

Blood on City footpath

MAN KILLED IN SLEEP AFTER BEING RUN OVER BY SPEEDING CAR

POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar, Sept 30: In a horrific hit-and-run case in the heart of the City, a daily wagger sleeping on a pavement at Rajmahal Square was killed after a speeding car ran over him late Friday night. The incident is a crude reminder of the infamous hit-and-run case involving actor Salman Khan in suburban Bandra of Mumbai, which rocked the nation in 2002.

The deceased was identified as Dinabandhu Barala, 50, a resident of Pipli area in Puri district.

An eyewitness said Dinabandhu was among a group of labourers who were sleeping on the pavement when the incident occurred. The labourers work as daily

The seized car at Dhaulti PS



MISHAPS IN CITY (From Jan-Aug 2023)

Deaths	149
Grievous Injuries	265
Minor injuries	89

wagers at Kalpana labour stand and sleep under the flyover at Rajmahal Square. "I and my wife were going to wash our dishes when a vehicle veered towards us at very high speed at around 1:45am. My wife had a providential escape as I pulled her at nick of time. However, the vehicle ran over Dinabandhu and dragged him to a distance, before zooming off again. We called

the police who took an injured Dinabandhu to Capital Hospital where he was declared brought dead," he said. Capital police station IIC Padmanav Pradhan said the car was recovered by Dhaulti police later. He said the owner of the vehicle Bikas Pal, who

lives in Pokhariput was at the wheels. "We've registered a case (582/23) and launched a hunt to nab him," he said adding the victim's family is likely to arrive on Sunday.

Meanwhile, a traffic police official claimed the onus of clearing people from sleeping on footpaths rests with the local police station and BMC. "Our duty ends at 10 pm," the official said.

The tragic death of exposed the plight of several homeless labourers who are sleeping on footpath despite the presence of two shelter houses (at Ashok Nagar and Unit-VI area) within a km radius of the accident spot. The BMC has been running shelter house for such destitute and homeless persons at different places in the City.

IRREGULAR by MANJUL



We've completed the drive successfully and replaced all his photos with our dear leader's

MLA's hubby booked for murder

POST NEWS NETWORK

Kodala, Sept 30: Two days after the murder of Sunil Nahak, the brother-in-law of Aska block chairperson in Ganjam district, police registered a case against four persons including BJD's Khallikote MLA Suryamani Baidya's husband Daitari Behera in the murder case, Saturday.

Daitari is the samiti member of Danpur panchayat and the chairman of

Khallikote block. Kodala police registered a murder case (473/23) over a complaint lodged by former sarpanch Manoj Kumar Pradhan of Danpur panchayat.

In his complaint, Pradhan had alleged that villagers Kumar Sahu, Deepak Khatua and Jeetendra Pradhan at the behest of Daitari attacked Sunil with sharp-edged weapons and killed him when he was having food at a Ganesh puja feast, September 28 night.

The case was registered at Kodala police station against Kumar, Deepak, Jitendra and Daitari following the written complaint by Manoj of Danpur village.

Meanwhile, two of the accused - Deepak and Jeetendra - have been arrested while Kumar is at large, Kodala inspector in-charge (IIC) Umakant Sahu said. The rest of the accused will be arrested soon, he added.



SPLENDID SHOW: Indian men's squash team of Abhay Singh, Mahesh Mangaonkar, Saurav Ghosal and Harinder Pal Sandhu pose with their gold medals during the presentation ceremony at 19th Asian Games in Hangzhou, Saturday. They defeated arch-rivals Pakistan 2-1 to step on the top of podium after eight years

Exchange ₹2K notes till Oct 7



KULDEEP SINGH, OP

New Delhi, Sept 30: The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) Saturday extended the deadline for exchange or deposit of ₹2,000 banknotes till October 7.

The Central Bank has taken the decision after the review of the data received from the banks. According to the data, of the total value of ₹3.56 lakh crore of ₹2,000 denomination notes in circulation as on May 19 this year, ₹3.42 lakh crore has been received back leaving only ₹0.14 lakh crore in circulation as at the close of business September 29, the RBI said, adding that 96 per cent of the ₹2,000 banknotes in circulation till May 19 has been returned. **MORE P11**

Asiad glory for riot-torn Manipur

INDO-ASIAN NEWS SERVICE

Imphal, Sept 30: Three Wushu players from Arunachal Pradesh missed the opportunity to participate in the ongoing 19th Asian Games at Hangzhou as China did not provide them the visas, however, Naorem Roshibina Devi from riot-ravaged Manipur managed to win the silver medal in women's 60-kg Sanda final.

An eight-member Indian contingent participated in Wushu at the Hangzhou Asian Games. Naorem Roshibina Devi was India's only medal winner in the sport. She dedicated her silver medal to the people of her crisis-ridden home state.

Roshibina lost to home favourite Wu Xiaowei of China 0-2 in the final.

The 22-year-old, who won bronze in the same event at the 18th Asian Games in



2018 in Jakarta, promised to win gold in the 20th Asian Games scheduled to be held in Tokyo (Japan) in 2026.

Fifteen years ago, at Kwakshiphai, a non-descript village in Manipur's Bishnupur district, a little girl spent her free time punching and kicking at an improvised punching bag she made at her residence, paving way to learn Wushu at Sports Authority of India (SAI) training centre in Manipur capital Imphal. Roshibina had hoped to

script history by clinching India's first gold in Wushu at the Asian Games after her terrific performance at the semi-finals defeating Vietnam's Thi Thu Thuy Ngyugen 2-0, needing only two rounds of two minutes each.

"I'm happy about my performance, but I could have been happier if I would have been the champion and also if the situation in my home state was resolved," said the talented and aggressive Sanda fighter while talking to the media after the final bout September 28.

She said that she will aim for gold in the 2026 Asian Games scheduled to be held in Tokyo.

Despite her state facing a violent ethnic riot for around five months, Roshibina managed to change the colour of medal she won at Jakarta Asiad in 2018 from bronze to silver this time.

Matric exam form fill-up date extended

AGENCIES

Cuttack, Sept 30: The Board of Secondary Education (BSE), Odisha has extended the last date for online filling up of application forms for the annual High School Certificate (HSC) and State Open School Certificate (SOSC) Examination, 2024 till October 5.

In a press note issued Saturday, the BSE said, "The last date for online filling up of application forms for Annual HSC & SOSC Examination, 2024 and Offline filling up of application forms for Madhyama Examination, 2024 has been extended till 05/10/2023." The Board also requested the heads of the institutions to complete the form fill-up process by October 5.

Indian diplomat stopped from entering UK gurdwara

AGENCIES

London, Sept 30: At a time when the bilateral relationship between India and Canada is yet to improve considerably, the Indian High Commissioner to the UK, Vikram Doraiswami, who was touring Scotland this week was blocked from entering a gurdwara in the city of Glasgow by pro-Khalistan extremists.

During a planned visit to Glasgow Gurdwara Guru Granth Sahib on Albert Drive Friday, members of Sikh Youths UK posted videos of their face-off with gurdwara officials as a few of them approached the High Commissioner's car and asked him to leave.

It follows Canadian Prime Minister Justin Trudeau's statement in the country's Parliament last week that the authorities are "actively pursuing credible allegations" related to Indian government involvement in the murder of Nijjar, a designated terrorist, allegations which the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) has strongly rejected as "absurd and motivated".

"This is exactly how we should be greeting any Indian ambassador; anyone from the Indian government who comes in an official capacity under any excuse of doing visa applications or whatever it might be," a Sikh man is heard saying in a video posted on social media following the altercation in Glasgow.

The incident came towards the end of a two-day visit of the High Commissioner to Scotland, which involved a series of meetings and discussions with local political leaders, diaspora representatives, business chiefs and university groups.

According to officials, the meeting at the gurdwara had been organised as part of the events at the request of the gurdwara committee to meet Sikh groups and address their concerns over consular and other matters. Sources said the unnecessary altercation by a few outsiders and radical elements interrupted an interaction and community engagement planned by a majority of peace-loving Sikhs in the city.

During his meeting with Scotland's First Minister (FM), Hamza Yousef, the issue of British Sikh Jagtar Singh Johal in custody on terrorism charges in India was also raised. The Indian mission said that the discussions with Scottish leaders ranged from India-Scotland cooperation in sectors across fintech, sustainable agriculture and others.

DSPL - 254

ବିଶ୍ୱ ଋତ୍ନବାନ ଦିବସ ଅବସରରେ
ମାନ୍ୟବର ମୁଖ୍ୟମନ୍ତ୍ରୀଙ୍କ ବାର୍ତ୍ତା

ପ୍ରତିବର୍ଷ ଅକ୍ଟୋବର ୧ ତାରିଖ କାତାୟ ସ୍ୱେଚ୍ଛାକୃତ ଋତ୍ନବାନ ଦିବସ ଭାବେ ପାଳନ କରାଯାଇଥାଏ । ଏହି ଅବସରରେ ସମସ୍ତ ସ୍ୱେଚ୍ଛାକୃତ ଋତ୍ନବାନମାନଙ୍କୁ ମୁଁ ଆଭିନନ୍ଦନ ଜଣାଉଛି ।

ଋତ୍ନବାନ ସର୍ବଶ୍ରେଷ୍ଠ ବୀର । ଋତ୍ନବାନ କରି ଜୀବନ ବଞ୍ଚାଇବାଠାରୁ ଅଧିକ ପୁଣ୍ୟ କିଛି ନାହିଁ । ରାଜ୍ୟରେ ଋତ୍ନର ଆବଶ୍ୟକତା ପୂରଣ କରିବା ପାଇଁ ସ୍ୱେଚ୍ଛାକୃତ ଋତ୍ନବାନ କାର୍ଯ୍ୟକ୍ରମକୁ ଆହୁରି ବ୍ୟାପକ କରିବା ଆବଶ୍ୟକତା ରହିଛି । ଏଥିପାଇଁ ସମସ୍ତେ ସଚେତନ ହେବା ଜରୁରୀ ।

ଆସନ୍ତୁ, ଏହି ଅବସରରେ ଆମେ ସଂକଳ୍ପ ନେବା - ସ୍ୱେଚ୍ଛାକୃତ ଭାବେ ଋତ୍ନବାନ କରି ବହୁମୂଲ୍ୟ ଜୀବନ ବଞ୍ଚାଇବା ସହିତ ଏକ ସୁସ୍ଥ ସମାଜ ଗଠନ କରିବାରେ ସହାୟକ ହେବା ।

ନରାଜ ଚନ୍ଦ୍ରାବୁ ନାୟୁ
(ବିଧାନ ପରିଷଦ)

ବିଶ୍ୱ ଋତ୍ନବାନ ଦିବସ ଉପଲକ୍ଷେ
ମାନ୍ୟବର ସ୍ୱାସ୍ଥ୍ୟ ଓ ପରିବାର
କଲ୍ୟାଣ ମନ୍ତ୍ରୀଙ୍କ ବାର୍ତ୍ତା

ଅକ୍ଟୋବର ୧ ତାରିଖ କାତାୟ ସ୍ୱେଚ୍ଛାକୃତ ଋତ୍ନବାନ ଦିବସ ଅବସରରେ ସମସ୍ତ ଋତ୍ନବାନ ଭାଇ ଓ ଭଉଣୀମାନଙ୍କୁ ଏବଂ ଏହି ମହତ କାର୍ଯ୍ୟରେ ସାମିଲ ହୋଇ କାର୍ଯ୍ୟକ୍ରମକୁ ସଫଳ କରୁଥିବା ସମସ୍ତ ଅନୁଷ୍ଠାନମାନଙ୍କୁ ହାର୍ଦ୍ଦିକ କୃତଜ୍ଞତା । ଋତ୍ନବାନ ମହାପୁଣ୍ୟ । ଆମ ରାଜ୍ୟରେ ବର୍ଷକୁ ହାରାହାରି ୫ ଲକ୍ଷ ଯୁଗିତ ଋତ୍ନର ଆବଶ୍ୟକତା ପୂରୁଅଛି । ୧୮ ଲୁ ୬୫ ବର୍ଷର ଯେ କୌଣସି ସୁସ୍ଥବ୍ୟକ୍ତି ଋତ୍ନବାନ କରିପାରିବେ । ଋତ୍ନବାନ କଲେ ଶରୀର ସୁସ୍ଥ ରହିଥାଏ ଓ ଜରୁରୀ ଭାବେ ଋତ୍ନ ଆବଶ୍ୟକତା କରୁଥିବା ବ୍ୟକ୍ତିର ବହୁମୂଲ୍ୟ ଜୀବନ ରକ୍ଷା ହୋଇଥାଏ । ରାଜ୍ୟର ସମସ୍ତ ସ୍ୱେଚ୍ଛାକୃତ ଋତ୍ନବାନମାନଙ୍କୁ ନିୟମିତ ସ୍ୱଚ୍ଛାକୃତ ଋତ୍ନବାନ କରି ଋତ୍ନର ଆବଶ୍ୟକତା ପୂରଣ କରିବା ପାଇଁ ଆଗେଇ ଆସିବାକୁ ଆହ୍ୱାନ କରୁଛି ।

ଆସନ୍ତୁ, ଆଜି ଆମେ ଶପଥ ନେବା ଯେ ସ୍ୱେଚ୍ଛାକୃତ ଭାବରେ ଋତ୍ନବାନ କରି ଗୌରବ ଜୀବନ ବଞ୍ଚାଇବାରେ ସହାୟକ ହେବା ।

ସ୍ୱାସ୍ଥ୍ୟ ଓ ପରିବାର
(ନିରଞ୍ଜନ ପୂଜାରୀ)
ମାନ୍ୟବର ସଂସଦୀୟ ବ୍ୟାପାର,
ସ୍ୱାସ୍ଥ୍ୟ ଓ ପରିବାର କଲ୍ୟାଣ ମନ୍ତ୍ରୀ, ଓଡ଼ିଶା

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Vata, Pitta, Kapha ko jo karta hai Nitya Khand-Khand.

Ashuddhta ka Bhaav bhi, isko naa chhu sake kabhi.
Ye Jiwaniya Shakti hai, isme naa Atishyokti hai.

Ayurved ka ye Saar hai, Aarogyka ka Prakash hai.

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www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC8633414/



RAJA KUMARI SET FOR BRIDGE WORLD TOUR

Rapper Raja Kumari is set to embark on her *Bridge World Tour*. The tour will begin in India October 6 in Hyderabad and will expand to North America. Raja Kumari will end the tour in December in Los Angeles. While Hyderabad is her ancestral hometown, LA is her birthplace.

ROBERT PATTINSON HAS A FEAR OF HUMILIATION

Actor Robert Pattinson may have become quite the established actor today but that still hasn't stopped him from having an internal fear of feeling humiliated when doing a role. That's why he carefully considers every role, confessed the *Batman* actor.



FORTUNE FORECAST

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ARIES
Today, you will show every one what you're capable of. You are likely to come up with great ideas and work strategies, which will prove productive. However, if appreciation doesn't come your way, Ganesh says you must learn to take disappointment in your stride.

TAURUS
This day you will be compelled to be resigned to your fate. Ganesh does not see your own will power in operation today. Though you would be surrendering yourself to the whims of destiny, do not expect anything good to come out of it. You are likely to take wrong decisions and go of course.

GEMINI
You will end up having an argument with people owing to your aggressive nature. These people could slander your reputation on account of your enmity. However you will be able to defeat them. They will have to give up against your intellectual superiority. Be wary, says Ganesh.

CANCER
You will make new friends. You will have a jolly time with them, but some worry or tension will nag you. But Ganesh says that all worries will go away by evening, when you relax with friends.

LEO
You will be seized by a desire to do something new for a change today. Your mood will be bright throughout the day. You will be able to achieve success owing to your energy and enthusiasm. The planets are in your favour, hence you can accept the challenges coming your way and prevail over them, says Ganesh.

VIRGO
Expenditures will be like oil spills- wasteful and dirty. But cosmic energies and positivity are gathering wind today, and you should do well to make full use of them in your personal and professional life, says Ganesh.

LIBRA
Ganesh says today is the right day to get closer to your loved one. You will spend the evening with your beloved. Today you will be mentally very energetic too. Make the most of the day.

SCORPIO
The day does not begin on a very good note as you seem to be in a belligerent mood. Be calm and patient as your hot temper may spoil a good deal. Limit your conversations and discussions with colleagues and friends, advises Ganesh. Practising meditation and yoga will bring you some respite towards the end of the day.

SAGITTARIUS
No pains, no gains. So, when you go through a lot of turmoil and toil hard for your work, the rewards are definitely going to be fruitful, says Ganesh. Time for get together and soiree with family and friends! In a nutshell, a day with lot of fun activities.

CAPRICORN
Your hands are full with plenty of projects and assignments. Finish them off as soon as you can and spend rest of the day refreshing your mind. Communicating with people of all walks of life will make you enhance your horizon of knowledge, feels Ganesh. Talking about personal life, you will feel free to conduct yourself as per your wish.

AQUARIUS
You are in for a challenging day today. But, luck is by your side and you will be able to come out of the storm hale and hearty, assures Ganesh. If you are a businessman, you may enter into some major business venture, sign important contracts and take up new projects. It will be an exhausting day, but it will keep you charged up.

PISCES
You need to tread cautiously today when it comes to matters related to business. Do not make any decisions in haste, or it could come back to haunt you at a later date. All financial dealings will need to be carefully monitored.



Vaani gets candid on rejections

Mumbai: Vaani Kapoor is known for her acting skills and has received appreciation for her performances in movies.

The actress recently pours her heart out about her journey in the industry through her social media post. She says, "Be it playing a small town girl or an urban flamboyant Parisian to essaying the role of a trans girl.. from hanging upside down on a swing pole for hours to get one shot right, practising 8 hours every day to learn tango & hip hop to waiting patiently for years after debuting for that one good role.."
Vaani continues, "Giving multiple auditions, some of them I

made through and some failing even before I could make it to the room.. Behind all that I've succeeded in or terribly failed at, there is a shy, introverted & unexplainably socially awkward girl who keeps her head down and wants to work her hardest for her dreams.."
The actor adds, "Learning from her failures, multiple rejections, heartbreaks, sleepless nights & unfathomable anxiety, this girl won't stop trying."
Vaani concludes, "Fear of failing, fear of trolling, fear of criticism or rejection is nothing compared to fear of not having the courage to back myself. So the little girl in me will always say it like a silent prayer 'if not sooner than later, but in the end, good things happen to good people' and 'only those succeed who have the courage to believe'."
AGENCIES



Esha shares her casting couch encounters

Mumbai: Esha Gupta, who is known for her roles in *Jannat 2*, *Rustom* and web series *Aashram 3*, has opened up about her horrifying casting couch experiences.

Esha has revealed that she was subjected to casting couch twice.

Recalling the first incident, she said that there was a producer who was seeking sexual favours but she refused to indulge in such activities. Then he had told the makers that he did not want to see her in the film.

Post the incident, Esha stated that some makers even refused to cast her in films. She had heard what these people used to say about her, 'If I won't do anything then what is the point of taking me in the

film?'
Talking about another incident, Esha revealed that there were two people who laid the trap of casting couch for her.
"They thought that I would fall into their trap during the outdoor shoot. I was also smart, I said that I would not go to sleep alone. I called my makeup artist to sleep in my room," Esha recalled.

Esha also expressed her anger on such incidents and said that these people can't do such things with star kids because their parents will kill them.

AGENCIES



'MALE INSECURITY FUELS PATRIARCHY'

Mumbai: Filmmaker Anurag Kashyap is also known for voicing his opinions. The director shared that the oppressive system of patriarchy is the creation of insecure men.

Discussing societal patriarchy and the suppression of women's empowerment through religious contexts, Anurag said: "I have a major problem with this terminology. When something unfortunate occurs to a female, we often hear phrases like *Ghar Ki Izzat Luttt Gyi*. It is directly associated with the honour of women in a family."

Raising a few questions on society, he said, "Why doesn't it extend to men as well? Why don't we address the violation as an individual's experience and empower them to stand up for themselves? In the traditional ages the culture was to hide these things, reinforcing the perception of women as property."

"We covered their faces, assuming that only we had the right to observe them. It's the male insecurity that fuels patriarchy. If we examine it closely, women possess incredible strength and power, which seems to threaten the men who think women would go independent," he added.

Anurag is about to release his short film titled *Bebaak* as a producer. Starring Nawazuddin Siddiqui, Sarah Hashmi, Sheeba Chaudha, and Vipin Sharma, the movie will premiere on Jio Cinema today.

B'wood felt like coming home: Pak singer Zeb

New Delhi: She always thought of composing music for an entire film in Hindi film industry would mean extremely high pressure and working in a somewhat corporate structure. However, Zeb Bangash, the first Pakistani artist to serve as music director of a Hindi film - *Lipstick Under My Burkha* - recalls it felt more like 'coming home.'

Stressing that the movie was very special as there was a real sense of creating something new, and carving out a space that was absent before, she recalls: "Alankrita Anvita, Ankur Mukherjee, Amrit Mahajan and I shared and carried that sentiment with us. It really was like finding a community. Meetings were held, not in production houses but in homes over food and music, jokes, and poetry."

Lamenting the current non-exchange of artists between India and Pakistan, she says for her, it is not about opportunities lost vis-a-vis audiences and markets, but the fact that it shrinks an artistic community.

"The movie we created was not supposed to be a bazillion crore hit. It was just special and important for a special and important artist who we all believed in, and who believed in us. That kind of camaraderie between neighbours is so enriching," says the artist whose first outing in India was with the film *Madras Cafe*.

AGENCIES



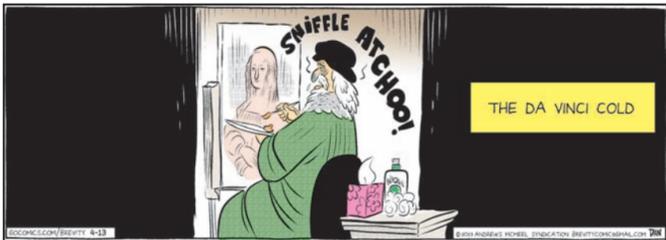
PEANUTS



CALVIN AND HOBBS

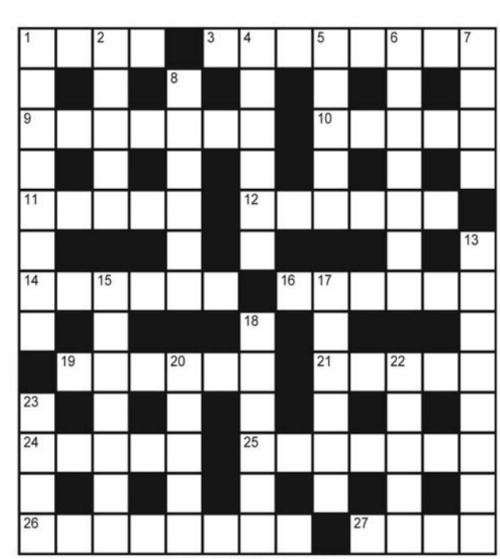


BREVITY



FUN post

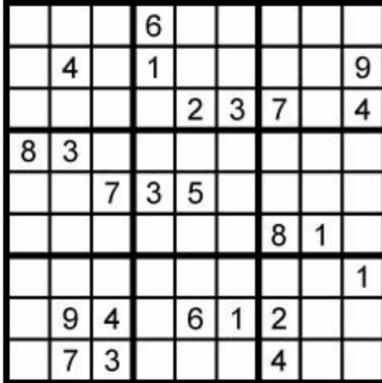
CROSSWORD



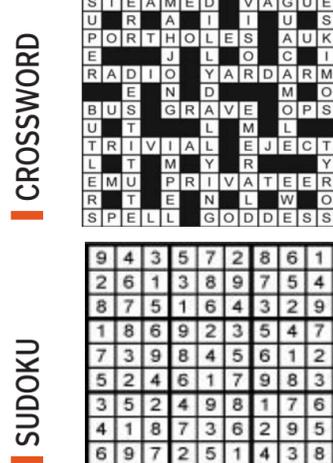
- Across**
- 1 Small stream
 - 3 Energy
 - 9 Give in
 - 10 Own up to
 - 11 Fashion
 - 12 Plant science
 - 14 Reside in
 - 16 Start
 - 19 Deceive to
 - 21 Bizet work
 - 24 Overhead
 - 25 Plead
 - 26 Indoor garden
 - 27 Just say no
- Down**
- 1 Highway sign (4,4)
 - 2 Fortunate
 - 4 Drain the cup
 - 5 Show flexibility
 - 6 Huge
 - 7 Himalayan legend
 - 8 Auto service (4,2)
 - 13 Game plan
 - 15 Twist
 - 17 Sagging
 - 18 Robber's take
 - 20 Proportion
 - 22 Toothed
 - 23 Poison ivy woe

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

Govt clears 19 investment projects worth ₹3,663cr



PNN & AGENCIES

Bhubaneswar, Sept 30: The state government Saturday approved 19 investment projects worth Rs 3,663 crore. The projects, approved during a meeting of the State Level Single Window Clearance Authority (SLSWCA) held under the chairmanship of Chief Secretary Pradeep Kumar Jena, are expected to generate employment for over 13,500 people, an official statement said.

Spread over ten districts, the projects span across various sectors including textile, steel, plastics, renewable energy, agro and food processing and tourism. Renewable energy has emerged as a priority, reflecting Odisha's commitment to sustainable and green energy solutions, said an official.

In renewable energy, Mahanadi Coalfields Limited (MCL), an enterprise of the Central gov-

ernment, and the state-run Odisha Power Generation Corporation Limited (OPGCL) have proposed to set up solar power plants with investments of Rs 297.61 crore and Rs 215 crore, respectively.

Similarly, in the textile sector, Trimetro Garments India Private Limited, a subsidiary of the EPIC Group, is to invest Rs 376.85 crore for the establishment of its apparel manufacturing facility in Khurda.

The state government has also approved proposals of several steel companies. Major among them are Nezone Steel Utkal LLP, Advance Steel Tubes Limited, Nirmal Steels Private Limited, Rungta Mines Limited, Ferro Tech India Private Limited and Super Sonic Logistics Private Limited. Collectively, these companies have proposed to invest over Rs 2,000 crore in Kalinganagar, Dhenkanal and Sundergarh.

For plastics manufacturing, Time Technoplast Limited and Orion Enterprise Limited have got approval for setting up their manufacturing units in Khurda with investments of Rs 57 crore and Rs 90 crore, respectively.

The agro and food processing sectors would benefit from home-grown companies, such as Pragati Milk Products Private Limited's ice-cream and bakery products manufacturing plant in Chandanpur and Coastal Biotech Private Limited's modern rice mill in Paralakhemundi.

Infrastructure projects of Koli Commercial LLP and Vimla Infrastructure (India) Private Limited, both proposing to set up private freight terminals under the Gati Shakti Multi-Modal Terminal scheme, have also been approved by the government.

Krupalu Kunja has got approval for a compressed bio gas and fermented organic manure plant in Jajpur with annual capacity 46,000 MT with an investment of Rs 73.25 crore. And in tourism sector, Mayfair Hotels and Resorts Convention Centre have got permission to improve capacity in Paradeep and Jagatsinghpur.

"The state's strategic vision, coupled with its commitment to sustainable and inclusive growth, is not only attracting national and global investors but also setting a benchmark for holistic development," said the official.

Heavy rain in store for three days: IMD

LOW PRESSURE AREA BECOMES WELL-MARKED

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Bhubaneswar, Sept 30: The India Meteorological Department (IMD) Saturday forecast very heavy rainfall for Odisha over the next three days as the low pressure area formed over the Bay of Bengal intensified into a well-marked system.

Weather scientist Umashankar Dash of the Regional Meteorological Centre, Bhubaneswar said that the well-marked low pressure area is likely to move towards the northern Odisha and adjoining West Bengal coasts over the next 24 hours.

In the last 24 hours till 8.30 am Saturday, Odisha received an average rainfall of 10 mm, with Soro in Balasore district recording the highest of 113 mm, followed by 95.1 mm at Ghasipur in Keonjhar district and 95 mm at Banpur in Khurda district.

In its mid-day bulletin for farmers, the IMD forecast light to moderate rainfall or thundershowers in northern Odisha, Puri, Khurda, Nayagarh, Ganjam, Gajapati, Kalahandi, Kandhamal, Bolangir, Sonepur, Boudh, Nuapada and several other districts.

The weather office said isolated very heavy rainfall is likely during the day. Squally weather conditions will prevail along the coast, with wind speeds reaching



65 kmph.

The IMD had Friday issued an orange warning of heavy to very heavy rainfall (7 to 20 cm) for three days for the districts of Keonjhar, Mayurbhanj, Jajpur, Bhadrak and Balasore.

Similarly, it issued a yellow warning of heavy rainfall (7 to 11 cm) for Sundargarh, Deogarh, Dhenkanal, Sambalpur, Angul, Cuttack, Kendrapada, Jagatsinghpur and Khurda districts.

For Sunday, an Orange warning of heavy to very heavy rainfall (7 to 20 cm) was issued for the districts of Mayurbhanj, Keonjhar, Angul, Sundargarh, Deogarh Sambalpur, Bargarh, Jharsuguda, Subarnapur and Balangir.

It issued a Yellow warning of heavy rainfall (7 to 11 cm) for Nabarangpur, Nuapada, Kalahandi, Kandhamal, Boudh, Nayagarh, Cuttack, Dhenkanal, Jajpur, Bhadrak and Balasore districts Sunday.

The IMD has warned of the possibility of water-logging in low-lying areas, occasional reduction of visibility on roads, causing traffic congestion in urban areas and damage to kucha houses and roads during intense spells of rain.

STF NABS SMUGGLER, RESCUES PANGOLIN

Bhubaneswar: The Special Task Force (STF) of Odisha Police's crime branch has arrested a wildlife smuggler and rescued a live pangolin from him, an official said here Saturday.

Acting on a tip-off, an STF team with the help of Bolangir forest division officials Friday conducted a raid near Bidighat Chhaka under Deogaon police station in Bolangir and rescued the pangolin, the STF official said.

The accused has been identified as Sebak Dharua, a native of Kalijharan village in Bolangir. The STF has registered a case under different sections of IPC and Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972.

The pangolin was handed over to DFO, Bolangir for safe custody, he said. The Indian pangolin (*Manis crassicaudata*), also called thick-tailed pangolin, is a Schedule-I protected animal under Wildlife Protection Act, 1972.

TRANSLATION DAY

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, Sept 30: As the advancement of Artificial Intelligence (AI) has given rise to new possibilities in the world of literature, experts and translators feel that there is still time before such tools learn to translate human emotions.

Looking at the increasing presence of AI in all spheres of life, while some translators believe that such technologies could give birth to new opportunities in translation, others are of the opinion that it could also lead to a crisis-like situation.

Speaking on the International Translation Day Saturday, Kolkata-based translator and



DHARITRI @50: Dharitri & OrissaPOST Editor Tathagata Satpathy, and dignitaries with winners of the debate and essay competitions at a special programme to mark the 50th anniversary of leading Odia daily 'Dharitri' at Adikabi Sarala Das Sanskriti Bhavan, Jagatsinghpur, Saturday

MLAs' suspension rocks House

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Bhubaneswar, Sept 30: For the sixth consecutive day Saturday, unprecedented ruckus in Assembly forced Speaker Pramila Mallik to adjourn the proceedings.

As soon as the House assembled for question hour and the Mallik took her seat, opposition BJP members started shouting in protest against the suspension of the two party MLAs, Mohan Majhi and Mukesh Mahaling, on charges of throwing 'daal' at the Speaker's podium Thursday.

Denying the charge, Majhi claimed that the Speaker's decision to suspend the two MLAs without checking CCTV camera footage was unfortunate. The MLA duo was suspended from the House till end of the monsoon session October 4.

The BJP members also demanded expunging of the words 'mental health disorder' from the records of the House. BJD member from Nayagarh Arun Kumar Sahoo had made the remark against opposition leaders.

"The Speaker is a doll in hands of the ruling party," leader of the opposition Jaynarayan Mishra told reporters outside the House.

Not feeling safe, says Mishra

BHUBANESWAR: Leader of the Opposition in the Odisha Assembly, Jaynarayan Mishra, Saturday said he was not feeling safe both inside the House and outside it.

The senior BJP leader alleged that Opposition members are not getting "due protection" inside the House and are subjected to unparliamentary behaviour by the ruling BJD members.

He also cited a protest by BJD workers outside his residence in Sambalpur Saturday.

"A few days ago, BJD workers ransacked the Sambalpur Circuit House thinking I was present there. I would have been killed had I been there. Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik will be responsible if something happens to me and my family," he told reporters outside the House.

Mishra said he could not express his apprehensions in the Assembly which was adjourned due to a din.

The LoP said he has returned state security after the assassi-

nation of the then Health minister Naba Kishore Das by a police officer January 29 this year.

"If a minister can be killed, what can other MLAs expect from the Odisha government?" he asked.

Accusing the BJD members of stalling the proceedings of the House, the LoP said, "While the Opposition is barred from raising any issue in the House, unparliamentarily and personal comments by the ruling members are not being expunged from the records. Instead of being impartial, the Speaker is working like a puppet of the ruling party."

Referring to the CM's statement in the House Thursday, Mishra said the BJP leaders, including himself, have not been elected to the assembly at Patnaik's mercy.

Dismissing Mishra's allegation, BJD MLA Rajkishore Das said, "The Odisha CM considers every life as precious... Everybody is safe here. It appears the LoP is making such statements only to hog the limelight as there is no reason for saying such things."

Lord Jagannath owns 60,822 acres: Law Min

The Jagannath Temple in Puri owns over 60,822 acres of land in Odisha and six other states, Odisha Law Minister Jagannath Saraka informed the Assembly Saturday. In a written reply to a question from BJD member Prasanta Behera, the minister said a total of 60,426.943 acres of land in the name of Mahaprabhu Jagannath Bije, Srikhetra Puri, have been identified in 24 of the state's 30 districts.

Of these, the Shree Jagannath Temple Administration (SJTA) has received the final record of rights (RoR) of over 38,061.892 acres, he said. Similarly, 395.25 acres of land in six other states have been identified in the name of Lord Jagannath, Saraka said.

The minister said that the temple has already lodged 974 encroachment cases in different tehsils of the state to remove illegal encroachments. The cases were filed as per the provision of the Shri Jagannath Temple Act, 1955, after proper inquiry by SJTA officials.

OSAP Commandant in Vigilance net

Bhubaneswar: Odisha Vigilance Saturday intercepted Sunil Kumar Behera, a Commandant with 1st Battalion OASP, near Madhusudan Setu in Cuttack, while he was returning from Dhenkanal and found in his possession unaccounted cash of Rs 1,31,535. According to Vigilance, Behera couldn't give reasonable answers for the source of the money which has been seized.

WEATHER		BHUB	CTK
TEMP	MAX	32.6°C	32.5°C
	MIN	25.3°C	25.5°C
	Humidity	89%	92%
	Rainfall	0.1	9.0
	Forecast	Cloudy sky with light rain	

Household chores can reduce premature death risk: Lancet

Short bouts of incidental activity, the kind done as part of daily living and including household chores, has shown to reduce risk of heart attack, stroke and even premature death, new research in Lancet Public Health shows.

However, duration and intensity of the activity matters, said the research team from the UK and Australia, led by the University of Sydney, having tracked more than 25,000 UK adults over roughly eight years.

"From walking up the stairs to speedily mopping the floors; in recent years we've come to understand that it is not just structured exercise that is good for

our health, but we know very little about how these short bouts of incidental activity translate to health benefits," said the study's senior author Emmanuel Stamatakis from the University of Sydney.

The adults studied were aged 42-78, all of whom self-reported no participation in exercise or sport. The researchers used wrist-worn wearables data from the UK Biobank and machine learning and analysed their seven-day incidental physical activity patterns down to a 10-second time window.

They then compared these physical activity micropatterns with the participants' health



records, by following them for close to eight years to understand the health impacts of the duration and intensity of the physical activity bouts.

The researchers found that

researchers compared data on physical activity micropatterns from wrist-worn wearables with the subjects' health records to understand health impacts of the duration and intensity of physical activity bouts.

They found that nearly all of the entire day's physical activity - 97 per cent - was accumulated in multiple slots, each lasting less than 10 minutes, with longer slots being better.

nearly all of the entire day's physical activity, 97 per cent, was accumulated in multiple slots, each lasting less than 10 minutes, with longer slots being better. "The idea of accruing short

Postdoctoral Research Fellow at Sydney, adding that data showed that the length and intensity of these activities mattered.

Further, 'moderately' or 'vigorous' intense activity in these slots were associated with a steep decrease in major cardiac events, like heart attack or stroke, and death by any cause, they found.

Also, those who huffed and puffed for at least 10 seconds per minute, or 15 per cent of one physical activity bout or slot, saw the greatest benefit, they found.

"If you are huffing and puffing for some of that time (in one bout) you have hit the sweet spot," said Stamatakis.

CM flags off cyber 'Suraksha Raths'

A massive fortnight-long awareness campaign on cyber security, touted to be first-of-its-kind in the country, will continue till October 15 and cover entire state



Eminent citizens, Padma awardees and freedom fighters will grace the closing ceremonies to be held at district levels October 15.

Earlier, the state Director General of Police (DGP) Sunil Kumar Bansal unveiled the mascot and theme song of the 'Cyber-Safety Campaign, 2023' at the Police Bhawan here, Thursday.

Bansal had also released the mascot, campaign posters and two cyber safety advisory brochures during the special launching programme. As many as 22 videos have been prepared which will be shown to people to educate them on ways to avoid getting trapped by cyber fraudsters.

The massive state-wide awareness campaign on cyber security is said to be the first-of-its-kind in the country. The campaign will be organized through both online and offline modes. Asha workers, Anganwadi members and SHG members will be roped in during the campaign in rural areas.

Bansal had appealed the people to assist in the awareness campaign saying that our intention is to make people aware of the do's and don'ts in order to remain safe while using social media, making banking transactions or charting with relatives on messenger apps.

vehicles will visit different places in panchayats, blocks and districts and hold programmes at education institutes and public places to bring awareness among people about cyber safety related issues. Every day, cyber safety awareness programmes will be organized at two educational institutions at least. Quiz programmes related to cyber frauds will be held among students at the school and college level.

Mini Marathons will be organized in various urban centers October 8. Similarly, evening walks will be held October 14 to bring awareness among senior citizens who often fall prey to cyber frauds.

POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar, Sept 30: Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik flagged off the 'Cyber Suraksha Raths', campaign vehicles for a fortnight long cyber awareness programme, during a special event at the Kalinga Stadium here Saturday evening. The vehicles equipped with advanced video and audio materials will roll out in 34 police districts across the state during September 30 till October 15.

CM Patnaik has urged everyone to always remain alert in order to avoid get trapped by cyber fraudsters.

The cyber safety awareness



NT AIDED AND UN - AIDED COLLEGE G (+2 & +3) EMPLOYEES ASSOCIATION

FIGHT FOR RIGHTS: Members of Non-Government Aided and Un-Aided Colleges Teaching and Non-Teaching Employees' Association stage a demonstration at Lower PMG in Bhubaneswar, seeking fulfillment of their demands, Saturday

Hematopoietic stem cell transplantation in AIIMS soon

PNN & AGENCIES

Bhubaneswar, Sept 30: City AIIMS is going to start hematopoietic stem cell transplantation at its medical oncology-hematology department for needy children suffering from cancer, said AIIMS Bhubaneswar executive director Ashutosh Biswas speaking at a special function organised to create awareness about childhood cancer.

AIIMS not only caters to Odisha, but also to pediatric patients from the nearby states like West Bengal, Chhattisgarh and Jharkhand. The outcome in pediatric cancers has changed from seemingly incurable dis-

eases to survival exceeding 80-90 per cent in the last 50 years, said Sonali Mohapatra, professor at department of medical oncology/hematology.

With the new technology in place, more than 75-80 per cent of childhood cancer patients can be cured completely, with survival exceeding 90 per cent in certain cancers like acute lymphoblastic leukemia (blood cancer), lymphomas and renal tumours, informed Mohapatra.

The department has registered more than 1200 children with cancer and currently treats around 250-300 new patients per year, Biswas said.

To increase awareness on var-



ious aspects of childhood cancer, the department Saturday organised series of programmes like walkathon, patient-parent and doctor interaction. However, pediatric oncology in India is still a work in progress. The outcomes in Indian subcontinent often lag behind the western counterparts due to various factors like delayed diagnosis, delayed referral, treatment abandonment and poor socioeconomic and educational conditions contribute to the suboptimal outcomes. Thus, an integrated, multidisciplinary and holistic approach is the need of the hour to overcome these obstacles, agreed the experts.

Notably, in collaboration with various government and non-government organizations (NGOs), the national institute also provides social/financial support and shelter homes to the poor and needy children to enable them to complete therapy.

SUMUM holds day-long nutrition orientation



POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar, Sept 30: The importance of nutrition in healthcare was underlined at a day-long program organised by the SUM Ultimate Medicare (SUMUM) to mark the Rashtriya Poshan Maah observed in the month of September every year under the Poshan Abhiyaan.

The hospital organised the first 'SUNNO-SUM Ultimate National Nutrition Orientation' on the subject 'Clinical Nutrition in Action: Applying Evidence Based Insight' which was attended by several experts belonging to the field.

Swetapadma Dash, Chief Executive Officer of SUMUM, who welcomed the guests, underscored the importance of nutrition in the treatment of patients. She also described SUMUM's journey over the last three and half years as 'meaningful'.

Banambar Ray, Head of the Department of Critical Care, and PK Panda, Medical Superintendent, also addressed the program.

The experts who attended the program included Bhaskar Dey, Principal, Naseema Institute of Speech and Hearing, Bengaluru, Arpita Priyadarshini, Professor and Head of Department of Physiology, Sri Jagannath Medical College, Puri, Ashish Yadav, LLRM Medical College, Meerut and Sandhyarani Rout, Consultant (Nutrition), National Health Mission.

Sushree Sangeeta Jena, Senior Clinical Nutritionist at the hospital, provided an overview of the program and proposed the vote of thanks.

Positive factors counter El Nino effect: IMD

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, Sept 30: Addressing a press conference Saturday, IMD Director General Mrutyunjay Mohapatra said that with positive factors countering El Nino, the 2023 monsoon season concluded with 94.4 per cent cumulative rainfall, which is "near normal".

In a pre-monsoon briefing, the IMD had predicted a normal monsoon for India, albeit on the lower side of normal. It had, however, cautioned that El Nino might influence the latter half of the southwest monsoon.

Rainfall between 96 per cent and 104 per cent of the long-period average (LPA) is considered normal.

However, normal cumulative rainfall over the country during the monsoon season doesn't mean even spatial and temporal spread of precipitation.

The Indian monsoon refers to inherent fluctuations and changes that occur over time due to various natural factors. This is called natural variability.



Research, however, shows climate change is making the monsoon more variable. Increased variability means more extreme weather and dry spells.

Monthly rainfall across the country as a whole stood at 91 per cent of LPA in June, 113 per cent in July, 64 per cent in August, and 113 per cent in September.

"Out of the 36 meteorological subdivisions, three (constituting 9 per cent of the total area) received excess rainfall, 26 received normal rainfall (covering 73 per cent of the total area), and seven received deficient rainfall. The seven subdivisions with deficient rainfall

are Nagaland, Manipur, Mizoram, and Tripura, Gangetic West Bengal, Jharkhand, Bihar, East UP, South Interior Karnataka, and Kerala," the IMD chief said.

The IMD reported that East and Northeast India recorded 1,115 mm of rainfall against a normal of 1,367.3 mm, which translates to an 18 per cent deficit.

Northwest India recorded 593 mm of rainfall compared to a long-period average of 587.6 mm. Central India, where agriculture predominantly relies on monsoon rains, recorded 981.7 mm against a normal of 978 mm. The South Peninsula experi-

enced an eight per cent deficit. Mohapatra highlighted two factors - the Indian Ocean Dipole and Madden-Julian Oscillation - that significantly influenced this year's monsoon season.

He cited MJO as the most important factor that countered the effect of El Nino - warming of waters in the Pacific Ocean near South America -- on the monsoon season in India.

El Nino conditions are associated with weaker monsoon winds and drier conditions in India.

MJO is a large-scale atmospheric disturbance originating in tropical Africa and travelling eastward, typically lasting 30 to 60 days.

The IOD is defined by the difference in the sea surface temperatures between the western parts of the Indian Ocean near Africa and the eastern parts of the ocean near Indonesia.

Mohapatra said 15 low-pressure systems developed over India during the monsoon season against an average of 13, but their temporal distribution remained "skewed".

SAI pays tribute to Dr Sahoo

POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar, Sept 30: SAI International Education Group paid tribute to the enduring legacy of Dr Bijaya Kumar Sahoo throughout the months of August and September 2023 with their 'Founder's Memorial Series'.

According to an official press release, Saturday, the institution orchestrated 'Advaya' - An artful experience for parents and students, fostering bonds between them. This event was followed by the 'Founder's Memorial Talk' held within the school premises, where over 5,000 attendees - including parents, teachers, and students, who had the privilege of listening to keynote speaker Devdutt Pattanaik.

During August and September 2023, an air of reverence and inspiration enveloped the hallowed halls of SAI International as the school community came together to commemorate the Founder's Memorial Series. This poignant occasion serves as a testament to the visionary



leadership and unwavering commitment of Dr Bijaya Kumar Sahoo, the esteemed Founder-Chairman of SAI International. It transcends mere remembrance, becoming a time of deep reflection, where his resolute spirit and dedication to nurturing young minds and moulding future leaders are celebrated. The Founder Memorial Series represents the school's commitment to perpetuating the eternal teachings envisioned by the Founder, in order to cultivate rational, empathetic, and resilient leaders who drive positive change in society.

Devdutt Pattanaik, the keynote speaker of 'Founder's Memorial Talk', during his speech, shared, "In the journey of life, a happy and relaxed mind is the compass that guides us towards a brighter future."

Principal Secy reviews RD works

ARINDAM GANGULY, OP

Bhubaneswar, Sept 30: Principal secretary Sanjay Kumar Singh reviewed the progress of various developmental schemes and projects under the Rural Development Department Saturday.

Presiding over the meeting held at department's Oswan Hall in the Lok Seva Bhavan Saturday, Singh said that the department bears major responsibility in the field of rural infrastructure development. Therefore, it is the prime responsibility of the department to complete all the construction work within the stipulated time and directed the officials to complete all the projects under the Rural Development department in a thorough process. He instructed to give priority to CM grievances.

Singh expressed that the department must focus on the im-



mediate resolution of all complaints related to the department coming from the Chief Minister's Grievance Cell. Till date, all the complaints related to the department from the Chief Minister's Grievance Cell have been processed and the program has been started.

Singh instructed the departmental engineers to complete the tender process of the remaining projects prior to the financial year 2021-22 and finalize the DPR of all the projects taken up in the financial year 2022-23 and 2023-24. It was emphasized in the meeting that the unfinished work under Biju Setu Yojana should be completed by the end of next October.

Prestigious KISS award to 1st lady of Kenya, Ruto

ARINDAM GANGULY, OP

Bhubaneswar, Sept 30: The First Lady of Kenya, Rachel Ruto, EGH, received the prestigious KISS Humanitarian Award 2022 at an event held in the institute's campus, Saturday in presence of Governor Ganeshi Lal.

The award recognizes her outstanding dedication to humanitarian efforts and her unwavering commitment to improving the lives of the underprivileged and underserved, particularly women, children, and vulnerable communities.

In her acceptance speech, Rachel expressed her gratitude for the warm welcome and extended her thanks to the Governor and the KIIT and KISS founder Achyuta Samanta. She emphasised her eagerness to collaborate with institutions



like KISS in their shared mission to create a more compassionate and equitable world.

Ruto acknowledged that the award was not just recognition of her individual efforts but also a tribute to the spirit and re-

silience of the Kenyan people, especially women.

The Governor, in his address, praised the First Lady for her humanitarian efforts and dedication to the betterment of humanity. He commended the

work of KISS and its founder Samanta in ensuring that democracy reaches every corner of society.

Samanta, in his speech, greeted the Kenyan First Lady in Swahili and drew parallels between her work and the mission of KISS. He highlighted the significant impact she has made through initiatives like MaMa Doing Good, Women Economic Empowerment, and Environmental and Climate Action.

Among others, the Chancellor of KISS Deemed to be University Satya S Tripathi, President of KIIT and KISS Saswati Bal, Kenya High Commission in India Willy K Bett, Vice President of KIIT and KISS Umapada Bose, Secretary RN Das and other senior functionaries from both KIIT and KISS were present on the occasion.

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Infra woes push students to choose Andhra schools

Scores of students have got themselves admitted in various schools of Andhra Pradesh and taking admission in the local schools in the neighbouring state due to lack of proper educational infrastructure and facilities in their own areas, a report said Saturday.

POST NEWS NETWORK

Paralakhemundi, Sept 30: Students residing in the fringe areas of Gajapati district are relocating to Andhra Pradesh and taking admission in the local schools in the neighbouring state due to lack of proper educational infrastructure and facilities in their own areas, a report said Saturday.

The matter came to the fore after as many as 24 students in villages under Gangabada panchayat of Gajapati district got themselves admitted in the schools of Andhra Pradesh. This has exposed the abject state of affairs in the educational system prevalent in the fringe areas of Gajapati district.

Residents in Gangabada panchayat alleged that the state government is not at all concerned towards improvement of educational system in the fringe areas of the state.

On the other hand, headmasters, teachers and other staff of Andhra schools are regularly visiting these areas and luring people to get their wards admitted in their schools saying that the students will be given all the facilities like food and hostel, alleged Haribandhu Karjee, sarpanch of Gangabada panchayat.

Lured by their promises, as many as 94 students in the area have got themselves admitted in various schools of Andhra Pradesh. At least 24 students have relocated to Andhra schools only this year, so far.

A few days back, reports surfaced that a wall of the Gangabada High School hostel sheltering 40 students collapsed following low-pressure triggered heavy rainfall in the area.

Lack of timely maintenance of the school established in 1960 led to the hostel wall collapse. After the incident,



A wall of Gangabada UP School hostel sheltering 40 students collapsed recently following low-pressure triggered heavy rainfall in the area. However, fortunately none of them were injured

Residents of Gangabada panchayat lamented the state government's utter neglect towards improvement of educational system in the fringe areas

the hostel inmates were rescued and shifted to the nearby cyclone shelter. Later, the school authorities turned the cyclone shelter into hostel and conducted classes for the students due to absence of alternative infrastructure.

Meanwhile, after coming to know about the development, Collector Smruti Ranjan Pradhan visited the spot and took stock of the situation. He also directed to start the school's construction which had remained suspended.

Notably, the concerned school is the only upper primary school in Gangabada panchayat where students of Badapachidia, Manikapatna, Champapur, Burusingh, Baraghar and Sagadia villages study.

Students from nearby villages have taken admission in various schools under Manjusha Mandal of neighbouring Andhra Pradesh owing to lack of hostel facilities in the Gangabada High School.

Fed up, guardians have admitted

their wards in various schools at Budhaamba, Budharsingh, Manjusha and Palasa under Saba panchayat of Manjusha mandal in neighbouring Andhra Pradesh. Many of them are relocating to Andhra Pradesh as they require a resident certificate in order to shift their wards to Andhra schools.

Notably, the building of Gangabada High School was inaugurated by Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik, February 7, 2019. The building constructed at a cost of Rs 50 lakh has now turned into a haunted house after the collapse of the hostel wall and shifting of the whole school to the cyclone centre.

Recently, the ST Secretary in a video conference had promised to upgrade the Gangabada High School into a smart school and subsequently works to this effect were also started for the school's transformation into a smart school. However, the work was later stopped midway by the district administration.

UTP slits his genitals

BHADRAK: An under-trial prisoner (UTP) lodged in Bhadrak Special Sub-Jail slit his left hand and private parts at the jail toilet, Saturday. The critically injured UTP was identified as Sushant Majhi of Kolha area under Tihidi police limits in Bhadrak district. Sources said, he has been arrested in connection with a case of domestic violence. After screaming out of pain, he was rescued by the prison officials and hospitalised at the district headquarters hospital in Bhadrak. Majhi reportedly slit his genitals using the mosquito coil stand inside the jail. Later, he was shifted to SCB Medical College and Hospital in Cuttack in critical condition where his health condition improved after treatment, jailor Rushinath Nayak said. Sources said that Majhi has been arrested and put inside the jail for allegedly torturing his wife and it is suspected that he might have done this under mental stress.

Bombs hurled at former BeMC mayor's vehicle

BERHAMPUR: Miscreants hurled bombs at the vehicle of former Berhampur Municipal Corporation (BeMC) Mayor Shiv Shankar Dash at Sanamatha near Badasahi under Gosaniuagaon police limits here Friday night. The reason of the bomb attack has not yet been ascertained. Gosaniuagaon police launched an investigation into the incident and collected remains of the bomb from the spot. Police also scanned the footage of CCTVs in the nearby areas and identified two suspects. Very soon the accused will be nabbed, Superintendent of Police Saravana Vivek M said. The incident occurred around 11pm near Badasahi when Das was returning home. The bomb hit the front glass and went off. However, no one was injured in the attack. As per the statement of Shiv Shankar, he along with his younger son was returning home in a car from a private clinic last night. However, two miscreants who were standing near an auto hurled a bomb at his car near Badasahi and fled from the spot. Notably, Shiv Shankar was arrested many times earlier and he was booked under NSA. Police is investigating from various angles to find out the reason behind the attack.

NIT-R up 2 bands in THE ranking

POST NEWS NETWORK

Rourkela, Sept 30: The World University Ranking for 2024 has been released by the Times Higher Education. This year NIT Rourkela moved two bands up from the previous year and has been ranked in the band of 601-800 in the list of world's top universities.

In the year 2023, NIT-R was ranked in the band of 1000-1200. NIT-R shares the rank with IIT Guwahati, Jawaharlal Nehru University, Banaras Hindu University, Alagappa University and many other reputed institutes/universities of the country. The list includes 1,904 universities across 108 countries and regions.

Congratulating the entire NIT-R academic community, NIT-R Director K Umamaheswar Rao said, "NIT Rourkela is two bands up from last year's rankings

and this depicts that we are continuously putting in our efforts. This is a collaborative outcome of our students, faculties, staff and alumni. I want to thank all of them and would like to extend my gratitude to our invaluable industry partners, supporters, and stakeholders, who have played an indispensable role in our journey. Your belief in our mission and your support have played an instrumental role in this achievement. I look forward to even greater achievements in the future as we continue to make a positive impact on the world through education and research."

The Times Higher Education World University Rankings judges research-intensive universities across all their core missions: teaching, research, knowledge transfer and international outlook.

Scrub typhus: Central team visits Sundargarh



POST NEWS NETWORK

Rourkela, Sept 30: A central team of doctors consisting of medicine and other experts Saturday visited Sundargarh district where scrub typhus has taken an alarming proportion with each day showing an upward trend.

The central team including Dr Tushar Nale, deputy director of public health, National Centre for Disease Control (NCDC), Dr Samir Gulati, professor, LHMC, Dr Dhara B Shah, assistant director of microbiology, NCDC, and Dr Arushi Ghai, EIS officer of the NCDC held a long meeting with all the senior doctors where CDMO Dr Dharani Ranjan Satpathy, district public health officer Dr Kanhu Charan Nayak and others were present.

The team was given a detailed picture of the scrub typhus sit-

uation in the district. Besides, they were explained about the measures being taken to counter the spread. The meeting lasted for more than three hours and thirty minutes.

After the meeting, the team immediately took stock of the laboratory's functioning. They also enquired about the available facilities in the laboratory.

Speaking to mediapersons, Dr Nale informed about the aim of the team's visit to Sundargarh. "We have held a thorough discussion with the medical team here. We have gathered all the necessary information from the doctors here. Besides, we visited the laboratory to take stock of its preparedness. The doctors are doing a good job."

The total count of scrub typhus affected persons in the district reached 292 Saturday. One person afflicted with the disease has died so far in the district.

EAST COAST RAILWAY
Tender No. 30-KUR-TRD-OT-2023-24

Name of Work: EXECUTION OF ONE MODIFICATION WORK IN CONNECTION WITH PROVISION OF 12 MTR WIDE FOOT OVER BRIDGE AT 07 STATIONS (LINGARAJ TEMPLE ROAD (L.GTR), MANCHESWAR (MCS), ANGUL (ANGL), DHENKANAL (DNKL), TALCHER ROAD (TLHD), MERAMANDALI (MRDL), KENDUJHARGARH (KDJR)) IN CENTRAL SECTION OF KHURDA ROAD (KUR) DIVISION UNDER AMRIT BHARAT STATION SCHEME.

Advertisement Value: ₹ 1,55,92,123.27, EMD: ₹ 2,28,000/-, Period of Completion: 180 Days.

Bidding Start Date: 03.10.2023, **Date & Time of tender closing:** At 1300 hrs. on 17.10.2023.

Manual offers are not allowed against this tender, and any such manual offer received shall be ignored.

Complete information including e-tender documents are available in website : <http://www.ireps.gov.in>

Sr. Divisional Electrical Engineer/TRD PR-628/O/23-24 Khurda Road

सत्यमेव जयते
MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE & EMPOWERMENT
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL JUSTICE & EMPOWERMENT announces

SCHOLARSHIPS FOR 69 LAKH SCHEDULED CASTE students to pursue Higher Education under the Post-Matric Scholarships Scheme for SC students for the Year 2023-24

Eligibility

- Parents'/Guardians' annual income not exceeding Rs 2.50 lakhs
- Students pursuing courses in recognized Colleges/Schools

Scope

- All recognised courses from class 11 onwards
- Applications are accepted and verified by the State Government/Union Territory
- Coverage of the poorest households

Entitlement

- Compulsory non-refundable fees (including tuition fee)
- Academic allowance ranging from ₹ 2500 to ₹ 13500 per annum
- 10% extra allowance for Divyang (specially abled) students

- Students to apply on their respective State Scholarship Portals
- Student should have a valid Mobile number, Aadhaar number (UID), Aadhaar seeded Bank Account, Income Certificate and Caste Certificate

- Scheme guidelines and detailed eligibility criteria available on <http://socialjustice.gov.in/schemes/25>

cbc 381011/11/0033/2324

Illegal gutkha making unit busted in Ganjam

PNN & AGENCIES

Berhampur, Sept 30: Odisha Police has unearthed an illegal gutkha manufacturing unit at Tulasi Bihar-Ralab Road under Golanthara police station limits in Ganjam district, police said Saturday.

Acting on a tip off, Golanthara police Friday raided a house where the gutkha was being manufactured illegally. Besides stocked gutkha, they also seized a huge quantity of raw materials. Three persons have been arrested in this connection, police said.



The accused were identified as Niranjan Pradhan (27), Ram Chandra Dash (40) and K Sriramulu Reddy (43). Other persons involved in the illegal activities would be arrested soon, police said.

Finished products, raw materials, machinery to prepare gutkha, packing machines, empty pouches and other incriminating articles worth around Rs 10 lakh were seized from the spot, Berhampur SP Saravana Vivek M said.

He said the unit was operating in the area from a rented house for the last three months. The accused were booked under sections of Food Safety and Standard Act-2006, Cigarettes and Other Tobacco Products Act (COTPA)-2003 and different sections of IPC.

Odisha government had banned the manufacture, sale, storage and distribution of gutkha and pan masala containing tobacco and nicotine as one of the ingredients by whatever name available in the market since January 3, 2013.

50-yr-old gets 3-yr RI in POCSO case

PNN & AGENCIES

Balasure, Sept 30: Special Judge of POCSO court here Saturday convicted a 50-year-old man for outraging the modesty of a minor girl and sentenced him to three years of Rigorous Imprisonment (RI) along with a fine of Rs 1,000.

The court ruled that in default of paying the fine amount, the convict has to undergo one year jail term more, special public prosecutor Pranab Panda said.

Panda said the convict Bidya Singh of Dingabali village under Remuna police station of Balasure district was arrested in February 2021 after the mother of the victim alleged that her daughter was molested by the accused.

The accused was tried under several sections of IPC and 8 of POCSO Act. The court after examining 13 witnesses and 10 exhibits awarded the punishment, special public prosecutor Panda said.

CENTRAL WAREHOUSING CORPORATION
(A Govt. of India Undertaking)
Regional Office- Maurya Lok Complex, Block-A, 2nd Floor, Dakbungalow Road, Patna-800001
Phone No.-0612-2225949 E-mail-rmpat@cewacor.nic.in

NO. CWC/RO PAT/ENGG/PN/2023-24
PRESS NOTICE
(NO. CWC/RO-PAT/ENGG/23-24/17)
CWC invites on-line tenders from the contractors for the following work:

SL	Name of Work	Estimated Cost (Rs. Lakh)	Last date of on-line submission
1	Shifting of existing Gangaon 11 KV Feeder line and Shifting of existing Grinjel 11 KV Feeder line and LT Line from the premises of CWC, Haldipali Sohela (Odisha).	21.58	05.10.2023

Detailed Tender Notice along with Conditions of Contract and Notice Inviting E-Tender may be seen and downloaded from the CWC's website www.cewacor.nic.in or e-tender website www.cwceprocure.com or CPP Portal <http://eprocure.gov.in/e-publish/app>. Further Corrigendum/Addendum to this Tender, if any, will be published on above websites only. Press advertisement in Newspapers shall not be issued for the same.

Executive Engineer

FOOD CORPORATION OF INDIA
REGIONAL OFFICE, BHUBANESWAR
File No: S&S/2/OMSS(D)/Wheat/2023-24 Date: 29.09.2023

PRESS NOTICE

To moderate the market prices of Wheat and Rice, it has been decided by Govt. of India to offload Wheat and Rice in the open market through e-auctions in a phased manner under OMSS (D) through Food Corporation of India. Existing rate is Rs. 2150/- per quintal for wheat (FAQ), Rs. 2125/- per quintal for wheat (URS), Rs. 2900/- per quintal for normal rice and Rs. 2973/- per quintal for fortified rice (Boiled/Raw) with applicable taxes. Wheat Processors/Atta Chakki/Flour Millers of Wheat Products can participate through e-auction. The bidder must have valid FSSAI license, GST/Trade Tax Registration, PAN and he must declare his existing stock holding in the WSM Portal of Govt. of India in the case of wheat. An eligible bidder can bid for a minimum quantity of 10MT to max. of 100 MT. However, for bidding of Rice/FSSAI Licence and stock declaration are not required. Traders are also allowed for Rice e-auction up to 1000 MT per bidder. As per recent tender floated by FCI, 7000 MT Wheat and 28635 MT Rice has been offered for e-auction from 19 centres of FCI Odisha Region. The sale of Wheat under the scheme will be carried out on FRIDAY every week by FCI. Interested bidders can register themselves at M-Junction (<http://www.valuejunction.in/fci>) for participating in e-auction.

General Manager (Region)

OFFICE OF THE NOTIFIED AREA COUNCIL, GANJAM
Odisha - 761026, Tel.: 06811-254357
E-mail: eo.nacganjam21@gmail.com
Letter No. 2793/NAC Date: 22.09.2023

OFFICE OF THE NOTIFIED AREA COUNCIL, GANJAM
INVITATION OF BIDS
e-Tender Notice - 2762/NAC Dt.: 21.09.2023
Tender Reference No. GJM - 01 - NAC/2023-24
No. of Civil Projects - 6 Nos.
No. C-994 Estimated Cost - As per DTCN

1. Availability of the tender in the website: www.tendersorissa.gov.in from 25.09.2023 at 11.00 A.M. to 04.10.2023 upto 5.00 P.M.
2. Offline submission of the Xerox copies at NAC, Ganjam on or before 05.10.2023.
3. Opening of the Bid - 06.10.2023 at 11.00 A.M.

Sd./- Executive Officer
N.A.C., Ganjam
OIPR-13164/11/0011/2324



Death is but changing of our robes to wait in wedding garments at the Eternal's gate.

SRI AUROBINDO



Discrimination

Four centuries ago, the ambassador Sir Henry Wotton defined a diplomat as "an honest gentleman sent to lie abroad for the good of his country."

Our External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar (the 'S' stands for Subrahmanyam, his father, who was instrumental in weaponising India's nuclear programme and waging war in Bangladesh) is a good spokesman for the government. He was a good spokesman also for the previous government, under which he served. What he says, therefore, should not be considered his personal view: he is sent to lie abroad for the good of our country.

These days he is in Washington enlightening the world on the great things happening in India. At one of his meetings, he was asked by a reporter the standard question BJP leaders face when abroad: why are you targeting other Indians, especially Muslims? Jaishankar replied, as reported by the news agency ANI: "I defy you to show me discrimination."

It is obvious and does not need to be shown to those who have eyes and ears, but since the claim has been made it must be engaged with.

There are three levels at which the BJP discriminates. The first is through exclusion. For the first time in our history we have no Muslim Union minister, no Muslim government MP, no Muslim BJP MLA anywhere in India (the party has over 1000 MLAs) and this exclusion does not surprise anyone. If in the United States, Joe Biden's party did not have a single African American or Hispanic American Senator, Congressman or state legislator it would be a scandal. Here it has been made normal.

The second way in which the BJP targets minorities is through law. Beef lynching as a category of violence was gifted to India after the Prime Minister went after what he called the "pink revolution" and in 2015 two BJP states, first Maharashtra and then Haryana, legislated laws criminalising the possession of beef. The lynching began shortly thereafter. The Citizenship Amendment Act, passed in 2019, was according to India's Home Minister one part of a pincer. The other was the National Register of Citizens. Their purpose, he explained, was to filter out non-Muslim migrants from neighbouring states and then go after the Muslim ones. Muslims are the only Indians for whom divorce is a criminal offence. It is a civil wrong for all the rest. This happened through a change in law in 2019. Starting in 2018, BJP states began legislating laws criminalising interfaith marriages targeting what they called "love jihad."

The BJP in Parliament admitted that there is no such thing as love jihad, when asked a specific question, but the laws are needed nonetheless. Madhya Pradesh's law passed in 2021 retains the power to undo a marriage including one that has children. The laws have come to the BJP states of Uttarakhand (2018), Himachal Pradesh (2019), Uttar Pradesh (2020), Gujarat and MP (2021), Karnataka and Haryana (2022). In 2019, Gujarat amended a law that forcibly ghettoises Muslims. It gives the district collector the authority to undo property sales and leases on the grounds of "improper clustering." Meaning that Gujarati Muslims cannot rent or buy property in Gujarat's neighbourhoods where foreigners can. The amendment gave the government more authority to ensure this forced ghettoisation.

In Gujarat in 2017, the punishment for cow slaughter, which is an economic crime, was made life imprisonment. No other economic crime in India, including bank fraud of thousands of crores, attracts life in jail. Why was the punishment increased? To harass Muslims of course. In Uttar Pradesh, it was reported recently, of the 139 people jailed under the National Security Act, 76 were people who were accused of cattle slaughter. We could go on with the laws but let us move on to the third way in which Jaishankar's government discriminates against minorities and that is through his party's actions. The convicted rapists of a Muslim Gujarati woman were released in 2022 on the instruction of Jaishankar's government. The woman's infant daughter had been murdered by these rapists. The men convicted of lynching a Muslim were garlanded by Jaishankar's fellow Union minister in 2018. Jaishankar's MPs abuse Muslims inside Parliament. The list of things said by his colleagues is too long to be listed here and perhaps someone else might compile them in another column. After having said what they did, they have been rewarded. A woman who called Muslims something unspeakable, is a minister in the Union government's rural development ministry as is a man who said India would be better off today if all Muslims were asked to leave. Jaishankar sits next to them at meetings.

Again, it does not surprise anyone of us to look at these facts because we have been living with them since 2014. Not only is bigotry and prejudice and discrimination common in new India, it is one of the reasons why Jaishankar and his party are politically popular. The consequence of unleashing this is damage which is also visible all around us to those who have eyes and ears.

All nations have flaws and diplomats are expected to lie abroad. But, Jaishankar must be told this, it is to be for the good of their country.



Aakar Patel

Muslims are the only Indians for whom divorce is a criminal offence. It is a civil wrong for all the rest



Avilash Roul

INDIA NEEDS TO PREPARE HOLISTICALLY TO TAKE CARE OF ITS FAST-INCREASING OLDER POPULATION

Once, a decision-maker and breadwinner for family, society and country, the elderly people, are being left behind as mute bystanders. Both family and society have failed to address the challenges faced by the elderly. Despite being one of the most vulnerable groups on this planet, the elderly have not received much attention from governments. Approximately 1.1 billion people aged 60 years or older in 2022 are projected to more than double by 2050. Even, boastful young India, as per the recently released UN Population Fund-India Ageing Report 2023, will turn into a rapidly ageing society with 34.7 crore of people in a few decades. India may be aged before becoming rich by 2047.

The unprecedented but anticipated rise will have substantial implications for overall health, economy and society. Are we prepared to accommodate, adjust and advance to such reality by ensuring the rights of elderly as promised in various declarations or pledges at UN and domestically? Do we have the right policies or set of interventions or institutional capacities in governments - Union and states and other societal institutions for the well-being of present and future age groups of elderly people?

We are certain that population ageing is a natural stage of life and is an irreversible trend globally, slower in developing countries than in developed. The number of older people (defined as those aged 65 years or older according to the UN) tripled from around 260 million in 1980 to 761 million in 2021. Subsequently, the age group will be 2.1 billion by 2050. That means globally among every 6 people, 1 will be of older age. India is no exception. Presently senior citizens comprise 10% of total population of India. This is set to increase to 14.9% by 2036, and 20% by 2050, with the highest female senior citi-



Despite being one of the most vulnerable groups on this planet, the elderly have not received much attention from governments

zens. Odisha may face governance challenges as the share of elderly population will increase from 11.8% in 2021 to 17.1% in 2036. With old age dependency at 12%, the dimensions of old age vulnerability in Odisha are 17.2% with multi-morbidity, 34.6% under poverty and 17.3% having no work.

From the global stage to the state, the focus on the elderly has increased at a snail's pace. After the first World Assembly on Ageing in Austria in 1982, the UN General Assembly in 1990 adopted October 1 every year as the International Day of Older Persons to address the challenges of ageing. Every year the UN, governments and CSOs of the world intend to focus on the plights of elderly people. This year's theme "Fulfilling the Promises of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights for Older Persons: Across Generations" calls on all stakeholders to deliver the promise of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

Despite specific mention of

three targets in malnutrition, transportation and public space, there is a huge opportunity to include elderly people in most of the Goals as integrated approach in achieving the SDGs by 2030.

In India, the National Policy for Older Persons (1999), which was the first targeted policy, considers institutional care as the last resort for elderly people. However, under Article 41 of the Constitution, it mandates the State for the wellbeing of senior citizens. Since 1992, the Union government with the help of NGOs has been maintaining 566 Senior Citizen Homes across the country for indigent senior citizens. Besides, there are several social security schemes like old age pension schemes, financial security schemes, health insurance schemes, health care schemes and so on are being formulated from time to time by the Union government. Similarly, the state government has initiated targeted programmes for senior citizens: volunteerism and joyful

ageing in 2018, a Senior Citizen Cell in district police headquarters and so on.

In Indian society we proclaim that senior citizens who are mostly parents are revered, respected and regarded, next to the Almighty. In reality, after announcing them as "Marg Darshak" or showing half-baked respect through "Guru Pujan," Father's Day and Mother's Day as per own convenience in much funfair, photo ops for social media and salutations, elderly people are put behind on the backburner. Harassment of all kinds, besides loneliness, is the only companion of elderly people in daily life.

India needs to prepare holistically to take care of its fast-increasing older population. More investments have to be made in elderly health, social services and old age care. The government has to re-skill the older population without limiting the potential of youth force with incentives to allow their contribution to the economy and society. In Odisha, while 74.4% of senior citizens are aware of the old age pension Scheme, 66% of the widow scheme, 31.5% of Annapurna Scheme, only 35.7% avail the old age pension scheme, 38% widow scheme and 1.7% Annapurna Scheme. In Odisha, retired employees are yet to receive a mandatory free health care service.

Elderly people are the source of invaluable knowledge and experience. We are aware of the Romanian folktale of "The Land Where There Was No Old Man" - the story of how the old man saved the country from starvation. Elderly people have much to contribute towards sustainable development and protecting our planet. State and society must fulfil the pledges laid down in SDGs by facilitating their active participation in the decision-making process.

The writer is a scientist at IIT-Madras. Views are personal.

SPECTRUM GENDER

Still not half of the sky

After the Chinese Communist Revolution in 1949, dramatic changes began to be put in place to guarantee equality between men and women. The phrase "women hold up half of the sky" is famously attributed to Mao Zedong. It means that women represent half the population and hence half the workforce and that the equality of women in every sphere of human life is the essential ingredient that keeps society going.

In India, women account for 47% of total population as of April 2023. So, we can say that women are being empowered or enjoying gender equality if in each sphere of life say representation in legislatures, ministry, jobs, and offices, their share is around 47%. However, gender parity seems to be an illusion today not only in India but even in many advanced countries.

The passage of the Women's Reservation Bill known as "Nari Shakti Vandan Adhiniyam" even after 27 years of its introduction in Parliament - which envisages reservation of 33% seats for women in Lok Sabha and state Assemblies - is a historic step, though still not half of the sky. There was a need for reser-

vation as India currently stands at the 142nd position in the world in terms of giving women representation in its national legislature out of 186 countries and has achieved only 25.3% parity on political empowerment. But, justice delayed is justice denied as the benefits of the reservation are likely to be available in 2029 after the delimitation exercise. Half of the state assemblies have to ratify the same too.

However, the reservation issue is publicised in such a way that enhancement of women's representation is the panacea to all problems plaguing women. Political parties are squabbling to take credit for women's reservation. If they were serious, they could have given more tickets to women. In 2019 general elections, BJP and Congress had fielded only 12% women.

Reservation can contribute to political empowerment, but social and economic empowerment are equally important. The need of the hour is the improvement in living standards of women and enabling them to lead independent, dignified life.

But according to the World Economic Forum's Global Gender Gap Index 2023, to bridge the gender gap at the

present rate of progress, the World has to wait 132 years. In case of India, it will be more as it has only bridged the 64.3% gender gap as against 68.4% in the world.

What is disconcerting is that India has reached only 36.7% parity on economic participation and opportunity. According to the "Women@Work" report, 38.5% of working women surveyed said they were adversely affected by the burden of added housework, childcare and eldercare while 43.7% said that work-life balance has become worse.

When there is need for creating more job opportunities for women, the share of women in the workforce is going from bad to worse. Four out of five women are not working in India.

In 1990, India's female labour force participation (FLFP) rate - the proportion of the population aged 15 and older who are working or seeking works - was 30.3%. By 2022, it had declined to 24%, according to the World Bank. India has the lowest FLFP among the G20 countries. India's job stagnation, increasing unemployment and jobless growth over the past few years could further worsen this situation.

Violence against women in India is devastatingly pervasive. According to the National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB), in 2021, cases of crimes against women rose to 4,28,278, showing an increase of 56,775 cases or 15.3% from 3,71,503 cases in 2020. When there is talk of women empowerment, the sordid data also reveals that across India, in 96.5% of rape cases, the offender was known to the woman. What is worrying is that majority of cases under crimes against women were registered under "Cruelty by Husband" (31.8%). According to NHFS, nearly one-third of women in India have experienced physical or sexual violence.

With the prevalence of gender discrimination, patriarchal mindsets, social norms, and practices, girls become vulnerable to the possibility of child marriage, teenage pregnancy, child domestic work, poor education and health, sexual abuse, exploitation, and violence. Many of these manifestations will not change unless girls are valued more.

The writer is an Odisha-based economist and columnist. Views are personal.

WISDOM CORNER

- I hear and I forget. I see and I remember. I do and I understand. **CONFUCIUS**
- Care about what other people think and you will always be their prisoner. **LAO TZU**
- Attachment leads to suffering. **BUDDHA**

THIS DAY IN HISTORY

- 1946:** The verdict was handed down on 22 of the original 24 defendants in the Nürnberg trials, a series of trials held after World War II in which the International Military Tribunal indicted and tried former Nazi leaders as war criminals.
- 1949:** In Beijing, with most of the Chinese mainland held by the communist People's Liberation Army, its dynamic leader, Mao Zedong, proclaimed the establishment of the People's Republic of China on this day in 1949.
- 1975:** In what is regarded by many as the greatest prizefight of all time (the "Thrilla in Manila"), Muhammad Ali defeated Joe Frazier after the latter's corner called a halt to the bout after 14 brutal rounds.

LOL

BUGS FOR DINNER

A boy asks his father, "Dad, are bugs good to eat?" "That's disgusting. Don't talk about things like that over dinner," the dad



replies. After dinner the father asks, "Now, son, what did you want to ask me?" "Oh, nothing," the boy says. "There was a bug in your soup, but now it's gone."

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

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

Health & sustainability

Sir, October is Vegetarian Awareness Month, marked by the initiation of World Vegetarian Day (WVD) on October 1. WVD, established by the North American Vegetarian Society in 1977, sets the stage for a month-long celebration of vegetarianism. It takes inspiration from the ancient philosopher Pythagoras and encourages individuals to explore the diverse world of vegetarian cuisine. This tradition embodies ethical, eco-conscious, and health-conscious food choices, fostering informed dietary decisions. With approximately 1.5 billion people, constituting 22% of the global population, following vegetarian diets, October serves as a platform to spotlight the nutritional richness of plant-based diets. These diets, abundant in antioxidants and essential vitamins, contribute to heart health by reducing inflammation and supporting weight management. Research indicates that adopting a vegetarian diet is linked to a decreased risk of diabetes and improved health markers, as observed at the European Congress on Obesity. Moreover, a vegetarian diet offers an array of health benefits while remaining environmentally friendly. It assists in managing conditions such as heart disease, diabetes, and weight control. Those adhering to a vegetarian diet are less likely to develop cardiovascular diseases. Consistently maintaining a healthy vegetarian diet can function as both a preventive and therapeutic approach for type 2 diabetes.

Krishna Kumar Vepakomma, HYDERABAD

Epitome of elegance

Sir, The Dadasaheb Phalke Lifetime Achievement award for this year has been rightfully bestowed to an actress who has graced the Indian screen with her elegant acting, mesmerising dance and captivating screen presence. She is widely regarded as one of the finest actresses our country has ever seen. Her exceptional contributions were further recognised with the Padma Shri in 1972 and the Padma Bhushan in 2011. Waheeda Rehman is like a treasure trove of knowledge that the current generation can draw inspiration from. Her exceptional performances in movies such as "Pyaasa," "Kaagaz Ke Phool," "Chaudhvin Ka Chand," "Sahib Bibi Aur Ghulam," "Guide," "Neel Kamal," "Reshma Aur Shera" and many others serve as a testament to her incredible acting talent.

Bishal Kumar Saha, MURSHIDABAD



TWO STATES



Engineering marvel on strategic stretch

The tunnel has been constructed by cutting through highly fractured and fragile rock strata under low overburden through strict 3D monitoring and through proactive application of desired tunnel support system



PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Nechiphu Tunnel, Sept 30: The 500-metre tube Nechiphu tunnel in Arunachal Pradesh's West Kameng district means more for Liza Debisow than merely improving connectivity. It also means that no one has to go through the harrowing experience her family had to endure when her brother was injured in a road accident in the area before the tunnel was constructed. "It becomes very foggy in the area and driving is very perilous. My brother was once injured while taking the road home," Liza told PTI, expressing her happiness at the opening of the tunnel.

"But now, we can drive safely. Not just the time, the risks have also come down drastically," the teacher at a local school added. The Nechiphu tunnel, built on the Balipara-Charduar-Tawang road in West Kameng district, is a D-shaped, single-tube, double-lane tunnel at an altitude of 1,630 metres and was inaugurated by Defence Minister Rajnath Singh through the virtual mode September 12. For Sachin Bolusow, the tunnel means a safe passage in a faster mode.

"It is mostly foggy in this region and it becomes difficult to drive under such conditions. The tunnel has cut down driving time as well as made it safer," he said. He also pointed out that the opening of the tunnel has made transit easier for the defence personnel also, who are deployed across the state which shares its border with China. Echoing Sachin, another local youth Hroshu Khabisow added, "Since the opening of the tunnel, there has also been a steady flow of tourists to see it."

Many of the visitors are people from nearby villages who marvel at the engineering feat and take turns to click photos on their mobile phones. The beautifully lit interior of the tunnel is also a preferred route for recording videos by the local populace as well as travellers who use the road. The tunnel is located in a strategic stretch which is usually affected by dense fog between the stretch Km 70.00 to Km 95.00 (current tunnel chainage is between Km 81.970 to 87.075),

Border Road Organisation (BRO) officials said.

During the foggy period, the traffic on this road is obstructed and sluggish. After a series of consultations, analysis and engineering 'Nechiphu Tunnel' was conceived as the only possible solution to avert the issue, they said.

The foundation stone was laid by Singh in August 2019 and work was started in October of the same year by Dhorajia construction under EPC contract under close supervision of BRO.

The tunnel has been constructed by cutting through highly fractured and fragile rock strata under low overburden through strict 3D monitoring and through proactive application of desired tunnel support system.

"This tunnel will not only provide safe all-weather passage but will also cut short the travel time by 30 minutes and reduce road distance by 6 km of heavily, foggy stretch. This environment-friendly construction and reduction in distance will also help reduce carbon footprint in the area," the officials said.

It is equipped with modern lighting and safety facilities, besides state-of-the-art electro-mechanical systems and fire-fighting devices.

96% of Sela Tunnel complete: BRO

The tunnel will provide access to Tawang and other forward areas bordering China, enhancing strategic and operational capabilities of Indian Army



PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Sela Tunnel, Sept 30: Nearly 96 per cent work of the strategically crucial Sela Tunnel, which will enable "all-weather" connectivity to Tawang in Arunachal Pradesh, is complete and it is likely to be inaugurated by the year-end, BRO officials said Saturday.

Final touches are being provided to the tunnel, along with installation of safety measures inside it, they added.

The Sela Tunnel has been excavated below the 4,200-metre (13,800 ft) Sela Pass, which is often closed due to snowfall and landslides.

The Sela Pass connects the Tawang district with the rest of Arunachal Pradesh.

The tunnel will provide access to Tawang and other forward areas bordering China throughout the year, enhancing the strategic and opera-

tional capabilities of the Indian Army, the officials said.

"Almost 96 per cent work of the tunnel is complete. Only some work in the escape tunnel and pavement are pending, and those are also nearing completion," a senior Border Roads Organisation official, who did not wish to be identified, told PTI.

The official also said that safety measures are being installed inside the tunnel in the final phase.

Passage through the tunnel is already open for vehicles involved in the construction, though no other movement is allowed at the moment, he said.

Kuldeep Singh, an on-site engineer of the company executing the work under the supervision of the BRO, said it is likely to be inaugurated by the end of 2023.

HIGH-ALTITUDE MARATHON AT TAWANG TODAY

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Tawang, Sept 30: Tawang in Arunachal Pradesh is all set to host the North East region's first ever high-altitude marathon Sunday with around 2,500 participants from across the country and abroad registering for one of India's most challenging routes in its maiden year.

The event, being held in the town set at 10,000 feet above mean sea level, has over 500 women among its registered participants. The marathon is being jointly organised by the Indian Army and the Arunachal Pradesh government, in consultation with and support from CYRUNS Sport LLP, a professional sports event management firm.

It aims to place Tawang on the international marathon map and showcase the spirit of unity and shared commitment towards the promotion of sports and healthy lifestyle, besides offering the participants a unique and unforgettable experience.

This will be the first-ever high-altitude marathon in the North East region and arguably the most challenging one in the nation, the organisers claimed.

They said the registrations closed September 18, with participants representing 25 states to race at the event. There are more than 550 women participants in the Tawang Marathon, they added. All three services - Army, Navy and Air Force - are fielding teams for the event.

'Record details of illegal migrants by March '24'



INDO-ASIAN NEWS SERVICE

Imphal, Sept 30: The Union Home Ministry (MHA) has asked the Manipur government to complete the process of capturing biographic and biometric details of illegal migrants, mostly Myanmar nationals, in the state by March next year, officials said here.

An official of Manipur Home Department said that the state government has already started the biometric process for the Myanmar nationals staying in Manipu though the state government has recently requested the MHA to extend the time by a year.

The MHA's Director (Foreigners), Surender Kumar, in a letter to Manipur Chief Secretary Vineet Joshi said that the Ministry has considered the request of the Manipur government. "... it has been decided to extend the time period till March 31, 2024. Accordingly, the state government of Manipur is requested to take appropriate necessary action to complete the exercise within the revised time period," said the MHA letter, accessed by IANS.

The Manipur government has started collecting the biographic and biometric details from July and a team from the National Crime Records Bureau, deputed by the MHA, assisted the state government at the Foreigners' Detention Centre at Sajiwa in Imphal East district.

In July, around 720 more Myanmar nationals, including 301 children and 208 women, had entered Manipur's Chandel district following the ongoing clashes between the Army and the civil forces in the neighbouring country. The Myanmar nationals are now staying in seven villages - Lajang, Bonse, New Samtal, New Lajang, Yangnomphai, Yangnomphai Saw Mill, and Aivomjang - along the India-Myanmar border in Chandel.

Besides these around 720 Myanmar nationals, several thousand Myanmar nationals took shelter in Manipur after the military coup there in February 2021. After the military takeover in Myanmar, thousands of Myanmar nationals fled to Mizoram with around 35,000 men, women and children now staying in neighbouring Mizoram.

The Mizoram government, church bodies, various NGOs including Young Mizo Association (YMA) are providing relief and shelter to the Myanmar nationals, including women and children. The MHA had earlier asked the Manipur and Mizoram governments to capture biographic and biometric details of "illegal migrants" in the two states and complete the process by September this year.

Both the northeastern states had earlier agreed to undertake collection of biometrics and biographic data of Myanmar nationals. However, The Mizoram state cabinet in its meeting on Wednesday decided not to proceed with the proposed collection of biographic and biometric details of Myanmar refugees taking shelter in the state.

A Mizoram Home Department official said that the state government took up the matter with the MHA, but the Centre insisted that it carry on the process. The official told IANS,

"The Election Commission is also likely to announce the schedule of the Mizoram Assembly polls soon and the government officials would be very busy making preparations for the coming elections."

COLLECTORATE, RAYAGADA (ELECTION SECTION) TENDER/QUOTATION CALL NOTICE
No.F-141:- Sealed Tender/Quotation is invited from the interested reputed Travel Agencies/Tour Operators or private individuals for providing of vehicle on hire charges on or before 05.10.2023 by 05.30 P.M.
For specification details please visit our official website: www.rayagada.nic.in
OIPR-24169/11/0019/2324 Sd./- Addl. DEO & ADM, RAYAGADA

COLLECTORATE, RAYAGADA (ELECTION SECTION) TENDER/QUOTATION CALL NOTICE
No.F-142:- Sealed Tender/Quotation is invited from the interested Computer Firms for preparation and printing of electoral rolls on or before 10.10.2023 by 05.30 P.M.
For specification details please visit our official website: www.rayagada.nic.in
OIPR-24169/11/0020/2324 Sd./- COLLECTOR, RAYAGADA

WORKS DEPARTMENT OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER, RAIRANGPUR (R&B) DIVISION
Government of Odisha "e" Procurement Notice
Bid Identification No. SE 36 of 2023-24
1. Nature of Work : Building Works
2. Number of Works : 6 (Six)
3. Amount put to Tender : Rs. 38,07,000.00 to Rs. 6,28,000.00
4. Class of Contractor : C & B Class for Sl. No. 1, D & C Class for Sl. 2 to 6
5. Date & time of availability of bid document in the portal : Dt.10.10.2023 at 10.00 A.M.
6. Last Date/time of receipt of bid : Dt.19.10.2023 upto 04.00 P.M. in the portal
7. Date of opening of bid : Dt.20.10.2023 at 11.00 A.M.
8. Name & address of the Office Inviting Bid : Superintending Engineer, Rairangpur (R&B) Division
9. The bidders have to participate in ONLINE bidding only. Further details can be seen from the e-procurement portal "http://tendersodisha.gov.in". All future corrigendum will be available on ONLINE mode only.
Sd./- Superintending Engineer Rairangpur (R&B) Division
OIPR-34041/11/0010/2324

GOVERNMENT OF ODISHA OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER, RURAL WORKS DIVISION, BARIPADA
e-mail: rw_mayurbhanj@yahoo.co.in
e-Procurement Tender Call Notice No. Online 13/RWD/BPD/2023-24
1. Name of the Work : Building Work
2. Total No. of Works : 8 Nos.
3. Estimated Cost : Approx. Estimated Cost Rs.4.63 lakhs to Rs.31.89 lakhs
4. Class of Contractor : 'D' & 'C' / 'C' & 'B'
5. EMD : EMD @ 1% of Estimated Cost put to tender
6. Period of Completion : 4 (Four) & 6 (Six) Calendar Month
7. Other Details :
Procurement Officer : Bid Identification No. : Availability of Tender Online for Bidding : Last date & time of seeking tender clarification : Date & time of opening of tender in the Office of the Superintending Engineer, R.W. Division, Baripada
1 2 3 4 5 6
Superintending Engineer, Rural Works Division, Baripada 13 (Online)/RWD-BPD of 2023-24 Dt.04.10.2023 at 11.00 A.M. Dt.11.10.2023 upto 5.00 P.M. Dt.11.10.2023 upto 5.00 P.M. Dt.11.10.2023 at 05.30 P.M.
Further details can be seen from the website www.tendersorissa.gov.in.
OIPR-25057/11/0022/2324 Sd./- Superintending Engineer, R.W. Division, Baripada

ODISHA LIFT IRRIGATION CORPORATION LIMITED (A Government of Odisha Undertaking) OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER, L.I. DIVISION, BHUBANESWAR
e-Mail: eolicdivn.bbsr@gmail.com, Tel.: 0674-2391847
e-Procurement Notice
Bid Identification No. 2891/2023-24 Dt.26.09.2023
No. CAD-2247: The Executive Engineer, Lift Irrigation Division, Bhubaneswar on behalf of Odisha Lift Irrigation Corporation Limited, Bhubaneswar invites percentage rate bids in Online mode for Revival & Re-Energisation of Community Lift Irrigation Projects in Khordha district under PLAN FUND in TURNKEY BASIS as mentioned below from the reputed Contractors/Firms having valid Civil licence as mentioned JV with HT licence issued by E.L.B.O., Odisha and experience in similar nature of work.
1. Details of Works:
Pkg. Name of the LI Block Name of the LI Projects Estimated Value of Tender (In Rs.) EMD to be Deposited (In Rs.) Cost of Tender Paper (In Rs.) Class of Contractor Completion Period
1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8
3 Banapur Sanahantuaud (2021-22) 1292387 12924 6000/- +5% GST on reverse Charge basis GST No. Z1AAAC058665129 of OLIC Civil D with HT Licence 90 days
1. Date & time of publishing : 04.10.2023 at 10.00 A.M.
2. Date of seeking clarification : 04.10.2023 to 09.10.2023 upto 5.00 P.M.
3. Last date of bid in portal : 11.10.2023 at 05.00 P.M.
4. Opening date & time : 12.10.2023 at 11.00 A.M.
The details of tender are available in the Government tender website i.e. www.tendersorissa.gov.in and other related documents are available in the OTCM for bidding. Any Addendum/Corrigendum/Cancellation of tender will be available in the said website.
OIPR-32155/11/0018/2324 Sd./- Executive Engineer, L.I. Division, Bhubaneswar

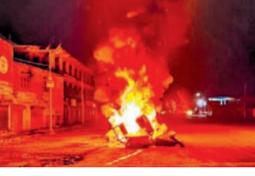
GOVERNMENT OF ODISHA OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER, RWSS DIVISION, KORAPUT
e-mail: eerwss_kpt@rediffmail.com, Ph. No.: 06852-250281 (Off) Ph. No. 06852-250680 (Res.) Fax No.: 06852-251098
National Competitive Bidding Through E-Procurement
Tender Identification No. 10/EE/RWSS/KPT/2023-24/25.09.2023
No. O-1168: The Executive Engineer, RWSS&S Division, Koraput on behalf of the Governor of Odisha invites Percentage Rate Bids in Single Cover (P1 Contract) from the eligible class of experienced registered contractors through e-Tendering system for the Piped Water Supply works as detailed in DTCN. The bid should be submitted Online in the website www.tenderorissa.gov.in separately for the works.
1 Nature of Work : Power Supply to PWS Projects under Koraput District
2 Estimated Cost : Varies from 10.60 Lakhs to 13.01 lakhs
3 Total No. of works : 2 Nos.
4 Tender Cost : Rs.6,000.00
5 Class of Contractor : HT (Elect.)
6 Availability of Bid document in the website : Dt.05.10.2023 at 17.00 hours to 16.10.2023 upto 17.00 hours
7 Date of Seeking Clarification : During the office hours of 05.10.2023 to 13.10.2023
8 Date of Opening of Bid : Dt.17.10.2023 at 11.00 hours
Further details can be seen in the bidding documents which is available in the e-procurement portal https://www.tendersorissa.gov.in. Subsequent corrigendum if required shall be appeared in the website. Authority reserves the right to reject any or all tenders without assigning any reason thereof.
Sd./- Executive Engineer RWSS&S Division, Koraput
OIPR-25034/11/0019/2324

OFFICE OF THE DIVISIONAL FOREST OFFICER C.W. WILDLIFE WARDEN ROURKELA FOREST DIVISION, ROURKELA, SUNDARGARH, ODISHA
Phone No. 0661-2664637, Fax No. 0661-2664638, e-mail: dforourkela.od@gov.in
Order No. 452 Dt. 29.09.2023
No. MM-192 INVITATION FOR BIDS (IFB)
E-Procurement Bid Identification No. RKL-FE&CC-12/2023-24 Dt.29.09.2023
1. Name of Work : Construction of Watch Tower at Chinimahul, Sonakhan Section of Rajgangpur Range, Rourkela Forest Division.
2. No. of Works : 01 No.
3. No. of Covers : Single Cover
4. Estimated Cost : Rs. 16,92,213.00
5. Period of Completion : 01 Calendar Month
6. Date & time of availability of bid documents in portal : From 11.00 A.M. of dated 30.09.2023 to 05.00 P.M. of dated 12.10.2023
7. Last date/time for receipt of bid in the portal : Upto 05.00 P.M. of dated 12.10.2023
8. Date of opening of bid documents : At 11.00 A.M. of dated 18.10.2023
9. Class of Contractor : "D" & "C" Class Contractor
10. Name and address of Officer Inviting Bid : Divisional Forest Officer, Rourkela Forest Division
Further details can be seen from the e-Procurement portal www.tenderorissa.gov.in. The Addendum/Corrigendum if any will be hosted in the website only.
Sd./- Divisional Forest Officer Rourkela Forest Division
OIPR-08044/11/0009/2324

INVITATION FOR BIDS (IFB) NATIONAL COMPETITIVE BIDDING THROUGH E-PROCUREMENT IDENTIFICATION NO: RWS&S DIVN., PURI - 29 OF 2023-24
Ph. (06752) 251276 Fax - (06752) 251276 E-mail - eerwss_puri@nic.in
No. O-1161:- The Superintending Engineer, RWS&S Division, Puri on behalf of Governor of Odisha invites Percentage rate price bids through e-procurement in single cover system according to the norms of e-procurement system, in on-line mode from eligible contractors.
Sl. No. Nature of work: Execution of electrical installation work for providing Power supply to different RWSS Points for the purpose of supply of drinking water in Puri District.
1. No. of works: 02 (TWO)
2. Estimated Cost: Rs.7.58 Lakh (app.) to 15.51 Lakh (app.)
3. Time for completion: 02 (Two) Months
4. Cost of bidding document: Rs.4000/- to Rs.6000/-
5. Class of Contractors eligible: Holder of HT Licenses of ELBO
6. Availability of bids on-line: From 11.00 hours of 05.10.2023 to 17.00 hours of 16.10.2023
7. Last date and time for seeking clarification: 17.00 hours of 12.10.2023
8. Date & time of opening of technical bids: On dt 17.10.2023 at 11.30 hours in the office of the Superintending Engineer, RWS&S Division, Puri (All documents should be submitted in online only. No original documents should be dropped in dropping box before opening of technical bid in Division Office).
9. Date and time of opening of financial bids: Does not arise.
Further details can be seen from the website https://www.tendersorissa.gov.in. Subsequent corrigendum if any shall appear in the website.
Sd./- Superintending Engineer, RWS&S Division, Puri
OIPR-25017/11/0012/2324

BJP Manipur unit writes to Nadda, flags public anger

THE SAFFRON PARTY'S NATIONAL PRESIDENT WAS TOLD THAT PEOPLE ARE ANGRY AS THE STATE GOVERNMENT HAS SO FAR FAILED TO CONTAIN THE ETHNIC STRIFE



PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Imphal, Sept 30: The BJP's Manipur unit has told its national president JP Nadda that people are angry as the state government has so far failed to contain the ethnic strife. A letter signed by party's state unit president Sharda Devi, vice-president Ch Chidananda Singh and six others told Nadda that "public anger and protest is now slowly turning the tide, putting the sole onus of this prolonged disturbance into the failure of the government in dealing with the situation."

"We know our government is working day and night so as to bring back normalcy in the state" and that "our party in the state-level is also playing a major crucial role in coping with the new development." The party also highlighted the demands of the people including immediate restoration of "free flow of traffic along the national highways."

The state unit also called for providing promised compensation to people whose houses were destroyed and ex gratia to families of those killed in the ethnic strife.

It also urged for effective implementation of ground rules of Suspension of Operations and to treat any violation as an 'act of terrorism.'

The state unit also urged Nadda to apprise the "Union home ministry for early completion of the drive to record the biometric data of illegal immigrants to facilitate the early implementation of the NRC" and "to completely destroy all poppy cultivation" and "establish a joint monitoring committee for constant vigilance."



Military officials of India and Singapore during the 30th edition of Singapore-India Maritime Bilateral Exercise in Singapore



People participate in a rally to create awareness against the use of drugs, alcohol and tobacco in Mumbai



School students offer floral tribute to Mahatma Gandhi ahead of his birth anniversary in Surat



Prime Minister Narendra Modi visits an exhibition at the Bharat Mandapam, at Pragati Maidan in New Delhi



People take part during a protest in central London after the controversial Equinor Rosebank North Sea oil field was given the go-ahead, Saturday. Britain has given the go-ahead for a major oil and gas project in the North Sea, ignoring warnings from scientists and the United Nations that countries must stop developing new fossil fuel resources if the world is to avoid catastrophic climate change



Indian Air Force's (IAF) 'Surya Kiran' aerobatic team performs during an air show organised to commemorate the 91st anniversary of IAF, in Bhopal



A goods train after it derailed on the railway line between Panvel and Kalamboli



Snow-covered mountains and other structures during heavy snowfall near the Leh Manali Highway in Manali

national

of the day quote

How to combat the ground force of the BJP? By just manipulating voters' list they can do a fraud of 5-10 per cent. They have a powerful mechanism for adding ghost voters in the list which is remarkable

DIGVIJAYA SINGH | CONGRESS LEADER

The surge in illicit trade is a troubling consequence of globalisation that casts a shadow on India's progress towards achieving the goal of a USD 5 trillion economy

ANURAG THAKUR | UNION MINISTER

If someone's name appeared in a drugs-related case five, 10 or 15 years ago, but he got it removed with the help of successive governments or used some other method, that will not work now and such people will be held accountable

BHAGWANT MANN | PUNJAB CM

SHORT TAKES

2 terrorists killed

Srinagar: Two heavily armed terrorists were killed as security forces foiled an infiltration bid along the Line of Control (LoC) in Jammu and Kashmir's Kupwara district Saturday, police said. Based on intelligence inputs generated by the Kupwara police, a joint alert party of police and Army launched a search operation in the Kumkadi area along the LoC in the Machil sector, an official spokesperson said.

Khaira sent to 14-day judicial custody

Chandigarh: A court in Punjab's Fazilka district sent Congress MLA Sukhpal Singh Khaira to 14-day judicial custody Saturday in connection with a 2015 drugs case. Amid tight security arrangements, Khaira was produced in the court in Jalalabad after his two-day police remand ended on Saturday, officials said. Bholath MLA Khaira was arrested Thursday from his Chandigarh residence. He was arrested by the Punjab Police following an investigation conducted by a special investigation team led by Deputy Inspector General of Police Swapan Sharma in the 2015 drugs case.

Eight dead in TN

The Nilgiris (TN): At least 8 persons were killed and many injured when the tourist bus they were travelling in fell into a gorge in this hilly district Saturday, police said. Among the deceased were four women and a minor boy, they said. Chief Minister MK Stalin expressed anguish over the deaths and announced cash relief to the kin of the deceased.



The INDIA bloc will take precautions to ensure that there are no disputes among its alliance partners in states like Rajasthan and Madhya Pradesh where elections are due in a few months

SHARAD PAWAR | NCP CHIEF

FINANCIAL AID

Himachal Pradesh Chief Minister Sukhvinder Singh Sukhu Saturday announced a special package of ₹4,500 crore, including ₹1,000 crore under MGNREGA, to aid people affected by rain-related disasters during the July 7 to September 30 period



BJP's 'fake nationalism' visible yet again: Kharge

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, Sept 30: Congress chief Mallikarjun Kharge Saturday slammed the BJP over the new disability pension rules for armed forces personnel, alleging that its "fake nationalism" is yet again visible through the move.

The Narendra Modi government is a "habitual offender" in working against the welfare of jawans, ex-service personnel and veterans, he alleged in a post on X.

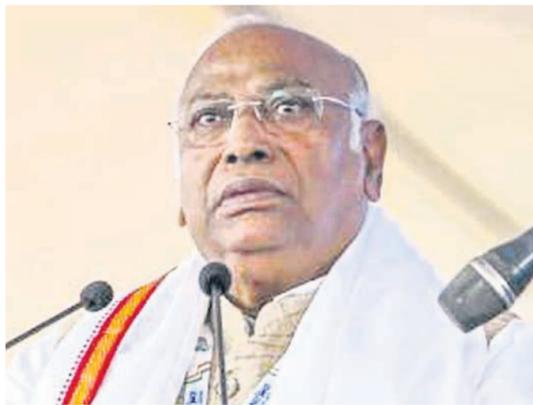
According to media reports, the All India Ex-Servicemen Welfare Association has strongly protested against the new policy on disability and death benefits of defence personnel and their widows. The policy was made public on Wednesday by the Ministry of Defence.

In his post on X, Kharge said, "BJP's fake nationalism is yet again visible in the new disability pension rules for our brave Armed Forces!"

Around 40 per cent of Army officers retire with disability pension and the change in the present policy will flout multiple past judgments, rules and acceptable global norms, he said.

"The All India Ex-Servicemen Welfare Association has strongly protested this new policy by the Modi government, which places soldiers at a disadvantage when compared to civilian employees," the Congress chief claimed.

In June 2019, the Modi government had come out with a



Around 40 per cent of Army officers retire with disability pension and the change in the present policy will flout multiple past judgments, rules and acceptable global norms

MALLIKARJUN KHARGE | CONGRESS CHIEF

"similar betrayal" when it announced that it would be taxing disability pensions, Kharge said. "(The) Modi government is a habitual offender in working against the welfare of our jawans, ex-servicemen and veterans," he said.

Kharge claimed that the Agnipath Scheme was an explicit admission that the Modi government does not have the

funds for soldiers. He also alleged that there were large-scale anomalies in OROP-2 (One Rank One Pension).

Attacking the government, Kharge also cited the withdrawal of the "much deserved" Non-Functional Utility to ensure automatic time-bound pay promotion and "snatching away of medical benefits/pensions to jawans who have valiantly served the nation under short service commission".

He also said "privatisation of (the) Ordnance Factory Board and rationing in CSD outlets" are against the welfare of armed forces personnel. "In this context, the Congress party reiterates its demand to set up an Ex-servicemen Commission at the earliest to address the grievances of military veterans," Kharge said.

Dhangri terror attack: NIA raids in Poonch

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Jammu, Sept 30: The NIA Saturday conducted raids on the premises of several suspects in Jammu and Kashmir's Poonch district in connection with a Lashkar-e-Taiba attack that killed seven civilians in the Dhangri village of Rajouri district earlier this year, an official said.

The National Investigation Agency (NIA) raids were conducted at five locations across the Gursai village of Mendhar tehsil in Poonch on the disclosure of two arrested accused, a spokesperson for the central agency said.

The agency arrested Nisar Ahmad alias Haji Nisar and Mushtaq Hussain on August 31. They are currently lodged in Central Jail, Kot Bhalwal, Jammu. Five people were killed when terrorists opened fire on civilians in the Dhangri village on January 1. Two civilians were killed the following day when an Improvised Explosive Device (IED) left behind by the terrorists exploded.

A case under provisions of the Indian Penal Code, Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act and the Arms Act was initially registered at Rajouri police station. The NIA took over the case on January 13 and is carrying out further investigations.

The spokesperson said NIA teams conducted extensive searches at the locations, which he described as residential premises of overground workers linked with the proscribed Lashkar-e-Taiba (LeT).



Communal tension in areas of Jaipur



Security personnel deployed at the site after a clash between two communities in Jaipur

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Jaipur, Sept 30: Communal tension erupted in Ramganj and the nearby areas here after a bystander died allegedly after being thrashed by a group of men following an accident involving two motorcycles, police said Saturday.

Nearly a dozen suspects were also detained in connection with the late Friday night incident. The situation has been brought under control by the police following deployment of additional forces, they said.

Police Commissioner Biju George Joseph said that the incident was the result of a misunderstanding. He said that two motorcycles collided in Subhash Chowk after which a group of men present there thrashed two bystanders, mistaking them for being responsible for the accident.

"After the accident, an unfortunate incident of road rage occurred in which two men, who had stopped there to see what had happened, were thrashed by a group of people," Joseph said.

"One of the two men died. An FIR has been registered after which we have detained several

people involved in the incident. The situation is normal now and complete peace will be restored soon," he added.

Another police official said the accused live in the Subhash Chowk area while the deceased was a resident of Ramganj area. Both the localities are located in the walled city of Jaipur.

The situation is under control and forces, including the Special Task Force (STF), have been deployed in adequate numbers, DGP Umesh Mishra said, adding that drones are being used to monitor the area. "Strict action as per the law will be taken against the accused in the case," he said.

The post-mortem of the man killed was done at the Jaipur's Sawai Man Singh Hospital, police said. Several shops in the Muslim-dominated areas were shut and the family members of the deceased and locals gathered there to demand action against the accused people.

The situation, however, did not worsen after quick action of rounding up the accused and swift deployment of the forces in the area, police said. "The situation in the area is under control," they added.

TRANSNATIONAL CONSPIRACY CASE

NIA arrests second accused

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, Sept 30: The National Investigation Agency Saturday arrested a second accused linked to the case of a transnational conspiracy by Myanmar and Bangladesh-based leadership of terror outfits to wage war against India by exploiting the current ethnic strife in Manipur, an official said.

Seiminlun Gangte was the second accused arrested in the case in the past nine days. The case was registered suo motu on July 19, a spokesperson of the federal anti-terror agency said, adding the accused has been brought to Delhi and will be produced before the jurisdictional court.

The Manipur police arrested Gangte in Churachandpur and handed him over to the NIA. "Investigation into the case revealed that Myanmar and Bangladesh-based militant groups have entered into a conspiracy with a section of militant leaders in India to indulge in incidents of violence with an intention to drive a wedge between different ethnic groups and to wage war against the

- THE MANIPUR POLICE ARRESTED GANGTE IN CHURACHANDPUR AND HANDED HIM OVER TO THE NIA
- SEIMINLUN GANGTE WAS THE SECOND ACCUSED ARRESTED IN THE CASE IN THE PAST NINE DAYS
- THE CASE WAS REGISTERED SUO MOTU ON JULY 19, A SPOKESPERSON OF THE FEDERAL ANTI-TERROR AGENCY SAID, ADDING THE ACCUSED HAS BEEN BROUGHT TO DELHI
- ON SEPTEMBER 22, THE NIA ARRESTED MOIRANGTHEM ANAND SINGH FROM MANIPUR IN CONNECTION WITH THE CASE

Government of India. "For this purpose, the aforementioned leadership have been providing funds to procure arms, ammunition and other types of terrorist hardware which are being sourced both from across the border and from other terrorist outfits active in the north-eastern states to stoke the current ethnic strife in Manipur," the spokesperson said.



Bangalore City Police Commissioner B Dayananda inspects drugs and cosmetics seized by the cyber crime department at the Commissioner of Police office in Bangalore, Saturday

Aditya-L1 successfully escapes sphere of Earth's influence

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Bangalore, Sept 30: ISRO said Saturday the Aditya-L1 spacecraft has travelled beyond a distance of 9.2 lakh km from Earth, successfully escaping the sphere of Earth's influence.

It is now navigating its path towards the Sun-Earth Lagrange Point 1 (L1), the Bangalore-headquartered national space agency said in a statement on X, formerly Twitter. "This is the second time in succession that ISRO could send a spacecraft outside the sphere of influence of the Earth, the first time being the Mars Orbiter Mission," it said.

The ISRO said earlier this month the Aditya-L1 solar mission spacecraft has commenced collecting data which will help scientists analyse the behaviour of particles surrounding Earth. Data collected around L1 would provide insights into the origin, acceleration, and anisotropy of solar wind and space weather phenomena, it said.

The launch of Aditya-L1 by PSLV-C57 rocket was successfully accomplished by ISRO on September 2. Aditya-L1 spacecraft carries a total seven different payloads to study the Sun, four of which will observe the light from the Sun and the remaining three will measure in-situ parameters of the plasma and magnetic fields.

Aditya-L1 will be placed in a halo orbit around the Lagrangian Point 1 (L1), which is 1.5 million km from the Earth in the direction of the Sun. It will revolve around the Sun with the same relative position and hence can see the Sun continuously.



Rajasthan's guidelines for coaching centres amid rising suicides

ACCORDING TO OFFICIAL FIGURES, 23 STUDENTS HAVE COMMITTED SUICIDE IN KOTA THIS YEAR, THE HIGHEST EVER FOR THE COUNTRY'S COACHING HUB

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Jaipur, Sept 30: No glorification of toppers, results of routine tests to be kept confidential, no segregation of students in special batches based on their ranks and a policy for easy exit and refund within 120 days are among the recommendations made in the Rajasthan government's guidelines for coaching institutes.

The nine-page guidelines have been issued days after the state government set up a 15-member committee headed by Education Secretary Bhawani Singh Detha to examine the issue

after record student suicides were reported from coaching hub Kota.

The guidelines, which have been framed in consultation with the coaching institutes and other stakeholders, restrict institutes from encouraging students below Class 9 to take admission in coaching institutes to prepare for medical and engineering entrance exams.

"Coaching institutes should not encourage students below Class 9 to take admission. They should give admission after screening tests and counselling to assess their interest. If any reg-



istered student below Class 9 wants to leave, the institute should provide them a full refund in 120 days," the guidelines state.

There is a set of other recommendations for institutes to ease mental pressure on the students such as facial recognition to prevent faking attendance, mandatory weekly holidays, not holding exams on the day after

a holiday and a code of conduct for faculty and hostels.

District collectors have been asked to sensitise all stakeholders in their respective areas and ensure that the guidelines are followed. This year has seen the highest number of student suicides - 23 so far - with two ending their lives within a gap of a few hours on August 27.

According to official figures, 23 students have committed suicide in Kota this year, the highest ever for the country's coaching hub. Last year, the figure was 15. The guidelines state legal action will be taken against the coaching institutes found violating the code of conduct. The regulations also mention a monitoring cell for the institutes that will be set up in Kota and Sikar.

The cell will have data of all the students studying in coaching institutes through a dedicated portal, to be developed soon by the state government. The guidelines have a provision for "easy exit and refund policy" within 120 days if students and parents feel any inconvenience and uneasiness.

It also directs the institutes to decide the batches alphabetically instead of the students' ranks and not to shuffle and seg-

regate them in the middle of the course based on performances in the weekly assessments.

The guidelines also instruct the coaching institutes to not publish the results of routine tests in public and they should counsel the students individually, keeping their marksheets confidential. Additionally, the guidelines prohibit the glorification of toppers by coaching institutes.

The Rajasthan government drafted a bill in 2022 to prohibit institutes from glorifying the success of toppers but it was not tabled in the assembly. The new guidelines also include mandatory gatekeeper training for the teachers, institute managers, other staff, and the wardens of hostels and paying guest accommodations to assess the students' behavioural changes and take preventive measures.

international



Heroism alone cannot intercept missiles. Ukraine needs capabilities, high quality, high quantity, and quickly. There is no defence without industry
JENS STOLTENBERG | SECRETARY GENERAL, NATO

NO PANDAS IN US
For all panda lovers in the US, there is sad news. The National Zoo, in Washington DC, which has been the home to three giant pandas for 50 years, will soon send them back to China. The three pandas are set to return in December this year following the end of a three-year-long agreement with China's wildlife agency



of the day quote

We need NATO because the border with Serbia is very long and the Serbian army has been recently strengthening its capacities and they have a lot of military equipment from both the Russian Federation and China,
ALBIN KURTI | PM, KOSOVO

They (the US) don't do anything. It's more, a lot more, what they authorize for the war in Ukraine than what they give to help with poverty in Latin America and the Caribbean
ANDRÉS MANUEL LÓPEZ OBRADOR | PRESIDENT, MEXICO

This unprecedentedly high tax burden is one of the reasons our economy is stagnating and why we need to cut taxes to help make Britain grow again
LIZ TRUSS | FORMER PM, UK

LAST-MINUTE SCRAMBLE US shutdown imminent

DARK CLOUDS LOOM OVER US SENATE AS REPUBLICANS REJECT OWN FUNDING BILL

WASHINGTON, Sept 30: Lawmakers return to Congress Saturday with no clear path to resolving a squabble that appears likely to close wide swaths of the federal government, from national parks to financial regulation, in less than 18 hours. In fighting among Republicans who control the House of Representatives has pushed the United States to the brink of its fourth partial shutdown in a decade, as the chamber has been unable to pass legislation that would keep the government open beyond the October 1 start of the fiscal year.



the federal government to the brink of defaulting on its \$31.4 trillion debt. The drama has raised worries on Wall Street, where the Moody's ratings agency has warned it could damage US creditworthiness. Congress typically passes stopgap spending bills to buy more time to negotiate the detailed legislation that sets funding for federal programs. This year, a group of Republicans has blocked action in the House as they have pressed to tighten immigration and cut spending below levels agreed to in the debt-ceiling standoff last spring. On Friday, 21 Republicans joined with Democrats to defeat legislation that reflected those demands, saying the chamber should focus instead on passing detailed spending bills for the full fiscal year, even if it leads to a shutdown in the near term. In a 232-198 vote, the House defeated a measure that would extend government funding by 30 days and avert a shutdown. That bill would have slashed spending and restricted immi-

We're in the middle of a Republican civil war that has been going on for months, and now threatens a catastrophic government shutdown
HAKEEM JEFFRIES | TOP HOUSE DEMOCRAT

The shutdown would be the fourth in a decade and just four months after a similar standoff brought the federal government within days of defaulting on its \$31 trillion debt

On the other side of the Capitol, the Democratic-controlled Senate is due to advance a stopgap funding bill, but a final vote might not come for days. The standoff comes just months after Congress brought

gration, Republican priorities that had little chance of passing the Democratic-controlled Senate. That angered other Republicans, who said they had blown an opportunity to advance conservative policies.

"There's a lot of frustration growing with the 21 individuals who chose to vote 'no' on what was a very good plan," Republican Representative Nicole Malliotakis of New York said Friday.

House Speaker Kevin McCarthy said the chamber might try to rely on Democrats to help pass a stopgap bill that would continue funding at current levels, even though that could prompt a challenge to his leadership from hardliners. He did not provide further details.

The Senate is due to hold a procedural vote at 1:00 pm to extend government funding through November 17. It enjoys wide support from Republicans and Democrats, but the chamber's numerous hurdles mean that a vote on final passage could be delayed until Tuesday. Even if that passes, the two chambers would have to resolve their differences before sending any bill to Biden's desk. That could pose another hurdle, as McCarthy said he opposed \$6 billion in Ukraine aid included in the Senate bill.

WHAT HAPPENS NEXT?

No pay for federal workers

Hundreds of thousands of federal employees would be furloughed without pay, while members of the military and other workers deemed to be essential would continue working without a paycheck. The American Federation of Government Employees (AFGE) union estimates a full shutdown would mean almost 1.8 million federal workers would not be paid for the duration.

Essential services only

Operations classified as essential will continue to operate. In past shutdowns, this has meant that benefits checks have continued to be paid, while air traffic controllers, border patrol agents and hospital staff have remained on the job.

Fed starved of data

Economists worry that a shutdown would also cause the publication of federal government data. This is a real concern for the US Federal Reserve, which has said it will be guided by data as it decides interest rate policy going forward. The Fed recently slowed its aggressive pace of hikes as it tackles stubborn inflation.

Putin marks anniversary of annexation of Ukrainian regions

ASSOCIATED PRESS

Kyiv, Sept 30: Russian President Vladimir Putin Saturday insisted that the residents of four Ukrainian regions that Moscow illegally annexed a year ago "made their choice—to be with their Fatherland."

In an address released in the early hours to mark the first anniversary of the annexation, Putin insisted that it was carried out "in full accordance with international norms."

He also claimed that residents of the Donetsk, Luhansk, Zaporizhzhia and Kherson regions had again expressed their desire to be part of Russia in local elections earlier this month, in which Russia's Central Election Commission said that the country's ruling party won the most votes.

The West has denounced both the referendum votes carried out last year and the recent ballots as a sham.

The votes were held as Russian authorities attempted to tighten their grip on territories Moscow illegally annexed a year ago and still does not fully control.

The address came after Russia's Defense Ministry said Friday it would enlist 130,000 men for compulsory military service this fall, beginning October 1 in most regions of the country.

SHORT TAKES

Pak blames India for mosque blast
Quetta: The death toll from a large blast at a mosque in Pakistan rose to 59 Saturday as the government vowed to find the perpetrators and accused India's intelligence agency of being involved. Friday's blast tore through a mosque in Mastung in the southern province of Balochistan after a bomber detonated his explosives near a police vehicle where people were gathering for a procession to mark the birthday of the Prophet Muhammad. Pakistani officials have long claimed that India sponsors violent groups in Pakistan - claims India has always denied. "RAW is involved in the suicide attack," interior minister Sarfaraz Bugti told media.

CIPHER CASE

Khan, Qureshi found guilty

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Islamabad, Sept 30: Pakistan's top investigation agency Saturday declared former prime minister Imran Khan and ex-foreign minister Shah Mahmood Qureshi guilty in a case related to the alleged disclosure of state secrets, popularly known as the cipher case.

The Federal Investigation Agency (FIA) submitted the charge sheet against Khan, the chairman of the Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) party and his deputy Qureshi, both currently detained in jail on judicial remand, to a special court established under the Official Secrets Act, the Pakistan Observer website reported.

Khan, 70, was arrested last month after a case was filed against him for allegedly violating the Official Secrets Act by disclosing a secret diplomatic cable (cipher) sent by the country's embassy in Washington last year in March.

The FIA has requested the court to start the trial of the PTI leaders and sentence them according to the law, it said.

Qureshi, 75, is the vice chairman of PTI.

The FIA has also attached the transcript of Khan and Qureshi's speeches made March 27.



An indigenous dancer holds up the Pan Am flame during the lighting ceremony at the Teotihuacan archeological site in Mexico. The Pan Am flame is being transported south on its way to host country Chile, where the games begin Oct 20. PTTI PHOTO

US is the true empire of lies, says China

EUTERS

Beijing, Sept 30: The United States is the true "empire of lies", the Chinese foreign ministry said Saturday, lashing out at a US State Department report that accused Beijing of ploughing billions of dollars annually into information manipulation efforts.

China is manipulating global media through censorship, data harvesting and covert purchases of foreign news outlets, the US State Department said in the report Thursday.

Despite the unprecedented resources devoted to the campaign, Beijing had hit "major setbacks" when targeting democratic countries, due to local media and civil society push-back, according to the report, which was produced under a congressional mandate to detail state information manipulation.

The report has disregarded facts, and is itself false information, the Chinese foreign ministry said in a statement.

The agencies of the US State

Department that produced the report "were the source of false information and the command post of 'cognitive warfare,'" the Chinese ministry said.

"Facts have repeatedly proven that the United States is the true 'empire of lies,'" it added.

The US report comes amid controversy over China's attempts in recent years to increase the global footprint of its government-controlled media. Beijing is seeking to combat the negative images of China it feels are propagated by global media.

INDIA-CANADA RIFT

'Let's not normalise what is happening in Canada'

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Washington, Sept 30: Hitting out at Canada, External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar has said it is necessary to call out things like violence, threats and intimidation against Indian diplomats and missions and wondered if this had happened to any other country would the world have taken it with equanimity.

"Let's not normalise what is happening in Canada," Jaishankar said during an interaction with Indian journalists here Friday.

His remarks came amidst simmering tensions with Ottawa following Prime Minister Justin Trudeau's explosive allegations of the "potential" involvement of Indian agents in the killing of Khalistani extremist Hardeep Singh Nijjar June 18 in British Columbia.

"We have had an ongoing problem with Canada and the Canadian government for some years now. The ongoing problem really revolves around the permissiveness to terrorism, extremism and violence. This permissiveness is also reflected in the fact that some important extradition requests have not been responded to from their side," he said.



When was the last time that any of our missions was intimidated to a point where it could not continue with its normal function? And if someone says this could happen in a G-7 country, in a commonwealth country, it gives you a lot to think about
S JAISHANKAR | EXTERNAL AFFAIRS MINISTER, INDIA

"We have had smoke bombs thrown at the mission, we have had violence in front of consulates, there are posters put up. Do you consider this normal? If this had happened to any other country, how would they react? Let's not normalise what is happening in Canada. It is important to call out what is happening there," Jaishankar said.

WARMEST YEAR IN HISTORY

Europe bakes in hottest Sept ever

Higher temperatures are likely to be on the horizon as the El Nino weather phenomenon -- which warms waters in the southern Pacific and beyond -- has only just begun

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE

Until we reach carbon neutrality, heat records are going to be systematically broken week after week, month after month, year after year
FRANCOIS GEMENNE | CLIMATE REPORT LEAD AUTHOR, UN

Paris, Sept 30: Austria, France, Germany, Poland and Switzerland announced their hottest Septembers on record Friday, in a year expected to be the warmest in human history as climate change accelerates.

The unseasonably warm weather in Europe came after the EU climate monitor said earlier this month that global temperatures in the Northern Hemisphere summer were the hottest on record.

French weather authority Météo-France said the September temperature average in the country will be around 21.5 degrees Celsius (70.7 degrees Fahrenheit), between 3.5C and 3.6C above the 1991-2020 reference period. Average temperatures in

France have been exceeding monthly norms consistently for almost two years.

In neighbouring Germany, weather office DWD said this month was the hottest September since national records started, almost 4C higher than the 1961-1990 baseline.

Poland's weather institute announced September temperatures were 3.6C higher than average and the hottest for the month since records began more



than 100 years ago.

National weather bodies in the Alpine nations of Austria and Switzerland also recorded their hottest-ever average September temperatures, a day after a study revealed Swiss glaciers lost 10 percent of their volume in two years amid extreme warming.

The Spanish and Portuguese national weather institutes warned abnormally warm temperatures were going to hit this weekend, with the mercury top-

ping 35C in parts of southern Spain Friday.

Scientists say climate change driven by human activity is driving temperatures higher, with the world at around 1.2C of warming above pre-industrial levels.

The disruption to the planet's climate systems is making extreme weather events like heatwaves, drought, wildfires and storms more frequent and intense, causing greater losses of life and property.

Pope Francis cements legacy

POPE ELEVATES 21 NEW CARDINALS AS HE ENTERS A CRUCIAL NEW PHASE IN RUNNING THE CATHOLIC CHURCH

REUTERS

Vatican City, Sept 30: Pope Francis Saturday further cemented his legacy, elevating 21 prelates to the high rank of cardinal and significantly raising the percentage of electors chosen by him who will have the right to vote for his successor.

At a ceremony in St Peter's Square known as a consistory, Francis "created" 21 new cardinals, the red-hatted "princes of the Church" who are his closest advisers at the Vatican and around the world.

There are now 137 cardinal electors, about 73 percent of them chosen by Francis. This increases - but does not guarantee - the possibility that the



next pope will share his vision of a more progressive, inclusive Church.

Eighteen of the 21 are under the age of 80 and thus eligible under Church law to enter a secret conclave to elect the next pope after Francis' death or resignation. They are known as cardinal electors. The three 80 or over were given the honour because of their long service to the Church.

The new cardinals come from the US, France, Italy, Argentina, Switzerland, South Africa, Spain, Colombia, South Sudan, Hong

Kong, Poland, Malaysia, Tanzania, and Portugal.

Malaysia and South Sudan got their first cardinal, a continuation of Francis' policy of giving more recognition to places he has called the "peripheries" of the world, often those racked by war or where Catholics are a minority.

It was the pope's ninth consistory since his election in 2013 and continued changes over the past decade, during which the percentage of Asian and African cardinal electors has grown while that of those from Europe has fallen.

Francis turns 87 in December and whether he convokes another consistory next year or in 2025 depends on how long he lives. While he uses a wheelchair and a cane and has undergone several operations, overall he has not slowed down and still keeps a busy schedule.

On October 4, he will open a month-long major meeting in the Vatican, known as a synod, that could chart the Church's future.

of the day quote

With the above orders, our YTD (Year to Date) FY24 order inflows stand at around Rs 8,400 crore and additionally, we have a strong L1 position, which gives us confidence to deliver on growth targets going forward

MANISH MOHNOT | MD AND CEO, KPL

Engineering exports to UAE and Australia have been beneficial. At this juncture, we urge the government to consider more FTAs, not only with our traditional partners but also with non-traditional markets in Latin America and Africa

ARUN KUMAR GARODIA | CHAIRMAN, EEPIC

We have high aspirations as to what is going to happen in India. We are anticipating doubling the high net worth population in India over the next five years

GREGORY ADAMS | REGIONAL PRESIDENT (ASIA), ASTON MARTIN

SHORT TAKES

MSI gets GST notice

New Delhi: Leading car manufacturer Maruti Suzuki India (MSI) has been sent a show cause notice by the GST Authority proposing to demand Rs 139.3 crore as tax inclusive of interest and penalty. The notice pertains to the matter of tax liability under reverse charge basis on certain services for the period of July 2017 to August, 2022, the company said in a regulatory filing. The company said it will file a reply to the show cause notice before the Adjudicating Authority.

Hero to hike prices

New Delhi: Hero MotoCorp Friday said it will increase prices of select motorcycles and scooters by around 1 per cent from October 3. The company will make a marginal revision in the ex-showroom prices of select motorcycles and scooters, effective from October 3, 2023, the country's largest two-wheeler maker said in a statement. The price increase will be around 1 per cent, and the exact quantum of increase will vary by specific models and markets, it added.

Airtel's 5G feat

New Delhi: Bharti Airtel Saturday announced it has garnered over 50 million 5G customers on its network - a feat achieved within one year of the launch of Airtel 5G Plus. The Sunil Mittal-led telecom company also said Airtel 5G Plus services are available across all districts in the country. "Airtel continues its 5G growth streak with 50 million unique customers on its network," the company said.

SIGN OF RECOVERY

China's factory activity expands for first time in six months

The world's second largest economy's factory activity returns to expansion that adds to signs of stabilisation in the economy, which had sagged after an initial burst of momentum early in the year when China's ultra-restrictive Covid-19 policies were lifted

ASSOCIATED PRESS

Beijing, Sept 30: China's factory activity in September recorded its first expansion in six months, an official survey said Saturday, providing another sign that the world's second-largest economy is gradually improving following its post-pandemic malaise. According to the government statistics bureau and an official industry group, the monthly purchasing managers' index rose to 50.2 this month from a 49.7 in August measured on a 100-point scale. Numbers above 50 indicate activity is increasing.

Measures of production, new orders and employment all rose from August, the National Bureau of Statistics and the China Federation of Logistics and Purchasing said. But the bureau's senior statistician, Zhao Qinghe, said the manufacturing industry still faces some difficulties in its recovery and development. Since China lifted its tough Covid-19 restrictions, its leaders have been trying to boost the economy with a series of measures and promising to sup-

E-gaming tax kicks off

Online gaming firms to collect 28% on full bet value, offshore platforms to be GST registered from Oct 1

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, Sept 30: From October 1, online gaming companies will charge 28 per cent GST on full value of bets, while offshore platforms too would be required to have GST registration to operate in India.

The finance ministry late Friday notified October 1 as the appointed date for the amended provisions in Central GST and Integrated GST laws to come into effect.

E-gaming companies, however, flagged that since many states are yet to pass amendments in their respective State GST (SGST) laws, this notification by the union government in CGST and IGST laws will create confusion.

According to the changes to the Central GST Act, online gaming, casinos and horse racing will henceforth be treated as "actionable claims" similar to lottery, betting and gambling and subject to 28 per cent Goods and Services Tax (GST) on full face value of bets.

The amendments to Integrated GST (IGST) Act makes it mandatory for offshore online gaming platforms to take registration in India and pay 28 per cent tax in accordance with the domestic law.

The amendments will also provide for blocking access to online gaming platforms located overseas in case of failure to



It is important for online money gaming companies to comply with the new GST regulations in order to avoid any penalties in the future

SAURABH AGARWAL | TAX PARTNER, EY

comply with registration and tax payment provisions.

In its meetings in July and August, the GST Council, comprising finance ministers of Centre and states, had approved amendments to the law to include online gaming, casinos and horse racing as taxable actionable claims, and clarified that such supplies would attract 28 per cent tax on full bet value.

Parliament last month passed amendments to the Central GST and Integrated GST laws to give effect to the Council's decision. Following that, rules for valuation by these companies were also notified September 6.

pass their respective amendments, in line with the scheme of GST and the judgment of the Supreme Court of India and in the meanwhile, address the aforesaid issues vide necessary clarifications so that at an operational level, the industry has some clarity and can accordingly align its processes and technology."

AIGF Spokesperson said the central government has notified the applicability of the new GST regime for online gaming from October 1, 2023. However, it seems that multiple states have not passed the amendment to their State GST Act.

"This is creating a conundrum where the online gaming companies in such states will have to charge CGST but not SGST. At the same time in states where the amendment has been done, both CGST and SGST will be charged.

"In this light the industry is hoping that the government will take cognizance of the situation and allow reasonable time to the industry for transition," the AIGF spokesperson said.

The GST Council in its meeting in August had decided that the amended provision to classify these supplies as actionable claims and clarifying the taxation provisions would come into effect from October 1. A review of the implementation was proposed to be carried out after six months, which is April 2024.

It requested the Centre to "reconsider these notifications and suspend them till all the states

Lalchnd's lucky draw returns after Covid hiatus

POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar, Sept 30: Lalchnd Jewellers has announced that the lucky draw, which was postponed due to adverse circumstances during the Covid-19 period, will make a comeback in the month of October.

Sunjoy Hans, founder and chairman of Lalchnd Jewellers, briefed the media about the initiative organised at company's Master Canteen store in Bhubaneswar September 29.

"Due to adverse circumstances during the Covid-19 period, some lucky draw programmes which were already fixed beforehand could not take place. The programme for Master Canteen showroom has been scheduled to

be held at Hotel New Marrion at 5 pm October 27 and the lucky draw for Raghunathpur showroom will be conducted at the same hotel October 28. Similarly, the lucky draw for Cuttack showroom will be held at Cuttack Club October 29. The lucky draw consists of three Maruti Suzuki S-puro cars, six motorcycles and 24 Lakhpati winners.

In the event, Hans clarified his political approach, "I have deep respect for Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik. I respect all the political parties but I don't have any interest in politics. All my focus is only on business." The way Lalchnd launched its customer awareness programme in Odisha sim-

96% WITHDRAWN

Deadline to exchange ₹2K notes extended

RBI has extended the deadline to exchange ₹2,000 notes till Oct 7

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Mumbai, Sept 30: The Reserve Bank Saturday extended the special drive to withdraw Rs 2,000 bank notes from the system by another week, till October 7.

The central bank said ever since it announced the move to withdraw Rs 2,000 notes May 19, Rs 3.42 lakh crore of such notes have been received into the system either by depositing into bank accounts or exchanging, from the public.

The currency returned is 96 per cent of the Rs 2,000 bank notes in circulation as May 19, the Reserve Bank said in a statement, adding only Rs 14,000 crore of such notes are in circulation now.

Earlier, the deadline to deposit/exchange Rs 2,000 notes was September 30, 2023.

"...it has been decided to extend the current arrangement for deposit/exchange of Rs 2,000 banknotes until October 07, 2023," the central bank said.

In a surprise move, it had announced withdrawal of Rs 2,000 notes in May, but maintained that it was not akin to the demonetisation carried out in November 2016 when Rs 500 and Rs 1,000 notes were made illegal tender overnight.



In May 2023, RBI said the higher denomination notes were introduced for a faster remonetisation of the economy and the move had served its purpose. Since it had stopped printing the notes from FY19, there were also concerns surrounding the quality of the notes in circulation.

The Rs 2,000 note withdrawal move had some unseen impacts like helping banks report a higher deposit growth, a challenging aspect for the system for some time.

In the statement Saturday, RBI said the Rs 2,000 notes "shall continue to be legal tender" even beyond October 7, but asked the public to deposit or exchange the notes "without any further delay".

From October 8, the deposit/exchange facilities at bank branches will be stopped, and people will have to get them exchanged at 19 offices of RBI, it said.

For exchange of the notes, a cap of Rs 20,000 per transaction has been imposed while there is none for the notes which are tendered at the RBI offices for crediting into bank accounts.

Govt raises windfall on crude oil as rates soar to \$95/barrel



Oil prices have now risen by close to 30% in the July-September quarter

INDO-ASIAN NEWS SERVICE

New Delhi, Sept 30: The government has increased the windfall tax on domestic crude oil produced by companies such as ONGC and Oil India Ltd as prices have shot up to around \$95 per barrel.

The windfall tax on petroleum crude has been raised to Rs 12,100 a tonne from Rs 10,000 with effect from September 30. The tax helps the government to raise more resources to subsidise the prices of LPG and CNG for consumers.

Oil prices have now risen by close to 30% in the July-Sept quarter as OPEC+ production cuts led by Saudi Arabia and Russia have reduced global crude supply.

All eyes are now on the next OPEC+ ministerial panel meeting scheduled for Oct 4 when a

decision is expected to be taken on whether the supply cuts will continue.

This will determine whether the run towards \$100 per barrel in the market will continue, according to analysts. In early September, Saudi Arabia had extended its 1 million bpd cut till December.

Meanwhile the price of benchmark Brent crude November futures are hovering at \$95.31 per barrel indicating the firmness in the market.

India imposed the windfall tax on crude oil producers in July last year and extended the levy on exports of gasoline, diesel and aviation fuel after private refiners wanted to make gains from robust refining margins in overseas markets, instead of selling at home.

The levy has been cut on aviation turbine fuel to Rs 2.50 per litre from Rs 3.50 per litre and on diesel to Rs 5 per litre from Rs 5.50. These prices are now reviewed every fortnight.

Govt's gross debt up 2.2% QoQ

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

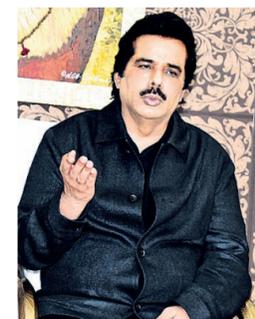
New Delhi, Sept 30: The government's total gross debt increased by 2.2 per cent quarter-on-quarter to Rs 159.53 lakh crore in April-June this fiscal, a finance ministry report said Friday. The liabilities stood at Rs 156.08 lakh crore at March-end.

"This represented a quarter-on-quarter increase of 2.2 per cent in Q1 2023-24. Public debt accounted for 89.5 per cent of total gross liabilities during the quarter," according to the Public Debt

THE LIABILITIES STOOD AT ₹159.53L-CR IN Q1 WHICH WAS ₹156.08 L-CR AT MARCH-END

Management report for the April-June 2023 quarter.

Nearly 26.6 per cent of the outstanding dated securities had a residual maturity of less than 5 years, it said. Since April-June 2010-11, the Public Debt Management Cell (PDMC), the



ilarly All India Gem and Jewellery Domestic Council (GJC) has also started the same campaign in all India level, said Hans in details.

Lalchnd has been doing a lot to

preserve the heritage of Indian jewellery. Recently the brand launched its customer awareness programme to protect customers from the misleading offers. Many jewellery organisations lure customers through their 'upto' offers but in reality customers are not getting discounts as claimed.

Notably, quality and trust holds the top most position in jewellery sector. East India's most popular jewellery house, Lalchnd Jewellers, has set a new standard in terms of authenticity and transparency. The brand carries a rich heritage in antique jewellery, Italian jewellery, platinum jewellery and diamond jewellery as Odisha's first organised jewellery business.

FOREX KITTY PLUNGES TO \$590.70BN

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Mumbai, Sept 30: The country's foreign exchange reserves declined further by \$2.35 billion to \$590.702 billion for the week ended September 22, the Reserve Bank said Friday.

In the previous reporting week, the overall reserves dropped by \$867 million to \$593.037 billion. It can be noted that in October 2021, the country's foreign exchange kitty reached an all-time high of \$645 billion. The reserves took a hit as the central bank deployed the reserves to defend the rupee amid pressures caused majorly by global developments since last year.

For the week ended September 22, the foreign currency assets, a major component of the reserves, decreased by \$2.552 billion to \$523.363 billion, according to the Weekly Statistical Supplement released by the Reserve Bank of India (RBI).

Expressed in dollar terms, the foreign currency assets include the effect of appreciation or depreciation of non-US units like the euro, pound and yen held in the foreign exchange reserves.

Gold reserves were up by \$307 million to \$44.307 billion, the RBI said.

The Special Drawing Rights (SDRs) were down by \$79 million to \$18.012 billion.

The country's reserve position with the IMF also declined by \$11 million to \$5,019 billion in the reporting week, the apex bank data showed.



port entrepreneurs who generate jobs and wealth. Performances in some sectors have shown improvements, including in factory output and retail sales. But China's property crisis is still dragging on its economic growth. Official data say the index measuring non-manufacturing commercial activities grew to 51.7 from August's 51. The composite index rose to 52 from 51.3. Zhao said the improvement

China's economy stabilised partly driven by the loosening of property sector policies. The key issue going forward is whether fiscal policy will become more supportive. I think it will, but timing-wise the change of fiscal policy stance may happen next year instead of this year

ZHIWEI ZHANG | CHIEF ECONOMIST, PINPOINT ASSET MANAGEMENT

indicated by the latest indexes suggest the level of economic activity is rebounding. As government policies take effect, positive economic factors are increasing, he said.

However, China's economic rebound remained uneven. Real estate developers are struggling to repay heavy debts in a time of

slack demand. Last month, investment in real estate fell 8.8 per cent from the year before.

The heavily indebted Chinese property developer China Evergrande Group Investment Thursday suspended trading in its shares in Hong Kong. It said authorities had informed it that its chairman, Hui Ka Yan, was subjected to "mandatory measures in accordance with the law due to suspicion of illegal crimes".

China's economy grew at a 6.3 per cent annual pace in the second quarter of this year, much slower than the 7-plus per cent growth that analysts had forecast based on the anaemic pace of activity the year before. Roughly one in five young workers is unemployed, a record high, adding to pressures on consumer spending.

India secure gold

SQUASH STARS REGAIN ASIAN GAMES TEAM GOLD AFTER 8 YEARS WITH THRILLING WIN OVER PAK



Squash men's team event gold medallists Abhay Singh, Mahesh Mangaonkar, Saurav Ghosal and Harinder Pal Sandhu, and women's team event bronze medallists Anahat Singh, Tanvi Khanna, Dipika Pallikal and Joshna Chinappa pose for photos in Hangzhou, Saturday

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Hangzhou, Sept 30: Abhay Singh won the battle of attrition against Noor Zaman for the biggest prize of his career as top seeds India regained the Asian Games squash gold with an epic 2-1 win over Pakistan here Saturday.

Before the tournament began, the Indian men's team was expected to step on the top of podium after eight years with its main challenge coming from Malaysia and Pakistan, the sport's powerhouse in the yesteryears.

The Saurav Ghosal-led side managed to see off both the opponents on their way to glory. The

win in the final against Pakistan came after the loss to the arch-rivals in the league stage.

Zaman, ranked 113, had got the better of world number 69 Abhay in that contest earlier this week and for the major part of the match Saturday, it looked going in Pakistan's favour again.

With the final locked at 1-1 after Ghosal and Nasir Iqbal won their respective singles, the gold was going to be decided in the match between 25-year-old Abhay and teenager Zaman.

Zaman led 9-7 in the fourth game and had two match balls at 10-8 in the deciding game but the Indian somehow managed to turn it around for a memorable

win. The final scoreline read 11-7, 9-11, 8-11, 11-9, 12-10.

The athleticism from players was remarkable as the contest involved breathtaking rallies and winners. Zaman had the younger legs but was guilty of making more unforced errors than his opponent.

Not a lot is known about Abhay who turned professional back in 2017 but that should change after Saturday. After he levelled the match 2-2, it was clear that he did not need a lot of coaching from his teammates.

In his first Asian Games, he knew what he was doing.

It was a tough loss to swallow for the young Zaman who was

seen weeping after a 64-minute marathon. Abhay's special effort came after the seasoned Ghosal brought the Indians back into the contest with an 11-5, 11-1, 11-3 win over Muhammad Asim Khan. Mahesh Mangaonkar lost the opener to Iqbal Nasir 8-11, 2-11, 3-11.

India last won a men's team squash gold in the 2014 edition of the games in Incheon, while the Pakistanis last claimed gold in 2010 in Guanzhou.

Ghosal, playing his sixth Asian Games, will now shift his focus to winning a maiden gold in the individual competition, having tallied three bronze and a silver in singles since Busan 2002.

MIRABAI CHANU DISAPPOINTED

Hangzhou: Ace Indian weightlifter Mirabai Chanu is disappointed that she could not realise her dream of an Asian Games medal as she suffered thigh muscle injury during the women's 49kg event here Saturday. The Olympic silver medalist said she felt pain while warming up before the event started and despite her coach asking her to pull out, she continued as she wanted to win a medal for the country. "When I was warming up before the snatch session, I felt pain on my thigh, I think deep sheathing hit me. They have put ice and some spray, and will see in India what kind of treatment we will do. I am having pain now also," Chanu said after the event, where she finished fourth. "It is pain in the glutes and the bones on the right side of the thigh," she added. She said no treatment was given in between competitions. "It is not allowed to give treatment during competition, so we put some tapes on the thigh and did the clean and jerk."

STRUGGLING OZ LOOK FOR 6TH WORLD CROWN

The five-time World Cup winners would look to secure the crown for a record-extending sixth time. They last won the title ... was in 2015 when they played co-hosts with New Zealand.

Although experts are counting the Aussies as one of the favourites for the title ... or at least a semifinalist, the form of the team doesn't look good. They lost five consecutive matches - three against South Africa and two against India - before winning the third ODI against India.

The biggest point of worry is their bowlers' inability to take wickets when required. However, the troika of skipper Pat Cummins, Mitchell Starc and Josh Hazlewood are seasoned campaigners and they are expected to bring out their best once the tournament gets underway.

Another worry for the Kangaroos is lack of regular spinners. Injury forced Australia to make a late change to their squad, with experienced spinner Ashton Agar ruled out of the event with a calf concern. Marnus Labuschagne has been added as replacement.

With Agar is gone, Aussies have only Adam Zampa as specialist spinner. Australia, now, will heavily rely on the leg-spinner to deliver. He will have support from Glenn Maxwell, who finished with a match-winning figure of 4/40 in the third ODI against India.

Then comes batting. A month ago Mitch Marsh thought he may have to return down the



order to create room for others in Australia's preferred starting lineup at the WC despite his recent success batting at the top of the innings.

The man who once joked that everyone in Australia hated him because he hadn't made the most of his chances at international level now appears to be the go-to option as an opener.

And if the big, burly all-rounder can form an opening partnership with veteran David Warner, it gives the Aussies serious firepower to start their innings, given the line-up will follow batters like Steve Smith, Labuschagne, Maxwell, Marcus Stoinis, Alex Carey as well as a handy batter like Cummins.



HOLDING THE KEYS TO SUCCESS
David Warner, Steve Smith, Glenn Maxwell, Mitchell Starc & Adam Zampa

Obviously, leading into the World Cup, it (struggling form) is not a position we want to be in. We have got two more opportunities (warm-up games) before the World Cup - another chance to be accustomed to the conditions and adapt to what is being thrown at us

MITCHELL STARC

Bopanna-Bhosale pair wins mixed doubles gold



PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Hangzhou, Sept 30: Rutuja Bhosale raised her game in nick of time while seasoned Rohan Bopanna stayed solid with his big serves as India came back from a set down to win the tennis mixed doubles gold at the Asian Games, here Saturday.

The second-seeded Indian team rallied to win the title clash 2-6, 6-3, 10-4 against Chinese Taipei's combo of Tsung-hao Huang and En-shuo Liang.

Bhosale struggled with her serve and returns in the opening set and the Taipei players targeted her for some easy points, especially Huang who latched on to her feeble returns for easy volley winners. The 27-year-old Bhosale redeemed herself from a tight second-set situation, making some stunning returns.

The victory ensured that India

will return with at least one tennis gold from the Asian Games in an otherwise disappointing campaign in which the country managed to win only two medals - the other being men's doubles silver.

The two-medal show is India's worst at the Asian Games since the turn of the century. In 2002, India had returned with four medals from Busan and in the following editions the country won four (2006, Doha), five (2010, Guangzhou), five (2014, Incheon) and three (2018, Indonesia) medals.

The men's doubles team of Saketh Myneni and Ramkumar Ramanathan had won a silver Friday but other players faded at different stages of the tournament.

It is Bopanna's second Asian Games gold and maiden podium finish for 27-year-old Bhosale, who hails from Maharashtra.

Sarabjot, Divya settle for silver medal

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Hangzhou, Sept 30: Birthday boy Sarabjot Singh and Divya TS faltered towards the end to let gold slip out of their hands in the 10m air pistol mixed team but the silver took India's medal count from the shooting range to 19 at the Asian Games here Saturday.

India have so far won six gold, eight silver and five bronze at the Asian Games, their best-ever showing in the continental showpiece.

The Indian pair was beaten to the gold medal by World Champion marksman Zhang Bowen and compatriot Jiang Ranxin, who emerged 16-14 victors in the shoot-off for the top podium finish.

Runners impress

Indian long-distance runners Kartik Kumar and Gulveer Singh bagged the silver and bronze medals respectively in the men's 10000m race. Kartik won the silver with a timing of 28:15.38s while Gulveer clocked 28:17.21s to claim the bronze.

History created

Sutirtha Mukherjee and Aihika Mukherjee shocked World Champions Chinese pair Chen Meng and Yidi Wang to enter the women's doubles semifinals, assuring India a historic table tennis medal.

In the quarterfinals, Sutirtha and Aihika won 11-5, 11-5, 5-11, 11-9 and the victory over World No.2 Chinese duo is all the more



significant because India have never won a medal in the women's doubles event in the Asian Games.

Chess eves shine

The second-seeded Indian women's team registered a 2.5-1.5 win over Vietnam in the second round of chess' team event. The top-seeded men's team was held to a 2-2 draw by a strong Uzbekistan team with all four matches ending in draws.

Canoers, kayak pair in final

India's Niraj Verma qualified for the final of the canoe sprint events along with the men's and women's pairs. Niraj topped the canoe single 1000m semifinal by clocking 4:31.626s. Later, the top three in the four-canoer semifinals advanced to the medal round with Niraj taking the top spot.

In the women's Kayak double 500m semifinal, the Indian duo

to place herself in a commanding position to win a historic individual gold medal in the golf competition. Aditi, who is now seven shots clear of her closest rival, also carried the Indian women's team to the top spot, where it holds a one-shot lead over Thailand. India is now 29-under and are ahead of fancied teams like Thailand, China, Korea and Japan.

Indian women have never won a medal at the Asian Games, as Aditi had finished a distant 21st at the Incheon Games in 2014.

Preeti, 2 others assure medal

Indian boxer Preeti Pawar secured a quota for the Paris Olympics and also assured herself of a medal along with Lovlina Borgohain and Narender as they moved into the semifinals.

The 19-year-old Preeti put up a fearless display against Kazakhstan's Zhaina Shekerbekova, a three-time World Championship medalist and reigning Asian champion, to eke out a 4-1 win in a fiercely fought 54kg quarterfinal bout.

Lovlina used her long reach to expectedly defeat South Korea's Seo Seung-yeon by a 5-0 unanimous decision in the women's 75 kg category.

Narender (92kg) also notched a win by a similar margin over Iman Ramezanpour Delavar of Iran to move to the last four stage. Lovlina and Narender are now a win away from earning an Olympic quota.

Indian shuttlers a win away from first team gold

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Hangzhou, Sept 30: Kidambi Srikanth rallied his way to a thrilling win in a tense decider as India kept alive their hopes of winning a first-ever gold medal at the Asian Games, reaching the men's team championships final with a 3-2 win over South Korea here Saturday. This is India's maiden entry into the final of the team event at the continental showpiece.

World No.7 HS Prannoy showed nerves of steel to bounce back from an opening game reversal to outwit Jeon Hyeok Jin 18-21, 21-16, 21-19 and put India 1-0 ahead but Satwiksairaj Rankireddy and Chirag Shetty lost the first doubles 13-21, 24-26 to reigning world champions Seo Seung-Jae and Kang Min-hyuk as Korea made it 1-1.

Lakshya Sen then put up a dominating show in the second singles to bring India back in business with a clinical 21-7, 21-9 win over Lee Yungyu but MR Arjun and Dhruv Kapila lost 16-21, 11-21 to Kim Wonho and NA Sungseung in the second doubles as the two teams found themselves on level terms once again.

Srikanth then fought his way under pressure to struggle past World No.163 Cho Geonyeop 12-21, 21-16, 21-14 and seal India's place in the Sunday's summit clash, where they will face multiple-time gold medallist China.

India record biggest-ever win over Pakistan

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Hangzhou, Sept 30: Captain Harmanpreet Singh found the net four times as a rampaging India hammered Pakistan 10-2 to record their biggest-ever win over the arch-rivals in a lopsided Pool A match to book a semifinal berth in the men's hockey competition at the Asian Games here Saturday.

Harmanpreet scored in the 11th, 17th, 33rd and 34th minutes while Varun Kumar (41st and 54th) struck twice. Mandeep Singh (8th), Sumit (30th), Samsher Singh (46th) and Lalit Kumar Upadhyay (49th) were the other goal getters.

Pakistan reduced the margin through Muhammad Khan (38th) and Abdul Rana (45th) as India toyed their opponents in their



penultimate pool match.

India collected 12 points from four consecutive wins to stay on top of the pool. India will play Bangladesh October 2 in their last Pool A match.

India took the lead when Abhishek made a fine turn on the left side into the opponent's strik-

ing circle and his pass was deflected into goal in the eighth minute by Mandeep. They doubled their lead when they were awarded a penalty stroke and Harmanpreet made no mistake.

Harmanpreet scored his second goal and sixth of the tournament by converting India's

first penalty corner of the match with an accurate drag-flick. Just seconds before halftime, Sumit struck with a fierce reverse hit. The Pakistanis went for a review but lost and trailed 0-4 at the halfway mark.

India made it 5-0 three minutes after the change of ends with

This was the 180th match between the two teams and the 8-goal margin win was the biggest-ever in the history of India-Pakistan hockey.

India's earlier biggest victory margin was 7-1 against Pakistan registered in 2017, while Pakistan's 7-1 win in the final of 1982 Asian Games in New Delhi was their biggest win against India.

Harmanpreet converting another penalty stroke after the ball hit a Pakistani player's foot. Initially, the referee gave a penalty corner but India successfully reviewed for a penalty stroke.

India earned three back-to-back penalty corners and Harmanpreet struck his fourth goal of the day with a fine drag flick. Varun, Shamsheer and Lalit too joined the party with field goals in the 41st, 46th and 49th minutes.

INDIA COLTS REIGN SUPREME



India came up with a solid performance as they hammered arch-rivals Pakistan 3-0 to win the SAFF Men's U-19 Championship in Kathmandu, Nepal, Saturday. Manglenhang Kippen (64th, 85th minutes) and Gwngmsar Goyary (90+5) found the back of the net for the Blue Colts at the Dashrath Stadium. It was India's eighth youth title in the SAFF championships, a clear testimony of their regional supremacy. Substitute Kippen, who had scored the nerve-wracking winning penalty strike against hosts Nepal in the semifinal Wednesday, once again emerged as the hero for the Indians.