19
	EURO	82.38	▼ ₹0.14
	GOLD	₹50,666	▼ ₹21
	SILVER	₹58,191	▲ ₹25

WEATHER

	BHUB	CTK
MAX	32.3°C	32.4°C
MIN	21.1°C	20.6°C
Humidity	83%	69%
Rainfall	Nil	Nil
Forecast	Light rain likely	



GRACEFUL MOVES: Students take part in a dance competition Thursday organised by Kendriya Vidyalaya on the premises of the school in CDA, Cuttack

OP PHOTO

Same match fees for eves, men

Gender disparity hit for a six by the BCCI as centrally-contracted women cricketers get substantial hike in match remunerations

AGENCIES

New Delhi, Oct 27: In a landmark decision, the BCCI announced Thursday equal match fees for its centrally-contracted female and male players. This decision was taken to promote gender equality in India's most popular sport.

As per the newly-introduced system, the Indian women's cricketers will now receive ₹15 lakh per Test, ₹6 lakh per ODI and ₹3 lakh per T20I. It is the same remuneration that their male counterparts earn in each format of the game.

The decision was taken at the BCCI Apex Council emergent meeting. Speaking on the increase in prize money, BCCI president Roger Binny said that this has been done so that women don't feel left out. "This decision sets the platform to grow and develop cricket. I believe this is a significant step forward for women's cricket and the game overall," Binny said.

BCCI secretary Jay Shah said pay equity is an important step towards tackling discrimination. This is a landmark decision as we enter a new era in Indian cricket.

Format	Previous	Now
Tests	₹4 lakh	₹15 lakh
ODIs	₹1 lakh	₹6 lakh
T20Is	₹1 lakh	₹3 lakh

OTHER SPORTS

FOOTBALL	Men (ISL)	Women (IWL)
	₹65L-70L	₹5-10L
HOCKEY	Men	Women
	₹2 crore	figures N/A
		•Only bonuses
BADMINTON	Prize money	Prize money

DISCRIMINATION EXISTS IN ALL SPORTS

New Delhi: As mentioned payments received by men and women sportspersons in sports disciplines of most tournaments across the world vary and salaries and contracts also are different. The average annual salary of men's professional player in the NBA is close to USD 50,000 while for the women it is approximately USD 36,000. Similarly in the major Grand Slam tennis tournaments run by the ATP and WTA differences exist. Even though prize money is the same the men stars get appearance fees for playing in the Grand Slams and the package is substantially larger than what women get.

I would like to thank my colleagues in the BCCI Apex Council for taking such a decision," Shah said.



men's team have played 21 Tests while in the same period, the women's side have featured in only two one-off Tests on the tour of England and Australia respectively.

The decision to increase the salaries of centrally-contracted women cricketers have been taken as BCCI now has a treasury of more than ₹9,600 crore, former treasurer and now IPL chairman Arun Dhimal informed.

On expected lines, the decision was welcomed by the cricket fraternity, especially the women.

"It's a historic move. It's a new dawn for women's cricket. Things were already moving ahead. WIPL together with pay equity policy are steps to get women's cricket to where men's cricket is today," the legendary Mithali Raj said. "It's a great move in the right direction," she added.

Former India player Harbhajan Singh also hailed the BCCI's decision. "BCCI has set a standard for other sports bodies. It will encourage greater participation of women in the game. A historic milestone indeed!" the spin great wrote on Twitter.

In the last two years, which included the shutdown brought about by the Covid-19 pandemic, the Indian

Woman lynched to death over sorcery

So far 33 persons have been arrested for murder while all males residing in the village have fled fearing stringent action from the police

POST NEWS NETWORK

Kabisuryanagar, Oct 27: In a shocking incident, a woman was allegedly beaten to death Wednesday night by villagers while three persons were brutally assaulted and suffered injuries over suspected practice of witchcraft and sorcery at Madhurajhola village in Kaniari panchayat under Kabisurya Nagar police limits in Ganjam district," cops said Thursday.

The deceased was identified as Jhunu Nahak, 50, wife of Yudhistir Nahak of the village. Jhunu's son Jogeswar and Sagar alleged and complained to the police that residents of the same village had lynched their mom. The persons who suffered serious injuries were Yudhistir, Rajendra Nahak and Bishnu Nahak.

Since the brutal killing of the woman, police have launched an investigation. So far 33 people have been arrested for murder after the deceased's husband lodged a complaint with the police.

Tension was palpable in the area as four platoons of police were deployed in the village. This was taken as a precautionary measure to prevent further deterioration of law and order. Sources said that the male members have fled from the village fearing arrest.

The incident is the result of a fall out of the death of five kids that occurred a month back. Villagers convened a meeting and tried to take



the help of the sorcerer to find out the exact reason behind the death of the kids. However, police got a tip-off regarding the meeting and dismissed the gathering.

However, later in the night, a woman, whom villagers claimed to be possessed, blamed Yudhistir, Rajendra, Bishnu and Maheswar Nahak for the death of the kids. Shortly afterwards, a youth identified as Gudu Nahak assaulted Yudhistir and hit him on the head. A severely injured Yudhistir lodged a police complaint, following which Gudu was summoned to the police station.

However, the move by Yudhistir angered the villagers. They then targeted the houses of Rajendra and Bishnu and attacked them and their family members. They tied Rajendra and Bishnu to poles and mercilessly thrashed the two. The injured Rajendra and Bishnu were finally released after block chairperson Birendra Khatai intervened.

Yudhistir, in the meanwhile had escaped the village. Unable to find him, the mob attacked his family members. In the process, Yudhistir's wife Jhunu suffered serious injuries. When Yudhistir returned to the village with a police force, he found the lifeless body of his wife.

LOHANI WARNS OF STRINGENT ACTION

Underfire CEO tells all political parties to follow MCC and rules after BJP lodges complaint with ECI

PNN & AGENCIES

Bhubaneswar, Oct 27: As a large number of complaints on violation of the model code of conduct (MCC) poured in ahead of the Dhamnagar Assembly bypoll, Odisha Chief Electoral Officer (CEO) SK Lohani cautioned Thursday the offenders of severe legal actions.

Lohani's warning came a day

after the BJP moved the Election Commission of India (ECI) alleging that Odisha CEO was not taking proper action against the offenders of MCC. "Any violation of law and MCC will attract severe action," Lohani said at a press conference here. "Those who violate the MCC, action would be taken against the guilty under provisions of the Indian Penal Code and the Representation



of the People Act, 1951 to deal with offences like bribery and using undue influence to interfere in the free exercise of electoral right of a person," Lohani added.

The CEO advised all candidates and political parties involved in the November 3 bypoll to adhere strictly to the MCC and legal provisions prohibiting corrupt practices. MORE P3

Minor found hanging in City

POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar, Oct 27: A minor boy was Thursday found hanging from a tree under mysterious circumstances near Mangala Mandir in Unit-IX area of the city. The 15-year-old deceased was identified as Manoranjan Das of Bhagavati slum under Kharavela Nagar police limits. Locals first saw Manoranjan's body and informed his dad following which a police complaint was lodged.

"The deceased was a Class IX dropout. He left house after having some food at around 10.30am in the morning. Upon getting information from Manoranjan's father we rushed to the spot and brought

down the body which was hanging from a tree. We have sent the body for post-mortem after registering a case (No 41/22) of unnatural death," police official.

Even though the deceased's family cried foul, police suspect it to be a case of death by suicide. "Manoranjan was not under any pressure, so why should he take such a drastic step," the deceased's elder brother said. "Some people may have killed him and hanged him from a tree so that it appears like a suicide," he added.

Meanwhile police said that Manoranjan had been reprimanded severely by his dad for stealing ₹2,000. "May be he took the drastic step for that," said a police official.

Charity funding to release world's 'saddest' gorilla

AGENCIES

Bangkok, Oct 27: Activists have failed to free an elderly gorilla who has been confined in a cage for the last 32 years. Animal rights activists in Thailand have failed to rescue the animal despite all attempts. This is because, the owner of the gorilla named 'Bua Noi' (Little Lotus) has refused to release it for less than USD \$780,000 (₹6.4 crore).

This male gorilla was brought to the Pata shopping mall here in 1990 when it was just a year old and has been imprisoned in a dirty cage since then. Since 2015, the Thai government, animal rights

group PETA and even pop star Cher have appealed with Bua Noi's caretaker to release the animal, hoping for it to die peacefully among the other gorillas. However, nothing has happened. 'Bua Noi' got the title of 'World's Saddest Gorilla' after PETA called the filthy supermarket zoo where it is caged 'one of the saddest places in the world'.

The proprietor of the 'Pata Zoo' where the gorilla is caged, reportedly informed the Thai Minister of Natural Resources and Environment, Varawut Silpa-archa that he would only release 'Bua Noi' for 30 million Thai baht.



a section of the media here that the government is arranging charity fund-raising activities but has not gathered enough money to fulfil the owner's requests.

"We have held activities in the past campaigning for Bua Noi's release and funds. We collected donations from Bua Noi's supporters. But the problem is that the owner refuses to sell 'Bua Noi'," Silpa-archa was quoted as saying by a section of the media here. "When he does agree to sell her, the price is too high," the minister added. He also explained that 'Bua Noi' is considered private property and the government cannot forcibly take the animal.

leisure

FORTUNE FORECAST

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FOR ASTROLOGY DIAL 55181

ARIES
Today, the stars put you on high alert... and not for nothing. You will save yourself from being swindled. Though you will easily manage to stay ahead of others, you may make a few enemies on your way. It's not a good day if you're looking to buy a house or vehicle, says Ganesha.

TAURUS
People around you will be surprised to witness the considerate and compassionate side of you today, says Ganesha. Problems may come knocking but you, along with support from your loved ones, will handle them with brilliant tact. Enjoy the company of near and dear ones and let your presence be felt in social outings, suggests Ganesha.

GEMINI
Today, you will decide to become a bit more conscious about your health. You may or may not join a gym or measure your calories, but you will definitely sit up and take notice of your lifestyle and unhealthy food habits, predicts Ganesha. A new job is also likely, which will pen a completely new chapter in your life.

CANCER
You will be in a joyous mood. You will be de-lighted in whatever task you do. Financial matters will confound you, with even a petty issue causing tension. Ganesha says it will be a colourful day, with happy tidings.

LEO
Your entire day will be spent at work. Those working in large corporations will have to fulfill heightened expectations from their superiors. Housewives will need to tackle other work, apart from their daily chores. It is an important day for you, says Ganesha.

VIRGO
You will stay away from partnership ventures. Ganesha says you have the ability to control large-scale projects on your own. You have leadership qualities, and will be able to coordinate team work and direct your colleagues to get the required amount of work from them.

LIBRA
Ganesha says that you will be able to attain a huge benefit because of your nature to take chances. Higher ups in the office will take notice of your skills and ability to work well. Seniors in your office will promote and inspire you to give your best. Ganesha says this is not a good time to get into a direct fight with anyone since it will lead to more problems and issues.

SCORPIO
You are ready to take up the challenges that life has to throw at you. Thanks to the confidence within you, which gives you power to fight it out against all odds. Even if you take up a mammoth task, you are bound to succeed today, predicts Ganesha.

SAGITTARIUS
Round and round they tumble, the wheels of life, smoothly gliding into a routine. You may spend your day in discontent due to the rut of regular activities. Sadly, there is little hope or adventure Ganesha foresees that might make this day worthwhile for you.

CAPRICORN
Duping the wisest with your extraordinary power of convincing may have been your forte, but you may have to prove yourself all over again, for Ganesha says you will be tested today. This apart, you are likely to find answers to questions lingering in your subconscious mind for long.

AQUARIUS
You may fall in love today! If single, romance colours your day with a rainbow. If married, you may enjoy a quiet but romantic evening with your spouse. Ganesha says that if nothing else, it's a good time to pour over your photo albums and float in nostalgia.

PISCES
You will be treading new ground at work. Exciting as that sounds, it merely means you will have to do a lot of travelling today. You will also find yourself swamped with drafting new business proposals, holding meetings, or otherwise networking over the phone. On the brighter side, your travels are unlikely to involve the cramps of flying economy class, says Ganesha.



GOMEZ DIDN'T KNOW HOW TO COPE WITH BIPOLAR DISORDER

Pop star Selena Gomez has opened up about her experience of living with bipolar disorder - which causes extreme mood swings - in her new documentary, *My Mind and Me*, reports *femalefirst.co.uk*.

SINGER ADELE TO STUDY FOR ENGLISH LITERATURE DEGREE

Singer Adele has revealed plans to study for an English literature degree after her *Weekends With Adele*. She said: "After *Weekends* I really want to get a degree in English Literature. If I hadn't made it in my singing, I think I would definitely be a teacher. I think I'd be an English Lit teacher."



'Golden Star' for Ranveer at Marrakech film fest



Mumbai: Ranveer Singh, along with Scottish actor Tilda Swinton, American filmmaker James Gray, and Moroccan director Farida Benlyazid will be felicitated at the 2022 Marrakech International Film Festival, the organisers announced Thursday. In recognition of their 'brilliant careers', the quartet will receive the Etoile d'Or (Golden Star) at the festival, scheduled to be held from November 11 to 19 in the Moroccan city. Singh, who has starred in films such as *Bajirao Mastani* and *Gully Boy* in his decade-long career, said he is humbled and thrilled to be receiving the Etoile d'Or at the film gala. "The notion that my craft has resonated in Africa is hugely gratifying! It's indicative of the fact that my work

has been able to transcend geographical and cultural borders. "For a humble artiste, who wishes to bring people together through entertainment, this is greatly rewarding. I cannot wait to be in Marrakech to soak in the love of the people and express my gratitude to them," the 37-year-old actor said in a statement. He will also participate in the *In Conversation With* programme at the festival along with nine other major names from global cinema, including British actor Jeremy Irons, French actor and director Julie Delpy, Iranian director Asghar Farhadi, French filmmaker Julia Ducournau, American filmmaker and poet Jim Jarmusch, French actor Marina Fois and Swedish director Ruben Ostlund.

Sanya: I don't feel peer pressure at all



Mumbai: In the Hindi film industry, female actors, mostly contemporaries, are often heard talking about professional rivalry and the ensuing pressures. But *Dangal* actress Sanya Malhotra is an aberration. Kriti Sanon, Kiara Advani, Fatima Sana Sheikh - each one of Sanya's peers has carved a different

path for herself. Does the pressure ever build up in Sanya's mind? "No, I am never under peer pressure," she says, adding, "I'm inspired by what other people do. Like Kriti's work in *Mimi* - it was inspiring. I am so happy that I became an actor at such a wonderful time. I had manifested that I want to become an actor when I was a child. Whatever my peers do makes me happy and proud of the profession I am in. They pick up challenging roles and push boundaries which help everyone in the circle. That boosts my confidence to do something in my career, too. I don't feel peer pressure at all."

The actress, currently working on the remake of *The Great Indian Kitchen*, Meghana Gulzar's *Sam Bahadur* and Atlee's next with Shah Rukh Khan among others, believes in being able to add an additional layer to her professional trajectory while she's pursuing a plethora of characters.

When Sunny had to learn sign language

Mumbai: For actress Sunny Leone, it was an uphill task to work in the Vishnu Manchu-starrer Telugu language film *Ginna*. In addition to the language being unfamiliar to her, she says a deaf and mute woman in the film. The actress put in a lot of hard work to lend authenticity to her part in the film and not make it look like a caricaturist depiction of disabilities on screen. The empathic portrayal of the character was of prime importance for Sunny. She trained in sign languages for a few weeks with an acting coach, before the film's shoot began. Revealing her process, Sunny said, "My coach and I sat and storyboarded the character's graph. Along with the director and writer, we tried to understand the back story. Then the real challenge of bringing a true-to-reality portrayal on screen began. My coach helped me by providing several reading materials and videos for my understanding." It not only helped her crack the psyche of the character better but also gave her a peek into the minds of people who don't have the luxury of voice and words. On the work front, the actress just completed the shoot of *Splitsville* in Goa last week.



Katrina calls SRK 'incredibly intelligent'

Mumbai: Katrina Kaif, who has worked with Shah Rukh Khan in films like *Jab Tak Hai Jaan* and *Zero*, recently showered praise on the superstar. Calling him knowledgeable, Katrina said that talking to King Khan is always informative. According to her, the Khan is so intellectual that you will always leave knowing more than you knew before you met him. He is incredibly intelligent, Katrina told a news portal. Katrina is currently awaiting the release of her upcoming film, *Phone Bhoot* which also stars Ishaan Khatter and Siddhant Chaturvedi. It has been directed by Gurmmeet Singh and will be released November 4. Apart from this, Katrina will be seen in *Tiger 3* with Salman Khan and Emraan Hashmi. She also has Sriram Raghavan's *Merry Christmas* with Vijay Sethupathi. The actress has also been roped in for Farhan Akhtar's *Jee Le Zaraa* which will also star Alia Bhatt and Priyanka Chopra.



PEANUTS



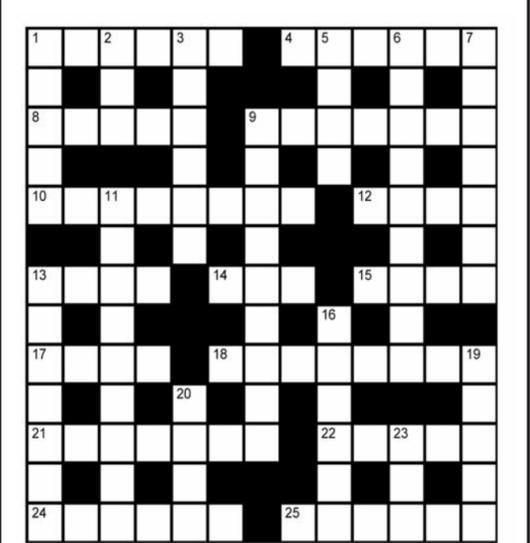
CALVIN AND HOBBS



BREVITY



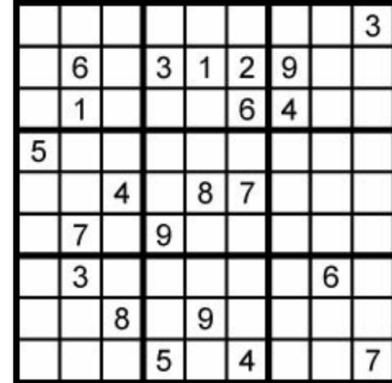
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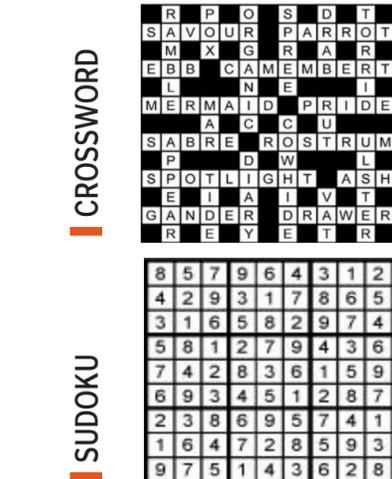
- Copyright ©2022 PuzzleJunction.com
- Across**
- 1 Merry
 - 4 Bouquets
 - 8 Bolzano locale
 - 9 Really old
 - 10 Australian state
 - 12 Between ports
 - 13 Austrian peaks
 - 14 Cousin of a crow
 - 15 Highlands hillside
 - 17 Whodunit hint
 - 18 Affability
 - 21 Early Norse raiders
 - 22 Slice
 - 24 Place of worship
 - 25 Illness
 - 6 Vortex
 - 7 Gorge
 - 9 Washing machine parts
 - 11 Yellow-bellied Woodpecker
 - 13 Niches
 - 16 Latin American dance (3-3)
 - 19 Hostile force
 - 20 Bartlett's abbr.
 - 23 Swedish shag rug
- Down**
- 1 Knee, for one
 - 2 Appia
 - 3 Be that as it may
 - 5 Sprint

SUDOKU

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



SOLUTIONS



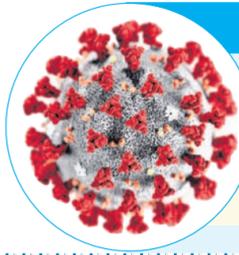
CHECK FOR SOLUTIONS OF THE PUZZLES TOMORROW

downtown



AWARENESS FIRST

A walk to spread awareness about breast cancer was organised by Utkal Hospital in Bhubaneswar, Thursday



COVID-19 TRACKER

	INFECTED	RECOVERED	DEAD
World	63,43,98,190	61,34,18,333	65,88,591
India	4,46,46,880	4,40,97,072	5,28,987
Odisha	13,36,000	13,26,469	9,203

BJP indulging in malpractices, BJD tells EC

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, Oct 27: A delegation of BJD leaders led by party MP Sasmit Patra Thursday met top Election Commission officials here and submitted a complaint alleging BJP leaders and workers from Odisha for allegedly indulging in electoral 'illegalities' and 'malpractices' in the Dhamnagar Assembly bypoll.

The byelection to the Dhamnagar Assembly seat is scheduled to be held November 3.

The BJD leaders, in the memorandum, alleged that "fake and fictitious videos are being manufactured by Odisha BJP leaders and being circulated on social media stating that Mission Shakti (Women Self-Help Group) members or popularly known as Mission Shakti Maa are distributing money in this election."

Patra said the BJP Odisha leaders are "not only defaming them and tarnishing their image but also doing a great disservice to the women of Odisha and the nation".

He also alleged that a huge "money power is being used by Odisha BJP leaders and workers to

DHAMNAGAR BYELECTION

The BJD alleged that fake and fictitious videos are being manufactured by BJP leaders that Mission Shakti members are distributing money in Dhamnagar byelection



illegally influence the voters of Dhamnagar".

Whenever the BJP Odisha realises its upcoming electoral defeat, as is in this case of the Dhamnagar Assembly bypoll, "they immediately start pumping illegal cash to influence voters," Patra alleged.

The BJD also termed the allegations made by the BJP against the local administration in Odisha

as 'fake and false'.

The BJP Odisha has become an 'expert' in vilifying and tarnishing the image of the local administration by indulging in fake and false allegations against it, Patra said.

The BJD's complaint to the poll panel came a day after a BJP delegation led by Union Minister Dharamendra Pradhan submitted a memorandum against the BJD.

'cVIGIL' for poll code violation

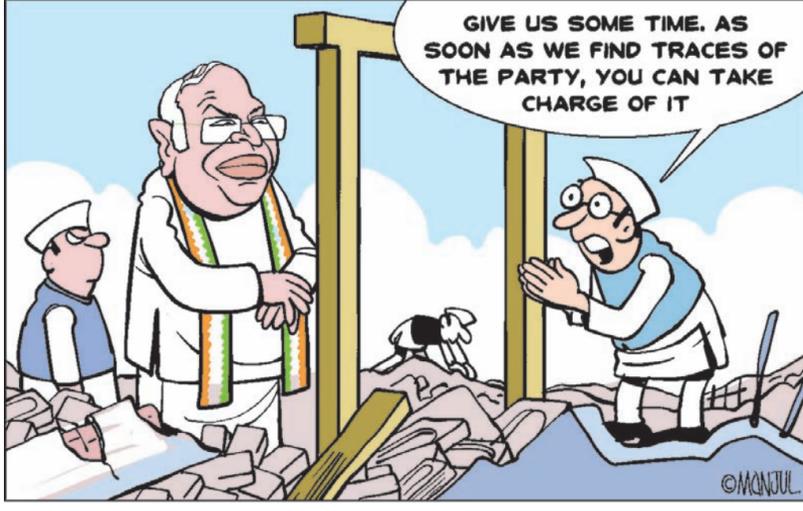
Bhubaneswar: The dos and don'ts have been issued to all political parties much ahead of the bypoll, said Chief Electoral Officer (CEO) SK Lohani adding that the ECI has launched an online application 'cVIGIL' for citizens to report model code and expenditure violations.

Replying a question, the CEO said, "So far, 102 complaints relating to misuse of vehicles, violation of loudspeaker rules, illegal meetings, inducement and gratification have been received. Action has been taken in all cases and two FIRs were lodged against violators."

Lohani said 1,614 cases relating to defacement of public and private property and also 2,006 cases of posters, banners, wall writings on public and private property were lodged and action has been taken in all of them.

The enforcement of law against excise law violators has been intensified and a total of 197 cases have been booked and 216 persons arrested, he mentioned.

POLITICKLE by MANJUL



Devotional song in praise of Naveen sparks controversy

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Bhubaneswar, Oct 27: Days after a controversy erupted over a minister comparing Naveen Patnaik with Lord Jagannath, a row was created after some elderly women allegedly sang devotional songs in praise of the Chief Minister in Puri.

The song in praise of Patnaik was allegedly made up by a group of women lodged at the state run shelters for 'Habishyalis' (elderly women mostly widows who perform religious rituals in the Hindu month of Kartik).

A video of the song, which went viral, also showed Puri Collector Samarth Verma and other senior officials enjoying the song in which Patnaik is described as 'karuna sagara' (ocean of mercy), a term usually made in praise of Lord Jagannath.

The elderly women also compared the Chief Minister with "Tridev" (Brahma, Vishnu and Maheswar) for making all arrangements for them in Puri.

The state government has made arrangements for lodging, food, and darshan of Lord Jagannath for the inmates of the shelters for around 3,500 elderly women from different parts of the state who have assembled to perform religious rituals associated with 'Kartika brata'.

The song also described Patnaik as Lord Jagannath's 'chalanti pratima' (walking idol).

The opposition BJP and Congress reacted strongly and condemned the state government accusing it of forcing elderly women to sing songs in praise of Patnaik by making arrange-



Habishyalis observe 'Kartika Brata' in Puri, Thursday

OP PHOTO

ments for their religious rituals.

BJP leader Pravati Parida said, "It is unfortunate that the state's BJD government is exploiting the emotions of elderly women by just giving them a place to stay for a month in Puri. It is unfortunate to compare Patnaik with the deities Brahma, Vishnu and Maheswar in the bhajan. The district administration has drafted it."

"I think the state government is at the height of its ego. It is drawing parallels with Lord Jagannath which is a direct insult to the religious sentiments of millions of devotees across the globe," Parida said.

Senior Congress leader Jayadev Jena said the BJD government has arranged people and written songs praising Naveen Patnaik so that the

elderly women could be influenced to vote for the party in the next election.

The BJD has rejected the allegation. "Habishyalis go to Puri to surrender before Lord Jagannath. During their stay they get completely engrossed in worshipping the Lord. So, if they praise or bless the Chief Minister there is nothing wrong in it," said government chief whip Prasanta Muduli.

Industries Minister PK Deb had sparked a row last month by comparing Patnaik with Lord Jagannath.

"Earlier when people went to other states from Odisha they were asked whether they were from Jagannath Dham. Now, they take name of Naveen Patnaik," the minister had said.

NZP jumbo Prema's health deteriorates

POST NEWS NETWORK

Barang, Oct 27: Authorities of Nandankanan Zoological Park (NZP) here were in a fix Thursday when the health condition of 66-year-old elephant Prema, one of the major attractions at the nature's paradise, started deteriorating.

According to NZP sources, it was in early July this year when the zoo authorities spotted two lumps developing in Prema's front left leg.

"As Prema was facing issues in walking, the lumps were excised in two phases," said an official.

The official pointed out that since the procedure, the animal developed weakness.

"Her food intake reduced drastically after the surgery, prompting the veterinarians to inject her supplements. Though unwell, she was at the elephant safari with other pachyderms," added the official.

Things turned worse as she fell on the ground around 9am and could not stand. "Desperate attempts by zoo keepers, mahouts and others to make her stand yielded no results," said the official, adding that they even unsuccessfully used a crane for the mammoth task.

Around 11am, visitors' entry to the elephant safari was shut. As a result, animal lovers were left heartbroken for they could not take a glimpse of other two elephants, Basanti and Heera, at the safari.

HC respite for Vinod Kumar in ORHDC scam

POST NEWS NETWORK

Cuttack, Oct 27: The Orissa High Court Thursday stayed the conviction of former IAS officer Vinod Kumar in the sensational Odisha Rural Housing Development Corporation (ORHDC) loan scam.

In September this year, the Special Vigilance Court in Bhubaneswar had sentenced Kumar, Barabati-Cuttack MLA Mohammed Moquim and two oth-

ers to three years of rigorous imprisonment in connection with the ORHDC loan scam, it was learnt.

The HC also granted bail to Kumar while hearing a plea filed by the former IAS officer that challenged the Vigilance Court's order.

On October 19, the HC had stayed the conviction of Moquim.

According to the case details, the Metro Group, represented by Moquim as the MD, had applied for a loan of Rs 1.5 crore from the

ORHDC in June 2000 for an apartment project in Bhubaneswar. Kumar, then MD of ORHDC, reportedly neither placed the loan application before the board of directors nor the loan committee for approval. He showed undue favour to the real estate company and illegally disbursed the loan between July and August 2000, the Vigilance court had observed.

The Vigilance registered a case in this connection in March 2005.



GOLDEN JUBILEE FETE: Buddhist monks from USA, Ukraine and Japan participated in a peace march to mark the golden jubilee celebration of the Dhauil Peace Pagoda on the outskirts of Bhubaneswar, Thursday

OP PHOTO

61 pc Indians wary of sharing pay info with coworkers: Report

Family and friends remain India's closest confidantes when it comes to sharing the size of their paychecks

ACCORDING TO LINKEDIN'S WORKFORCE CONFIDENCE INDEX, INDIA'S OVERALL WORKFORCE CONFIDENCE HAS DWINDLED SLIGHTLY



Despite a dip in overall confidence, India's workforce remains optimistic about navigating these challenges as seven in 10 professionals say they are confident about reaching the next level in their field, their work experience and education and chances of their income increasing

About 45 per cent of professionals in India say pay discussions among peers are discouraged at their workplaces

Sharing salary information is considered a taboo in India, and 61 per cent of professionals are more comfortable sharing their pay details with family members rather than with co-workers or friends, a LinkedIn report said Thursday.

Just one in 10 professionals said they would discuss their salaries with coworkers they trust (13 per cent) and peers they trust in other companies (9 per cent).

According to LinkedIn's Workforce Confidence Index, India's overall workforce confidence has dwindled slightly.

"This is due to a volatile perception towards jobs, finances, and career progress in these times of global uncertainty," said the report.

Despite a dip in overall confidence, India's workforce remains optimistic about navigating these challenges as seven in 10 professionals say they are

confident about reaching the next level in their field, their work experience and education and chances of their income increasing.

"Professionals are still not comfortable to have conversations about pay in the workplace," said Nirajita Banerjee, India Managing Editor, LinkedIn News.

Family and friends remain India's closest confidantes when it comes to sharing the size of their paychecks.

However, "the current gen-

eration of young professionals are more willing to share pay information with their coworkers and industry peers as compared to other generations", Banerjee noted.

In fact, Gen Z professionals are found most likely to share their pay across their whole network as compared to any other age group.

Around 72 per cent of Gen Z and 64 per cent of millennials in India say they are comfortable sharing their pay information with family members, while 43

per cent of Gen Z and 30 per cent of millennials are also willing to confide in their close friends.

"Gen Z are keen to influence change and eager to lead these conversations in the workplace," Banerjee added.

About 45 per cent of professionals in India say pay discussions among peers are discouraged at their workplaces.

Further, 36 per cent of professionals in India also say they feel anxious sharing their pay information with anyone.

16th

GURU DEBAPRASAD AWARD FESTIVAL 2022

28th - 30th October 2022

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Bhubaneswar, Odisha
6:30 pm onwards

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New Forest Park, Bhubaneswar,
Odisha-751 029,
Ph. 0674 259913, 9861008127,
Email: pandagajendra@gmail.com

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AHEAD OF SATELLITE SURVEY

Lessees fill up quarry to ward off penalty for excess mining



Four of the leaseholders served with demand notices for recovery of ₹105.87 crore have allegedly pooh-poohed the notices

with demand notices for recovery of ₹105.87 crore.

However, these lessees have pooh-poohed the demand notices.

My World Consultancy agency had also done satellite survey on many other stone mines since August 27, 2022 on hills at Rahadpur Barada, Lunibar, Dankari, Anjira and Bajabati. However, the consultancy agency was not clear about the extent of illegal stone mining in all these mines.

It was learnt that satellite measurement of mining at some quarries will be done after expiry of the lease terms. The lease term of Barada hill will expire March 30, 2023. Only four months have been left for expiry of lease term.

It was alleged that to ward off possible penalty to be imposed on them in case excess mining is exposed through the satellite survey, some leaseholders had tried to hide the illegal mining by making a mutual understanding with the consultancy firm. But they have failed to do so.

Though the authorities of the Dharmasala tehsil are aware of the matter, but they are allegedly turning a blind eye. Our correspondent had tried to contact tehsildar Swagat Das on phone, but the latter did not answer the call.



TRAINING TIME: A group of 57 newly-appointed forest rangers was seen receiving training on protection of biodiversity, mangroves, wildlife and reptiles in Bhitarkanika National Park in Kendrapara, Thursday

Dengue spreads in Ganjam; 140 affected

POST NEWS NETWORK

Berhampur, Oct 27: There is no letup in spread of dengue in Ganjam district with the disease slowly spreading its tentacles among the residents.

With the blood samples of five more persons testing positive, the total number of affected has now reached 140 in the district.

Among the five persons who tested positive, three are from Digapahandi block, one from Shergad block and another is a resident of Berhampur Municipal Corporation (BeMC), officials from



The health dept has taken up measures to sensitise residents by involving the ASHA and Anganwadi workers, said CDMO Uma Shankar Mishra

block contracted fever during his stay in Gujarat. He returned home and his blood samples also tested positive for dengue.

The fifth dengue patient is a 27-year-old youth of Dalua Sahi in Berhampur town under Berhampur Municipal Corporation, the district health officials said.

The district health department has undertaken various measures to sensitise the residents by involving the ASHA and Anganwadi workers, the chief district medical officer (CDMO) Dr Uma Shankar Mishra said.

the district health department said. A 32-year-old youth of Jakar village under Digapahandi block contracted fever when he was working in Hyderabad. He tested positive for dengue after he came back to his

village and underwent a blood test. Similarly, a 25-year-old woman and another person of Siddheswar village under Digapahandi block have also tested positive for dengue. A 19-year-old youth from Shergad

ALLEGED KILLING OF VILLAGER

Atanu faces women's ire

POST NEWS NETWORK

Kendrapara, Oct 27: Food Supplies, Consumer Welfare and Cooperation Minister Atanu Sabayasachi Nayak had a harrowing time Thursday at Jambu village under Mahakalapara block in Kendrapara district while he was on his way to inaugurate some projects. Hundreds of women and men protesting against the alleged police inaction on the accused involved in the alleged killing of one Ramakrushna Mandal squatted in front of the carcade of the minister. They surrounded the minister for over 30 minutes, clamouring for impartial probe into the murder.

Police intervened and facilitated the minister to escape the spot on someone's bike.

Notably, Ramakrushna of Jambu village was found dead October 11 under mysterious circumstances. A relative of the deceased had filed a

complaint about suspicious death of Ramakrushna. Locals alleged that police did not take action in this case as the wife of the deceased, his brother and some political leaders are involved in the alleged murder.

The villagers had staged dharna for three days laying the body on the road. The villagers had tried to submit a memorandum to the minister seeking a high level probe into the alleged murder. However, some supporters of the minister had prevented women from doing so, leaving the latter infuriated.

Locals alleged that involvement of some political leaders is the reason of police inaction in the alleged killing of the villager

Similipal to reopen Nov 1

POST NEWS NETWORK

Baripada, Oct 27: Similipal wildlife sanctuary will reopen for tourists from November 1, official sources told Thursday.

Tourists wishing for night halt can avail the facility by booking for accommodation online. Around 25 buses carrying tourists will be allowed from Baripada end and 35 buses from Jashipur end, it was learnt.

Notably, Similipal was closed for tourists due to rainy season from

Poacher arrested

Baripada: A suspected poacher was arrested with arms and ammunition from the Similipal National Park in Mayurbhanj district, officials said Thursday. Baiga Ho was nabbed by a patrol team of the Similipal Tiger Reserve in Jenabil range of the park Wednesday night, they said. A country-made gun and over 1,200 bullets were seized from him, field director of Similipal Tiger Reserve T Ashok Kumar said. However, four people accompanying Baiga could manage to flee during the arrest, he said. A case was registered and an investigation underway, he added.

June 16. As forest roads get in bad shape, tourists are not allowed into the sanctuary during the rainy season in the interest of tourists' safety.



POST NEWS NETWORK

Jajpur, Oct 27: The leaseholders of black stone quarry-1 on Barada hill under Dharmasala tehsil of Jajpur district have raked in moolah by resorting to excessive mining for years together. The government coffers had to lose revenue worth crores of rupees.

Now, the lessees have devised a new way to hide the excessive mining carried out in the lease area. For the last three days, leaseholders have been filling up pits in the quarry with murrum and soil in an attempt to evade the correct measurement by satellite survey. Videos of the filling went viral on social media.

Truckloads of murrum and soil are being transported from elsewhere to fill up the pits without permission from the right authorities, sources said.

The tehsil had leased out the quarry-1 of the Barada hill for five years with permission to extract 1,764 cubic metre of stone. However,

the leaseholders had mined stone in the lease area far beyond the limit. The quarry is spread over 7 acre. It was roughly assessed that the leaseholders have mined over 1,000 crore cubic metre of stone from the quarry. A huge crater of 100 metre depth has been created with excessive extraction of stones.

Last month, My World Consultancy agency had carried out a satellite survey to measure the extent of stone mining. Locals alleged that the leaseholders have started filling up pits in the quarry to tamper with the satellite survey.

As per the Minor Minerals Amendment Act-2016, many stone mines in the area had been leased out for five years. Lease terms for some mines have expired while that of some others is near expiry.

It was alleged that in over 20 stone quarries, leaseholders have excessively extracted stone.

On the basis of the allegations, a satellite survey on the stone mining was conducted in July. Four of the leaseholders have been served

Coastal protection, beautification in limbo

POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhograi, Oct 27: Works pertaining to coastal protection, infrastructure development and restoration of two tourism spots - Udaipur-Talsari beach and Chandaneswar temple under Bhograi block in Balasore - are allegedly in a limbo.

Collector Dattatraya Bhausaheb Shinde and district tourism officer Gagan Sahu visited the spots and took stock of the ongoing developmental works, but they expressed their displeasure over the tardy pace of execution. The contractors concerned have been directed to expedite the works so that the projects meet the deadlines.

According to reports, the state government has come out with a plan outlay of ₹59 crore for protection of the 2.7-km coastline along the

Surprisingly, for the last 12 years, stone-packing of the coast has been going on and has failed to make any headway

Udaipur-Talsari beach while ₹29 crore has been allocated for beautification of the beach.

Surprisingly for the last 12 years, stone-packing of the coast has been going on. It is failing to make headway due to inefficiency of the contractor. Since coastal protection work has remained incomplete over years, the beautification works for the beach have also failed to take off.

The Collector warned the contractor that the contract will be terminated if works are not completed before the deadline.

Man gets life sentence for axing wife to death

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Kendrapara, Oct 27: A court in Kendrapara district Thursday sentenced a 52-year-old man to life imprisonment for killing his wife with an axe.

Additional district and sessions judge Ajay Kumar Pradhan also imposed a fine of ₹10,000 on Pradeep Mallick, a resident of Andala village in Patkura police station area, after convicting him under section 302 of the Indian Penal Code (IPC).

Failure to pay the penalty would result in his sentence being increased for another six months, the court said.

Mallick axed his wife Manasi Mallick, 40, to death May 15, 2016 at the house of her brother in Birijanga village.

The woman was staying with her brother to escape the torture of her husband.



CIVIC ISSUES: Some councillors along with members of women SHGs staged dharna by locking the gate of Anandapur municipality office in Keonjhar district over multiple civic issues

Vistadome coach service launched in Jeypore

POST NEWS NETWORK

Jeypore, Oct 27: Vistadome coach service witnessed an expansion with addition of two new coaches to Kirandul-Vishakhapatnam and Vishakhapatnam-Kirandul express trains plying by Jeypore railway station.

The matter came to the fore after the service was launched from Jeypore railway station, Wednesday Two Vistadome coaches having 42 seats have been added to Vishakhapatnam-Kirandul express train plying through Andhra Pradesh, Odisha and Chhattisgarh.

This development has spread cheers among the locals as they welcomed the expansion of the service to Jeypore railway station. The expansion of the service

has also spread cheers in Kirandul in Chhattisgarh as it was only available till Araku in Andhra Pradesh since 2017. While the service is available in 20 other trains in the country, it is only available in this train which runs through Odisha, Chhattisgarh and Andhra Pradesh. People in Kotpad, Kusumi, Manbar, Chhatraput and Dhanpur having facilities of a station in Koraput district can also avail this service. The new coach will be attracting tourists and travellers visiting from Odisha, Andhra and Chhattisgarh.

A trip on a Vistadome coach is unlike any other, with comfortable seats that can be rotated around 180 degrees, a glass dome with anti-glare displays, and large glass windows through which passengers can take in the scenery



while staying connected via Wi-Fi. Vistadome coaches indeed give passengers a train journey like never before.

The inclusion of this service will help the visitors travelling to Seemanchal and Arakubora of

Andhra Pradesh, Machhkund, Sabar Srikhetra Koraput, Maliguda and Jeypore of Odisha as well as Tirathgad and Chitrakoot of Chhattisgarh. The coaches have been added to attract the visitors from outside of the state as well as



foreign countries. Notably, the Vistadome coach service was first launched in Vishakhapatnam-Kirandul express train. However, the coaches were not coming to Odisha as it was started under the joint effort of the Tourism department of Andhra Pradesh and the Railways. The coaches used to be taken out from the train before it entered Odisha and attached again when the down train for Vishakhapatnam entered Andhra border.

The issue came up in the public domain when Union Railways minister Ashwini Vaishnaw visited Jeypore August 22, last year. The denizens raised the issue before him and demanded his intervention. Later, the Koraput MP also wrote a letter to Vaishnaw drawing his attention.

CENTRAL SILK BOARD
(A Statutory Authority under Ministry of Textiles, Govt. of India)
CSB Complex, BTM Layout, Madhwa Bengaluru - 560 068, Karnataka, INDIA
Phone: +91 80 26282699, Fax: +91 80 26681511

Recruitment Notice Date: 28.10.2022
Adv. No.: CSB/05/2022

Please refer to Central Silk Board's advertisement published in the CSB's website and in leading newspapers on 27.07.2022 and in the Employment News on 06.08.2022 for recruitment of 66 Scientist-B in the Pre-Cocoon Sector on the basis of scores secured in the NTA ICAR (Ph.D.) JRF/SRF - 2022 examination.

The Online Application process has commenced from 28.10.2022. Interested candidates should apply ONLINE ONLY. The detailed advertisement is available at the website of CSB (www.csb.gov.in) under the link "JOB OPPORTUNITIES". The last date for receipt of online application is 17.11.2022. Candidates should compulsorily read the detailed advertisement before making online application.

CBC: 41109/12/0024/2223 **Member Secretary**

Government of Odisha No.B-739
"E" Procurement Tender Notice
OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER
RAYAGADA (R&B) DIVISION NO-II
E-mail ID: eeppw765017@gmail.com; Phone: (06856) 299969
Bid Identification No.: RC (RANDB) RGD No.-II/13/2022-23 (Online Tender) No. 4629 Dated.: 14.10.2022

- Total No. of the works: 02 nos. of Building work
- Approximate estimated Cost- Rs. 14.30 lakhs & Rs.40.88 lakhs
- Period of Completion:- 3 (Three) & 6 (Six) Calendar months
- Date & Time of availability of bid document in the portal: 11.00 Hrs. of Dtd.28.10.2022 to 17.00 Hrs. of Dtd. 09.11.2022 for online bidding.
- Last date/Time for receipt of bids in the portal:- Upto 17.00 Hrs. of Dtd.10.11.2022.
- Name and address of the officer inviting BID:- Executive Engineer, Rayagada (R&B) Division No.II
- Date of opening of Bid at 11.00 Hours on Dtd.10.11.2022
- Further details can be seen from the e-Procurement portal: www.tendersodisha.gov.in
- Further Addendum/Corrigendum if any will be hosted in the above website only.

Sd./- Executive Engineer
Rayagada (R&B) Division No.II
OIPR-34139/11/0007/2223

FORM A
PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENT
(Under Regulation 6 of the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Board of India (Insolvency Resolution Process for Corporate Debtors) Regulations, 2016)

RELEVANT PARTICULARS	
1. Name of corporate debtor	Sav Industries Private Limited
2. Date of incorporation of corporate debtor	26/08/1999
3. Authority under which corporate debtor is incorporated/registered	Ministry of Corporate Affairs, Registrar of Companies, Cuttack
4. Corporate Identity No./ Limited Liability Identification No. of corporate debtor	U28112OR1999PT003591
5. Address of the registered office and principal office (if any) of corporate debtor	Address of Corporate Debtor as per website of Ministry of Corporate Affairs: Room No. 02, 1st Floor, Khalsa Niwas ITI Chowk, Near Tarini Temple, Rourkela, OR-769004 IN
6. Insolvency commencement date in respect of corporate debtor. Order date	25/10/2022
7. Estimated date of closure of insolvency resolution process	180 days from the date of insolvency commencement date which is 23/04/2023
8. Name and registration number of the insolvency professional acting as interim resolution professional	Mr. Uday Narayan Mitra Registration No.: IBB/IPA-001/IP-P00793/2017-18/11360
9. Address and e-mail of the interim resolution professional, as registered with the Board	Mr. Uday Narayan Mitra, 721, Dawmagazi Road, Bally, Howrah, West Bengal-711201, udaynarayanmitra@yahoo.co.uk Mobile: 94335 32994 / 82408 50244
10. Address and e-mail to be used for correspondence with the interim resolution professional	Correspondence Address: 721, Dawmagazi Road, Bally, Howrah, West Bengal-711201, Mobile: 94335 32994 / 82408 50244 cirp.savindustries@gmail.com
11. Last date for submission of claims	08/11/2022 (14 days from the date of intimation of order to Insolvency Professional)
12. Classes of creditors, if any, under clause (b) of sub-section (6A) of section 21, ascertained by the interim resolution professional	NIL
13. Names of Insolvency Professionals identified to act as Authorized Representative of creditors in a class (Three names for each class)	NA
14. (a) Relevant Forms and (b) Details of authorized representatives are available at:	Web link https://ibbi.gov.in/downloadform.html Physical Address: NA

FOR THE ATTENTION OF THE CREDITORS OF Sav Industries Private Limited
Notice is hereby given that the National Company Law Tribunal has ordered the commencement of a corporate insolvency resolution process of the Sav Industries Private Limited on 25/10/2022. The creditors of Sav Industries Private Limited are hereby called upon to submit their claims with proof on or before 08/11/2022 to the interim resolution professional at the address mentioned against entry No. 10. A financial creditor belonging to a class, as listed against the entry No. 12, shall indicate its choice of authorized representative from among the three insolvency professionals listed against entry No. 13 to act as authorized representative of the class (specify class) in Form CA. Submission of false or misleading proofs of claim shall attract penalties.

Uday Narayan Mitra
Interim Resolution Professional
IBBI/IPA-001/IP-P00793/2017-18/11360
Date : 28.10.2022
Place : Kolkata

FOCUS SOCIETY

DIMENSIONS OF POVERTY



It is an eyebrow-raising fact that in South Asia, India is the only country where female-headed households are poorer than male-headed households

fyng figures which state that India has lifted 415 million people out of poverty in the last 15 years before COVID pandemic. It has significantly reduced deprivation in all ten indicators during this period. Rural areas and children achieved the fastest reduction in poverty compared to the urban areas and adults respectively. Across the states and union territories, the poorest castes and religious groups witnessed higher poverty reduction. Bihar, the poorest state in 2015-16, saw the fastest reduction in MPI value in absolute terms. This puts on the view that the SDG target 1.2 of reducing at least by half the proportion of men, women and children of all ages living in poverty in all its dimensions according to national definitions by 2030 is possible to achieve and at scale. Though the poorer states have exited poverty significantly, it was only West Bengal which was not among the top 10 poorest states in 2019-21 compared to the 2015-16 lists.

This picture in India does not capture the COVID shock and hence the crisis-affected data may be disheartening. With growing food and energy prices, it has a higher chance of hitting hard the poor households directly. Though poverty reduction in India is pronounced, it varies across states and union territories and hence extensive studies are necessary to find out the path to poverty alleviation. As India has a significant number of vulnerable populations, there is a high probability of this population getting affected by the COVID crisis. Indian government during this health crisis has made a robust attempt through Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Yojana to make the poor people food secure by providing free rations. However, during the same period food inflation and energy prices rapidly increased which might have dragged more people into poverty. These issues need to be studied in detail to frame appropriate policy measures for achieving an impressive outcome in the global framework.

The writer is Ph.D. Research Scholar, Department of Economics, Central University of Tamil Nadu. Views are personal.

The global Multidimensional Poverty Index (MPI) for the year 2022 was published recently covering 111 developing countries constituting 6.1 billion people. The report shows that 19.1% of this population (1.2 billion) is multidimensional poor and lives mostly in Sub-Saharan Africa (around 579 million) and South Asia (385 million). Together these two regions account for 83% of the total poor. It also mentions that around 50% of them (593 million) are children and teens under 18 years and 8.1% (nearly 94 million) are senior citizens. It is a general consensus that poverty is a rural phenomenon and the global MPI 2022 also points out the same thing. Most of these multidimensional poor i.e. 964 million (83%) live in rural areas whereas 198 million (17%) live in urban areas. The middle-income countries are home to more than 66% of the total poor and around half of them are severely poor having a deprivation score of 50% or more. More than 45.5 million poor (around 4%) are deprived in four indicators such as nutrition, cooking fuel, sanitation and housing and from among them, majority live in India, Bangladesh and Pakistan making it a South Asian figure. The six standards of living indicators have the second highest contribution to household deprivation and constitute 41 million people who mostly reside in Sub-Saharan Africa. Around 4.1 million are the poorest of the poor being deprived in all three dimensions and ten indicators having a deprivation score of 100% and they live in Sub-Saharan Africa. It is contented to notice that from among the 81 countries with trend data, 72 significantly reduced poverty in the absolute number of MPI value during one of the periods under consideration and India is one among them.

The Sustainable Development Goal one (SDG-1) directs to alleviate poverty in all its forms and everywhere. Poverty in ordinary perception means the inability of an individual or a family to fulfill the basic necessities of human well-being. It is generally measured in terms of income or consumption and hence poverty has been

considered as a monetary phenomenon. However, economists like Amartya Sen have criticized this approach for not being able to capture the non-monetary aspects of poverty. According to them, poverty is multidimensional in nature which complements the monetary measurement. This debate was continuing for a long time and it was Prof. Sabina Alkire along with others who suggested the methodology for the calculation of poverty in a multidimensional approach in 2010. United Nations Development Programme along with Oxford Poverty and Human Development Initiative calculated MPI for the first time in 2011 covering 104 countries globally based on the methodology proposed by Sabina Alkire and James Foster. This report was globally accepted among scholars, governments and policymakers. The methodology suggested by Alkire and Foster measures poverty in three dimensions and ten indicators taking into account different socio-economic variables. It assigns equal weights to each dimension which sums up to 1 or 100 per cent and within each dimension; it gives equal weights to each indicator. Then the deprivation score is calculated for each household given the standard criteria. A particular household is reported to be multidimensional poor if its deprivation score is equal to or greater than 0.33 or 33 per cent. This

methodology calculates three indices; incidence of poverty (H), the intensity of poverty (A) and MPI. Incidence of poverty also called as the headcount ratio is the total number of poor in a given population. The intensity of poverty is how poor the poor are. It calculates the number of people deprived in each indicator and finally, the MPI score is calculated by multiplying the incidence and intensity of poverty i.e. MPI = H * A. Looking at the Indian scenario, the 2022 global MPI report reveals that 16.4% of people are multidimensional poor with a mean intensity score of 42%. Having a deprivation score of 50%, 4.2% of India's population is severely poor with 18.7% vulnerable to poor having a deprivation score of greater than 20% and less than 33%. The report mentions that as per 2020 population data, India is home to the largest number of poor in the world (228.9 million). At the national level also, poverty is concentrated in the rural areas which account for 90%. Deprivation in nutrition is highest among the poor in India which accounts for around 66% followed by deprivation in cooking fuel and housing. Children in the age group of 0-18 years are the poorest constituting 21.8% of the total poor. It is an eyebrow-raising fact that in South Asia, India is the only country where female-headed households are poorer than male-headed households. There are also some satis-



Ashish Kumar Meher

INDIA IS HOME TO THE LARGEST NUMBER OF POOR IN THE WORLD (228.9 MILLION)



James Livingston

Even before Sanders' second run, socialism was as popular as capitalism among young Americans

Socialism For All

The Republican Party looks poised to win back control of one or both houses of Congress in the United States' upcoming midterm elections. Yet the party stands for nothing except fear of a "radical left" bent on installing socialism. The strands of paleo- and neoconservatism that once defined the party's identity have given way to the Christian-national populism embodied by US Representative Marjorie Taylor Greene of Georgia and promoted nightly by the popular Fox News commentator Tucker Carlson.

This seemingly new fixation on the specter of socialism looks almost farcical, but it is based on a constant, default setting or through line for the Republicans: the intellectual legacy of Friedrich von Hayek. The Austrian Nobel laureate might as well be on the ballot come November 8.

Hayek was always engaged in what he understood as rear-guard actions against the genuine threat of socialism, which he understood to include both communism and fascism. All were dedicated to erasing the modern liberal distinction between the state and civil society, the public sphere and the private sector, government and free markets.

The best-known of Hayek's writings, the 1944 manifesto *The Road to Serfdom*, is a kind of retreat from the intellectual battleground to the meditative heights of weary retrospect. "It is doubtful whether at this stage a detailed blueprint of a desirable internal order of society would be of much use," he tells readers. "The important thing now is that we shall come to agree on certain principles."

The two principles Hayek insisted on have since hardened into the unstated premises of conservative thought, whether paleo, neo, or the virulent new Christian-national variant. First, market forces are the source of individual freedom because they are unknowable: as long as everyone is subject to the same anonymous laws of supply and demand, liberty and equality are possible.

From this it follows that only capitalist societies can be free, and, more significantly, that their citizens cannot – indeed, must not – try to create a more just social order. To do so would modify outcomes generated by market forces, and thus stanch the economic wellspring of individual freedom.

Second, if the state encroaches upon civil society by replacing market forces with central planning, or by manipulating the market through indicative planning (such as industrial policies), the public sphere will supplant the private sector. In view of modern mass democracy, liberty will be sacrificed on the altar of "absolute equality."

Here Hayek conjures a slippery slope. "Once government has embarked upon planning for the sake of justice," he says, "it cannot refuse responsibility for anybody's fate or position ... That a government which undertakes to direct economic activity will have to use its power to realize somebody's ideal of distributive justice is certain."

The key word here is "somebody." Hayek obviously assumes that competing ideals of distributive justice already exist and will be contested in political venues once the state becomes the central agent of redistribution. The question for Hayek, then, is not whether an ideal of distributive justice should or will prevail, but whose?

His answer, and that of conservatives ever since, was plain – that "somebody" has been and must remain capital, because any other ideal of distributive justice would presumably entail equality of outcomes rather than opportunity. Capital's ideal of distributive justice has prevailed because conservative opinion, whether paleo, neo, or Christian-national, has always followed Hayek in equating liberty and private enterprise.

The result has been what the vernacular calls "socialism for the rich" – a system that redistributes resources to the wealthy by relentless tax cuts; outright subsidies to pharmaceutical, energy, and agricultural companies; monetary policies that penalise labour in times of inflation; and fiscal policies that bail out capital in times of crisis. By these devices (and others), Hayek's ideal of distributive justice has been, shall we say, normalised.

But the times they are a-changing, and this has all manner of conservatives in a panic, striking back when they can (and by judicial fiat if they must). Christian-national conservatism, which sees socialism in every corner of American culture and in most Democratic Party policies, is the seemingly hysterical result.

It's been more than a decade in the making. In 2011, Occupy Wall Street popularised a new way of thinking about increasing inequality and the reckless yet cosseted financiers who destroyed the world economy in 2008. Then came Black Lives Matter, #MeToo, and Vermont Senator Bernie Sanders – an avowed socialist! – as a viable presidential candidate.

By 2020, most Democratic and independent voters, as well as pluralities of Republicans, were for taxing the rich, single-payer health care ("Medicare for All"), strong measures to address climate change, and more government spending for infrastructure and job creation. Even before Sanders' second run, socialism was as popular as capitalism among young Americans.

Then came COVID-19 and the massive government spending (\$3 trillion) that buoyed locked-down economies by flooding households and firms with cash. And now, miraculously, comes another blow for Big Government in the form of the Inflation Reduction Act, with more than \$700 billion in public investment.

The result is what *The Economist* calls a "new era" of "Bailouts for everyone!" I would call it something else, perhaps a down payment on "socialism for all," because the "somebody" who speaks through these movements, attitude shifts, and legislative accomplishments is not capital.

It's not labour, either, despite a notable uptick in union organising. But its demands are certainly more promising than the Republicans' combination of tax cuts, deregulation, and new Christian-nationalist experiments with authoritarian governance. The ideal of distributive justice this "somebody" embodies is more pluralistic, egalitarian, and realistic than Hayek's. At the very least, it opens out social-democratic remedies for inequality, climate change, migration, population aging, and working conditions.

The Christian nationalists may not be so far off the mark, then. At any rate, they aren't hysterical in seeing the specter of socialism for all wherever they look. Whatever the outcome November 8, its time seems to have come.

The writer is Professor of History at Rutgers University.

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SPECTRUM NATION

Hidden hunger and revealed truth



Mosharaf Hossain

40 PER CENT OF THE FOOD PRODUCED IN INDIA IS WASTED OWING TO FRAGMENTED FOOD SYSTEMS AND INEFFICIENT SUPPLY CHAINS

Marking World Food Day, Concern Worldwide, and Welthungerhilfe, non-government organisations from Ireland and Germany respectively, bring out the Global Hunger Index (GHI) – a comprehensive, composite, and comparable measurement to track the spatiotemporal incidence of hunger. This index tells a country's attainment to arrest adult undernourishment, wasting, and stunting among children and child mortality – the manifestation of inadequate access to calories, protein, and essential vitamins and elements. Despite the phenomenal progress on several developmental goals, India with 107th rank among 121 studied countries displayed a dubious distinction. With an estimated score of 29.1 (0 indicating no hunger), our condition is stated to be serious and appallingly worse than our neighbours (Bangladesh, Sri Lanka, Nepal, and even Pakistan). However, a group of intellectuals finds this assessment is erroneous and doesn't truly depict reality. The publishing agencies confirmed the index has been constructed based on government-published data and it followed a robust methodology. Hence, there are reasons to be worried about this revelation instead of an outright rejection.

First, India's score has shown a consistent improvement from 36.8 in 2000 to 29.1 in 2022. However, we have slipped in the global ranking during the last couple of years, indicating other countries have outpaced India in achieving this developmental goal. Second, the same measurement technique is applied to rank all nations, thus captured scenario is unbiased and comparable across the countries. One can argue the GHI doesn't sufficiently quantify hunger but cannot deny the poor attainment in index components – critical for a nation's progress.

Third, historically in India, child development – a major element in the index – has been slow-paced. Not surprisingly, child stunting and wasting together contribute 65% of India's total GHI score of 29.1. These two parameters underscore diet underutilisation, nutritional deficiency, and intrahousehold uneven food distribution. Wasting (low weight-for-height) – measures the burden of chronic and acute malnutrition among children – alone constitutes 37% of India's index score. Do we really need to oppose this plain truth, or a policy-

focused introspection is the right approach? Successive governments have funded children-focused welfare schemes like ICDS, mid-day meal schemes, and PDS. Did those investments translate into targeted outcomes reasonably?

Fourth, agriculturally India is well placed in the global order. We are the world's largest producer of milk and pulses, and the second largest in the case of rice, wheat, groundnut, and vegetables. India maintained a trade surplus in agricultural products and earned 50 billion USD from agri-export in 2021. The rice and wheat exports in the past several years loudly say we produce enough to feed our people. Ironically, according to reports, 40 per cent of the produced food in India is wasted owing to fragmented food systems and inefficient supply chains. We have the resources but need to fix the distribution disparity. The nexus between production and access holds the key to alleviating hunger incidence.

Fifth, we tend to react sharply when we see our score is behind countries like Bangladesh, Nepal, and Sri Lanka. However, one must remember they are relatively smaller nations and not as diverse

as India is – economically, culturally, and politically. We should not negate the regional imbalance in education, income, and resources and their implication on hunger-associated health outcomes.

Sixth, in the absence of adequate access to water and sanitation measures, the incidence of undernutrition is further amplified. A NITI Aayog report (2018) revealed that 600 million Indians struggle for safe drinking water and 75% of Indian households do not own a water source on their premises. Shockingly, 70% of water is contaminated. Therefore, we must not obfuscate the obvious occurrence of high GHI and should work on this epiphany.

The first step to resolving a problem is accepting the problem's existence; we are well equipped to improve this score with intention, grit, and action in coherence. When we take pride in India's remarkable 23-position jump in the Ease of Doing Business, we must be spirited to accept and respond to the awful GHI score. We cannot afford to be childish in dealing with child health and hunger alleviation.

The writer is a Bhubaneswar-based agricultural economist.

WORDSWORTH

Chicanery

Still a common word, you may find it about equally in reports of sporting trickery and financial double-dealing: There's another association with sport that hardly anybody makes. When a racing driver navigates a chicane, etymologically he's on the same track as a trickster. Both words can be traced to a set of French terms that includes chicaner, to make a fuss or squabble, chicanerie, a squabble, and chican, legal quibbling or delaying tactics. Chicanerie seems to have been borrowed to fill a void in English – at least, John Evelyn regretted in a letter in 1665 that we had no word that fully expressed the sense of the French. He seemed not to know that Sir Thomas Overbury had already borrowed it half a century before, suggesting that it was only after Evelyn's time that it came at all common. Where the French words come from is uncertain. Dictionary makers used to think that they derived from a Greek verb meaning to play a game with sticks, something like golf or polo; this may be based on a Persian word, chaugan or chugan, which is the mallet in a polo-like game. But this idea has lost support because no chain of evidence exists to link the French with the Greek.

Letters

TO THE EDITOR

Readers of Orissa POST are most welcome to contribute letters (200 words), articles and columns (between 750-1250 words). Contributors are requested to send their contact numbers and full postal address/email ID. They may also send in their valuable comments, opinion and suggestions, preferably by email, to: edit@orissapost.com

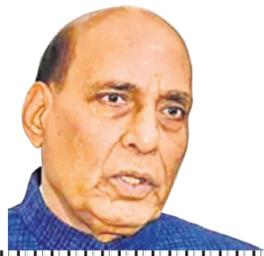
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Challenges galore

Sir, This refers to "Bumpy road ahead for Sunak," Orissa Post, Oct 26. The rise of Rishi Sunak, the first Asian and person of colour to become the Prime Minister of the United Kingdom, has understandably generated tremendous excitement in India. After all, one must keep in mind that Sunak belongs to the Conservative Party whose ideas on immigration are anything but palatable for most Indians. Moreover, he is not expected to be any more favourable towards India than what his country's interests allow. It must be pointed out that India and the UK have been trying to strike a free trade deal, but the talks are reportedly stalled over fears among Sunak's party leaders that it could lead to more immigration. Though he regularly points to his Hindu upbringing as the son of immigrants, he has not put his heritage at the centre of his political message. Instead, he focuses on his experience in finance, having served as the Chancellor of Exchequer in the Boris Johnson government. Going forward, Sunak faces the most daunting challenge of steering the country out of the current economic crisis – taming the highest inflation in four decades. Sunak, a Stanford management graduate, is expected to pull Britain back to more mainstream policies and opt for a belt-tightening economic programme after his predecessor Liz Truss' failed experiment in trickle-down economics, which rattled financial markets and badly damaged Britain's fiscal reputation. *N Sadhasiva Reddy, BANGALORE*

Learning & development

Sir, The Union Education Minister has launched the National Curriculum Framework for the foundational stage for children between age three and eight. This is the first time the curriculum has been prepared for the foundational stage and children aged three will be brought into the formal schooling system, as proposed in the NEP. A number of changes in the school curriculum for this age group are seen from recommending that no textbooks be used to teach three to six year-olds, to incorporating board games and stories from Panchtantra in lessons for children aged six to eight. Early childhood lays the foundation for life-long learning and development – it is a key determinant of the quality of overall life. Children learn best through play, hence learning envisaged by the NCF will provide stimulating experiences for the child's development in all dimensions – cognitive, social-emotional and physical. The 360-page document is very scientifically designed, but it is challenging for its implementation. *Bhagaban Nayak, BERTHAMPUR*



Kashmir and Ladakh today are on an accelerated path of development. This region is touching new heights of development. We have only started our northward journey. Our journey will be complete when we fully implement the unanimous resolution passed by the Parliament 22 February 1994 and we reach our remaining areas like Gilgit and Baltistan

RAJNATH SINGH | DEFENCE MINISTER

SAFETY FIRST

The railway ministry has directed the railway zones to launch a month-long safety drive Friday (today) to remove any gap in the maintenance of fixed assets, locomotives and rolling stock and for strengthening safety across the railway network



of the day quote

After both Airports are operational, footfall of tourists will increase with international and domestic tourists coming to Goa, this is what we expect. Challenge is to ensure all the services to type of tourist coming in. We are working with stakeholders to (increase footfall)

ROHAN KHAUNTE | GOA TOURISM MINISTER

The people of Delhi have given us five years to clean the Yamuna. The Municipal Corporation of Delhi polls will be an election of Delhi's cleanliness and garbage. The BJP should not deviate from the issue. They should give an account of their 15 years

ARVIND KEJRIWAL | DELHI CHIEF MINISTER

I will meet LG sir tomorrow (Friday) regarding the closure of Yoga classes in Delhi. The file is with LG sir. Yoga classes in Delhi will be closed from Tuesday if immediate action is not taken. Thousands of people will suffer

MANISH SIDOSHIA | DELHI DEPUTY CM

Cong demands white paper on plight of KPs

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, Oct 27: The Congress Thursday attacked Prime Minister Narendra Modi over the alleged exodus of Kashmiri Pandits from south Kashmir's Shopian district, saying that while he is "enjoying power", the members of the minority community remain refugees in their own country.

The Opposition party also demanded that the Modi government release a white paper on the plight of the minority community during its eight-year rule.

As terrorists carried out a number of targeted killings recently, 10 Kashmiri Pandit families left their village, Choudharygund, in Shopian out of fear and reached Jammu, according to residents.

Members of the minority community, who have since been camping in Jammu, ruled out any plan to return to the Valley.

However, authorities in Shopian have attempted to put on a brave face by claiming no exodus of Kashmiri Pandits has taken place from the district.

KASHMIRI PANDIT PURAN KRISHAN BHAT WAS GUNNED DOWN BY TERRORISTS OUTSIDE HIS ANCESTRAL HOUSE IN SHOPIAN'S CHOUDHARYGUND VILLAGE OCTOBER 15

ON OCTOBER 18, MONISH KUMAR AND RAM SAGAR WERE KILLED IN A GRENADE ATTACK BY TERRORISTS WHILE THEY WERE ASLEEP IN THEIR RENTED ACCOMMODATION IN SHOPIAN

Addressing a press conference at the AICC headquarters here, Congress' media department head Pawan Khara said that when the first migration of Kashmiri Pandits took place in 1989, V P Singh's government was in office



This year, there have been 30 targeted killings in Kashmir. The exodus of Pandits is increasing rapidly. The BJP has ruined the good work done by the UPA. The PM, who spoke big things before coming to power, is enjoying power and Kashmiri Pandits remain refugees in their own country

RAHUL GANDHI | EX-CONGRESS PRESIDENT

with the BJP's support.

"In 1986, when the first riot against Kashmiri Pandits took place, Rajiv Gandhi's government was in office at the Centre. Kashmiri Pandits walked from the national stadium to Rajiv Gandhi's office, he heard them and Ghulam Mohammad Shah's government was brought down," Khara said.

The BJP only talks of zero tolerance but what it actually means was shown by Rajiv Gandhi, he claimed. Slamming the Centre, Khara said 70 ministers of the government are carrying out an outreach programme in Kashmir and asked if any of them visited a camp of Kashmiri Pandits.

"What is this outreach when you cannot reach out to the Kashmiri Pandits living in the camps there," he asked.

Citing an order, the Congress leader also alleged that Kashmiri Pandit employees are being "threatened" to return to work against their wishes. There have been 30 targeted killings of

Kashmiri Pandits from January to October this year, he claimed.

"We demand a white paper from the Modi government on the plight of Kashmiri Pandits. In the last eight years, all that has been done and not been done by this government should come out in that white paper," Khara said.

The BJP leaders have no idea of contemporary history of the country, he said.

It is very easy to blame Jawaharlal Nehru for this, Indira Gandhi for something else, P V Narasimha Rao for something else and Manmohan Singh for the rest, Khara said.

"Give us answers. You have been in power for eight years. What has been your achievement in those years in Jammu and Kashmir? You cannot hold elections. You cannot protect Kashmiri Pandits. Is that your achievement? You must apologise for what happened in 1989, you must apologise for what is happening now," he said, attacking the BJP-led Centre.

NIA takes over probe of Coimbatore blast

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, Oct 27: The Centre Thursday decided to hand over to the NIA the probe into the recent blast near a temple in Coimbatore, officials said.

The decision came after Tamil Nadu Chief Minister MK Stalin recommended an investigation by the National Investigation Agency (NIA) into the Sunday blast in which an engineer was killed.

"The Union home ministry decided to hand over the Coimbatore blast case to the NIA," an official said. The Tamil Nadu government said the decision to recommend the probe handover to the central anti-terror agency was taken as there is involvement of factors "extraneous to the state" and "possible international links".

On Sunday, a car loaded with two gas cylinders exploded near a temple in Coimbatore. It was being driven by one Jameesha Mubin, a 29-year-old engineering graduate.

ONE MORE HELD: Police Thursday arrested one more person in connection with the explosion case, taking the total number to six. The arrested man-Afsar Khan, a local resident, had reportedly played a major role in



sourcing explosive materials seized from the house of Jamesha Mubin, the victim in the car explosion here October 23, on the eve of Deepavali. The 28-year old Khan is a relative of Mubin and had helped purchase a large quantity of explosive materials from e-commerce platforms, police said. Police had earlier arrested five persons in connection with the explosion under Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act.

Azam gets three-year jail in 2019 hate speech case



PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Bareilly (UP), Oct 27: A Rampur court Thursday sentenced Samajwadi Party leader Azam Khan to three years in jail in a 2019 hate speech case, a government lawyer said.

However, the court granted bail to the Rampur MLA, allowing him time to file an appeal in a higher court.

The MP/MLA court also imposed a fine of ₹25,000 on Khan, advocate Ajay Tiwari said. The case was registered against Khan in Rampur in April 2019 for levelling serious allegations against administrative officials posted in Rampur and Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath during an election meeting.

The Special MP/MLA court of Rampur found Khan guilty under Section 153-A (inciting religious feelings), 505-A (giving false statement intended to create feelings of enmity, hatred or animosity between different communities) of the Indian Penal Code (IPC) and Section 125 (promoting ani-

mosity between different classes in connection with elections) of the Representation of the People Act. The court sentenced him to three years imprisonment and imposed a fine of ₹25,000 on him, government advocate Ajay Tiwari said.

Emerging out of the court after the verdict, Khan in his first comments said bail is a mandatory provision of the law.

"I have firm belief in justice," he told reporters. Khan was released from jail earlier this year after the Supreme Court granted him interim bail in a cheating case. He spent nearly two years in jail. The Samajwadi Party leader faces nearly 90 cases, including that of corruption and theft.

The veteran SP leader had won from Rampur Sadar assembly seat in the recent UP Assembly polls for a record 10th time. After becoming MLA, he resigned as Lok Sabha MP from Rampur which he had won in the 2019 election. Heavy security deployment was made outside the Rampur court as well as in Rampur keeping in view the court hearing.

DURING THE 2019 LOK SABHA ELECTIONS, KHAN WAS BOOKED FOR MAKING INFLAMMATORY SPEECHES WHILE ADDRESSING A PUBLIC MEETING IN KHATANAGARIA VILLAGE OF MILAK KOTWALI AREA. THE VIDEO OF KHAN'S STATEMENT ALSO WENT VIRAL

SHORT TAKES

Soldier killed in encounter

Srinagar: An Army jawan was killed and a local terrorist of Lashkar-e-Taiba arrested during an anti-terror operation in Baramulla district of Jammu and Kashmir which began October 26, police said Thursday. A search operation is underway to nab another terrorist who is a Pakistani national, they said. "Acting on specific information regarding the presence of terrorists in Wanseeran Taripora forest area in Sheeri area of Baramulla, a joint cordon and search operation was launched by police and security forces," a police spokesperson said.

Three Bangladeshi intruders nabbed

Kolkata: The Border Security Force (BSF) Thursday said that it had apprehended three Bangladeshis, who had crossed over into India illegally, in West Bengal's Murshidabad district on late Wednesday night. The three arrested have been identified as Kutubuddin Sheikh, Miraj Sheikh and Jasim Sheikh, all three residents of Shibganj area in Bangladesh's Chapai Nawabganj district.

EAM, Lavrov to hold talks

New Delhi: External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar will travel to Moscow to hold talks with his Russian counterpart Sergey Lavrov November 8, a Russian foreign ministry spokesperson said Friday. The announcement comes amid heightened tensions between Russia and the West over the Ukraine conflict. "Russian Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov will have talks with External Affairs Minister of India Dr S Jaishankar November 8 in Moscow," Russian Foreign Ministry Spokeswoman Maria Zakharova said. "The ministers will discuss the current state of bilateral relations and the international agenda," she added.

Woman dies during snatching bid

New Delhi: A 56-year-old woman died after falling off an e-rickshaw when three scooter-borne men snatched her purse in northwest Delhi's Prashant Vihar area, police said Thursday. Sumitra Mittal was travelling in an e-rickshaw in Rohini's Sector-14 in Prashant Vihar Police Station limits when three persons on the scooter snatched her purse.

PM Modi speaks to Sunak



PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, Oct 27: Prime Minister Narendra Modi Thursday spoke to new British premier Rishi Sunak with the two leaders agreeing on the importance of early conclusion of a comprehensive and balanced free trade agreement between the two countries.

It was their first conversation since Indian-origin Sunak took

charge as British prime minister Tuesday. Sunak also tweeted his excitement about the two "great democracies" can achieve as they deepen their security, defence and economic partnership in the months and years ahead.

Modi tweeted, "Glad to speak to Rishi Sunak today. Congratulated him on assuming charge as UK PM. We will work together to further strengthen our Comprehensive

Strategic Partnership. We also agreed on the importance of early conclusion of a comprehensive and balanced FTA."

Sunak responded, "Thank you Prime Minister Narendra Modi for your kind words as I get started in my new role. The UK and India share so much. I'm excited about what our two great democracies can achieve as we deepen our security, defence and economic partnership in the months & years ahead."

India and Britain launched negotiations for the free-trade agreement (FTA) in January with an aim to conclude talks by Diwali but the deadline was missed due to a lack of consensus on issues.

Sunak, in his previous role as Chancellor of the Exchequer, had expressed support for the FTA as he saw enormous opportunities for both countries in the fintech and insurance sectors.

Sunak is an investment banker-turned politician and at 42, is the youngest British prime minister in 210 years. He is also Britain's first Hindu Prime Minister.

IGIA emerges as world's 10th busiest airport: Report

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, Oct 27: The Indira Gandhi International Airport (IGIA) in the national capital has emerged as the world's 10th busiest airport in October, improving its ranking compared to the pre-pandemic period.

The rankings by OAG are based on scheduled airline capacity in the current month and compared to the equivalent month in 2019, pre-pandemic. The world's top 10 busiest airports list is prepared using total capacity, both domestic and international.

After Atlanta, Dubai and Tokyo Haneda airports are at the 2nd and 3rd positions, respectively.

"When compared to October 2019, 6 of the Top 10 this month were also among the world's Top 10 busiest airports then; airports which have seen their rankings rise, bringing them into the Top 10 now, are Dallas/Fort Worth (from 12th to 4th), Denver (from 20th to 5th), Istanbul (from 13th to 8th), and



Delhi (from 14th to 10th)," OAG said in the report on its website.

For the Delhi airport, also known as the Indira Gandhi International Airport (IGIA), the number of seats was 34,13,855, as per OAG.

The Indian aviation sector is recovering after being significantly impacted by the coronavirus pandemic that also saw scheduled in-

ternational flight services remaining suspended for more than two years starting from March 2020. At the 6th place is London Heathrow Airport, followed by Chicago O'Hare International Airport at the 7th spot and Los Angeles International Airport is at the 9th position, the OAG report said.

BIDDING ADIEU



Devotees immerse an idol of Goddess Kali in Ganga after Kali Puja festival celebrations in Kolkata

PTI PHOTO

IN ITS REPORT, AVIATION ANALYTICS FIRM OAG SAID DELHI AIRPORT HAS IMPROVED ITS POSITION FROM 14TH PLACE IN OCTOBER 2019, WHICH WAS THE PRE-PANDEMIC TIME

IN OCTOBER 2022, HARTSFIELD-JACKSON ATLANTA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT WAS THE BUSIEST IN THE WORLD

According to the report, Dubai is the busiest international airport, followed by London Heathrow Airport and Amsterdam airport at the 2nd and 3rd positions, respectively. There is no Indian airport in the top 10 list of busiest international airports.

In another report, OAG said Mumbai to Dubai and Delhi to Dubai were among the top 10 busiest international routes.

The busiest airline routes are those with the largest volume of scheduled seats during the period from October 2021 to September 2022.

"India is also seeing an increase in route capacity with two routes in the top 10, operating from Mumbai to Dubai (BOM-DXB) and Delhi to Dubai (DEL-DXB)," it said. Also, the route between Mumbai

and New York is among the largest unserved routes, which OAG defines as the routes with the largest volume of people travelling indirectly between two points.

"Based on passenger booking data for the period August 2021 - July 2022, eight of the top 10 largest unserved routes start or end in North America. New York features in three of the routes with Quito - New York (UIO-JFK) the largest market, with more than enough passengers to potentially sustain a direct service," the report said.

Further, OAG noted that the other New York routes include India's largest city, Mumbai (BOM-JFK) with nearly 82,000 passengers in a 12-month period currently travelling indirectly between these two cities.

Raj: Infants die due to overheating of warmer in hosp

Jaipur: Two newborns have died due to overheating in a warmer in the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU) of a government hospital in Rajasthan's Bhilwara district. The newborns, a girl and a boy, were in the warmer when overheating incident took place in the wee hours on Wednesday at the Mother and Child hospital of the Mahatma Gandhi (MG) government hospital. While the 21-day-old baby girl died soon after the incident, the baby boy died Thursday, police said. A hospital official said that the services of two contractual nursing staffers who were on duty at the time of the incident were terminated with immediate effect and an inquiry committee was formed. The baby girl who died was under weight and was admitted to the NICU October 5. After a ruckus by the family members of the victim newborns on Wednesday, the action on contractual employees was taken and an inquiry committee was constituted.

Congress readying for tractor yatra

INDO-ASIAN NEWS SERVICE

Bangalore, Oct 27: Tussle between Opposition leader Siddaramaiah and state Party President D.K. Shivakumar seems to be gathering steam as Karnataka Congress gears up to take out tractor yatra across the state buoyed by the success of Rahul Gandhi's Bharat Jodo Yatra.

Both the leaders, vying for the chief minister's post, have planned separate programmes to project themselves as the prospective candidates. The leaders who seemed to bury their hatchets during Bharat Jodo Yatra and their recent visit to New Delhi have gone their own ways, say insiders in Congress.

The Congress leaders have planned for a tractor yatra across the state. The plan has been discussed with the high command, say sources.

The yatra will be taken up at the level of Assembly constituencies.



THE PARTY WILL TAKE UP TRACTOR YATRA IN NORTH KARNATAKA AND KALYAN (HYDERABAD) KARNATAKA REGIONS | THE YATRA WILL BE TAKEN UP AT THE LEVEL OF ASSEMBLY CONSTITUENCIES

The party will take up tractor yatra in north Karnataka and Kalyan (Hyderabad) Karnataka regions. "The party has decided to highlight the failure of the BJP government to implement Article 371 J in the Kalyan Karnataka region. The failure to ensure development and infrastructure will be highlighted during the yatra," party sources explained.

The yatra will begin from Basavakalyan in the first week of December, sources added. Opposition leader Siddaramaiah has stated that the party is planning to organise a special campaign and clarified that it won't be a foot march. He maintained that the plans are yet to be finalised by the high command.

However, sources explained that Siddaramaiah's supporters have planned a special campaign against the ruling BJP in the state under his leadership.

Siddaramaiah was successful in making his 75th birthday celebrations a party affair and proved his might. Shivakumar camp had taken initiative to organise the Makedatu padayatra and made Bharat Jodo Yatra in the state successful.

With veteran Congress leader Mallikarjun Kharge taking charge of AICC, the dimensions of politics within the party is going to take unpredictable twists, say Congress party leaders.

Women take centre stage in rural tourism ventures



PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Melomora (Assam), Oct 27: In a quaint Assam village, Pranita is busy peeling and chopping vegetables while another woman cleans a boat at the nearby pond and two others sit by the entrance, chatting among themselves.

This could well be the scene of any rural household in Assam, except that these women are busy with the activities at a tourist spot nestled in an interior part of Golaghat district.

"We are a group of 20 women who take care of the tourist park here at Melomora. All of us gather in the morning to clean the premises and for the rest of the day, we are divided in groups of six to cater to the visitors on a rotational basis," Pranita said.

She said the park has been developed on a plot of barren government land by Khumtai MLA Mrinal Saikia, who has now handed it over to the women of the village to run it. "Out of the total earnings, two-third is divided among the women and one-third is kept for its maintenance. We have good foothall, especially during the winters, and the local men also help us out in the more heavy jobs," Pranita said.

Besides tranquil spots for people to unwind, it has a children's section, boating facility and an eatery. Pradyut Khound, a local person who has been actively engaged with rural tourism ventures in Khumtai, said there are two more such places that have been developed under the initiative of the legislator, and have now become means for sustenance for families living nearby.

"There is one park at Jogibeel, which is closer to Golaghat town, and another in Missamora Mudoi Gaon area. The one at Jogibeel was known for its migratory birds, but it has been given a proper ambience only now," he said.

Close to the Melomora park is a 'chang ghor' (still house), named 'Meluha' by its owner, which has turned into a major tourist draw. Khound said curious onlookers used to visit the house, which is decorated with artefacts from around the world and is dotted by plants and trees of different species.

The owner, who is a doctor by profession, eventually decided to turn it into a tourist spot, keeping only a room locked for personal use. "Regular maintenance of the house is entrusted to three families. They collect the entry fees, which go up to thousands of rupees during peak tourist season, and ensure its upkeep," he added.

Saikia, who has been the brain behind these rural tourism initiatives, said, "We wanted to include the local community in running these ventures. This ensures better maintenance of the places and also empowers them economically."

"We have witnessed tremendous enthusiasm among the women and youth for these ventures. The women themselves pooled resources and went to see how such tourist spots are maintained in Meghalaya. Later, we organised such a trip for the youth."

Saikia has been promoting rural tourism in his constituency through the 'Destination Khumtai' initiative, which started in August with a day-long journey for tourists to villages.

POTHOLE MENACE IN BANGALORE

HC PULLS UP RULING BJP

INDO-ASIAN NEWS SERVICE

Bangalore, Oct 27: Karnataka High Court took the ruling BJP to task in connection with the pothole menace in Bangalore Thursday. The court has categorically stated that the Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) has failed to adhere to the orders given by the court in this regard.

The division bench headed by the Chief Justice Prasanna B. Varale expressed its displeasure while looking into the petitions filed by Vijay Menon and others regarding pothole menace.

The counsel for petitioners argued that the number of deaths is increasing in Bangalore due to pothole ridden roads and the BBMP has not utilised the appropriate technology to fill up potholes.

The bench opined that the BBMP has totally failed in terms of closing of potholes.

The court also directed the officers to submit a detailed report on what action has been initiated. How many potholes are filled?

The counsel appearing for BBMP intervened and submitted a detailed action taken report on filling up of potholes in Bangalore.

The counsel had also sought time to argue over the matter. The court agreed to give a hearing and adjourned the matter to November 2.

Ruling BJP is under fire from all corners over pothole menace in the city. Opposition Congress and JD(S) parties have slammed that BJP has turned Silicon Valley Bangalore into a pothole valley.



Speeding trains a threat to jumbos

According to reports, between 1990 and 2018, a total of 115 elephants died in Assam due to train hits. Between 2012 and 2022, at least 30 elephants died in Assam in train mishaps while 55 died in West Bengal in similar incidents



INDO-ASIAN NEWS SERVICE

Guwahati, Oct 27: The deaths of wild elephants caused by accidents with running trains are on the rise in Assam with eight elephants killed by trains since January this year and four of them alone in a little over a month.

According to reports, between 1990 and 2018, a total of 115 elephants died in Assam due to train hits. Between 2012 and 2022, at least 30 elephants died in Assam in train mishaps while 55 died in West Bengal in similar incidents.

According to the latest census, India is home to 27,312 elephants and of them, Assam is home to 5,719 Asian elephants, the second largest elephant population in India after Karnataka (6049). A large number of them often come out of the forests in search of food.

Assam's Forest and Environment department officials said that 71 elephants including calves were killed last year mainly due to being hit by speeding trains,

poisoning, electrocution, 'accidental' deaths including falling into ponds and ditches and lightning strikes.

In May last year, 18 jumbos were killed in a lightning strike in Nagaon district of central Assam. According to the 'India State of Forest Report-2019', Assam has only 36.11 per cent forest cover out of its total geographical area of 78,438 sq. km.

Out of the total 28,327 sq. km forest area in Assam, only 2,795 sq. km is very dense forest and 10,279 sq. km area is moderately dense forest. Northeast India's biodiversity conservation organisation "Aaranyak" in a report said that linear infrastructure such as railway tracks often run through pristine wildlife habitats which has consequently led to habitat fragmentation, posed barriers to wildlife movement and caused casualties due to train collisions.

The threat of train collisions is more for a long-ranging species such as Asian elephants which need expansive areas for their survival. Aaranyak urged the Railways to address the issue of elephant-train collisions.

Aaranyak's Secretary General and biodiversity expert Bibhab Kumar Talukdar said that elephants are being declared by the central government as Heritage Animals of India. "The socio-cultural association of Indian people with elephants has been age old which is being valued worldwide. "Of late, the number of elephant deaths due to human induced actions are increasing. Train hit deaths of elephants in Assam, North Bengal and other parts of India has been a cause of concern, especially since Indian Railways has its mascot as Bholu the Elephant," Talukdar said.

"We shall assist Indian Railways with needed suggestions so that we can also contribute towards keeping the sanctity of the Indian Railways mascot," he said.

Northeast Frontier Railway's (NFR) Chief Public Relations Officer Sabyasachi De said that the railway authorities have taken several measures including "Honey bee buzzing" (sound system) to keep elephants away from railway tracks, elephant corridors and intrusion detection systems to prevent the deaths of elephants on the tracks.

"There are around 80 elephant corridors currently in Assam and Bengal. The NFR has planned to introduce the intrusion detection system in many areas after the success of the pilot projects in selected elephant corridors in Assam and West Bengal.

"Intrusion detection systems can detect the movement of elephants in advance of 30-40 meters of the track therefore an alarm may be generated in real time for detection of elephants near the track and the lives of elephants may be saved. Audio visual alarm is being provided for instant alerts," De said.

No case of new Omicron sub-variants in Karnataka

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Mysuru, Oct 27: Karnataka Health Minister K Sudhakar Thursday said there is no need to worry about new Omicron sub-variants, as they have not been reported in the state.

All necessary precautionary and preventive measures are being taken by the administration, especially in the border districts, said the minister, who also advised people to take the booster dose of the coronavirus vaccine at the earliest.

"There is no worry as such, as other than in Maharashtra, where one case has been reported, the new variants have not been identified in the state. There is no need for worry, but we are cautious," Sudhakar said.

Speaking to reporters here, he said the state government has already issued guidelines; instructions and details have been shared with administrations in the border districts, and accordingly precautionary measures are being taken.

With the festive season as well as the reporting of new Omicron sub-



variants such as BQ.1, BA.2.3.20 and XBB in the country, the state's health department has issued a Covid advisory to the public. It also asks people with symptoms like fever, cough, cold, sore throat and breathing difficulty to compulsorily get tested and isolate themselves until they receive the results, and those with breathing difficulty should urgently seek medical care, preferably in a hospital,

among others.

Asked whether wearing of face masks will once again be made compulsory, he said, "we have not reached such a situation, but things are being studied and analysed. It will also be discussed with the Technical Advisory Committee on COVID." "There is no need for worry, but my advice to the people is to take a preventive third dose of vaccination at the earliest," he added.

Guwahati has very high black carbon pollution levels

In the National Air Quality Monitoring Programme (NAMP), five 'non-attainment' cities have been identified in Assam, namely, Guwahati, Nagaon, Silchar, Sivasagar, and Nalbari. The pollutant levels in these cities have exceeded the prescribed air quality standards

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Guwahati, Oct 27: A large population in Assam is breathing toxic air, with Guwahati topping the charts of the highest polluted cities in the state.

The Delhi-based Centre of Science and Environment (CSE) had recently warned that the problem of air pollution is growing steadily in Assam and also in other northeastern states, posing a threat to the concept of pristine blue skies and clean air in this region.

In the National Air Quality Monitoring Programme (NAMP), five 'non-attainment' cities have been identified in Assam, namely, Guwahati, Nagaon, Silchar, Sivasagar, and Nalbari. The pollutant levels in these cities have exceeded the prescribed air quality standards.



as in many cities in Uttar Pradesh. Pollution is high even in smaller cities too.

Parthankar Choudhury, Professor of Ecology and Environmental Science, Assam University, Silchar, said that over the years, the concentration of particulate matter in the ambient air is on the rise, which is alarming. "More research projects need to be carried out on the respiratory distress and other health ailments caused due to air pollution," he added.

In the present scenario, various construction works are going on in and around Guwahati, which may be responsible for the increase in concentrations of PM10. This increase, however, is temporary in nature because, after the completion of the construction works, e.g., a flyover, the vehicle flow will be smooth with less congestion which will eventually lead to lesser pollutant levels in the long run. Black carbon is just next to carbon dioxide in global warming potential and has an effect on global climate.

Rajarshi Sharma, a research

scholar of the Air & Noise Research Lab of IIT Guwahati (IIT-G) headed by Prof. Sharad Gokhale, studied emission levels of black carbon and found that fossil fuel burning (from transportation, industries, kerosene lamps for lighting in residential use) is responsible for about 60 per cent of black carbon emission, while biomass burning (from firewood for residential use, cropland burning, forest fires, slash burning) contribute to about 40 per cent. The total emission of black carbon is about 19.38 Gg (Gigagram) during 2018-19, of which 3.38 Gg is from Kamrup Metropolitan district only, which is also the highest black carbon emitting district.

The other reason which is affecting Guwahati is the unplanned and open burning of solid waste disposal right in the city itself. People do not realise the amount of black carbon and toxic pollutants which are emitted from burning waste disposal. Guwahati has one of the highest black carbon pollution levels in the world which is alarming, said an officer of the state government.

Another death due to contaminated water

INDO-ASIAN NEWS SERVICE

Belagavi (Karnataka), Oct 27: A 70-year-old person died Thursday after consuming contaminated water in Mudenu village of Belagavi district of Karnataka. According to authorities, 94 persons from Mudenu have fallen sick and have been hospitalised.

Irrigation Minister, Govind Karajol, who is also district in charge minister, announced Rs 10 lakh compensation to the family of the deceased person.

The deceased has been identified as Shivappa Yandigeri, a resident of Mudenu village. Among 94 persons, the condition of four is critical and they are being treated at the district hospital. The locals explain



that the deceased Shivappa fell sick four days ago after consuming contaminated water.

After the media report, BJP MLA Mahadevappa Yadavada rushed to the village and took the authorities to task over the failure to ensure proper drinking water.

They also explained that the incident had taken place after a water pipe broke and contaminated water got mixed with drinking water on October 23.

Irrigation minister, Govind Karajol, who is also district in charge minister, announced Rs 10 lakh compensation to the family of the deceased person

After the media report, BJP MLA Mahadevappa Yadavada rushed to the village and took the authorities to task over the failure to ensure proper drinking water

of the day quote

Remember Haryana eight years before. When one government was formed, corruption used to be rampant and during another government's time 'goondaism' (hooliganism) used to rise

The revenue and disaster management departments are working full swing and efforts are being made to provide all support to the affected families. All deputy commissioners are working to ensure as much relief as possible to those hit by the cyclone Sitrang

There is a big jump in the number of seats in medical colleges across the country which is a kind of revolution. The central government as well as the state government have focused on the health sector

SHORT TAKES

Six killed in UP road accident

Prayagraj: Six people were killed and four injured when their SUV hit a pole and overturned on a highway in Uttar Pradesh's Prayagraj district Thursday morning, police said.

Terrorist killed in encounter

Srinagar: A terrorist was killed in an encounter between terrorists and security forces in Jammu and Kashmir's Kulgam district Thursday, police said.

Dalit humiliated

Samastipur/Patna: A 22-year-old Dalit man, who fell in love with a woman of another religious faith, was allegedly humiliated by members of her community in full public glare in Bihar, a senior police officer said Thursday.

Three Naxalites held

Latehar: Three Naxalites were arrested in Jharkhand's Latehar district Thursday, police said. They were arrested from Dakadiri forest in Balumath police station area, about 110 km from capital Ranchi.



The 'red light on, gaadi off' campaign has been successful in previous years. The month-long campaign was set to be launched tomorrow for this year but no approval has been received so far. The file was sent to LG October 21

NE MONSOON TO HIT TN FROM SATURDAY

The India Meteorological Department (IMD) has said that the northeast monsoon will hit Tamil Nadu from Saturday onwards. Scattered to fairly widespread light moderate rain with isolated heavy rains and thunderstorm is likely over Tamil Nadu, Pondicherry, and Karaikal Saturday and Sunday



T'GANA POACHING DRAMA

3 booked for bribery, criminal conspiracy

The state Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) reportedly offered TRS MLAs Rs 100 crore and also allegedly threatened them with Enforcement Directorate raids, claimed Telangana Rashtra Samithi (TRS) Tandur MLA Pilot Rohit Reddy

Ramachandra Bharati and Nanda Kumar belonging to the BJP met him and negotiated with him not to contest as candidate from the TRS and to join BJP by resigning from the TRS and to contest in the next elections from the BJP for which they offered him an amount of Rs 100 crore.



PATRIOTIC FERVOR: Enactment of air landed operations of the Indian Army which ensured victory in 1947 war, during 'Shaurya Diwas' celebrations in Srinagar

Din rages to 'topple' Gandhi from currency note pedestal



Various leaders from different parties such as the BJP, Congress, Shiv Sena (UBT), Republican Party of India (K) and others came up with different heroes - ranging from Gods and Goddesses to historical icons and freedom fighters who could share space with Gandhiji on the ICN

image of BR Ambedkar, which was seconded by Shiv Sena's (UBT) ex-Mumbai Mayor Kishori Pednekar. "Why not Ambedkar? It's because of him that the country is enjoying the fruits of democracy today," they pointed out.

INDO-ASIAN NEWS SERVICE

Mumbai, Oct 27: A day after Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal's demand to add images of Goddess Laxmi and Lord Ganesh on Indian currency notes (ICN), clamour grew Thursday among various political parties to 'topple' or 'over-crowd' Mahatma Gandhi's exalted pedestal on the country's paper money.

BJP legislators like Nitesh Rane and Ram Kadam demanded the pictures of Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj, Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Veer Savarkar, among others, on the ICN. They even circulated photoshopped ICN of ₹200 and ₹500 denominations showing the three leaders - with Gandhiji conspicuously missing in their proposed designs!

Prominent Congress Dalit leader Nitin Raut demanded to add the

Five die after drinking tea

Mainpuri (UP): Five persons, including two children and their father died Thursday here in a village after drinking tea allegedly spiked with a chemical, police said.

Thiruvananthapuram, Oct 27:

Fight between Kerala Governor Arif Mohammed Khan and Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan continues unabated with none willing to exercise any restraint.

What began as a spar between two seasoned veterans, grew into a full blown battle after Khan, Wednesday, wrote to Vijayan saying he is withdrawing his 'pleasure' that he had on State Finance Minister KN Balagopal, over his harsh words against the former at a meeting.

in a 2019 RTI reply to Sarda by the Department of Economic Affairs' Additional Secretary Manisha Sinha, the government said that a high-level RBI panel (October 2010) had deliberated in detail on the need for inclusion of other eminent personalities, Bharat Ratnas, Nobel laureates, freedom fighters or sports persons on the ICN design.

Finally, it decided to retain the portrait of Mahatma Gandhi on the obverse of banknotes and on the watermark. The government has approved the recommendation, as per the reply of November 11, 2019. The issue was first covered by IANS Wednesday.

Trinamool Congress leader and ex-cricketer Kirti Azad had raised the issue in the Parliament for including other prominent personalities on the ICN, but then Finance Minister Arun Jaitley had cited the RBI panel's report in response.

A retired NRI from the US, Ketan Kakkad, added on a humorous note that in view of so many demands, the currency notes can be re-designed with a bench wherein all the persons, gods and goddesses can be seated - to please one and all - so that the country can concentrate on more serious issues.

AVIAN FLU

20K ducks to be culled in Kerala



PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Alappuzha (Kerala), Oct 27: With the outbreak of avian flu being confirmed among ducks in the district, authorities Thursday began operations to cull over 20,000 birds in Vazhuthanam ward in Haripad Municipality here to check spread of the disease.

The presence of the infection was confirmed following a recent lab test of samples in the National Institute of High Security Animal Diseases in Bhopal. From October 28 (Saturday), all birds in the houses located within a km radius of the epicentre of the disease, would be culled, district authorities said here in a statement.

As many as 20,471 ducks would be killed and eight Rapid Response Teams (RRTs), with 10 members each, are engaged in culling operations as per the directives of veterinarians and adhering to the central norms in this regard, it said.

MAJOR TRAGEDY AVERTED

Police recover 18 detonators near Jammu Railway station

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Jammu, Oct 27: Police foiled a plan of terrorists to possibly trigger an IED blast and recovered 18 detonators near the Jammu railway station here, officials said.

Police were alerted after an abandoned bag was found in an 'nallah' (drain) near the taxi stand, they said. A police team rushed to the spot and took possession of the bag. It contained 18 detonators, some wires and around 500 grams wax-type material packed in two boxes, Senior Superintendent of Police (Railways) Arif Rishu told reporters.

First Gaganyaan test flight in Feb: ISRO

New Delhi: The Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) will start a series of test flights for India's maiden human space flight mission from February next year, a senior official said here Thursday. The space agency also plans to deploy the heavy lift Chinook helicopter and the C-17 Globemaster transport aircraft for testing the crew module, which will carry astronauts into the orbit for three days as part of the Gaganyaan human space flight mission, R Umamaheswaram, Director of ISRO's Human Space Flight Centre said.



Addressing the India Space Congress here, he said scientists at ISRO had completed the design of the Environment Control System, which will ensure ambient living conditions for astronauts in the crew service module when they are orbiting the earth.

No end in sight to political deadlock in Kerala

INDO-ASIAN NEWS SERVICE

Thiruvananthapuram, Oct 27: Fight between Kerala Governor Arif Mohammed Khan and Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan continues unabated with none willing to exercise any restraint.

What began as a spar between two seasoned veterans, grew into a full blown battle after Khan, Wednesday, wrote to Vijayan saying he is withdrawing his 'pleasure' that he had on State Finance Minister KN Balagopal, over his harsh words against the former at a meeting.

Vijayan instantly replied that since Balagopal's speech contained nothing that showed any disrespect to the head of the state, it can be left like that.

Also, as the ruling CPI-M has called for a statewide protest with one lakh of their cadres expected



to arrive before Khan's official residence November 15, the state BJP has warned the Left against doing anything 'foolish', saying they should not forget that Vijayan's house is only a stone's throw away from that of Khan's.

Following the withdrawal of the 'pleasure' of Khan, clearly im-

plying that Balagopal has to go, the police have tightened security near his residence. The CPI-M has expressed apprehension that the BJP cadres might attack Khan's residence but the blame will fall on the CPI-M.

Currently, the focus has shifted to the national capital as both Khan

The ongoing tussle between the Raj Bhavan and the LDF government escalated further Wednesday with Governor Arif Mohammed Khan writing to Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan seeking "constitutionally appropriate" action against Finance Minister K N Balagopal for making a speech "undermining India's unity", and the latter firmly turning down the demand

and Vijayan are away in the north and all eyes are on Vijayan who is attending the two-day Chintan Shivir (reflection camp) of all state Home Ministers called by the Union Home Minister Amit Shah which begins in Haryana Thursday.

Meanwhile, there are reports that Khan, while in Delhi, is expected to solicit advice on how to deal with the November 15 protests and is mulling calling for Central forces to take over his security and also at the Universities.

international

of the day quote

A gang of thieves and slaves of America were imposed upon us. Our fight is against these thieves and (mission is to) bring real freedom to the country

I would be pleased to host new Swedish Prime Minister Ulf Kristersson in Turkey

The government's strategy is to stabilise public spending, repay our debts, maintain growth, create jobs and lower taxes

RUSSIA SAYS IT MAY DESTROY WESTERN SATELLITES

Kyiv, Oct 27: Ukrainian forces attacked Russia's hold on the southern city of Kherson Thursday while fighting also intensified in the country's east. The battles came amid reports that Moscow-appointed authorities in Kherson have fled the city joining tens of thousands of residents who have been evacuated to other Russia-held areas. Ukrainian forces were surrounding Kherson from the west and attacking Russia's foothold on the west bank of the Dnieper River, which divides the region and the country. Amid the battles, Russia issued a warning that the United States could be drawn into the conflict, adding it could target Western commercial satellites used for military purposes in support of Ukraine. Russian Foreign Ministry spokeswoman Maria Zakharova accused the United States of pur-



suing "thoughtless and mad" escalation. She argued that Washington should take a more responsible approach shown during the 1962 Cuban Missile Crisis when the Cold War superpowers stepped back from the brink of nuclear confrontation. Ukraine has pushed ahead with an offensive to reclaim the Kherson region and its capital of the same

Amid the battles, a senior Russian official warned that Western commercial satellites used for military purposes in support of Ukraine were a legitimate target for a retaliatory strike

More than 70,000 residents from the Kherson city area have evacuated in recent days, the region's Kremlin-installed governor, Vladimir Saldo, said Thursday

governor, Kirill Stremousov said. Monuments to Russian heroes were moved, along with the remains of Grigory Potemkin, the Russian general who founded Kherson in the 18th century, that were kept at the city's St. Catherine's Church. In eastern Ukraine, Russian forces continued to bombard the city of Bakhmut in the Donetsk region, making slow gains toward the center. Amid the heavy combat on two

fronts, Russian officials stepped up warns that the West could become part of the conflict.

"The more the U.S. is drawn into supporting the Kyiv regime on the battlefield, the more they risk provoking a direct military confrontation between the biggest nuclear powers fraught with catastrophic consequences," said Zakharova, the Russian Foreign Ministry spokeswoman. "Washington now keeps upping the ante, apparently believing that it's capable of controlling the escalation," she said.

The deputy head of Russia's delegation at a U.N. Arms control panel, Konstantin Vorontsov, described the use of U.S. and other Western commercial satellites for military purposes during the fighting in Ukraine as "extremely dangerous." "The quasi-civilian infrastructure could be a legitimate target for a retaliatory strike," Vorontsov warned.

Dhaliwal's murderer gets death sentence

Houston, Oct 27: Robert Solis, the man convicted of murdering Sandeep Dhaliwal, the first turbaned Indian-American Sikh police officer in the US state of Texas while making a traffic stop in 2019, has been sentenced to death, according to a police official.



The verdict was handed down by the jury, a panel made up of citizens. Solis showed no emotion as the sentence was read on Wednesday. Jurors deliberated for just 35 minutes before recommending the death penalty in the punishment phase of the trial. They deliberated for 25 minutes in the guilt phase.

"Verdict is in: Jurors sentence Robert Solis to death. We are extremely grateful that justice has been served," Harris County Sheriff Ed Gonzalez tweeted. Solis, 50, was convicted by the jury of the Harris County Criminal Court in Houston of the capital murder of 42-year-old Dhaliwal, a 10-year-veteran of the Harris County Sheriff's Office.

Dhaliwal made national headlines when he was allowed to grow a beard and wear a turban on the job. He was gunned down in an ambush-style shooting while conducting a routine mid-day traffic stop in northwest Houston on September 27, 2019. Authorities said Dhaliwal was shot multiple times from behind after he had stopped Solis in a residential neighbourhood and was walking back to his patrol car.

"...Basically just shot him in a very ruthless, cold-blooded way," said Sheriff Gonzalez in 2019. Jurors saw multiple angles of the shooting and heard from 65 prosecution witnesses, who testified about a criminal history that goes back more than 30 years.

Gen Bajwa was given 'lucrative offer': ISI

The press conference came as the country is grappling with different versions about the killing of journalist Arshad Sharif in Kenya and indirect allegations against the armed forces

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Islamabad, Oct 27: Pakistan's ISI chief Lt Gen Nadeem Ahmed Anjum said Thursday that Army chief Gen Qamar Javed Bajwa was given a "lucrative offer" in March by the then government amidst the political turmoil, as the powerful top spy launched a veiled attack on ousted premier Imran Khan at an unprecedented press conference. "I am aware that you are surprised by my presence," Lt Gen Anjum told reporters in the first-ever media interaction by any ISI chief in Pakistan's history. The press conference came as the country was grappling with different versions about the killing of journalist Arshad Sharif in Kenya and indirect allegations against the armed forces. Sharif was shot dead at a police checkpoint at an hour's distance from Nairobi on Sunday night, creating a storm in the country. The Kenyan police later said it was a case of "mistaken identity" during a search for a similar car involved in

a child abduction case. "As chief of this agency (Inter-Services Intelligence or ISI), I cannot remain silent when they are targeted for no reason," he said, nearly seven months after the government led by cricketer-turned-politician Khan was ousted after a no-confidence motion was passed by the National Assembly amidst political turmoil and allegations of US interference. Lt Gen Anjum said the nation had given him the responsibility to take secrets to the grave. "But when needed and when necessary, I will bring those facts to light".

He said the officers, including Quetta Corps commander, killed in Lasbela areas of Balochistan in a helicopter crash were mocked. He said words like "neutral and janwar" were used against the army to illustrate that the institution was indulging in sedition.

These words were also being used because the institution refused to bend to an "unconstitutional and illegal act", the ISI chief said in hard hitting words. He, however, didn't explain the illegal acts. Lt Gen Anjum said that in March there was "a lot of pressure" but the institution and the army chief Gen Bajwa decided to limit the military to its constitutional role. In March, Gen Bajwa was given a "lucrative offer" for an indefinite extension in his tenure, he said. "It was made in front of me. He (Gen Bajwa) rejected it because he wanted the institution to move forward from a controversial role to a constitutional role," the ISI chief said, without naming former premier Khan.



SHORT TAKES

Israel okays deal with Lebanon

Tel Aviv: The Israeli government Thursday approved a maritime demarcation deal with Lebanon, setting for the first time a border between the two countries, which have been in an official state of war since 1948. The "historic" agreement would strengthen Israel's security and economy, Prime Minister Yair Lapid told a government meeting, adding that 17 per cent of the profits from Lebanon's Qana natural gas field in the disputed area would be shared with the Jewish state, reports Xinhua news agency. Earlier in the day, Lebanese President Michel Aoun signed a letter approving the deal.

3 Indian students killed in crash

Sheffield (Massachusetts): Three students from India who were attending universities in Connecticut died in a two-vehicle crash in western Massachusetts this week, authorities said Thursday. Five other people were taken to the hospital for treatment of injuries suffered in the crash at about 5:30 am Tuesday in Sheffield, according to a statement from the Berkshire district attorney's office. A northbound minivan occupied by seven people collided with a southbound pickup truck with just a driver, authorities said.

Xi visits Mao's revolutionary base

Beijing: Days after winning a record 3rd five-year term, Chinese President Xi Jinping Thursday visited the revolutionary base of the ruling Communist Party's founder Mao Zedong at Yan'an as a symbolic gesture to highlight his pledge to make China a modern socialist country. Xi, 69, was elected as the General Secretary of the Communist Party of China (CPC) on October 23 at the once-in-a-five-year Congress of the party, becoming the only leader after Mao to get re-elected for an unprecedented 3rd five-year term after completing 10 years in power.

Mexico legalises same-sex marriage

Mexico City, Mexico: Same-sex marriage has become legal throughout Mexico after the state of Tamaulipas became the last in the mostly Catholic country to approve it, the local Congress said Wednesday. The northern border state's decision ends a 12-year journey toward national marriage equality beginning when the capital Mexico City became the first to celebrate same-sex unions in 2010. The move was followed by a Supreme Court declaration five years later stating a ban on same-sex marriage was unconstitutional that spurred changes at the state level.

Sunak to move into small and modest Downing Street flat

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

London, Oct 27: Newly-appointed British Prime Minister Rishi Sunak and his family will be returning to live in a smaller flat above No 10 Downing Street as they were "very happy there," his spokesperson has said.

No 10 Downing Street has been the residence of British Prime Ministers since 1735, says the government's website. It has three functions - the official residence of the Prime Minister, their office and where the Prime Minister entertains guests from world leaders to royalty. Sunak, along with his wife Akshata Murty and two daughters, stayed in the flat when he was chancellor to former Prime Minister Boris Johnson. Many Prime Ministers of recent years - especially those with children - have lived in the larger flat above No 11, officially designated for the Chancellor.

Khamenei vows revenge

REUTERS

Dubai, Oct 27: Iran's supreme Leader vowed Thursday to retaliate against those threatening the country's security after the massacre of Shi'ite pilgrims, an assault claimed by Islamic State which threatens to inflame tensions amid widespread anti-government protests.

In a statement read on state TV, Ayatollah Ali Khamenei said the assailants "will surely be punished" and called on Iranians to unite. "We all have a duty to deal with the enemy and its traitorous or ignorant agents," said Khamenei a day after the attack killed 15 people. Khamenei's call for unity appeared to be directed at mostly government loyalists and not protesters whose nearly six-week-old movement is seen by authorities as a threat to national security. Iran's clerical rulers have faced nationwide demonstrations since the death in police custody of Mahsa Amini, a 22-year-old Kurdish



We all have a duty to deal with the enemy and its traitorous or ignorant agents

woman, on September 16. Iranians have called for the death of Khamenei and an end to the Islamic Republic during the protests, which have become one of the boldest challenges to the

clerical leadership since the 1979 revolution, drawing many Iranians on to the streets.

Iranian officials said they had arrested a gunman who carried out the attack at the Shah Cheragh shrine in the city of Shiraz. State media blamed "takfiri terrorists" - a label Tehran uses for hardline Sunni Muslim militants such as Islamic State. An official said the suspected attacker was in critical condition after being shot by police. "We have not been able to interrogate him yet," said deputy provincial governor Easmail Mohebbipour.

UN report: Climate pollution reductions 'highly inadequate'

The emissions gap is the difference between the amount of carbon pollution being spewed between now and 2030 and the lower levels needed to keep warming to 1.5 or 2 degrees

ASSOCIATED PRESS

Nairobi, Oct 27: The world, especially richer carbon polluting nations, remains "far behind" and is not doing nearly enough - and not even promising to do enough - to reach any of the global goals limiting future warming, a United Nations report said. That "highly inadequate" inaction means the window is closing, but not quite shut yet, on efforts to keep future warming to just a few more tenths of a degree from now, according to Thursday's Emissions Gap report from the United Nations Environment Programme.

"Global and national climate commitments are falling pitifully short," United Nations Secretary-General Antonio Guterres said Thursday. "We are headed for a global catastrophe."

The world is weaning itself from fossil fuels too slowly, the report and experts said. "The report confirms the utterly glacial pace of climate action, despite the looming precipice of climate tipping points we're approaching," said climate scientist Bill Hare, head of Climate Analytics that also examines what countries are promising and doing about carbon emissions in its own analysis.

ALARMING SCENARIO



Instead of limiting warming to 1.5 or 2 degrees Celsius (2.7 degrees or 3.6 degrees Fahrenheit) above pre-industrial levels, the global goals set by 2015 Paris agreement, the way the world is acting now, warming will hit 2.8 degrees (5 degrees Fahrenheit) by the year 2100, the UN report said. Countries

concrete pledges would bring that down to 2.6 degrees (4.7 degrees Fahrenheit). It's already warmed 1.1 degrees (2 degrees Fahrenheit) since pre-industrial times. "In all likelihood we will pass by 1.5," UNEP Executive Director Inger Andersen told The Associated Press in an interview. She didn't say

when she thinks that would happen. "We can still do it, but that means 45% emissions reductions" by 2030. "It's really about understanding that every little digit (tenth of a degree of warming) that we shave off is a lesser catastrophic outlook," Andersen said.

The emissions gap is the difference between the amount of carbon pollution being spewed between now and 2030 and the lower levels needed to keep warming to 1.5 or 2 degrees.

Guterres said "the emissions gap is a by-product of a commitments gap. A promises gap. An action gap." Stanford University climate scientist Rob Jackson, who chairs the independent Global Carbon Project that tracks carbon dioxide emissions around the world but wasn't part of the UN report, said "another decade of fossil emissions at current rates and we'll zip past 1.5C.... The way things are

going though we'll zip past 1.5C, past 2C and -- heaven help us -- even 2.5 or 3C."

"We're failing by winning too slowly," Jackson said in an email. "Renewables are booming and cheaper than ever. But COVID stimulus plans and the war in Ukraine have disrupted global energy markets and led some countries (to) revert to coal and other fuels. This can't continue in a safe climate."

In 10 days, yearly international climate negotiations will begin in Sharm El Sheikh, Egypt, and in the run up to the United Nations conference, several reports highlight different aspects of the world's battle to curb climate change. Wednesday, a different UN agency looked at countries' official emission reduction targets. Thursday's Emissions Gap report looks at what countries are actually doing as well as what they promise to do in the future in various pledges.

business

of the day quote

I have a small request for telcos. Now we are installing around 2,500 base transceiver stations (BTS) or towers per week. That is a bit low. We need to be installing at least 10,000 BTS per week

ASHWINI VAISHNAW
MINISTER FOR COMMUNICATIONS

We launched JioMart on WhatsApp in India, and it's our first end-to-end shopping experience that shows the potential for chat-based commerce through messaging

MARK ZUCKERBERG | CEO, META

Margins for the quarter were impacted by sale of higher cost Wires inventory at relatively lower realizations due to fall in copper prices

MITHUN K CHITLAPALLY
MD, V-GUARD INDUSTRIES

SHORT TAKES

RBI calls special MPC meet Nov 3

Mumbai: The Reserve Bank has called a special meeting of the Monetary Policy Committee November 3 to prepare a report on its failure to keep retail inflation below 6 per cent for three consecutive quarters. "Under the provisions of Section 452N of the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) Act...An additional meeting of the MPC is being scheduled on November 3, 2022," the central bank said in a statement Thursday. Section 452N of the Act deals with failure to maintain the inflation target. The inflation has remained above the upper tolerance limit of 6 per cent for nine straight months or three quarters.

SAIL breaches major milestone

New Delhi: Steelmaker SAIL Thursday said it has made procurement worth Rs 10,000 crore through the Government-e-Marketplace (GeM) since the inception of the portal. The portal was launched August 9, 2016. Presently more than 7,400 products in about 150 product categories and hiring of transport service are available on it. In a statement, SAIL said, "it has become the first Central Public Sector Enterprise (CPSE) to achieve the major milestone of procurement value of Rs 10,000 through GeM since inception".

JSW Steel's US arm raises \$182mn

New Delhi: Home-grown JSW Steel Thursday said its US arm has raised \$182 million from two Italian banking institutions to fund modernizing of its plate mill facility in Baytown, US. Its subsidiary JSW Steel (USA) owns and operates one of the largest plate mills of America having an installed capacity of more than 1.2 million tonne per annum. JSW Steel USA has tied-up long-term financing with two Italian banking institutions, Intesa Sanpaolo and Banco BPM, for its Plate Mill modernisation project in Baytown, JSW Steel said.

CHARGE+ZONE, M&M partner up

New Delhi: Electric vehicle charging infrastructure firm CHARGE+ZONE and Mahindra & Mahindra Thursday announced a partnership to set up a charging network for the latter's electric SUVs. The two partners will explore installation, commissioning and maintenance of fast DC chargers at various locations, the two companies said in a joint statement. The locations would include owned and rented sites, offices or any other areas nominated by Mahindra, its affiliates and group companies.



Textiles sector aims to hit \$100 billion exports in 5-6 years, which would take the industry's combined domestic and international economic value to \$250 billion

PIYUSH GOYAL | UNION MINISTER

MUSK ENTERS TWITTER HQ WITH A 'SINK'

After changing his Twitter profile to refer to himself as Chief Twit and location as Twitter headquarters, billionaire Elon Musk entered San Francisco-based Twitter HQ carrying a sink through a lobby area saying 'let that sink in!' Twitter Inc shares will be suspended from trading Friday, the New York Stock Exchange's website showed, as Musk faces a court-ordered Oct 28 deadline to close his \$44 billion deal for the social media giant



HIGHEST SINCE 2009 ECB hikes interest rates by 75 bps to 1.5%

ECB HAS NOW RAISED RATES FOR THE 19-COUNTRY EURO AREA BY A FULL 2% POINTS IN JUST THREE MONTHS, DISTANCE THAT TOOK 18 MONTHS TO COVER DURING ITS LAST EXTENDED HIKING PHASE IN 2005-2007 AND 17 MONTHS IN 1999-2000



REUTERS

London, Oct 27: European Central Bank raised interest rates for the third meeting in a row Thursday and signalled an intention to start mopping up cash from the banking system to fight record-high inflation.

The ECB has been undoing years of aggressive stimulus in a matter of months after being blindsided by a sudden surge in prices - the result of higher energy costs caused by Russia's invasion of Ukraine and the economy's uneven reopening after the Covid-19 pandemic. The central bank of the 19 countries that share the euro raised the interest rate it pays on bank deposits by 75 basis points (bps), taking it to the highest level since 2009 at 1.5%. "The Governing Council took today's decision, and expects to raise interest rates further, to ensure the timely return of inflation to...2%," the ECB said. "Inflation remains far too high and will stay above the target for an extended period," the bank said in a statement. But the ECB repeated plans to keep reinvesting proceeds from the 3.3-billion-euro pile of bonds it bought under its Asset Purchase Programme (APP) in the last eight years, when it thought inflation was going to stay low. "The Governing Council intends to continue reinvesting, in full, the principal payments from maturing securities purchased under the APP for an extended period of time," the ECB said. Finally, the ECB changed the

terms of its Longer-Term Refinancing Operations to encourage banks to repay those multi-year loans early. With Thursday's decision, the ECB also increased the rate on its Main Refinancing Operation, a weekly cash auction that banks have barely tapped for years, to 2.0% from 1.25% and that on its daily Marginal Lending Facility to 2.25% from 1.5%. The ECB also took the first step toward shrinking its 8.8 trillion euro balance sheet, a move that is likely to raise borrowing costs further and may act as a sort of disguised rate hike.

Soaring gas prices to bloat fertiliser subsidy by ₹40K-cr

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Mumbai, Oct 27: The fertiliser subsidy bill may overshoot by Rs 40,000 crore this fiscal from the budgeted Rs 2.15 lakh crore due to the surge in pooled natural gas prices, taking the total financial support to over Rs 2.55 lakh crore, according to a report.

Natural gas is the key raw material for manufacturing urea. And the price has jumped manifold since the war on Ukraine began in late February as Russia is the world's largest supplier of gas. However, the western world has been trying to ban it as part of their economic blockade.

Following this, the government since April 1 has increased the prices of domestically produced gas by a whopping 150 per cent. The government has been proactive in addressing the subsidy requirements of the industry.

In addition to Rs 1.05 lakh crore approved in the budget, an additional Rs 1.10 lakh crore was announced in May to offset surging feedstock and product prices.

The retail selling price of urea is fixed by the government. It is kept as low as 85 per cent below the market prices to encourage farmers to use fertilisers for better crop yield. Urea makers are compensated through subsidy payments.

India's Russian oil binge sends Middle East imports down



REUTERS

New Delhi, Oct 27: India's oil imports from the Middle East fell to a 19-month low in September while Russian imports rebounded although refining outages hit overall crude imports, data from trade and shipping sources showed. Iraq remained the top supplier while Russia overtook Saudi Arabia as the second biggest after a gap of a month, the data showed.

India's total oil imports in September fell to a 14-month low of 3.91 million barrels per day (bpd), down 5.6% from a year earlier, due to maintenance at refineries such as Reliance Industries and Indian Oil Corp, the data showed.

India's imports from the Middle East fell to about 2.2 million bpd, down 16.2% from August, the data showed, while imports from Russia increased 4.6% to about 896,000 bpd after dipping in the previous two months.

Russia's share of India's oil imports surged to an all-time high of 23% from 19% the previous month while that of the Middle East declined to 56.4% from 59%, the data showed. The share of Caspian Sea oil, mainly from Kazakhstan, Russia and Azerbaijan, rose to 28% from 24.6%. India has emerged as Russia's

second biggest oil buyer after China, taking advantage of discounted prices as some Western entities shun purchases over Moscow's invasion of Ukraine. "The discount on Russian oil has narrowed now but when you compare its landed cost with other grades such as those from the Middle East, Russian oil turned out to be cheaper," said a source at one of India's state refiners.

Imports for Saudi Arabia fell to a three-month low of about 758,000 bpd, down 12.3% from August, while imports from Iraq plunged to 948,400 bpd, their lowest level in a year, the data showed. Imports from the United Arab Emirates fell to a 16-month low of about 262,000 bpd.

Higher intake of Caspian Sea oil has hit the share of other regions in India's imports in April-September, the first half of the fiscal year, and also cut OPEC's market share in the world's third biggest oil importer and consumer to its lowest ever.

In the first half of this fiscal year, Indian refiners also reduced purchases of African oil, mostly bought from the spot market. However, supply from the Middle East rose from a low base last year when the second wave of the Coronavirus cut fuel demand.

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state-owned Hindustan Aeronautics Ltd currently makes aircraft, mainly for the armed forces.

"This is the first project of its

BIGGEST JUMP GLOBALLY

India's energy demand to skyrocket, says IEA

The International Energy Agency noted that the world is in the midst of the first global energy crisis, triggered by Russia's invasion of Ukraine

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, Oct 27: India is likely to see the world's biggest rise in energy demand this decade, with demand climbing 3 per cent annually due to urbanisation and industrialisation, the International Energy Agency (IEA) said in its World Energy Outlook released Thursday.

While the push for renewable energy will see it meeting as much as 60 per cent of the growth in demand for power, coal will continue to meet a third of overall energy demand by 2030 and another quarter will be met by oil.

"India becomes the world's most populous country by 2025 and, combined with the twin forces of urbanisation and industrialisation, this underpins rapid growth in energy demand, which rises by more than 3 per cent per year in the State Policies Scenario (STEPS) from 2021 to 2030," IEA said. "It sees the largest increase in energy demand of any country."

Even though India continues to make great strides with renewables deployment and efficiency policies, the sheer scale of its development means that the combined import bill for fossil fuels doubles over the next two decades, with oil by far the largest component.

"This points to continued risks to energy security," IEA said.

"Pressures in markets predated Russia's invasion of Ukraine, but Russia's actions have turned a rapid economic recovery from the



- ▶ Coal will continue to meet a third of overall energy demand by 2030
- ▶ India's coal-fired power capacity increases from 240 GW in 2021 to 275 GW in 2030
- ▶ India's oil demand to rise from 4.7 million bpd in 2021 to 6.7 million bpd by 2030

pandemic - which strained all manner of global supply chains, including energy - into full-blown energy turmoil," it said.

Russia has been by far the world's largest exporter of fossil fuels, but its curtailments of natural gas supply to Europe and European sanctions on imports of oil and coal from Russia are severing one of the main arteries of global energy trade. All fuels are affected, but gas markets are the epicentre as Russia seeks leverage by exposing consumers to higher energy bills and supply shortages.

In India, coal meets a third of growth with demand rising above 770 million tonne of coal equivalent (Mtce) by 2030, and continuing thereafter before peaking in the early 2030s.

Oil demand meets a further quarter of the energy demand growth and rises to nearly 7 million barrels per day (bpd) by 2030 from 4.7 million bpd in 2021.

Coal generation is projected to continue to expand in absolute terms, peaking around 2030, though its share of electricity generation falls from just below 75 per cent to 55 per cent over this period.

Renewables meet more than 60 per cent of the growth in demand for power, and account for 35 per cent of the electricity mix by 2030

- solar PV alone accounts for more than 15 per cent.

IEA projected India's oil demand to rise from 4.7 million barrels per day (bpd) in 2021 to 6.7 million bpd by 2030 and 7.4 million bpd by 2040 in STEPS. Under APS, the demand is projected to rise to 5.9 million bpd in 2030 before falling to 5.4 million bpd in 2040 and further to 3.9 million bpd in 2050.

However, oil imports double between 2021 and 2050 because of limited local resources.

Natural gas demand reaches 115 billion cubic meters (bcm) by 2030 from 66 bcm in 2021. "Most of the growth comes from manufacturing and other industry, helped by the expansion of city gas distribution networks," it said.

"The government recently announced a doubling of its licence area for oil and gas exploration; however, this is unlikely to contribute significant volumes in this decade," IEA said, adding that gas imports double to reach nearly 70 bcm by 2030 before growth moderating to reach 90 bcm by 2050.

India became the world's second-largest coal producer in 2021 (in energy terms), overtaking Australia and Indonesia, and it plans to increase domestic production by more than 100 Mtce from current levels to 2025.

TATA, AIRBUS TO MAKE DEFENCE AIRCRAFT IN INDIA

REUTERS

New Delhi, Oct 27: India's Tata group and Airbus will make the C-295 transport aircraft in the country, the government said Thursday, the first such production by a local private company amid a push for an expansion of defence manufacturing.

India, among the world's largest defence importers, has been trying to cut its reliance on foreign firms and increase local output. Only

BOOST TO LOCAL MAKING



state-owned Hindustan Aeronautics Ltd currently makes aircraft, mainly for the armed forces.

"This is the first project of its

kind in which a military aircraft will be manufactured in India by a private company," the Ministry of Defence said in a statement.

The project, valued at Rs 219.35 billion (\$2.66 billion), involves the supply of 56 C-295MW transport aircraft for the Indian Air Force.

Airbus will deliver 16 aircraft in flyaway condition between September next year and August 2025, while the rest will be made by Tata group, including its software unit Tata Consultancy Services

and Tata Advanced Systems Ltd.

The first made-in-India aircraft is expected from September 2026, the ministry said.

The aircraft, which will replace the Air Force's ageing British Avro fleet, will be fitted with equipment from Bharat Electronics Ltd and Bharat Dynamics Ltd.

Once delivery of the 56 aircraft is completed, Airbus will be able to sell the India-made planes to civil operators and export to countries cleared by the Government of India.

Vedanta gets 10-yr extension for Raj oil block

New Delhi: Billionaire Anil Agarwal's Vedanta Ltd has got a 10-year extension of the licence for its prolific Rajasthan oil block till May 14, 2030, the firm said in a stock exchange filing Thursday. The initial licence to explore and produce oil and gas from the Barmer block expired May 14, 2020. The government had agreed to a 10-year extension but it wanted a higher share of oil and gas from the block as well as settlement of Rs 5,651 crore dispute over cost recovery for the same. Vedanta did not agree to either of the demands and challenged them in court. Against this backdrop, the company was given monthly or bi-monthly extensions, and the latest one is due to expire October 31, 2022. Now, the government has agreed to sign the extension of the Production Sharing Contract (PSC) pending the settlement of the dispute. The govt accorded its approval for extension of the PSC under the Pre-NELP Extension Policy for RJ Block by a period of 10 years with effect from May 15, 2020, vide its letter dated October 26, 2018, subject to fulfilment of certain conditions. PSC extension for 10 years from May 15, 2020, to May 14, 2030, has been executed by the parties to the PSC October 27, 2022.

India paves the way for commercial use of first GM food crop

The world's biggest importer of edible oils, on which it spends tens of billions of dollars a year, India fills more than 70% of its demand from Argentina, Brazil, Indonesia, Malaysia, Russia and Ukraine

REUTERS

New Delhi, Oct 27: India has granted environmental clearance for indigenously developed genetically modified (GM) mustard seeds, experts said Thursday, paving the way for commercial use of its first GM food crop.

"I can call it a landmark development," said Deepak Pental, a geneticist and former vice-chancel-

lor of Delhi University, who developed the seeds along with his team, in an effort stretching more than a decade. Commercial use of GM mustard seeds would take a couple of years, however, he added.

In a notice, the government confirmed the highest level of clearance yet for the transgenic mustard crop, also known as rapeseed.

India is streamlining regulations for development of genome edited



plants, the science and technology ministry said Thursday, calling the technology promising, as it offers huge economic potential.

"The decision of GEAC recognises the potential of biotechnology to address the issue of India's grow-

ing edible oil imports," said Bhagirath Choudhary, director of the non-profit South Asia Biotech Centre.

He was referring to the panel responsible for the clearance, formally known as the Genetic Engineering Appraisal Committee

(GEAC), which is part of India's environment ministry.

In 2017, Pental's team came close to getting government approval to grow GM mustard seeds commercially, following years of field trials and the analysis of crop data.

But India sat on the fence, prompted by resistance from activists opposing use of transgenic technology in farming.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi has repeatedly urged farmers to boost domestic oilseed production so as to achieve self-reliance, a theme he has pursued since coming to power in New Delhi in 2014.

Modi's western home state of

Gujarat was at the forefront of efforts to adopt GM cotton seeds during his time as its chief minister.

Since first allowing GM cultivation with genetically modified cotton in 2002, India has not approved any transgenic crop.

But that move helped transform it into the world's No 1 producer of cotton and its second-largest exporter, as output jumped fourfold.

Many scientists and agricultural experts have called for faster clearance of GM crops as India's farming acreage shrinks because of rapid urbanisation and erratic weather that threatens output of staple food-grains such as rice and wheat.

All-round India thrash Dutch

India climbed to the top of the Super 12 Group 2 points table after beating the Netherlands by 56 runs at the Sydney Cricket Ground Thursday

INDO-ASIAN NEWS SERVICE

Sydney, Oct 27: Half-centuries from captain Rohit Sharma, Virat Kohli and Suryakumar Yadav set up India's move to the top of Group 2 points table with a thumping 56-run win over the Netherlands in their second Super 12 match of Men's T20 World Cup at the Sydney Cricket Ground Thursday.

With the Netherlands putting a lid on the scoring rate, India found it difficult to break free on a two-paced pitch. But Rohit (53 off 39 balls) and Kohli (62 not out off 44 balls) managed to share a 73-run stand for the second wicket.

Suryakumar (51 not out off 25 balls) changed the tempo of the innings with his 360-degree style of batting and shared an amazing 95-run stand-off in 48 deliveries with Kohli for the third wicket as India posted a challenging 179-2 in 20 overs.

In reply, the bowlers produced a top-class performance to restrict the Netherlands to 123-9 in 20 overs, as India's net run rate jumped from +0.05 to +1.43.

Electing to bat first, KL Rahul was trapped lbw by a late in-swing from Paul van Meekeren though replays later showed the ball would have missed hitting leg-stump. With the Netherlands getting the ball to swing both ways, India struggled for fluency and timing.

With Kohli struggling to find boundaries, Rohit cut loose by pulling Logan van Beek for a six over wide long-on. Luck again fell in his favour as he successfully survived an lbw appeal on the very next ball.



Suryakumar's arrival opened the floodgates for India. He used the crease well and showed his impeccable wrist work to hit three fours in his first seven balls. He upped the ante by striking successive fours off de Leede in the 16th over.

Kohli also joined the boundary party by heaving de Leede over short fine leg and then lofted

Klaassen over mid-off for four more in the 17th over. He enthralled the crowd with a superbly timed loft over extra cover for six and bring up his second fifty on the trot in 37 balls. Suryakumar Yadav carved two delightful fours before ending the innings with a beautifully flicked six over deep backward square-leg off Logan van Beek and getting his fifty in 25 balls as India

got 112 runs off the last ten overs.

In reply, the Netherlands' chase never got going as Bhuvneshwar Kumar kept things tight in Power-play with successive maidens and clean-bowled a struggling Vikramjit Singh. Max O'Dowd began with nicely timed square drives off Arshdeep Singh to get a brace of fours and flicked Mohammed Shami through square leg for his

third four.

His promising stay at the crease came to an end when he moved across to sweep, only for Axar Patel to rattle his middle stump with a straight delivery. Patel had another wicket to his name when he made de Leede reach out for outside the off-stump ball and sliced straight to point.

Ravichandran Ashwin made a double strike in the 13th over -- Colin Ackermann holed out to deep mid-wicket and four balls later, Tom Cooper swept straight to deep square-leg in a span of four balls.

Pringle hit a cameo of 20 off 15 balls, dispatching Ashwin over long-on for six and flicking Arshdeep for four. But Shami extracted a leading edge off his flick and was caught by mid-off.

Bhuvneshwar got his second wicket when captain Scott Edwards miscued a slower ball to mid-off. Arshdeep joined the wicket-takers column when van Beek was late to pull a bouncer and was caught behind.

He ended the 18th over by trapping Klaassen lbw with a fantastic yorker and getting the DRS in his favour. Though Arshdeep was hit by van Meekeren for a hat-trick of fours in the last three balls of the innings, the result was a foregone conclusion by then.

BRIEF SCORES

India 179-2 in 20 overs (Virat Kohli 62 not out, Rohit Sharma 53; Paul van Meekeren 132, Fred Klaassen 133)

Netherlands 123-9 in 20 overs (Tim Pringle 20, Colin Ackermann 17; Bhuvneshwar Kumar 29, Axar Patel 218)

ODISHA FC BEAT BENGALURU FC



CM Naveen Patnaik greets players ahead of the match at Kalinga Stadium

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Bhubaneswar, Oct 27: Odisha FC picked up their second consecutive win at home as they pipped Bengaluru FC 1-0 to move to the top of the Indian Super League (ISL) table with nine points, here Thursday.

Nandhakumar Sekar scored a belter in the 33rd minute, and it turned out to be the game's only goal.

Josep Gombau made one change to the side that defeated Kerala Blasters. Raynier Fernandes replaced Isaac Chhakchhuak in the Odisha FC midfield.

Simon Grayson changed the Blues' starting formation for the first time in the ISL this season. Alan Costa and Javier Hernandez were replaced by Leon Augustine and Roy Krishna as Bengaluru FC switched to a four-man defence.

The hosts started on the front foot as BFC goalkeeper Gurpreet Singh Sandhu quickly went down and denied Jerry Mawimhingthanga at the near post after just two minutes. At the other end, Roy Krishna pounced on a long ball but saw his strike flew wide.

Midway through the first half, Bruno Silva played a sublime

through ball to Krishna. The striker was denied by a brave save from a charging Amrinder Singh.

Approaching the half-hour mark, Saul Crespo's cross from the right flank was missed by BFC's Aleksandar Jovanovic before Diego Mauricio fired it wide.

The Juggernauts opened their account in the 33rd minute with an absolute thunderbolt from Sekar. Sahil Panwar's corner was cleared, but only as far as Sekar. The striker bagged his second ISL goal in style with a venomous strike from 26 yards out.

In the 67th minute, the Juggernauts ventured forward with Pedro Martin getting the ball into the box. The striker's scuffed effort eventually landed in the path of Jerry, who was completely unmarked. However, the winger failed to capitalise and fired his shot straight at the keeper.

Defender Alan Costa, who scored a headed goal in BFC's only win of the season so far, came on seven minutes from time to play alongside Krishna. However, the visitors failed to apply the final touch as they finished the game with just two shots on target.

India's WC preparations start with FIH Pro League opener against Kiwis

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Bhubaneswar, Oct 27: The Indian men's hockey team will look to kick-start their World Cup preparations in right earnest when it takes on New Zealand in its opening game of the FIH Pro League's new season at the Kalinga Stadium here Friday.

After New Zealand, the Indians will take on Spain in their next game Sunday, followed by return fixtures against New Zealand November 4 and Spain November 6. "It has been a busy last couple of weeks preparing for the four games we will play in the Pro League and the five-matches against Australia in Adelaide in a Test Series next month," India's chief coach Graham Reid said. "All these matches are part of our preparations for the World Cup. Our goal of course is to play our best hockey but we want to be better in our attacking, we want to try a few new things in the way we execute our attack. We are looking forward to these games."

Captain for the upcoming matches, Harmanpreet Singh, said India would look to replicate their last season's performance in the new one. India finished a creditable third in the last season of FIH Pro League.

New Zealand head coach Greg Nicol said the upcoming matches will provide them not only good understanding about India but also about the conditions ahead of the World Cup to be co-hosted by Bhubaneswar and Rourkela from January 13 to 29.

Roussow's knock sinks Bangladesh

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Sydney, Oct 27: Rilee Roussow's belligerent century was complemented by a fiery spell from Anrich Nortje (4/10) as South Africa trounced Bangladesh by 104-runs in T20 World Cup here Thursday.

Roussow showcased his batting prowess, blasting the first century of the ongoing showpiece with a 56-ball 109, while Quinton de Kock struck a fifty to power South Africa to an imposing 205 for 5.

Nortje then returned with his best T20 figures as the bowlers rallied to bowl out Bangladesh for 101 in 16.3 overs.

Chasing a 200 plus total, Bangladesh openers looked up for the task. Soumya Sarkar (15) and Najmul Hossain (9) pilled 26 runs off the first two overs, including 17 of the first Kagiso Rabada (1/24) over.

Skipper Temba Bavuma's move to replace Rabada with Nortje immediately paid dividends as the pacer blew apart the Bangladesh top order within the first five overs.

Nortje struck twice in his opening over, sending both openers packing. Soumya was first to go after he was caught behind and Hossain soon followed.

Nortje returned to trap Shakib Al Hassan (1) leg before to leave Bangladesh reeling at 39 for 3.

A bit of pace and extra bounce got the better of Afif Hossain (1), who was next to depart as Rabada



joined the party. It could have been two for the pacer had Trsitran Stubbs not dropped Litton Das.

Once spin was introduced, Mehidy Hasan (11) looked to play big but got the toe of the bat as Aiden Markram pounced it without problem at wide long-on. He was Tabraiz Shamsi's first victim as the spinner grabbed three wickets at the back.

Bangladesh batters struggled to get any partnership going. Earlier, while the rain gods threatened to play spoil sport, Roussow and de Kock were raining sixes in their 168-run partnership, the highest for South Africa in a T20 World Cup match. The duo sent the ball to the fence 14 times and 11 times over it.

Bangladesh got some respite as rain interrupted play for 20 minutes and they were able to dry out the runs for a couple overs after resumption but the South Africans soon resumed business as usual scoring boundaries at will.

Zimbabwe stun Pak by one run

INDO-ASIAN NEWS SERVICE

Perth, Oct 27: Zimbabwe held their nerves to beat Pakistan by one run in a thrilling Super 12 match of the ICC Men's T20 World Cup 2022 at Perth Stadium, here Thursday.

This was Pakistan's second defeat in two games and their road to the semifinal has become difficult now.

Mohammad Wasim Jr (4/24) and Shadab Khan's (3/23) clinical bowling performance helped Pakistan restrict Zimbabwe to 130/8 in 20 overs. The likes of Wasim and Shadab combined to bag seven wickets to trigger a drastic collapse, and were well aided by Haris Rauf (1/12) who proved hard to score off.

Chasing a below-par total, Pakistan lost the wickets of Mohammad Rizwan (14) and Babar Azam (4) in the powerplay and were in trouble.

Shan Masood then played a fighting knock (44 off 38) and kept his team alive in the run chase. However, once he got out, the game was slipping from the hands of Pakistan as Zimbabwe bowlers were not giving any freebies.

But, the likes of Mohammad Nawaz (22) along with Mohammad Wasim Jr (12 not out) were not ready to give up. However, Pakistan's hopes got shattered when Nawaz got out in the second last ball of the last over of the innings. They were eventually restricted to 129-8 in 20 overs, losing by 1 run.

Sikandar Raza was the most successful bowler for Zimbabwe with



his brilliant figures of 3/25. Brad Evans (2/25) was superb as well.

Earlier, winning the toss and opting to bat first, Zimbabwe got off to a flier as a daring Wesley Madhever and skipper Craig Ervine played some eye-catching shots inside the first two overs. With five boundaries inside the first three overs, Zimbabwe had a fabulous start, racing away at 10 runs per over.

Some of that early momentum toned down when Ervine was sent back by Haris Rauf and his partner got trapped in front by Wasim in the following over. Shadab Khan prized out Milton Shumba before Sean Williams and Sikandar Raza went about the resurrection work.

Things turned south pretty quickly soon when Shadab sent back Williams and Regis Chakabva off successive deliveries, the latter dismissed off a spectacular grab at first slip by Babar Azam.

Shadab completed a brilliant spell of 40-23-3 but there was more in store for Zimbabwe from the other end. In the very next over after losing two wickets off back-to-back balls to Shadab, Zimbabwe lost a further two as Mohammad Wasim dismissed Raza and Luke Jongwe off successive balls.

Once 95/3, which appeared to be a solid start, quickly turned into 95/7 as Pakistan's bowlers went on a rampage in Perth. Eventually, they put up 130/8 on board with some help from Bradley Evans down the order.

BRIEF SCORES

Zimbabwe 130/8 in 20 overs (Sean Williams 31, Brad Evans 19; Mohammad Wasim Jr 4/24, Shadab Khan 3/23)

Pakistan 129-8 in 20 overs (Shan Masood 44, Mohammad Nawaz 22; Sikandar Raza 3/25, Brad Evans 2/25)

Barca, Atlético exit Champions League; Liverpool through

ASSOCIATED PRESS

Geneva, Oct 27: Barcelona was eliminated from the Champions League even before enduring yet another 3-0 beating by Bayern Munich.

Atlético Madrid also went out following an extraordinary sequence around a penalty awarded by video review after the final whistle of its 2-2 draw with Bayer Leverkusen.

Atlético's spot kick was saved before a frantic scramble in the goalmouth still could not bring the winning goal the Spanish club needed to prevent Porto advancing thanks to its 4-0 win earlier at group leader Club Brugge.

Two Spanish powers who were part of the failed Super League launch last year will now miss out on the round of 16 of Europe's top competition.

Liverpool's passage into the knockout stage with a game to spare was relatively calm in a 3-0 win at Ajax to join leader Napoli in advancing from free-scoring Group A, which has had 44 goals in 10 games.

In more stoppage-time drama with video review, Tottenham thought it had won Group D when Harry Kane shot the ball into Sporting Lisbon's net with seconds left in a game tied at 1-1.

A long VAR check ruled Kane had been offside, a furious Tottenham coach Antonio Conte was shown a red card, and the most finely balanced group goes to the final round next week with all four teams having a chance to advance.

Group leader Tottenham plays at last-placed Marseille next Tuesday while Eintracht Frankfurt -- which beat Marseille 2-1 Wednesday -- goes to Sporting.

The meeting between heavyweights in Barcelona was rendered meaningless before kickoff, when the five-time European champion's hopes of advancing were ended by Inter Milan's 4-0 win over Viktoria Plzen in one of the early games.

Barcelona needed Inter to drop points and then still had to beat Bayern, which also beat the Spanish team 3-0 in two group meetings last



season and won 2-0 at home in September.

The outcome was clear after Sadio Mané scored in the 10th minute. Eric Maxim Choupo-Moting doubled the lead before halftime and Benjamin Pavard added a third in stoppage time.

Barcelona, even after signing former Bayern star Robert Lewandowski, has now fallen short of the round of 16 in back-to-back seasons since Lionel Messi left in August 2021 for Paris Saint-Germain.

Bayern and Napoli are the only teams with five straight wins in

this group stage, and the Italian team's 3-0 win against Rangers ran its goal tally to 20.

WILD FINISH

Atlético had to beat Leverkusen and got a corner at the end of stoppage time tied at 2-2. The danger was cleared and the final whistle blown before video review assistants spotted a handball.

French referee Clement Turpin consulted his screen at the halfway line and gave the penalty, but Belgium midfielder Yannick Carrasco's effort was pushed away by goalkeeper Lukas Hradecky.

clubs who reach the round of 16.

Barcelona, unlike Juventus, is at least sure of switching to the Europa League in February. That is worth 500,000 euros (\$504,000) with seven-figure payments for advancing further.

In their legal challenge to UEFA, Super League holdouts Barcelona, Juventus and Real Madrid will receive a first, non-binding opinion from the European Court of Justice in Luxembourg Dec 15.

SPOT-KICK STOPPER

Porto goalkeeper Diogo Costa has now saved penalty kicks in three straight Champions League games.

It was four straight spot-kick saves, really, because Costa had to stop two efforts taken by Club Brugge in Porto's 4-0 win.

The keeper, who wears the No 99 shirt, first dived to his right to save Hans Vanaken's attempt, which was ordered to be retaken because of encroachment in the penalty box.

Noah Lang stepped up for the retake and Costa also saved that one diving to his left.

she recovered and managed to draw level soon. The game was tight right till the end but Akechi found an extra gear right at the end to take the first game.

Unnati, who became the youngest Indian to win a BWF Super 100 title after claiming the Odisha Open women's singles title in January, came roaring back in the second game and dominated her Japanese opponent to draw level. In the decider, the Indian teenager started well but eventually slipped up to crash out.

Following Thursday's results, S Sankar remains the only Indian still alive in the competition.

Notably, former world No 1 Saina Nehwal is the only Indian to win the junior world championship crown to date while rising star Lakshya Sen was India's last medallist at the event with a bronze in 2018.

The BWF World Junior Championships were not held in 2020 and 2021 due to Covid-19. The junior championships conclude October 30.