


DSPL-398



QUALIFIERS

## FIFA WORLD CUP QUALIFIER MATCH

 **VS** 

**INDIA** **QATAR**

7:00 PM, 21 NOVEMBER 2023

KALINGA STADIUM, BHUBANESWAR

WATCH LIVE ON **sports 18**

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# leisure



## TAYLOR SWIFT MAKES HISTORY AT BILLBOARD MUSIC AWARDS-2023

Singer Taylor Swift won 10 prizes, including Top Artist, Top Female Artist and Top Billboard 200 Artist, at Billboard Music Awards-2023. The *Karma* hitmaker became the biggest female winner of the night while with Drake, who scooped five prizes at Sunday's ceremony at Las Vegas' MGM Grand Garden Arena.

## INTIMATE SCENES ARE ALWAYS UNCOMFORTABLE: PORTMAN

Hollywood actress Natalie Portman finds all sex scenes 'uncomfortable.' She told Radio Times magazine of filming intimate scenes: "It's never comfortable. And we just had to figure it out between ourselves. But I think intimacy coordinators can be really wonderful, especially in environments that are uncomfortable."



### FORTUNE FORECAST

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FOR ASTROLOGY DIAL 55181

**ARIES**  
Today, you want to do something for the environment. Ganesh says plant a tree, clean up your neighbourhood, ask for a paper bag. You wish to lead the world into a better place? Do it by all means, but one step at a time.

**TAURUS**  
You will not lose your cool today despite the overwhelming odds, feels Ganesh. Rationale and reason will be the rhyme of your attitude as you diagnose the problems and uproot them successfully. Success beckons and you are ready to reach out and grab it by hook or by crook.

**GEMINI**  
You will ponder over religious and cultural values and issues today. You will indulge in a fair amount of discussion with your family members over the issue and present your thoughts and feelings on the subject. These discussions could end up covering topics like law, education, societal concerns, manners and etiquette etc., says Ganesh.

**CANCER**  
The day looks set to be an ordinary day, for both work and play, says Ganesh. Yet, if you are planning to participate in an event or a competition today, march ahead, by all means. There will, practically, be no one who'll be able to compete with you.

**LEO**  
A mixed bag of fortunes, a bittersweet pill, call it what you will, but today brings with it a lot of things packed within its 24-hour period. Ganesh foresees a hectic morning, and an even more frantic afternoon. So, respite will be a luxury for you today. If this was the bitter end of the pill, then its sweet results will be like a balm on your frayed nerves, says Ganesh.

**VIRGO**  
Give attention to your deepest feelings. A small excursion may be on the cards. Ganesh says today you will easily get along with other people. You will shower your sincere love and affection on your near and dear ones. Use your magical skills to improve your relationships.

**LIBRA**  
It is your friends who prove to be lucky and beneficial for you today, especially if they happen to be walking the corridors of power, says Ganesh. Do not hesitate to start that new joint venture today. See your popularity grow by leaps and bounds as you get due recognition for your abilities and efforts.

**SCORPIO**  
It is high time you diverted all your energies towards your object of love, advises Ganesh. Research-oriented work could well be an option too. Ganesh says you are likely to find someone special to talk about those good old times and have a great time.

**SAGITTARIUS**  
You will be your usual self today, frank and precise. You are all ears for what your life partner has to say. This will make them feel special! According to Ganesh, be patient and carry out your work gracefully.

**CAPRICORN**  
Lack of proper planning is probably the reason for you not being able to get your work done in time. You'll realise this mistake and today, you will spend majority of time drawing a plan on paper, says Ganesh. You may hit a jackpot, but think twice before spending the money on anything unnecessary. You may come across some good career opportunities, grab them before it's too late.

**AQUARIUS**  
You may feel constrained by future plans. Ganesh says that plans are okay, but you must live in the present to avail the cosmic energy that ultimately manifests your dreams.

**PISCES**  
You would do well to make a to-do list today, if only to gain a realistic perspective of how much you want done and how much you can achieve in the time you have available. Making unreasonable demands from yourself will only lead to further delays, says Ganesh.

## Disha's secret on calming nerves

**Mumbai:** Known for her fitness primarily, Disha Patani has won hearts with her dance and action skills. The actress has often appreciated and showcased her love for being on the sets of a film but it hasn't always been easy for her. She recently attended an award function wherein she opened up an interesting fact about how she deals with nervousness.

"When I get nervous on set, I wear lenses that give me a blurry vision," Disha Patani revealed.

"It helps me focus on my acting without being overwhelmed by the people and cameras in front of me. It's a simple trick that works wonders for me," added the *Baaghi* actress.

Reacting to Disha's revelation, anchor-cum-actor Sukhmani said, "When Disha shared her secret, it felt like she was telling my story too. When things get blurry, that's when we see things clearly. Disha being honest reminds us that, no matter how fancy it looks, we all go through the same feelings."

On the professional front, Disha Patani is currently engaged in three projects — *Kalki 2898 AD* alongside Deepika Padukone, Amitabh Bachchan, and Prabhakar, *Sidharth Malhotra* starrer *Yodha*, and the *Suriya* starrer *Kanguva*.

AGENCIES



## IFFI kicks off in Goa

### SPECIAL RECOGNITION FOR CONTRIBUTION TO INDIAN CINEMA' AWARD BESTOWED ON ACTOR MADHURI DIXIT

**Panaji:** The 54th edition of International Film Festival of India (IFFI) kicked off Monday at the Shyama Prasad Mukherjee Indoor Stadium in Taleigao-Goa.

Minister for Information and Broadcasting Anurag Singh Thakur, Goa Chief Minister Pramod Sawant, Minister for State of Information and Broadcasting L Murugan and others were present on the occasion.

'Special recognition for contribution to Indian cinema' award was bestowed to Bollywood actor Madhuri Dixit.

Anurag Singh Thakur said that our movies are more than just entertainment. "They are a significant part of how we live," he said.

He said that this year IFFI re-



ceived a record number of 2,926 entries from 105 countries, which is three times more than the international submissions than last year. "This shows the success IFFI has received," added Thakur. Chief Minister Pramod Sawant said that Cinema is a universal language that unites hearts. "It is the power to evoke the multitude of emotions, inspire minds and challenges," Sawant added.

This year's Satyajit Ray Lifetime Achievement award will be received by Michael Douglas, a Hollywood Actor & Producer.

More than 270 films will be showcased during the festival at four venues -- INOX Panjim, Maquinez Palace, INOX Porvorim and Z Square Samrat Ashok.

## Vicky does Khukuri dance with Gorkhas

**Mumbai:** Actor Vicky Kaushal is set for the third release of the year after *Zara Hatke Zara Bachke* and *The Great Indian Family*. He will embody the role of Field Marshall Sam

Manekshaw in Meghna Gulzar's *Sam Bahadur*. With less than two weeks left for the release, Vicky is leaving no stone unturned to promote the movie. The actor shared a video in

which he was performing the Khukuri dance with Gorkhas.

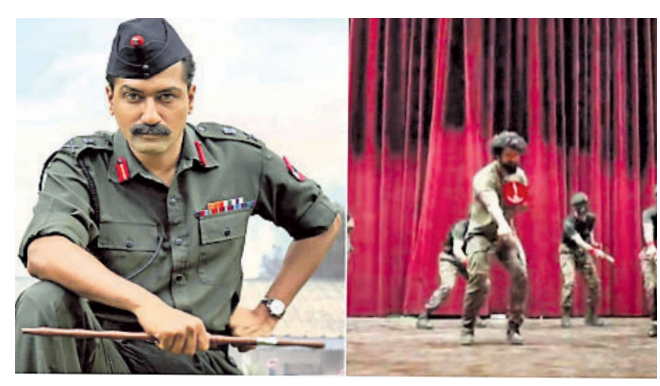
Vicky Kaushal took to his Instagram to share a video matching steps with the Gorkhas and wrote, "The privilege of holding their Khukuri. The pleasure of matching their steps. Proud and blessed to have done the Khukuri dance with the Gorkhas today! Jai Maa Kaali... Aayo Gorkhali!"

This biopic is based on the life of Sam Manekshaw whose military career spanned four decades and five wars.

He was the first Indian Army officer to be promoted to the rank of Field Marshal and the decisive victory of the Indian Army in the 1971 Indo-Pak war was under his command as Chief of Army Staff.

Produced by RSVP Movies, the film will hit the theatres on 1st December 2023.

AGENCIES



## Nargis breaks silence on dating co-actors

**Mumbai:** Nargis Fakhri who entered the Hindi film industry with Imtiaz Ali's *Rockstar*, discussed the rumors surrounding her relationship with her co-actors.

During a recent interaction with an entertainment portal, she said, "I was linked with every other person in the film industry and it used to drive me insane." She mentioned a time when there was an article claiming that she had shifted to Shahid Kapoor's apartment, and her mom had visited to meet him.

According to her, the reality of relationships is often concealed, and people generally prefer projecting an image of perfection rather than sharing the truth. She added, "I'll tell you everything is different, and no one tells you the truth unless you have a friend that really tells you the truth, but most people hide the truth; they want everything to look perfect. I would use my own brains and my own self, or maybe get a therapist. I would not ask anybody."

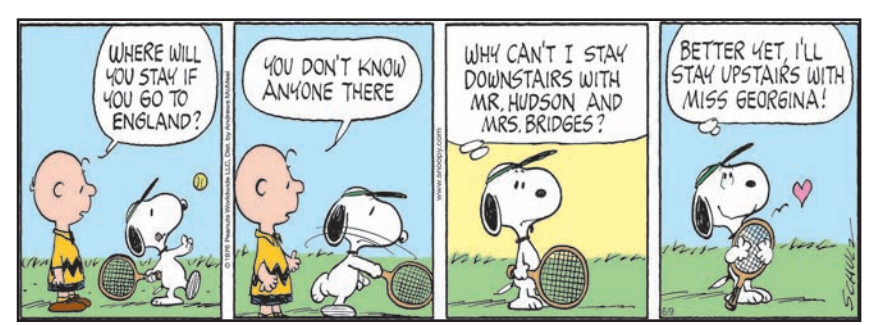
She mentioned that on movie sets, everyone flirts with each other, and sometimes it's hard to distinguish between genuine interest and friendly behavior.

Nargis Fakhri was seen in the film *Shiv Shastri Balboa*, sharing the screen with Anupam Kher and Neena Gupta.

AGENCIES

### FUN post

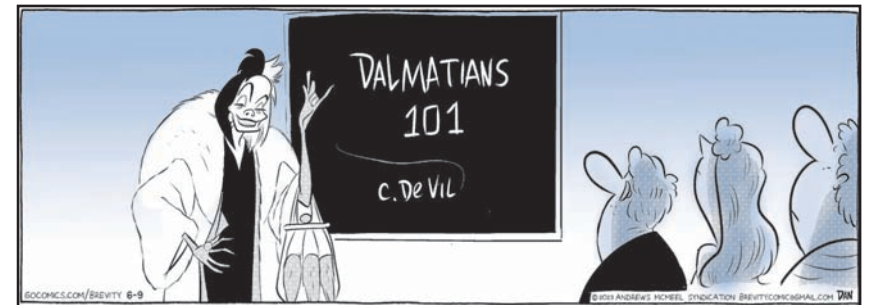
#### PEANUTS



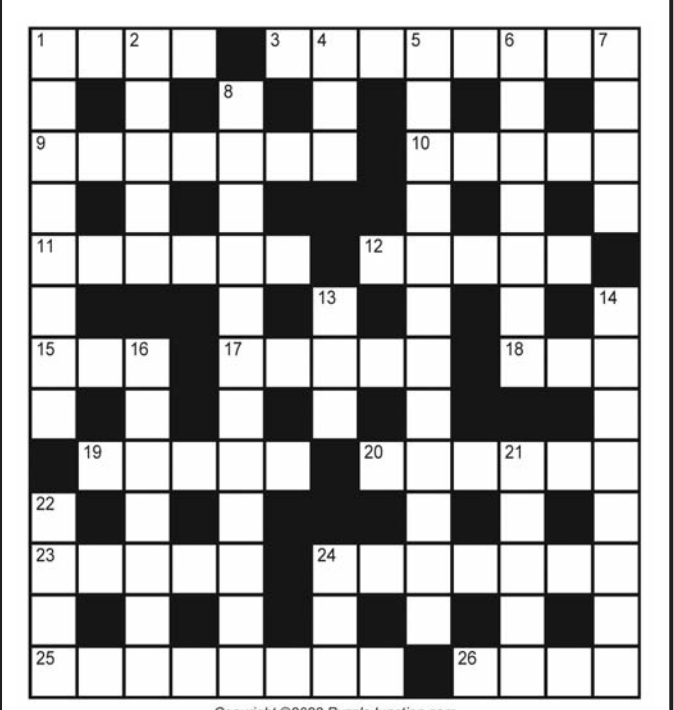
#### CALVIN AND HOBBS



#### BREVITY



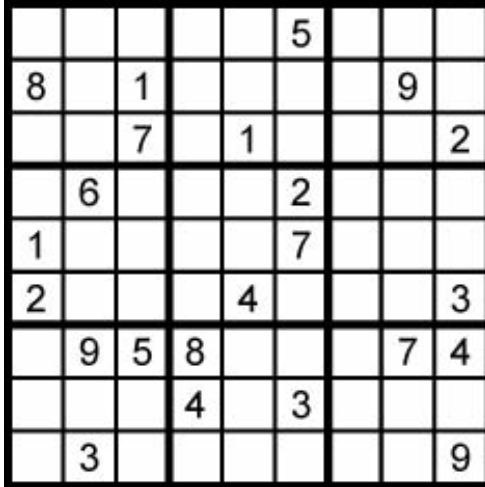
#### CROSSWORD



- Across**
- 1 Adversaries
  - 3 Chemin de fer relative
  - 9 Porch
  - 10 Army ant
  - 11 Heavy overcoat
  - 12 East Indian pheasant
  - 15 German river
  - 17 Fatuous
  - 18 Health resort
  - 19 Bouquet
  - 20 Look up to
  - 23 Uniform shade
  - 24 Theatre of operations?
  - 25 Full steam ahead
  - 26 Feminine suffix
- Down**
- 1 Preferred
  - 2 Noblemen
  - 4 Alias preceder
  - 5 Team boosters
  - 6 Hearsay
  - 7 Ballet wear
  - 8 Ancient
  - 13 Cold and wet
  - 14 Bronte novel (4,4)
  - 16 Pistol
  - 21 Like helium
  - 22 Actor Tamiroff
  - 24 Old French coin

#### 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





## MoU FOR METRO

DMRC signs MoU for construction of the Bhubaneswar Metro's first phase from BPIA to Trishulia

**DOWNTOWN P2**



## GAZA BABIES REACH EGYPT

First group of prematurely born babies evacuated from Gaza's biggest hospital reaches Egypt for treatment

**INTERNATIONAL P8**



## INDIA TAKE ON QATAR

India lock horns with Qatar in a 2026 FIFA WC second round qualifiers match at Kalinga Stadium today

**SPORTS P9**



**FERRIES ON FIRE:** Flames and smoke rise after a fire broke out in a fishing jetty area in Visakhapatnam early Monday. As many as 40 fishing boats were reportedly gutted in the blaze

PTI PHOTO

# Rape in moving bus

RELATIVE SEXUALLY ASSAULTS 16-YEAR-OLD GIRL INSIDE SLEEPER COMPARTMENT OF KOLKATA-BOUND BUS

POST NEWS NETWORK

**Jajpur, Nov 20:** A 16-year-old girl under Dasarathpur police limits in this district was frequently raped in the sleeper compartment of a moving bus allegedly by a relative, Sunday.

The matter came to the fore Monday after the minor survivor lodged a complaint against one Dayanidhi Jena, 45, at Dasarathpur police station, pleading for justice. The minor is stated to have been raped multiple times by the accused.

The appalling incident sent shockwaves in the district as it brought back in the minds of people the sordid memory of the brutal gangrape of Nirbhaya in a moving bus in Delhi 11 years back, which also occurred Sunday.

Dasarathpur police have registered a case (195/2023) under Section-376 of Indian Penal Code (IPC) and various sections of POCSO Act. However, police were yet to arrest the accused when reports last came in.

According to the complaint, the survivor is a student of Class-X. The girl was going to attend her tuition classes at 6am Sunday when Dayanidhi waylaid her. He asked her to accompany him to a hospital in Bhadrak after informing that her mother was sick and admitted there. Believing his



## JAJPUR HORROR

words, the girl went with him. Dayanidhi then parked the girl's bicycle at a house and took her on a bike (OD-34K-5190) to the Akhandalamani petrol pump in Bhadrak district. There he took a bus to Bhadrak and from there boarded another bus to Kolkata along with the girl.

However, on the way to Kolkata, taking advantage of the large curtains he raped her inside the sleeper compartment of the bus repeatedly. When the girl resisted his advances, he threatened to kill her. He even warned her of dire consequences if she disclosed the matter before others.

Later, he informed the girl of taking her to Kolkata. The minor sat in the sleeper coach in a helpless condition as she failed to know where the bus reached. Fearing for her life, she even failed to speak up or raise an alarm. Later, Dayanidhi again

raped her in the sleeper compartment at around 8pm, Sunday when they were returning to Bhadrak by another bus.

They arrived at Bhadrak by 3am, Monday when Dayanidhi hired an auto-rickshaw and dropped the girl in critical condition near her village. While leaving, he again threatened her of dire consequences if she disclosed the matter before others.

When contacted, Dasarathpur IIC Badrinath Behera admitted to have received the complaint. He said a rape case was registered under POCSO Act and a medical examination conducted on the survivor. He added that he can speak more on the issue after receiving the report.

A manhunt has been launched to nab the accused while efforts are on to identify the buses in which the two travelled to Kolkata and returned to Bhadrak.

## Focus on kids to spread Ol Chiki: Murmu

**Baripada:** President Droupadi Murmu Monday urged Santali writers to focus on children to spread Ol Chiki by publishing magazines in the language for them and regularly interacting with them. Writers play a big role in popularising any language, Murmu, who spoke in Ol Chiki throughout the programme, said addressing the 36th Annual Conference and Literary Festival of All India Santali Writers' Association. Ol Chiki has the potential to expand as an Indian language, the president said and called upon Santali writers to carry forward their writing for the overall development of the language. Ol Chiki was included in the 8th Schedule of Constitution in December, 2003 and the government of India has recognised the language.

**MORE P5**

## Youth hangs self over India's WC loss

**Binjharpur:** Unable to bear the trauma, a 20-year-old youth committed suicide by hanging at Kulasahi village under Jari panchayat in Jajpur district after the shocking defeat of the Indian Cricket team in the ICC Men's Cricket World Cup final, Sunday night. The deceased was identified as Debaranjan Das, 20, an avid lover of the sport. The matter came to the fore after police Monday recovered his body hanging on the terrace of his neighbour's house and sent it for post-mortem to the district headquarters hospital in Jajpur. Police registered a case of unnatural death and launched an investigation. Sources said, family members informed police that Debaranjan was mentally unstable and India's unexpected defeat pained him a lot.

## IRREGULAR by MANJUL



Cricket is an unreliable religion. It fails to align with our political objectives

MARKET WATCH		
INDEX		VARIATION
SENSEX	65655.15	↓ 139.58
NIFTY	19694.00	↓ 37.80
DOLLAR	83.37	↑ ₹0.11
EURO	91.04	↑ ₹0.53
GOLD	₹60,452	↓ ₹261
SILVER	₹72,455	↓ ₹685

## UTTARKASHI TUNNEL MISHAP

# First breakthrough on 9th day of rescue ops

AGENCIES

**Uttarkashi, Nov 20:** Rescuers Monday pushed through a six-inch-wide pipeline through the rubble of the collapsed Silkyara tunnel, a breakthrough that will help them supply larger quantities of food and possibly allow live visuals of the 41 workers trapped inside for over eight days.

Earlier, a four-inch existing tube was being used to supply oxygen and items like dry fruit and medicines into the section of the tunnel beyond the rubble of the collapsed portion of the under-construction tunnel on the Char Dham route in Uttarakhand.

National Highways and Infrastructure Development Corporation Limited (NHIDCL) director Anshu Manish Khalkho called it the "first breakthrough" at the site. "We have sent the pipe 53 metres to the other side of the rubble and the trapped workers can hear and experience us," he said.



Drones and robots from the Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) have also been brought to the site to look into the possibility of other escape routes for the trapped men.

But rescue workers were yet to resume the horizontal drilling through the debris after a boulder appeared to block the progress of the heavy-duty auger machine earlier this week.

Rescuers are also preparing to exercise the option of drilling more than 80 metres down into the hill to reach the workers. A road has been laid for heavy drilling machinery used by the Oil and Natural Gas Corporation (ONGC) to get to the top.

# Triumph for 'Argentina's Trump'

Fiery right-wing populist Javier Milei to take over Argentina's presidency amid discontent over economy



**Buenos Aires, Nov 20:** Right-wing populist Javier Milei will become the next president of Argentina after promising a dramatic shake-up to the state in a fiercely polarised election campaign held amid deep discontent over soaring inflation and rising poverty.

Economy Minister Sergio Massa of the Peronist party conceded defeat and congratulated Milei, a self-described anarcho-capitalist who has drawn frequent comparisons to former

US President Donald Trump. ebrate in several neighbourhoods. Outside Milei's party headquarters, a hotel in downtown Buenos Aires, supporters were euphoric.

With a Milei victory, the country will swing to the right and empower a freshman lawmaker who got his start as a television talking head blasting what he called the political caste.

This is a triumph that is less due to Milei and his peculiarities and particularities and more to the demand for change, said Lucas Romero, the head of Synopsis, a local political consulting firm. What is being expressed at the polls is the weariness, the fatigue, the protest vote of the majority of Argentines.

Milei's screeds resonated widely with Argentines angered by their struggle to make ends meet, particularly young men.

DSPL - 397

## Fund Stack 3.0

Annual Startup-Investor Summit

**21st & 22nd Nov 2023**

FundStack is the Annual Startup-Investor Summit of Startup Odisha. It is the largest congregation of angels and VCs in the startup ecosystem of Odisha. It also serves as a platform for enhancing investment readiness of the startups that enables them to raise funds from private investors.

**50**

Selected Startups

**20**

Renowned Investors

**10**

Eminent Speakers

**Key Activities**

Networking with Investors & HNIs

Startup Pitch Event

Interactive Insightful Sessions

**Empowering Ideas. Enabling Investments.**

**1770+**

Recognised Startups

**700+**

Women Led Startups

**290+**

Seed Funded Startups

**15,000+**

Employment Generated

**200+**

Mentors Onboarded

**27**

Incubators Supported

**Transformation at a Glance**

**Startup Odisha**

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Odisha Startup Incubation  
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# Pact inked with DMRC for Metro rail 1st phase



PNN & AGENCIES

**Bhubaneswar, Nov 20:** A memorandum of understanding (MOU) was signed between Bhubaneswar Metro Rail Corporation and the Delhi Metro Rail Corporation (DMRC) here for the construction of the first phase Bhubaneswar Metro, Monday.

The first phase of the Metro, which recently received nod from the state Cabinet, involves construction of infrastructure between the Biju Patnaik International Airport and Trisulia Square in Cuttack.

Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik said the agreement signals the emergence of a new epoch in the transportation history of Odisha. "We are now poised to transform the transportation landscape in the state's capital region. This is a flagship pro-

## SALIENT FEATURES

Length of the project from Bhubaneswar Airport to Trisulia Square will be 26 km

There will be 20 stations including the ones at Capital Hospital, Rajmahal Square, Jayadev Vihar Square and Patia Square

Metro rail tracks and stations will be on elevated viaducts

Ultra-modern coaches & signaling system along with advanced ticketing system will be added features

gramme under 5T (teamwork, technology, transparency, timely completion leading to transformation) initiative of the government that will also symbolise the emergence of a new Odisha," he said.

The first phase of the project

will be built at a cost of Rs 6,255 crore, Patnaik said, adding that this is the single largest investment made for any infrastructure project in the state.

The entire cost of the project will be borne by the state government, he added.

"I am happy that my government is delivering yet another promise that was made in our 2019 manifesto," the Chief Minister said.

Patnaik said DMRC is a pioneer in the field of construction and operation of Metro rail in the country. He expressed confidence that the Bhubaneswar Metro will be of world-class standard, and will be completed in time.

Housing & Urban Development Minister Usha Devi, Science & Technology Minister Ashok Panda and Chief Secretary Pradip Kumar Jena were among those present at the MoU signing ceremony, which the CM addressed virtually.

DMRC managing director Vikas Kumar said that it was an apt time to start transit-oriented development in Odisha.

"It will spruce up the economy, and push growth and development in the region," he said.

The first phase of Bhubaneswar will be 26 km long, and have 20 stations. The whole stretch will be elevated.



QUALITY EVALUATION: National Assessment and Accreditation Council (NAAC) Peer team on a visit to Ravenshaw University in Cuttack, Monday. OP PHOTO

## Saluga Pradhan all set to become Dy Speaker

AGENCIES

**Bhubaneswar, Nov 20:** BJD's G Udayagiri MLA Saluga Pradhan Monday filed nomination papers for the post of Deputy Speaker of the Assembly. He is all set to be Deputy Speaker as no one else filed the nomination papers.

The election for the Deputy Speaker's post is scheduled to be held at 9:30am Tuesday, the day the Winter Session of the Assembly will begin.



Accompanied by Health Minister Niranjan Pujari and other senior leaders of the ruling party, Pradhan, the two-time MLA from G Udayagiri in Kandhamal district, submitted his nomination papers.

"I thank party president and Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik for nominating me for the post of Deputy Speaker. I will try my best to make sure that the Assembly functions properly," Pradhan, a tribal leader of the ruling party, told reporters after filing the nomination papers.

As the opposition parties haven't fielded any candidate and the ruling BJD enjoys a majority in the House, Pradhan is all set to be elected as the Deputy Speaker uncontested.

Earlier, the Assembly secretary had written to all the MLAs, requesting them to attend a meeting to elect the Deputy Speaker at 9:30am November 21.

Rajani Kant Singh has resigned as the Deputy Speaker of the Assembly to devote more time to the party.

## Nat'l media conclave at KIIT varsity from today

**Bhubaneswar:** In a bid to foster dialogue and innovation in the ever-evolving media landscape, the 7th edition of the National Media Conclave will be held at the KIMS Auditorium of KIIT University here from November 21 to November 23. Chhattisgarh Governor Biswa Bhusan Harichandan will grace the occasion as chief guest.

WEATHER		BHUB	CTK
MAX	29.2°C	29.5°C	
MIN	20.3°C	20.0°C	
Humidity	83%	68%	Forecast Light to moderate rain
Rainfall	Nil	Nil	

## CLASSIFIED AFFIDAVIT

I, Surendra Sahu my Father Kandarpa Sahu, Mother Asharpi Sahu, Resident of College Road, PO/PS/Dist.-Bargarh declare that my father actual Date of Birth is 10.05.1955 and my mother Date of Birth is 15.02.1960 as per their Aadhaar Card instead of 01.07.1957 and 01.07.1959.

I, Ramavtar Agarwal, S/o Late Nanuram Agarwal, R/o of Saheed Nagar, P.S: Saheed Nagar, House No-.101A, Bhubaneswar, PIN-751007, Odisha. I declare by this affidavit No.64AA303524 dated 18/11/2023 that now onwards I shall be known as Ramavtar Agarwal for all future purposes.

I Niharbala Mahapatra (35), W/o Chittaranjan Mahapatra, resident of Jail Street, Lanjipalli, Berhampur, Ganjam, Odisha declared by this affidavit No-943 / dt.13-11-23 that now on words I shall be known as Niharabala Mahapatra for all future purposes.

## Sri Lankan textile giant plans unit in Khurda

POST NEWS NETWORK

**Bhubaneswar, Nov 20:** MAS Holdings, a global apparel conglomerate, has shown keenness in setting up of an integrated textile & apparel manufacturing facility in Odisha with an employment potential of over 5,000.

Mahesh Amalean, chairman of MAS Holdings called on Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik at Naveen Niwas here, Monday.

During the discussion, the Chief Minister said that all possible support will be provided to the company for its future venture in Odisha. The apparel firm plans to set up its textile unit

in Khurda region. It was learnt that support will be provided in terms of skilling and industrial eco-system development. The state government will provide suitable land and also facilitate necessary collaborations to establish supply chain and skill development centres.

MAS Holdings is a top global apparel company providing high-end apparel solutions for world's leading apparel brands. Headquartered in Sri Lanka, the company had 53 manufacturing units in 16 countries providing employment to about 1 lakh people.

ST Chairman VK Pandian was present during the discussion.

## Drones, three-tier security cover for Winter Session

PNN & AGENCIES

**Bhubaneswar, Nov 20:** Drones will be deployed to keep a tab on the crowd behaviour during the Winter Session of the state legislature that begins today, a senior police officer said.

The officer said the deployment of drone became necessary keeping in mind the past experience of impromptu gatherings and suicide bids in the vicinity of the Assembly that obstructed the proceedings inside the House.

This will be in addition to a three-tier security cover that has been thrown around the Assembly premises.

As many as 28 platoons (one platoon comprises 30 security personnel) along with 100 police officers have been deployed for the duration of the session from November 21 till December 30, they said.

The traffic police have made alternative route diversions to ensure smooth flow of traffic during the period, he added.

## CM inaugurates three housing complexes for slum dwellers



POST NEWS NETWORK

**Bhubaneswar, Nov 20:** Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik Monday inaugurated three housing complexes for the people belonging to economically weaker section (EWS), mostly the slum dwellers in Bhubaneswar.

The three housing complexes inaugurated by Patnaik are: Keshari Residency built in Satya Nagar, Buddha Vihar in Chandrasekharpur and Barunei Enclave in Subudhipur.

The housing complexes were constructed under urban housing scheme Saharanchal Awas Yojana. While Keshari Residency was built for the residents of Shantipalli area, Barunei Enclave

is meant for the slum dwellers of Tarini Basti. At least, 840 pucca houses have been distributed so far, an official release said.

As per the plan, around 7,000 pucca houses will be distributed among the slum dwellers, of which about 1,700 houses have already been constructed.

Of the 560 houses completed so far in Keshari Residency, Patnaik handed over the keys of 314 beneficiary families.

Similarly more than 300 houses in Barunei Enclave were handed over to beneficiary families by the Chief Minister.

The house given to the EWS families comprises one bedroom, a hall, a kitchen, and a latrine & bathroom, the official said.

## NODAL OFFICERS TO CURB HATE SPEECH

KULDEEP SINGH, OP

**New Delhi, Nov 20:** The Union Ministry of Home Affairs has informed the Supreme Court that Odisha has appointed a nodal officer in each district to devise strategy to curb the incidents of mob violence and hate speeches.

In an affidavit filed in the top court, the Union Home ministry informed that 28 states and Union territories have appointed nodal officers to combat hate speeches and mob violence. The affidavit was filed in compliance with the apex court's judgment dated July 17, 2018. The states that have filed their responses in compliance with the 2018 judgment are Andhra Pradesh, Andaman and Nicobar Islands, Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Chhattisgarh, Delhi, Goa, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Jammu & Kashmir, Jharkhand, Karnataka, UT of Ladakh, Lakshadweep, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Manipur, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Odisha, Puducherry, Punjab, Rajasthan, Sikkim, Telangana, Tripura, Uttarakhand and Uttar Pradesh.

## DHARITRI YOUTH CONCLAVE 2023

# Meet Padma Shri Jadav Payeng, the Forest Man of India

ARINDAM GANGULY, OP

**Bhubaneswar, Nov 20:** The drastic effects of climate change are now being felt globally and the tumultuous adverse impacts due to global warming are quite visible.

India is no exception to this phenomenon, while Odisha has been bearing a major brunt of the devastating climate change effects. Multiple cyclones on an annual basis, droughts, floods, coastal erosion, wildfires and lightning deaths have been ravaging the state. Victims of climate change are far too many in Odisha and the situation will only worsen over time unless urgent steps and concrete actions are put in place.

Given the backdrop, **Dharitri**, the most credible and impartial

regional daily of Odisha which will turn 50 this year, is initiating steps to create awareness among the youth of the state about this most urgent issue of climate change by hosting the third edition of **Dharitri Youth Conclave** November 24, 2023 at the Rail Auditorium here.

This year's conclave brings together youth icons and environmentalists to discuss climate emergency and the path ahead. The expert panelist includes Padma Shri Jadav Payeng - conservationist and Forest Man of India, Arun Krishnamurthy - environmental activist and founder of Environmental Foundation of India (EFI), Sneha Shahi - environmentalist and Richard Mohapatra - managing editor of Down To Earth magazine. Jadav 'Molai' Payeng, an en-



vironmental activist and forestry worker from Majuli, is popularly known as the Forest Man of India. Over the past several decades, he has planted and tended trees on a sandbar of

Brahmaputra river, turning it into a reserve forest.

The forest, called Molai forest after him, is located near Kokilamukh of Jorhat in Assam and spreads over an area of about

1,360 acres / 550 hectares. In 2015, Jadav was honoured with Padma Shri, the fourth highest civilian award in India. He was born in the indigenous Mising tribe of Assam.

In 1979, Payeng, then 19, encountered a large number of snakes which had died due to excessive heat after floods washed them onto the barren sandbar. That is when he planted around 20 bamboo seedlings on the sandbar. He not only looked after the plants, but continued to plant more trees on his own, transforming the area into a forest.

It is now home to Bengal tigers, Indian rhinoceros, and over 100 deer and rabbits. The forest also has monkeys and several species of birds, including a large number of vultures. There are several thousand trees. Bamboo

covers an area of over 300 hectares.

A herd of around 100 elephants regularly visits the forest every year and generally stays for around six months. They have given birth to 10 calves there in recent years.

His efforts became known to the authorities in 2008, when Forest officials went to the area in search of 115 elephants that had retreated into the forest after damaging property in Aruna Chapori village, about 1.5 km from the forest. The officials were surprised to see such a large and dense forest.

Payeng is ready to manage the forest in a better way and go to other places of the state to start a similar venture. Now his aim is to spread his forest to another sand bar inside Brahmaputra.

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# Youth murdered over love affair



POST NEWS NETWORK

**Gopalpur, Nov 20:** Police here recovered Monday the body of a missing youth from an abandoned well near the railway tracks at Chandapur village under Golanthara police limits in Ganjam district. The deceased youth was identified as Tutu Naik, 37, a native of Gobindapur village also under Golanthara police station limits. Officials said that they suspect it to be a case of murder.

According to information available, Tutu had developed an extra-marital relationship with a married woman of Chandapur village. Unhappy over the development, the brother and father of the woman had threatened Tutu and warned him of dire consequences. However, Tutu went on meeting the woman despite warnings. Tutu went to see the woman Saturday evening after the latter called him over telephone. However, he did not return home

that night. Unable to trace Tutu, his family members lodged a complaint at the Golanthara police station.

Police while investigating the case, found Tutu's towel and slippers near Chandapur school Monday morning. Using a sniffer dog they traced his body near the railway tracks.

Berhampur Sadar SDPO Shiba Shankar Mohapatra and IIC Bibekananda Mahanta later said that deep wound marks have been found on the head and face of the deceased. They said that it is suspected Tutu had been attacked by 4-5 miscreants and brutally murdered.

Police informed that Tutu's body has been sent for post-mortem and they are investigating the case (Complaint No-595/23). They said they are hopeful of solving the case soon. Mahanta said that police are confident of cracking the case and asserted that the culprits will be arrested soon.



**INCULCATING VALUES:** Kids participating in a race at the three-day annual sports meet of Gandhi Public School which was held at their city campus at Gunupur in Rayagada district, Monday

# Murmu bats for Santali

Knowledge of literature in various languages important for growth, says President



PNN & AGENCIES

**Baripada, Nov 20:** President Droupadi Murmu stressed Monday on creating awareness among tribal communities and urged Santali writers to be involved in it. The President said that literature is a mirror to the culture of a community and urged writers to write about the lifestyles of tribal communities so that others know about their life values. Most of the Santali literature is available in the oral tradition and writers play a big role in popularising any language, Murmu said while addressing the 36th Annual Conference and Literary Festival of All India Santali Writers' Association. "Authors are vigilant watchdogs of the society. They create awareness in society and guide it through their works. Many literateurs showed the path to our national movement during the freedom struggle. Building a strong and vigilant society is possible only through continuous development of awareness," Murmu said. Murmu, who spoke in Santali dur-

ing the entire programme, said language and literature are subtle threads that bind the nation together. "Literature is enriched by extensive exchange between different languages which is possible through translations," Murmu said.

"Readers of Santali language should also be introduced to the literature of other languages through translation. Similarly, there is need to make Santali literature reach the readers of other languages," added the President.

Murmu said natural co-existence of humans with nature is seen in tribal lifestyle as the tribal communities believe that the forest does not belong to them but they belong to it. This is important as climate change is a huge problem in modern times and nature-friendly living is very important to tackle it.

Appreciating writers and researchers who are contributing to Santali language and literature, Murmu said the use of the language has increased in government and non-government sectors since its inclusion in the Eighth Schedule of

## President takes walk down memory lane

**BARIPADA:** President Droupadi Murmu went down memory lane Monday while inaugurating an Eklayva Model Residential School in tribal dominated Mayurbhanj district. Expressing her happiness over the infrastructure of the school at Kuliana, Murmu, who hails from Rairangpur in Mayurbhanj district, expressed confidence that with its opening local children will have more opportunity for education. Recollecting her childhood, the 65-year-old President said, "There was no school near our home during our childhood. Therefore, we had to go away from home for study. Many children were deprived of education at that time as there were no schools nearby which is not the case today."

the Constitution in December 2003.

The President also appreciated that the All India Santali Writers' Association for promoting the Ol Chiki language since its recognition in 1988 and remembered former Prime Minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee during whose tenure Santali language was included in the Eighth Schedule.

"First we should ourselves give importance to our Santali language before expecting others to recognise it. Santali children should be encouraged to interact in the language among themselves," the President asserted.

Odisha Governor Raghubar Das, many prominent Santali academia from Odisha, Jharkhand, West Bengal, Bihar, Madhya Pradesh, Chhattisgarh and Assam attended the conference. Odisha Ministers Sudam Marndi and Jagannath Saraka were also present.

# Banaras-Sambalpur Express extended to Visakhapatnam

POST NEWS NETWORK

**Rourkela, Nov 20:** Union Ministers Ashwini Vaishnaw and Dharmendra Pradhan flagged off Monday the extension of Banaras-Sambalpur-Banaras Bi-Weekly Express up to Visakhapatnam at the railway station here. The train was flagged off from here towards Visakhapatnam and will run as a 'special' train. The regular service in the extended portion of this train will commence November 22 from Visakhapatnam and from Banaras on the next day.

Speaking on this occasion, Vaishnaw said the Sambalpur Junction railway station will be developed as a world-class station at a cost of ₹300 crore and the design will be prepared by the students of IIM Sambalpur and Veer Surendra Sai University of Technology (VSSUT), Burla.

The Railway Minister said allocation to Odisha increased substantially during the Modi government in comparison to the then UPA-II period. The annual al-

location in the railway budget for Odisha has been increased from ₹800 crore to ₹10,000 crore.

Similarly, Vaishnaw pointed out that the pace of work has also increased in Odisha. "The Railways constructed 450km of new tracks last year while earlier during the UPA time, only 50km of tracks were constructed in a year," Vaishnaw pointed out.

Pradhan said the Centre has allocated ₹18 lakh crore grant to Odisha during the last nine years while the UPA government had allocated only ₹3 lakh crore in its 10-year tenure. Similarly, mining revenue of the state has been increased to ₹50,000 crore in a year during the tenure of the current NDA government. He said the revenue earned during UPA's regime was only ₹5,000 crore.

Pradhan also requested Vaishnaw to run a special train from Sambalpur to Ayodhya as the Ram Temple will open from January 22 next year. He said it will help devotees travel to Ayodhya.

# Man held with 2 leopard hides

POST NEWS NETWORK

**Nayagarh, Nov 20:** A person has been arrested with two leopard skins in this district, police said Monday. Acting on a tip-off, the special task force (STF) of the Odisha police conducted a raid near Deer park located in Kuanria Dam of Daspalla locality Sunday and seized the leopard hides, they said. A case has been registered and an investigation is underway, they added.

The accused has been identified as Baidyraj Mallick (40) of Baliberena under Banigochha police limits in this district.

The skins will be sent to the Wildlife Institute of India in Dehradun for examination, police said. They added that other incriminating materials have also been found in possession of the man.

# New initiative for girl students of FM varsity



POST NEWS NETWORK

**Balasure, Nov 20:** The valedictory ceremony of 'Mahindra Pride Classroom' was held recently after a month-long training programme under the MoU signed between the Fakir Mohan University and Naandi Foundation, Hyderabad.

Vice-Chancellor Prof Santosh Kumar Tripathi, PG Council chairman Professor Sabyasachi Patnaik, Director of Student Welfare Dr Nihar Ranjan Raut, Regional Head of Naandi Foundation, Debnath Baral, State Coordinator Munmun Singh were among the dignitaries present at the programme.

Realising the need to impart knowledge along with personality development and imparting communication skills, the training programme was successfully implemented within a month due to the efforts of Professor Tripathi, officials said.

The vision of 'Mahindra Pride Classroom' is to empower urban girl students through skill development training and equip them with employability skills, enabling them to gain employment

**A total of 450 students of the university were divided into seven groups and received training. One topper and three students from each group were awarded**

opportunities in various fields. A total of 450 students of the university were divided into seven groups and received training. One topper and three students from each group were awarded by Naandi Foundation for their best performance and all the students were given certificates of participation.

In the coming days, all kinds of qualitative efforts will be made at the university to improve the collective personality of the students and create employment opportunities, the dignitaries said. Heads of various departments and students of the university were present during the programme.

# TUSKER TRAMPLES YOUTH TO DEATH

POST NEWS NETWORK

**Keonjhar, Nov 20:** The human-elephant conflict in Odisha continued with a youth being trampled to death by a tusker Monday at Charikonika forest road in this district. The deceased was identified as Madan Mohan Nayak of Akula Malanda village.

As per information available from locals Madan Mohan was going from Telkoi to Gopinath village along with two others on his bike. Suddenly an elephant appeared on the road and attacked the two-wheeler. While the two others on the bike managed to flee, Madan Mohan could not do so. The elephant held him with its trunk before trampling him to death, eye-witnesses said. The two who managed to escape were identified as Budharam Munda and Deepak Munda.

After getting information about the incident, Forest department officials reached the spot. They handed over the body of the deceased to the police who sent it for post-mortem to the Telkoi hospital after registering a case of unnatural death.

The incident sparked tension in the locality with local villagers surrounding Forest officials demanding compensation for the deceased's family. Later police pacified them and sent them home.



**DHARITRI YOUTH CONCLAVE 2023**  
CLIMATE CHANGE: THE PATH AHEAD

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All existence is a manifestation of God.

SRI AUROBINDO



## AI & Hallucination

The threat of artificial intelligence (AI) to human civilisation is assuming varied forms every passing day. Net-users have been, for some time now, confronted with an AI-powered simulation called "deepfake" which has the potential to wreak incalculable damage on the world, both financially and politically. At this stage a new attempt is being made to appropriate the common idiom of the human world to make AI appear as a legitimate and acceptable form of human intelligence and even an evolution of the human race.

The process has started very subtly. The Cambridge dictionary recently announced the word "hallucinate" as its word of the year. It does not mean the previously well known word with psychological connotation is being widely used in the world this year as if the psychic disorder associated with the concept of hallucination has suddenly become a global phenomenon. On the contrary, it is not referring to its existing definition as a human condition of seeing, hearing, feeling or smelling something that does not exist. It underscores the fact that the world is now confronted with the phenomenon of AI developing the capacity to make, or to be precise, fake things. To describe it as hallucinating is tantamount to attributing to AI a human trait, whereas it would be only appropriate to call it algorithmic junk or simply glitches, as some experts point out. By appropriating the language of psychology, psychedelics and even mysticism, the AI industry is trying to claim it is paving the way for the birth of animate intelligence that, it wants the world to believe, would be an evolutionary leap for humanity.

At the same time, AI technology advocates may easily argue the adoption of humanising metaphors to conceptualise machines has been happening in literature for the past three centuries since Frankenstein's monster appeared on the literary scene in the early 19th-century fiction. The full title of Mary Shelley's novel is Frankenstein; or, The Modern Prometheus. The fiction was written when Europe was witnessing profound scientific and technological upheaval. The author was apparently appalled by the prospect of the machine controlling man. Her use of the Greek mythical story of Prometheus as part of the title of the fiction is a reflection of the dilemma she was in about the benefits of technology for the welfare of mankind. According to the myth, a Greek god was condemned to eternal torment for stealing the power of fire for humans. The implication was similar fate lay in store for humans for letting science and technology be the driving force of their life.

The world seems to be caught again in a similar moral conflict with the advent of AI. The votaries of AI are arguing that the technology would bring about a sea change in industrial growth. Economists and software professionals shudder to think of the displacement of their technology once AI is given free reins. Already, fear has gripped the software industry that AI would wreak havoc making their technology obsolete resulting in widespread retrenchment in the field of technology. On the other hand, experts are cautioning the world about the moral aspect of the AI technology which, according to them, may manipulate human intelligence. The proponents of AI, however, dismiss such an eventuality and stress the benefits of AI technology. The theoretical battle is on.

In such a situation the attempt to use human psychological metaphors such as hallucination is being interpreted as the beginning of the encroachment of AI into human psychological territory.

The concerns being expressed worldwide about deepfake only bring home the inherent dangers of AI. Deepfake has the potential to produce clones of world leaders and make them speak what they have never spoken and that too very convincingly, as also fake financial transactions with the help of AI. All these can manipulate man's political and financial thinking and confuse most people enough to harm themselves, not just defraud them.

These revelations about giving human attributes to AI may show an ominous development for human civilisation now but that too shall, for sure, seem not so bad as time passes and humans evolve.



Lekha Rattanani

**THIS MAY BE A GOOD TIME TO BRING TAGORE AND GANDHI BACK ON THE PLAQUES AND BACK IN OUR LIVES**

Last month, External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar unveiled a statue of Rabindranath Tagore at the International Friendship Park in Vietnam's Bac Ninh province. Vietnam has cherished its link with Tagore and has been rekindling his three-day visit to Ho Chi Minh city in 1929 in many ways that includes a translation of his "Gitanjali" which is "Loi Dang" in Vietnamese and a commemorative postage stamp in the 80s in Tagore's honour. At the same time in Shantiniketan, the spiritual centre Tagore founded and the Visva-Bharati University within it have been celebrating the UNESCO world heritage status accorded in September. Plaques installed in the Visva-Bharati University to mark being declared a world heritage site carry the names of the chancellor of the university: PM Narendra Modi and vice chancellor: Bidyut Chakraborty, but make no mention of the founder and first Asian Nobel laureate Rabindranath Tagore.

In response, the university has clarified that the plaques are "temporary structures" which would be replaced. But this doesn't sit well as it comes at a time when Visva-Bharati is in the midst of another controversy as it tries to evict Nobel laureate Amartya Sen from Shantiniketan. A letter signed by the deputy registrar of the university said that Amartya Sen's house has been built on land belonging to the university. "It has been found from records and physical survey/demarcation that you are in unauthorised occupation of 13 decimals of land belonging to Visva-Bharati..." A decimal is 435.6 sq feet. His father Asutosh Sen had taken 125 decimals of land on lease from the varsity in 1943, Nobel laureate Amartya Sen said after the university served him a notice in April.

West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee has alleged that Amartya Sen is being harassed for his criticism of BJP's policies. Whether that is the case or not the controversy sub-



**A bit of history missing, a founder's name left out on a commemorative pillar or plaque, names and eras left out of textbooks are not uncommon now**

dued Tagore's 162nd birth anniversary commemorations in May and the celebration of Shantiniketan, with its historic buildings, landscapes, gardens, pavilions, educational and cultural traditions, being declared a UNESCO world heritage site.

There is no doubt that such a lapse can be easily corrected. But the controversy itself points to a growing tendency to criticise, disregard or ignore people, voices, ideas, ideologies and perspectives that don't fit. A bit of history missing, a founder's name left out on a commemorative pillar or plaque, names and eras left out of textbooks are not uncommon now. Earlier this year, the NCERT announced its decision to remove certain parts related to the Mughal period from the Class 12 history syllabus. The move which attracted much criticism was attributed to "syllabus rationalisation" where "overlapping" and "irrelevant" portions were dropped.

While some of these instances may be attributed to haste or oversight, most of them seem to be cases of selective amnesia when it comes to people, ideas and reasoning that do not fit in with current thinking and mindsets. This seems particularly so with Gurudev Tagore and Mahatma Gandhi whose thoughts, ideas and way of living are a contrast with the mores

of today. For one, Visva-Bharati represents the thinking of Tagore. Founded in December 1921 and declared a central university and institution of national importance by an Act of Parliament 1951, it is a residential school and centre for art based on ancient Indian traditions, distinct from and repudiating the British colonial educational system that was prevalent then. Instead, it looked more to an Asian modernity while drawing on ancient, medieval and folk traditions from across the region.

Both Tagore and Gandhi were keen on education with a distinct indigenous identity based on the cultural experience of India and were inspired by learning that was in harmony with nature. In keeping with this Tagore had in 1901 started with a kind of ashram school where children could play and learn in the open and under the shade of trees away from the closed confines of classrooms. His father Debendranath Tagore had bought the land in 1863, built an ashram and lived there in accordance with spiritual values. Rabindranath Tagore settled here later to follow his literary pursuits.

Today the distance between the vision and way of life of Tagore and Gandhi and current perspectives is growing. And though the effort and work done with fer-

our in their names continues, most of that energy is outside India. For instance, professors teaching the "International Course on Gandhian Nonviolence: Theory and Application" offered by Gujarat Vidyapith, Ahmedabad (founded by Mahatma Gandhi in 1920) have found that the course has drawn students from countries in Europe, North, Central and South America, Australia, Africa and Asia. Similarly attended have been the short-term training programmes organised by the Satyagraha Institute based in Brookings, S. Dakota, in Mexico and African countries like Nigeria, Ghana, Gambia and Senegal. A number of participants were and continue to be drawn from conflict zones and share a common angst about the growing violence in their own societies and felt it their duty to address this problem. Deeply impacted by the courses and training, most of them are now working with NGOs or have established their own organisations. True to the Gandhian tradition they focus on constructive work, resistance against injustice and elimination of violence in all forms.

Tagore's vision and ideas may be losing appeal in the new framework here, but outside candles are still being lit for India's most famous poet laureate. The Tagore Memorial Grove and walking museum, one of the first in the United States to spread the message of Tagore's borderless world was inaugurated this February at the Ray Miller Park in Houston, Texas. The energised crowd, mostly diaspora, Vedic chants, recitation of Tagore's musical compositions, offer hope that his memory and what he stood for lives on at a time when borders are being reinforced and major conflicts are in progress. This may be a good time to bring Tagore and Gandhi back on the plaques and back in our lives.

*The writer is the Managing Editor of The Billion Press.*

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### SPECTRUM ANTITRUST

## The attention economy goes to court

The Google antitrust trial has finally shown just how much the world's dominant search engine is defaulting – and able – to pay to be the default on smartphones and other devices: \$26 billion in 2021 alone, \$18 billion of which went to another tech giant, Apple. While Google has long tried to guard this number, it was always known to be large – and so it is.

What is Google paying for? When you set up a new iPhone, Apple could prompt you on which search engine to use as the default in its Safari web browser. But it doesn't; it simply selects Google automatically. Of course, one can go into "Settings" and change the default with a few taps of the screen (other options include Yahoo, Bing, DuckDuckGo, and Ecosia). But almost nobody will bother with that. So, Google transfers billions of dollars to Apple every year to minimise the chances that iPhone search-engine advertising revenue will flow to any company other than Google.

There are several different positions one could take on this issue. You could say that Google is the malefactor. But you also could say that Apple is. After

all, instead of requiring users to choose, it gives Google an unfair advantage in exchange for a hefty fee. Perhaps Google is really the victim. Since it has the best search engine, companies that want to maximise the value for their customers ought to choose it anyway. But rather than making Google the default for free, Apple is extorting it with the threat of selling that status to a higher bidder. It is arguably leveraging its single-buyer power to restrain trade and distort competition.

Or, you could say that this is just business-as-usual in the attention economy. By making enormous investments and displaying unmatched creativity and ingenuity, Apple has emerged as the premier supplier of hardware and software value chains. Thanks to its efforts, we now have the iOS platform, a powerful engine of human liberation that has furnished us with extraordinarily valuable access to information, communication, and entertainment technologies.

Not only should such ingenuity be rewarded financially; but such rewards should serve a larger purpose, by incentivis-

ing other current and future innovators to focus on creating products and services that are genuinely useful, rather than on pursuing socially damaging activities such as cryptocurrency grifts. The iPhone is one product that Apple can sell. But it can also sell iPhone users' attention to companies that are willing to pay for it. Why shouldn't Apple charge what it wants for providing that service?

Finally, one could argue for users to be prompted with a choice, in the interest of ensuring a level playing field among search engines. If Google has the best search engine, it might end up with a 60% share, whereas each of the other four might secure 10%. But what if users who are not fully informed or really paying attention opt for an inferior service unwittingly? The overall real-world user experience will have been degraded in the interest of an abstract "level playing field."

Each of these positions can be plausibly argued, and high-priced lawyers and economists have already been paid large sums of money to hone those arguments and provide supporting evidence. When it comes

to determining which opinion is most faithful to the facts or logically compelling, the devil is in the details. After all, the issue is complex. How does human attention work, exactly, and who should have the right to capture it, direct it, or harvest it for data?

In early-modern Poland, nobles had the right to control their serfs and harvest the wealth generated from their labour in the fields. When serfs tried to run away, Cossacks would hunt them down and bring them back for a small fee. It is not surprising to see some commentators referring to our current era as a dawning age of "techno-feudalism."

Still, this does not strike me as the right term, and I worry that it will lead us to adopt the wrong analogies in trying to understand precisely how the attention-information economy works. My problem is that I cannot think of a better metaphor. Devising one may be the first step toward accurately assessing the world we have wrought.

*The writer is Professor of Economics at the University of California, Berkeley.*

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### WISDOM CORNER

- “The degree of freedom from unwanted thoughts and the degree of concentration on a single thought are the measures to gauge spiritual progress.” **RAMANA MAHARSHI**
- “A religion contradicting science and a science contradicting religion are equally false.” **PD OUSPENSKY**
- “We're born alone, we live alone, we die alone. Only through our love and friendship can we create the illusion for the moment that we're not alone.” **ORSON WELLES**

### THIS DAY IN HISTORY

- **1920:** On Bloody Sunday, the Irish Republican Army killed 11 Englishmen suspected of being intelligence agents, and the Black and Tans took revenge the same afternoon, attacking spectators and players at a Gaelic football match in Croke Park, Dublin, killing 12 and wounding 60.
- **1931:** The horror classic Frankenstein, based on a stage adaptation of Mary Wollstonecraft Shelley's 1818 novel, was released in the United States, and it helped make the hulking monster, who was portrayed by Boris Karloff, one of the most recognizable characters in film history.
- **1941:** Tweety Bird makes its debut. The fictional cartoon canary also just called Tweety made his first appearance in A Tale of Two Kitties, a Warner Bros. Merrie Melodies cartoon. Tweety was created by animator Bob Clampett who worked on Looney Tunes cartoons.
- **1962:** War between China and India ends. The month long war began over a border dispute between the two countries and ended with a unilateral ceasefire by the Chinese.

### LOL

#### Giving odd excuses

The General went out to find that none of his GIs were there. One finally ran up, panting heavily. "Sorry, sir! I can explain, you see I had a date and it ran a little late. I ran to the bus but missed it, I hailed a cab but it broke down, found a farm, bought a horse but it dropped dead, ran 10 miles, and now I'm here." The General was very skeptical about this explanation but at least he was here so he let the GI go. Moments later, eight more GIs came up to the general panting, he asked them why they were late. "Sorry, sir! I had a date and it ran a little late, I ran to the bus but missed

it, I hailed a cab but it broke down, found a farm, bought a horse but it dropped dead, ran 10 miles, and now I'm here." The General eyed them, feeling very skeptical but since he let the first guy go, he let them go, too. A ninth GI jogged up to the General, panting heavily. "Sorry, sir! I had a date and it ran a little late, I ran to the bus but missed it, I hailed a cab but..." "Let me guess," the General interrupted, "it broke down." "No," said the GI, "there were so many dead horses in the road, it took forever to get around them."



J. Bradford DeLong

**IT IS NOT SURPRISING TO SEE SOME COMMENTATORS REFERRING TO OUR CURRENT ERA AS A DAWNING AGE OF 'TECHNO-FEUDALISM'**

## 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](mailto:edit@orissapost.com)

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

#### Wait gets longer

Sir, This refers to "Heartbreak in Ahmedabad," Orissa POST, November 20. The defeat of the Indian team in the ICC Men's Cricket World Cup 2023 finale at the Narendra Modi Stadium in Ahmedabad has shattered the hearts of millions of Indians. The defeat was particularly poignant given India's smooth run of wins throughout the tournament, making this loss all the more unexpected. Right from the outset, the Australian team dominated the game, leaving India that had eagerly anticipated a triumphant moment in shock. The final match's slow wicket, which drew criticism from experts, seemed to have worked against India. But, Australia's decision to bowl first capitalised on the pitch's evolving nature, which became more batting-friendly as the game progressed. Fans could do little but share heart-wrenching memes on the social media, attempting to find solace in humour after witnessing a victory slip away so close to their grasp. And so, as the once vibrant stadium hushed into silence, enthusiasm extinguished, Indians find themselves in a poignant hiatus, waiting for the next World Cup to vie for the coveted trophy.

**N Sadhasiva Reddy,**  
BANGALORE

#### Success story

Sir, A German delegation declared at the United Nations (UN) in 1996 that "Television is a rich man's medium." It was opposing the observance of "World Television Day" on November 21. The opponents were not impressed about the television's ability to catch the people's imagination as effectively as the radio did. From JJ Thomson's cathode ray days of 1887, to its primitive form in the 1920s, to what it is today, from the black and white beauty to the coloured marvel, the evolution of the television is surprising and inspiring at the same time. The vivid accounts of the winners and the losers, the distressed and the saviours, the politicians and the governments, the celebrities and the ordinary people make television a special medium. It is a compact package of three in one: education, news and entertainment. The television is a success story.

**Ganapathi Bhat,**  
AKOLA



# national

## of the day quote

Congratulations @JMIei for the victory in the presidential elections. Look forward to working closely with you to diversify and expand India-Argentina strategic partnership

NARENDRA MODI | PRIME MINISTER

Housing is a basic right of every human being. It's not right to use it as an advertisement for the Union government and the Prime Minister

PINARAYI VIJAYAN | KERALA CM

I want to appeal to the Centre not to play with the people here. Do not make the people here think that our blood is so cheap that a person found guilty of murder is enlarged on bail so easily

OMAR ABDULLAH | NATIONAL CONFERENCE LEADER

## SHORT TAKES

### 13 drown during Chhath festivities

**Patna:** A total of 13 people drowned during Chhath festivities in different water bodies in seven districts of Bihar since Sunday, officials said. The deaths were reported in Patna, Khagaria, Samastipur, Saharsa, Darbhanga, Munger and Besarai, a statement issued by the Bihar Disaster Management Department (DMD) said Monday. In Patna district, three persons drowned in a pond in Brahmapur area around 8.15 am, it said.

# Who defeated India this World Cup?

The fever, the frenzy and the fall. Finally the India hosted World Cup cricket extravaganza is over. From the opener, in the first week of October to the final in Ahmedabad November 19 when hosts India took on Australia and came a cropper, the build-up went all the way to the Moon. The return to Earth though, was a trifle tough. The moot question remains. Who defeated India?

A before and after remark should help put things in proper perspective. Australian captain Pat Cummins had before the match urged his team to embrace the one-sided crowd of 1,30,000 spectators. "A big crowd go silent would be satisfying", he added. His team ensured so.

Cummins judged correct on an absolutely partisan crowd rooting for the home team and Indian veteran Sunil Gavaskar stuck the nail on the head when he said India was superb in all ten matches. The truth is that the Indian team

a ball that knocked out both stump and breath, irrespective of either teams.

The duels between India's Ramakant Desai and Pakistan's Mohd Hanif or Jasu Patel's rich nine wicket haul against a Richie Benaud led Australia and many others that followed for decades thereafter, never heard a religion laced call ever in the stadiums.

Over time atmospherics changed to when celebration of an India-Pakistan T-20 cricket encounter in Dubai in October 2021 invited an FIR and arrests in Srinagar. Ditto police action Agra and Udaipur for near similar reasons. In November last year four coffee plantation workers-two of them minors-were booked by the Karnataka police for cheering for Pakistan in a match between Pakistan and New Zealand in a third country, says a published report. They were charged with "promoting enmity between groups".

Last month a Pakistani fan was stopped by police from cheering for his team during the Australia versus Pakistan ICC World Cup cricket match in Bangalore. A 45 second video of the fan wearing a Pakistan jersey can be seen arguing with a policeman that he is from Pakistan and is supporting his team. "If I won't say Pakistan Zindabad, what should I say?", he is seen questioning the cop who refuses to budge. Many such examples abound.

If the same scenario is transfixed in trans-national surroundings, how would things stand if Indians-turned British citizens in UK cheered for a visiting Indian cricket team in an encounter with England? By the same yardstick, how should they be treated? Or for that matter the Indian PM addressing the Indian diaspora in the USA asking them to vote for a particular American candidate in their Presidential elections?

It is these changing metaphors of sports that leads to the sort of pressure that a fabulously performing India cricket team witnessed in the finals in Ahmedabad. The build-up turned a game of cricket into a battle of sorts that put the host team under unimaginable pressure.

Who defeated India? We, each one of us 130 crore Indians. Let a game remain a game, don't weight it down with national honour!

to embrace the one-sided crowd of 1,30,000 spectators. "A big crowd go silent would be satisfying", he added. His team ensured so.

Cummins judged correct on an absolutely partisan crowd rooting for the home team and Indian veteran Sunil Gavaskar stuck the nail on the head when he said India was superb in all ten matches. The truth is that the Indian team



# EC seizes over ₹1,760cr from poll-bound states

AGENCIES

**New Delhi, Nov 20:** Till now, the Election Commission has seized ₹1,760 crore from the states of Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan, Telangana, Chhattisgarh and Mizoram, which is seven times more than the ₹239 crore seized in the 2018 Assembly polls.

The poll panel said that persistent efforts have led to an exponential increase in seizures in the five states. The EC said, "Seizures of over ₹1,760 crore have been reported in the five poll-going states since announcement of the elections, which is more than seven times (Rs 239.15 crore) the seizures made in the previous Assembly elections in these States in 2018."

The EC further said that the seizures demonstrate its unwavering commitment to ensuring free, fair and inducement-free elections by implementing robust measures to monitor incentives and curb electoral malpractices for a level playing field.

The poll panel also recalled that seizures of over ₹1,400 crore were made in the last six Assembly elections held in Gujarat, Himachal Pradesh,



Nagaland, Meghalaya, Tripura and Karnataka which was 11 times more than in the previous Assembly elections in these states. The commission said that this time it has also embedded technology into the monitoring process through the Election Expenditure Monitoring System (ESMS) which is proving to be a catalyst, as it brought a wide array of Central and State enforcement agencies together for better coordination and Intelligence sharing.

The panel said that in Chhattisgarh it made seizures worth ₹76.9 crore which includes cash to the tune of ₹20.77 crore, liquor worth ₹2.16 crore, drugs

The poll panel said the seizures made since the polls were announced October 9 are over seven times (₹239.15 crore) the seizures made in the previous assembly elections

While assembly polls have already been held in Madhya Pradesh, Chhattisgarh and Mizoram, voting will take place in Rajasthan and Telangana November 25 and November 30 respectively

worth ₹4.55 crore, precious metals worth ₹22.76 crore, freebies and other items worth ₹26.68 crore.

Similarly, in Madhya Pradesh, the panel made seizures worth ₹323.7 crore, including cash worth ₹33.72 crore, liquor worth 69.85 crore, drugs worth ₹15.53 crore, precious metals worth ₹84.1 crore and freebies worth ₹120.53 crore.

In the case of Rajasthan, the panel made seizures worth ₹650.7 crore, including cash to the tune of ₹93.17 crore, liquor worth ₹51.29 crore, drugs worth ₹91.71 crore, precious metals worth ₹73.36 crore and freebies worth ₹341.24 crore.

# IRB jawan among 2 tribal men shot dead in Manipur

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

**Imphal, Nov 20:** A security force personnel and his driver were shot dead by suspected members of the Imphal Valley-based terror groups in Kangpokpi district of Manipur on Monday, officials said here.

The duo were travelling in a vehicle when suspected terror group members belonging to the state's majority community carried out an ambush between Haraoethel and Kobsha villages, the officials said.

One of the deceased was working with the India Reserve Battalion (IRB), the officials said. The incident took place in an area adjacent to the Singda dam, which has become a hotspot for insurgent groups to target tribal community members during the ongoing ethnic violence in the northeastern state.

A tribal organisation claimed that the Kuki-Zo community people were attacked without provocation and declared a "shutdown" in Kangpokpi district. The area witnessed several incidents of gunfight between armed villagers since the ethnic strife between Meitei and Kuki communities began in the northeastern state in early May.

Additional forces have been deployed in the area and a search is underway to arrest those involved in the incident, a police official said. Condemning the "unprovoked attack" on the Kuki-Zo community people, the Kangpokpi-based Committee on Tribal Unity (COTU) declared an "emergency shutdown" in Kangpokpi district. The COTU, at a meeting, also demanded that the government make arrangements for a separate administration for tribals. More than 180 people have been killed since the violence erupted May 3 after a 'Tribal Solidarity March' was organised in the hill districts to protest against the Meitei community's demand for Scheduled Tribe (ST) status.

# FARMER BODIES HOLD PROTEST

Several farmer bodies in Punjab Monday held protests at the offices of deputy commissioners and sub-divisional magistrates at many places, seeking withdrawal of cases registered against farmers for burning stubble



# ED files prosecution complaint against Amway under PMLA

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

**New Delhi, Nov 20:** Amway India, which runs multi-level marketing (MLM) schemes, generated "proceeds of crime" worth more than ₹4,000 crore through its businesses and 70 per cent of it was siphoned off to overseas bank accounts, the Enforcement Directorate alleged Monday.

More than ₹2,859 crore collected from members was "siphoned off and parked" in the bank accounts of overseas investors in the name of dividend, royalty and payments for other expenses, the federal agency said in a statement after filing a charge-sheet against Amway India Enterprise Pvt Ltd recently.

The prosecution complaint was filed before a special Prevention of Money Laundering Act (PMLA) court in Hyderabad which took cognisance of it Monday, the Enforcement Directorate (ED) said.

The company was promoting an "illegal money circulation scheme under the guise of sale of goods" and "cheating the gen-

eral public by promising them very high commissions/incentives through simple enrolment of new members and by claiming that these commissions/incentives would continue in perpetuity", it said.

Amway, however, said it was in compliance with the law. "The prosecution complaint, currently, filed by the Enforcement Directorate pertains to the investigation dated back to 2011, and since then, we have been cooperating with the department, and have shared all the information as sought from time-to-time," an Amway spokesperson said.

Since Amway began its operations in India 25 years ago, it has been "committed to legal and regulatory compliance, and has diligently maintained a culture of compliance and integrity to the present day", the spokesperson said.

"We want to reiterate our continued confidence in the Indian legal and judicial system following the due process of law as we pursue our legal rights," the spokesperson said.

## SNIPPETS

### NIA files case against GS Pannun

**New Delhi:** The NIA has registered a case against designated terrorist Gurbat Singh Pannun and his banned organisation Sikhs For Justice (SFJ) for issuing video messages threatening people flying Air India, a spokesperson of the agency said Monday. The case has been filed under the Indian Penal Code and the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act, the official said. Pannun, the self-proclaimed general counsel of "unlawful association" SFJ, released the video messages on social media platforms November 4.

### HC orders release of Murugha seer

**Bangalore/Chitradurga:** The High Court of Karnataka Monday directed the prison authorities in Chitradurga to immediately release Shivamurthy Sharan, the pontiff of the Chitradurga Murugharajendra Bruhan Math, who was arrested and sent to judicial custody earlier in the day. A non-bailable warrant (NBW) was issued against the Seer earlier today by the Second Additional Sessions Judge B K Komala in Chitradurga, in the second Sexual Offences (POCSO) Act case against him. Health Ministry releases draft

### Air pollution levels creep up in Delhi

**New Delhi:** Air quality in Delhi and its suburbs deteriorated again overnight after a marginal improvement a day ago with forecasts suggesting that a major relief is unlikely in the coming days. The city's 24-hour average Air Quality Index (AQI), recorded at 4 pm everyday, stood at 348 Monday, deteriorating from 301 Sunday. It was 319 Saturday, 405 Friday and 419 Thursday. Neighbouring Ghaziabad (321), Gurugram (261), Greater Noida (318), Noida (331) and Faridabad (329) also recorded a dip in air quality. An AQI between zero and 50 is considered 'good', 51 and 100 'satisfactory', 101 and 200 'moderate', 201 and 300 'poor', 301 and 400 'very poor', 401 and 450 'severe' and above 450 'severe plus'.

# What was TN guv doing for 3 yrs, asks SC

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

**New Delhi, Nov 20:** The Supreme Court Monday questioned the delay on the part of Tamil Nadu Governor R N Ravi in granting assent to several Bills passed by the state Assembly, asking as to why should governors wait for parties to move the top court with their grievances.

Posing tough questions, a bench headed by Chief Justice D Y Chandrachud asked what was the governor doing for three years, noting that the Bills were pending since January 2020.

Observing that the issue was whether there was a delay in the discharge of the constitutional functions entrusted to the office of the governors, the court also said it would deal with the question whether a governor can sit over the Bills without sending them either back to the Assembly or to the President.

The top court made the observations as it deferred the hearing on the Tamil Nadu government's plea alleging delay by Governor Ravi to December 1 after Attorney General R Venkataramani, appearing for the Office of the Governor, sought a postponement.

The court, while adjourning the hearing, took note of the fact that the TN Assembly has re-adopted 10 Bills returned by the governor. "Let us await the decision of the governor (on re-adopted) Bills," said the bench also comprising Justice J B Pardiwala and Justice Manoj Misra.

The top court, meanwhile, also sought responses from the Centre and the office of Kerala Governor Arif Mohammed Khan on a separate plea of the Kerala government accusing him of not granting assent to several Bills cleared by the legislative assembly.

While hearing the plea of the TN government, the bench took note of the fact that Governor Ravi responded by saying that he was withholding his assent on ten Bills after the top court issued notices November 10.

## PUBLIC NOTICE

By the Notice public in general is informed that my client Sri Bhagabat Padhi, S/o. Late Harekrushna Padhi at present - Nahaka, PS-Jajpur Road, Dist- Jajpur and permanent AT/PO-Laxminagar, PS-Jajpur Road do hereby solemnly affirmed that my land documents were lost on the way from Jajpur Road to Panikoli by inadvertently those were listed below. 1. Missing Sale deed No.2775, ROR No.205/43, Plot No.488/755, 2. Missing Sale deed No.2853, ROR No.205/42, Plot No.488/754, 3. Missing ROR No.205/50, Plot No.488/763 of Late Ambika Padhi, W/o. Late Harekrushna Padhi. If any benignant person who found then please contact nearest police station or contact below address within seven days.

**Debendra Behera (adv.)**  
Chorda Bypass

**REGIONAL STRESSED ASSETS RECOVERY BRANCH : SAMBALPUR**  
Ground Floor, At: Christian Para, G.M. College Chowk,  
Dist.: Sambalpur, Odisha, PIN - 768001

### DEMAND NOTICE

(Under Sub Section (2) of Section 13 of the SARFAESI Act 2002)

Demand Notice u/s.13(2) of the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 is issued by **Bank of Baroda** as Secured Creditor against the following Borrowers of the Branch.

Borrowers: 1) Mrs. Damayanti Nayak, W/o: Mr. Kishore Chandra Jena, 2) Mr. Kishore Chandra Jena, S/o: Mr. Ram Chandra Jena, both are at Add-1: House No.: 1137/1138, Orbital House, Mahanadi Vihar, Nayabazar, Cuttack, PIN - 753004, Add-2: Flat No.: A-1 (101), Block No.: II, 1st Floor, Vyas Residency, Vedyvyas Chowk, Village: Lungei, P.S.: Brahmanitarang, Dist.: Sundergarh, Odisha, PIN-769041	NPA Date / 13(2) Date / Notice Return Reason	Limit (₹)	Rate of Interest	Total Dues
	12.02.2018 / 09.10.2023 / Addressee Left	₹16.00 Lakhs	9.4% at present	₹ 23,61,438/- as on 14.10.2023 with further interest there on at contractual rate plus costs, charges and expenses till the date of payment

**Description of Mortgaged property:** All that part & parcel of the residential property bearing Flat No.: A-1 (101) 1st Floor of Block -II , Vyas Residency ,Vedyvyas, Rourkela, Hal Khata No.: 73, Sabik Khata No.: 42 , Hal Plot No.: 1021 , Sabik Plot No.: 541 at Mouza: Lungei, P.S.: Brahmanitarang , Tehsil: Panposh, Dist.: Sundargarh, Measuring Area: 855 Sq. ft., Built up Area & 1026 Sq. ft., Super Built up Area in the name of **Mrs. Damayanti Nayak, W/o: Mr. Kishore Chandra Jena.**

You have committed default in repayment of loan mentioned above with further interest at the agreed rate availed from our Branch as mentioned above. The bank has issued notice under the said Act to you to repay the outstanding amount in the above mentioned table. The Demand Notice sent to you by registered post but it has been returned with the reason mentioned above. Again you have committed default in payment. You are called upon to pay the dues together with interest within **60 days** from the date of this notice failing which Bank will be constrained to exercise Right of Enforcement of Security Interest as against the secured asset given in the schedule of Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002. We hereby give you a notice that in terms of sub-section (13) of section 13 of the said Act, you are barred from transferring the secured asset mentioned above by way of sale, lease or otherwise other than in the ordinary course of business without prior written consent of the Bank. We further invite your attention to sub section (8) of section 13 of the said Act in terms of which you may redeem the secured assets, if the amount of dues together with all costs, charges and expenses incurred by the Bank is tendered by you, at any time before the date of publication of notice for public auction / inviting quotations / tender / private treaty. Please note that after publication of the notice as above, your right to redeem the secured assets will not be available. This Notice is without prejudice to any other right remedy available to the Bank including initiation of legal action.

**Place: Sambalpur, Date: 20.11.2023**

**Authorised Officer**  
**Bank of Baroda**





Defence Minister Rajnath Singh and External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar with Australian Deputy Prime Minister and Defence Minister Richard Marles and Foreign Affairs Minister Penny Wong during the 2nd India-Australia 2+2 Ministerial Dialogue, in New Delhi. India and Australia decided to further strengthen their strategic partnership to deal with "exceptional challenges" in the Indo-Pacific region and across the globe, with special focus on defence cooperation



India's humanitarian aid for the people of Palestine arrives in Egypt



Devotees perform rituals of 'Chhath Puja' on the bank of Yamuna, near Taj Mahal in Agra, Uttar Pradesh



British Deputy High Commissioner to East and Northeast India Andrew Fleming and British Deputy Trade Commissioner to South Asia Anna Shotbolt pose in front of a special tram before taking a ride in the tram for an 'Adda' interactive (session), in Kolkata, West Bengal



Fake white body bags representing those killed in the escalating conflict in Gaza are displayed as supporters from Pakistan, its main religious political party take part in a rally against the Israeli airstrikes on Gaza to show solidarity with Palestinian people, in Lahore, Pakistan



600 sheep are moved through Nuremberg's city center to reach their winter quarters west of the city from the Pegnitz Valley, Germany



Congress leaders Priyanka Gandhi Vadra and Sachin Pilot during a public meeting ahead of Rajasthan Assembly elections, in Kerkri

AP/PTI PHOTOS



# business

## of the day quote

The future of coal in India is bright. We believe that there are technologies that are available which can help India extract coal far more sustainably, use it far more sustainably, combust it far more sustainably, and post combustion treatment to coal can reduce CO<sub>2</sub> emissions by as much as 99 per cent

**SUNIL CHATURVEDI** | BOARD MEMBER, FUTURECOAL

This year so far 41,010 patents were granted as on November 9, so we have already surpassed the all-time high number and still five months are left

**UNNAT PANDEY** | CONTROLLER GENERAL OF PATENTS, DESIGNS AND TRADEMARKS

In Q3 2023, the Indian office sector witnessed heightened real estate activities as absorption reached the highest level since the pandemic and new completions increased to a five-quarter high

**SHRINIVAS RAO** | CEO, VESTIAN

## SHORT TAKES

### EPFO adds 17.21L

**New Delhi:** Retirement fund body EPFO recorded a net addition of 17.21 lakh members in September, according to payroll data released Monday. Month-on-month comparison of payroll data shows an increase of 21,475 net members over August 2023, a labour ministry statement said. Year-on-year comparison of payroll data reflects an increase of 38,262 net members over September 2022. Around 8.92 lakh new members enrolled during September 2023, the ministry said. Among these newly joined members, the age group of 18-25 years constitutes 58.92 per cent of total new members added during the month.

### TCS, ASX sign pact

**New Delhi:** Tata Consultancy Services (TCS) Monday said it has signed an agreement with Australia's primary securities exchange, ASX, to provide next-generation clearing and settlement platform to the Australian market. ASX will implement TCS BaNCS for market infrastructure to enable the transformation. The TCS product will be used to replace ASX's existing platform for cash equities clearing and settlement, TCS said in a statement.

### L&T's mega order

**New Delhi:** Larsen and Turbo (L&T) Monday said its hydrocarbon business has bagged a mega order from a client in the Middle East. While L&T did not disclose the exact value of the contract, it counts an order as "mega" when it is valued between Rs 10,000-15,000 crore. "The hydrocarbon business (L&T Energy Hydrocarbon - LTEH) of L&T has received a Letter of Intent for mega offshore order from a prestigious client in the Middle East," the firm said.

### P-notes investment

**New Delhi:** Investments in the Indian capital markets through participatory notes (P-notes) dropped to Rs 1.26 lakh crore in October-end after rising for seven consecutive months. The latest data includes the value of participatory note investments in Indian equity, debt, and hybrid securities. According to the latest data from markets regulator Sebi, the value of P-note investments in Indian markets -- equity, debt, and hybrid securities -- stood at Rs 1,26,320 crore at the end of October compared to a six-year high of Rs 1,33,284 crore at September-end.



There is a 90 per cent chance that the investor will lose money in the F&O segment, but we also know, and the data shows us, that if you take a long-term view of the market, and if you invest with a long-term perspective, you will rarely go wrong

**MADHAVI PURI BUCH** | CHAIRPERSON, SEBI

## DISNEY+HOTSTAR'S VIEWERSHIP RECORD

The India-Australia cricket World Cup final match Sunday created record peak viewership crossing 5.9 crore mark despite the host nation ending on the losing side, according to Disney+Hotstar. With this, it has surpassed the peak concurrency of 5.2 crore viewership recorded in the India - New Zealand semifinal match



# '2024 polls to hurt growth'

GDP growth to dip marginally to 6.3% in 2024; political uncertainty main risk, says Goldman Sachs



PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

**Mumbai, Nov 20:** India's real GDP growth will decline marginally to 6.3 per cent in 2024 from the 6.4 per cent estimated for 2023, an American brokerage firm said Monday.

The next calendar year will be of two halves, wherein the government spending before the upcoming General Elections will be the key driver for growth, while after the elections, it will be the re-acceleration in investment growth, especially from the private sector, Goldman Sachs said in a report.

From a fiscal year perspective, the brokerage said it expects growth to accelerate to 6.5 per cent for FY25 from the 6.2 per cent it has projected for the on-going FY24, it added.

"India has the best structural growth prospects in the region. We believe GDP growth is likely to stay robust at 6.3 per cent y-o-y (year-on-year) in 2024," the brokerage said, adding the country is less sensitive to potential external shocks like longer rates globally, persistent dollar strength and geopolitical uncertainties.

The brokerage said risks around the growth outlook are

CAD will widen to 1.9% of GDP in 2024 from the 1.3% expected in 2023, but the rupee is set to appreciate to 82 against the dollar at 2024-end against the 83 level at the end of 2023, the report noted

evenly balanced but added that "the main domestic risk" is emanating from political uncertainty with elections approaching in the April-June quarter of 2024.

The election season is already underway with Assembly polls in five states, which will be followed by the General Elections later, it said, adding that outcomes of these elections will be "keenly watched" by investors from the standpoint of economic reforms and/or policy continuity.

It expects headline consumer price inflation to come at 5.1 per cent for 2024, against 4.7 per cent estimated by the Reserve Bank. This will, however, be lower than the 5.7 per cent expected in 2023, it added.

"We expect the government to intervene through subsidies or other measures to keep a lid on food prices in an election year," it said.

The "somewhat elevated" inflation relative to the target will limit the room for monetary easing, and the RBI will cut rates by only 0.50 per cent to 6 per cent by early 2025, the brokerage said, adding that there will be a cut of 0.25 per cent each in Q4 2024 and Q1 2025.

# 'DAYS OF HISTORIC NUMBERS' FOR INDIAN AVIATION

## DOMESTIC AIR PASSENGER TRAFFIC TOUCHES RECORD HIGH NOVEMBER 18, 19. IT WAS ALSO THE HIGHEST POST-COVID AIR TRAFFIC FOR TWO CONSECUTIVE DAYS

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

**New Delhi, Nov 20:** The domestic air traffic touched a new high Sunday as airlines carried 4,56,910 passengers, marking two "consecutive days of historic numbers".

On Saturday also, the air traffic number reached a new high of 4,56,748 passengers, according to official data.

"Post-Covid, India's domestic aviation's turnaround story has not just been overwhelming but inspiring as well. Positive attitude, progressive policies, and



India is one of the fastest-growing civil aviation markets in the world and domestic air passenger traffic registered an annual growth of nearly 11% to 1.26cr in Oct

More than a feat for the aviation industry, it is a collective achievement for the people of India. With this, there is no stopping us from becoming the world's largest aviation market!

**JYOTIRADITYA SCINDIA** | CIVIL AVIATION MINISTER

deep trust among passengers are taking it to new heights with every flight, every day," the civil aviation ministry said in a post on X Monday.

There were 4,56,910 domestic air passengers and 5,958 flight movements Sunday (November 19). The count was much higher than the 3,93,391 passengers and 5,506 flight movements recorded November 19 last year.

Sharing the record numbers, Civil Aviation Minister Jyotiraditya Scindia Monday said there is no stopping the

country from becoming the world's largest aviation market. "The josh is high-est sir! India's air passenger traffic breaks the previous day's record, thus marking two consecutive days of historic numbers," he said in a post on X.

Meanwhile, the Mumbai International Airport (CSMIA) Monday said it recorded passenger traffic of more than 4.25 million in October, an 18 per cent growth compared to the year-ago period.

"International passengers at CSMIA alone witnessed a strong 20 per cent growth with more than 1.14 million passengers travelling, in comparison to 0.94 million same period last year," it said in a release.

## Gold drops from two-week highs

REUTERS

**Washington, Nov 20:** Gold prices were off last session's two-week highs Monday as US Treasury yields bounced back, with investors looking forward to the minutes of Federal Reserve's last meeting to gauge the US central bank's policy stance.

Spot gold was down 0.1% to \$1,977.30 per ounce as of 1017 GMT, after rising to as high as \$1,993.29 Friday. US gold futures fell 0.3% to \$1,979.60.

The minutes of the Fed meeting will be released Tuesday.

The dollar slipped 0.3% to a more than a 2-1/2-month low against its rivals, limiting gold's losses today.

Holdings of SPDR Gold Trust, the world's largest gold-backed exchange-traded fund, rose 1.5% Friday. Elsewhere, spot silver slipped 0.7% to \$23.57 per ounce, while platinum rose 0.1% to \$900.11 and palladium was up 0.2% to \$1,055.25 per ounce.

## CRAZE OVER

# Funding drought hits crypto startups in '23

6 CRYPTOCURRENCY STARTUPS RAISE ONLY \$2.1BN THIS YEAR, 80% DOWN FROM 2022

INDO-ASIAN NEWS SERVICE

**New Delhi, Nov 20:** Crypto startups have raised \$2.1 billion this year to date globally, or nearly 80 per cent less than last year, a report showed Monday.

After raising more than \$20 billion in funding rounds in 2021 and 2022, crypto startups find it difficult to get fresh capital these days, according to data presented by AltIndex.com.

Although the entire market significantly recovered from the 2022 crypto winter, investors' interest in crypto startups remains low.

"So far, 2023 has been a challenging year for crypto fundraising as investors continue pulling back, fearing risks from regu-

Year	Funding (Billion)
2019	\$1.1
2020	\$1.7
2021	\$11.1
2022	\$10.1
2023	\$2.1

latory twists and an uncertain economy," the report said.

According to Crunchbase data, crypto startups raised \$1.1 billion in 2019. A year later, this figure jumped to almost \$1.7 billion. Still, that was nothing compared to investment growth in 2021, when the entire

crypto market exploded.

That year alone, crypto startups raised \$11.1 billion in funding rounds, or six times more than a year before. Statistics show that 2022 saw just as impressive \$10.1 billion worth of investments, pushing a two-year total funding amount to over \$20 billion.

In Q1 and Q2 this year, crypto startups raised over \$800 million, 80 per cent less than in the same quarters a year ago. Between July and September, the total funding amount dropped by a further 90 per cent to \$426 million.

"Statistics show crypto startup funding continued to grow more scarce, with only \$75 million raised in the past month and a half, turning Q4 into potentially one of the worst quarters in years," the report noted.

# ₹ touches new nadir of 83.38

RUPEE FALLS 12 PAISE TO CLOSE AT ALL-TIME LOW OF 83.38 AGAINST US DOLLAR

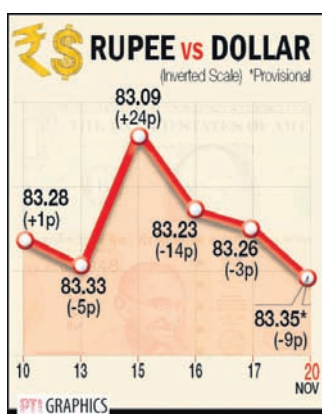
PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

**Mumbai, Nov 20:** The rupee declined by 12 paise to settle at its all-time low of 83.38 against the US dollar Monday, tracking a negative trend in domestic equities.

Foreign fund outflows also weighed on the local unit, forex traders said.

At the interbank foreign exchange market, the local unit opened at 83.25 and settled at its lifetime low level of 83.38 against the dollar, registering a fall of 12 paise from its previous close.

On Friday, the rupee settled at 83.26 against the American currency. Earlier, the rupee closed at its lowest level of 83.33 against the dollar November 13, this year.



The dollar index, which gauges the greenback's strength against a basket of six currencies, was trading 0.42 per cent lower at 103.48.

Brent crude futures, the global oil benchmark, rose 0.66 per cent to \$81.14 per barrel.

**STOCKS IN RED AGAIN**  
Benchmark equity indices Sensex and Nifty stayed on the back foot for the second straight

The Indian rupee ended weaker on Monday as sustained dollar demand from state-run and foreign banks maintained pressure on the local unit

**SRIRAM IYER** | SENIOR RESEARCH ANALYST, RELIANCE SECURITIES

session Monday due to selling in auto, utility and commodity shares amid high valuation concerns and fresh foreign fund outflows.

In a volatile trade, the 30-share BSE Sensex declined 139.58 points or 0.21 per cent to settle at 65,655.15. During the day, it fell 246.93 points or 0.37 per cent to 65,547.80. The Nifty dropped by 37.80 points or 0.19 per cent to 19,694 as 27 of its components closed in the red, 21 in the green and two unchanged.

The BSE benchmark declined 187.75 points or 0.28 per cent to settle at 65,794.73 on Friday. The Nifty slipped 33.40 points or 0.17 per cent to 19,731.80.

## Microsoft opens doors for Altman

INDO-ASIAN NEWS SERVICE

**San Francisco, Nov 20:** Putting an end to the high-voltage drama that started last Friday, Microsoft Chairman and CEO Satya Nadella Monday announced to hire former OpenAI CEO Sam Altman and co-founder Greg Brockman to help the company pursue its advanced AI dreams with a new vertical, also called 'Sam'.

Altman, who was fired by OpenAI last week, was in discussions with the company's board for a re-entry but the deal fell apart and the ChatGPT developer hired former Twitch CEO Emmett Shear as interim CEO.

In a post on X, Nadella said they are "extremely excited to share the news that Sam Altman and Greg Brockman, together with colleagues, will be joining Microsoft to lead a new advanced AI research team".

# PSBs make largest one-day govt bond buy in 7 yrs

REUTERS

**Mumbai, Nov 20:** Indian private sector banks made the largest single-session purchase of government bonds in seven years Friday, including a big investment on behalf of a corporate, traders said.

These banks bought bonds worth a net of Rs 83.43 billion (\$1 billion), the biggest such purchase since November 15, 2016, as per data from Clearing Corp of India. This pushed overall buying to above Rs 200 billion for November, after net sales of Rs 101 billion in October.

A large corporate likely bought around Rs 50 billion of the benchmark paper through a private sector bank, traders said.

"Though Friday's purchase consists of buying for a constituent client, private banks have

Private sector banks brought bonds worth a net of ₹83.43bn

Overall buying above ₹200bn for Nov, after Oct sales of ₹101bn



been increasing purchases for their own books as they hold a chunky share of maturing papers, and this money needs to be deployed," a senior treasury official at a private bank said.

Inflows of nearly Rs 1.7 trillion are due over the next one month as the 8.83% 2023, 4.56% 2023 and 7.68% 2023 papers mature. Most of the money is re-in-

vested in liquid papers, including the five-year and the benchmark 10-year paper; another treasury official said.

Improving macroeconomic conditions are also aiding the pick-up in bond buying.

The 10-year US yield has dropped over 55 basis points in November to nearly 4.45%. Traders also said that expect-

US data has started to weaken and treasury yields have come down, with indications that the rate cycle has peaked. This is also leading to an increase in trading activity from private banks

**ALOK SINGH** | GROUP TREASURY HEAD, CSB BANK

**GOVERNMENT OF ODISHA** No. O-1555  
**e-Procurement Notice**  
E-mail: rw\_balliguda@yahoo.com  
Bid Identification No. Online Tender/12/SERW Balliguda/2023-24  
**NATIONAL COMPETITIVE BIDDING THROUGH e-Procurement**

- Name of the Work : Road Works - 2 Nos. Estimated Cost : Rs.50.85 lakhs to Rs.63.03 lakh (approximately)
- Period of Completion : 2 (Two) Calendar Months
- Date & time of availability of Bid documents in the portal : From 22.11.2023, 10.00 A.M. to 29.11.2023, 5.00 P.M.
- Last date/time for receipt of bids in the portal : 29.11.2023 upto 5.00 P.M.
- Last date/time for seeking of Tender Clarification : 28.11.2023 upto 5.00 P.M.
- Date & time of opening of Technical Bid : 30.11.2023 at 11.00 A.M.
- Date & Time of Opening of Financial Bid : 04.12.2023 at 11.00 A.M.
- Name & Address of the Officer Inviting Bid : Superintending Engineer, R.W. Division, Balliguda

Further details, corrigendum(s) etc. can be seen from the e-procurement portal "https://www.tendersorissa.gov.in".  
Sd./ Superintending Engineer  
Rural Works Division, Balliguda  
OIPR-25164/11/0014/2324

**ODISHA LIFT IRRIGATION CORPORATION LIMITED** (A Government of Odisha Undertaking)  
**OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER, L.I.DIVISION,CUTTACK**  
e-mail Id:eeolic\_ctc@yahoo.in  
No.CAD-2939 **e-Procurement Notice**  
Bid Identification No.14/OLIC(CTC)/Dt.18.11.2023

- Name of Work : Installation & energisation of 10 Nos. LIPs (3 Packages) in different blocks of Jagatsinghpur District under RIDF XXIX Grant 2023-24
- Estimated Cost : As per DTCN
- Cost of Tender Paper : Rs.10000 in online mode)+ 18% GST as reverse charge basis vide challan GST No. 21AAACOS986G1ZF of OLIC.
- Date & Time of Publication : Dt.28.11.2023 from 10.00 A.M.
- Date & Time of Closing : Dt.07.12.2023 at 5.00 P.M.
- Date & Time of Opening of Bid : Dt.08.12.2023 at 10.00 A.M.

The bidders have to participate in online bidding only.  
Further details can be seen from the website www.tendersorissa.gov.in. Addendum/Corrigendum/Cancellation of tender if any can be seen in the said website.  
OIPR-32238/11/0021/2324 Sd./ Executive Engineer

**GOVERNMENT OF ODISHA**  
**OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER RURAL WORKS DIVISION, DEOGARH**  
E-mail Id: eerw\_deogarh@yahoo.co.in  
No. O-1562 **E-Procurement Notice**  
Bid Identification No. SEDGH-Online-10/2023-24

- No. of Road Works : 02 Nos.
- Estimated Cost : Rs.10.08 lakhs and Rs.19.33 lakhs
- Mode of submission of Tender : Tender shall be submitted online in www.tendersodisha.gov.in
- Availability of tender for online Bidding : 30.11.2023, 10.00 A.M. to 06.12.2023 upto 5.00 P.M.
- Date and time of opening of Tender : 07.12.2023, 10.00 A.M.
- Other details can be seen from the website www.tendersodisha.gov.in
- Corrigendum/Addendum if any shall only be published in the above website. Sd./ Superintending Engineer R.W. Division, Deogarh

OIPR-25087/11/0013/2324



# international



**NATO supports Bosnia's territorial integrity and is concerned by malign foreign interference, including by Russia, in the volatile Balkans region that went through a devastating war in the 1990s**  
JENS STOLTENBERG | NATO SECRETARY GENERAL

## MORE FUN

Hong Kong Disneyland opened its first Frozen-themed attraction Monday, with thousands of eager visitors turning up to experience the new rides, some lining up for hours to get an early start



## of the day quote

**A Chinese warship acted in a dangerous and unprofessional manner during an incident with an Australian navy vessel that injured a military diver**  
ANTHONY ALBANESE | AUSTRALIA'S PM

**China will work with other countries to address risks brought by the development of AI. China is ready to promote the safe development of AI**  
XI JINPING | CHINA PRESIDENT

**I am deeply shocked that two UNRWA (UN Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East) schools were struck in less than 24 hours in Gaza**  
ANTONIO GUTERRES | UN SECRETARY-GENERAL

## SHORT TAKES

### 9 dead in Turkey

**Ankara:** Severe storms and flooding have left nine people dead across Turkey, officials said Monday, including one seaman who died when a cargo ship sank off Turkey's Black Sea coast. Eleven other crew were reported missing. The Turkish-flagged Kafkametler sank on Sunday after hitting a breakwater outside the harbour off the town of Ereğli, some 200 km (124 miles) east of Istanbul. Transportation and Infrastructure Minister Abdulkadir Uraloglu said the vessel, which was on its way to the western Turkish port of Izmir, smashed into the breakwater several times before it sank.

### Former US first lady Rosalynn dies

**Atlanta (US):** Former first lady Rosalynn Carter, the closest adviser to Jimmy Carter during his one term as US President and their four decades thereafter as global humanitarians, has died at the age of 96. The Carter Centre said she died Sunday after living with dementia and suffering many months of declining health. The Carters were married for more than 77 years, forging what they both described as a "full partnership." Unlike many previous first ladies, Rosalynn sat in on Cabinet meetings, spoke out on controversial issues and represented her husband on foreign trips.

### Papua New Guinea volcano erupts

**Tokyo:** A volcano in Papua New Guinea erupted Monday, and the Japan Meteorological Agency said it was assessing a possible risk of a tsunami for Japanese coasts. Mount Ulawun on the island of New Britain in Papua New Guinea erupted at around 3:30 pm (0630 GMT) Monday, spewing volcanic smoke as high as 15,000 meters (50,000 feet), the agency said, quoting the Volcanic Ash Advisory Center in Darwin, Australia. The agency said it was assessing a possible impact, including the risk of a tsunami approaching Japan later Monday.

### Over 400,000 Afghans return

**Islamabad:** More than 400,000 Afghans living in Pakistan illegally have returned to their homeland since Islamabad last month announced a crackdown against immigrants residing in the country without any valid document, according to an official of the Taliban government in Afghanistan. Pakistan in October announced to set November 1 as the date for unleashing a general crackdown on illegal aliens if they had not returned to their countries by then.

# Premature Gaza babies reach Egypt

REUTERS

**Gaza/Jerusalem, Nov 20:** A group of 28 prematurely born babies evacuated from Gaza's biggest hospital were taken into Egypt for urgent treatment Monday, while Palestinian authorities and the WHO said 12 people were killed at another Gaza hospital encircled by Israeli tanks.

The newborns had been in north Gaza's Al Shifa hospital, where several others died after their incubators were knocked out amid a collapse of medical services during Israel's military assault on Gaza City.

Israeli forces seized Shifa last week to search for what they said was a Hamas tunnel network built underneath. Hundreds of patients, medical staff and displaced people left Shifa at the weekend, with doctors saying they were ejected by troops and Israel saying the departures were voluntary. Live footage aired by Egypt's Al Qahera TV showed medical staff carefully lifting infants from inside an ambulance and placing them in mobile incubators, which were then wheeled across a car park towards other ambulances.

The babies were transported on Sunday to a hospital in Rafah, on the southern border of



The United Nations says two thirds of Gaza's 2.3 million people have been made homeless

About 240 hostages were taken during a deadly across-border rampage into Israel by Hamas militants on October 7

Hamas-ruled Gaza, so their condition could be stabilised ahead of transfer to Egypt. The head of the World Health Organization (WHO), Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus, said 12 had been flown on to Cairo.

All of the evacuated babies were "fighting serious infections", a WHO spokesperson said. Eight infants have died since doctors at Shifa originally raised an international alarm this month about 39 premature babies at risk from a lack of infection control, clean water and medicines in the neo-natal ward. At the Indonesian Hospital,

funded by Jakarta, Gaza's health ministry said at least 12 Palestinians were killed and dozens wounded by firing into the complex encircled by Israeli tanks. Health officials said 700 patients along with staff were under Israeli fire.

The Palestinian news agency Wafa said the facility in the northeast Gaza town of Beit Lahia had been hit by artillery rounds. Hospital staff denied there were any armed militants on the premises. WHO chief Tedros said he was "appalled" by the attack that he too said had killed 12 people, including

patients, citing unspecified reports.

The Israeli Defence Forces (IDF) said troops had fired back at fighters in the hospital while taking "numerous measures to minimise harm" to non-combatants. "Overnight, terrorists opened fire from within the Indonesian Hospital in Gaza toward IDF troops operating outside the hospital," the IDF told Reuters. "In response, IDF troops directly targeted the specific source of enemy fire. No shells were fired toward the hospital."

Like all other health facilities in the northern half of Gaza, the Indonesian Hospital has largely ceased operations but is still sheltering patients, staff and displaced residents. Israel has ordered the evacuation of the north, but thousands of civilians remain. Food, fuel, medicines and water have been running out across the enclave under Israel's six-week-old siege. Medical charity Medecins Sans Frontieres said its clinic in Gaza City also came under fire on Monday.

In the south, where hundreds of thousands of Gazans who fled the north of the enclave are sheltering, at least 14 Palestinians were killed in two Israeli strikes on houses in Rafah, according to Gaza health authorities.

## Rajesh Agrawal eyes Parliament seat from Leicester

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

**London, Nov 20:** Indore-born entrepreneur and London's Deputy Mayor for Business, Rajesh Agrawal, has been selected by the Opposition Labour Party as its parliamentary candidate to contest from the constituency of Leicester East in the next general election.

Agrawal, 46, took to social media Sunday to announce his selection and pledged to deliver as a member of Parliament for all residents of a constituency that represents one of the largest South Asian origin populations in the UK.

In a local parliamentary contest, he beat another Indian-origin prospective candidate Councillor Rishi Madhani to be named Labour's choice for the next polls - expected in 2024. "I'm honoured to be selected as the Labour Party's Parliamentary candidate for Leicester East," Agrawal posted on X.

"It's time to use this auspicious moment to reset Leicester East, with a Labour MP who'll deliver for everyone who lives here. Together, let's get Britain's future back," he said. The Labour politician, who has the backing of London Mayor Sadiq Khan among others, pledged to continue to champion the ideals he has been committed to as London's Deputy Mayor.



INDO-ASIAN NEWS SERVICE

**San Francisco/London, Nov 20:** Hundreds of families are suing social media giants like TikTok, Snapchat, YouTube and Meta (parent company of Instagram and Facebook) in the US and they feel the tech companies as "big, bad monsters".

According to the BBC, the plaintiffs include ordinary families and school districts from across the US. "I literally was trapped by addiction at age 12. And I did not get my life back for all of my teenage years," Taylor Little, now 21, was quoted as saying in the report that came out on Monday.

Taylor's social media addiction led to suicide attempts and years of depression. "If I had my phone taken away, it felt like



Democratic lawmakers throw flares during a parliament session in Tirana, Albania, Monday. Albanian opposition lawmakers disrupted the Parliament's session again Monday to protest against what they say is increasingly authoritarian rule by the governing Socialists

# Shakira reaches deal to avoid tax fraud trial

ASSOCIATED PRESS

**Barcelona, Spain, Nov 20:** Pop star Shakira agreed to a deal with Spanish authorities on the first day of a tax fraud trial in Barcelona on Monday, avoiding the risk of a prison sentence.

Shakira told the presiding magistrate, Jose Manuel del Amo, that she accepted the agreement reached with prosecutors. She answered "yes" to confirm her acknowledgement of six counts of failing to pay the Spanish government 14.5 million euros (about USD 15.8 million) in taxes between 2012 and 2014.

Under the deal, Shakira is to receive a suspended three-year sentence and a multi-million



euro fine. The trial, which would have included more than 100 witnesses over the following weeks, was instead called off after just eight minutes.

Prosecutors said in July that they would seek a prison sentence

of eight years and two months and a fine of 24 million euros (USD 26 million) for the singer, who has won over fans worldwide for her hits in Spanish and English in different musical genres.

The case hinges on where

# WORST DENGUE OUTBREAK IN BANGLADESH

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

**Dhaka, Nov 20:** Dengue cases in Bangladesh have crossed the 300,000 mark as the nation grapples with its worst outbreak of the vector-borne disease, media reports said Monday.

Bangladesh's overall tally of dengue infections stood at 301,255, with the country logging 1,549 deaths by the viral disease this year, the bdnews24.com news portal reported, citing data from the Directorate General of Health Services.

On Sunday alone, 1,291 new cases of the viral fever were reported, according to the report. A total of 4,949 patients, including 1,127 in Dhaka, are receiving treatment at hospitals across the country.

After August saw 71,976 cases and 342 deaths, a record 79,598 dengue cases and 396 deaths were recorded in September amid the worst outbreak of the disease, while 67,769 cases and 359 deaths were reported in October.

The death toll in the first 19 days of November was 201, while 30,080 new dengue cases were recorded during this period.

According to the report, experts blamed a prolonged monsoon, rising temperatures and a lack of effective measures to kill the Aedes aegypti mosquito, the known carrier of the dengue virus, for the outbreak.

It said an alarming surge of the Aedes aegypti mosquito was recorded in a government-funded pre-monsoon survey of Dhaka, fuelling the worst spread of the disease over the past five years.

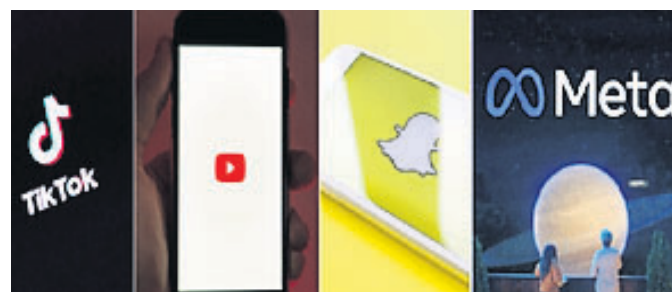
# US FAMILIES SUING SOCIAL MEDIA GIANTS

INDO-ASIAN NEWS SERVICE

having withdrawals. It was unbearable. Literally, when I say it was addictive, I don't mean it was habit-forming. I mean, my body and mind craved that," she was quoted as saying.

Taylor also struggled with content around body image and eating disorders. Taylor and hundreds of other American families are suing four of the biggest tech companies - Meta (parent company of Facebook and Instagram), TikTok, Google and Snap Inc (parent of Snapchat).

"Lawyers for the families believe the case of 14-year-old British schoolgirl Molly Russell is an important example of the potential harms faced by teenagers," the BBC report noted. Russell, a seemingly happy teenager from northwest London,



was found dead in her bedroom in November 2017.

It later emerged she had viewed masses of content related to suicide, depression and anxiety online. Russell's name is mentioned a dozen times in the master complaint submitted to the court in California. In a breather for these families, a federal court in the US last week rejected social media giants' mo-

tion to dismiss dozens of lawsuits, accusing them of running platforms "addictive" to kids and allegedly spreading child sex abuse materials.

US District Judge Yvonne Gonzalez Rogers rejected their motion, saying that Meta, ByteDance, Alphabet (Google's parent company), and Snap (Snapchat's parent company) must proceed with a lawsuit al-

leging their social platforms have adverse mental health effects on children.

"Because children still developing impulse control are uniquely susceptible to harms arising out of compulsive use of social media platforms, defendants have 'created a youth mental health crisis' through the defective design of their platforms," according to the ruling.

"Further, these platforms facilitate and contribute to the sexual exploitation and sextortion of children, as well as the ongoing production and spread of child sex abuse materials (CSAM) online. To that end, defendants know that children use their products, both from public and internal data," the ruling read. Lawyers for the families called it a "significant victory".



# Qatar test awaits India



PIC: BIKASH NAYAK

**BLUE TIGERS SEEK INSPIRATION FROM FAMOUS 2019 STALEMATE AGAINST QATAR IN REMATCH AGAINST THEM IN A 2026 FIFA WORLD CUP SECOND ROUND QUALIFIERS GAME**

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

**Bhubaneswar, Nov 20:** India will take inspiration from their famous goal-less draw against Asian champions Qatar four years ago when they face the same opponents in a 2026 FIFA World Cup second round qualifiers match here Tuesday.

Their confidence boosted after the 1-0 away win against Kuwait November 16, India will hope to give a tough fight to Qatar, though the fancied visiting side will start as firm favourites.

India had surprised the football fraternity when they soaked up waves of attacks to hold Qatar 0-0 September 10, 2019 in their 2022 World Cup second round qualifiers in Doha. Qatar were then in red-hot form, having won the Asia Cup title in early 2019.

Talismanic India captain Sunil Chhetri was absent in that match as he was indisposed and he would be eager to show his class at the Kalinga Stadium Tuesday, though scoring chances for the hosts are expected to be far less than the visitors.

**It is going to be very difficult, Qatar are one of the pre-tournament favourites from the group. We do not have high expectations but we know we have a chance and we have to grab that with both hands**

IGOR STIMAC | INDIA HEAD COACH

Goalkeeper Gurpreet Singh Sandhu, who had captained the team that night in Doha in front of a partisan expatriate crowd, will have to be at his best again Tuesday to thwart the marauding Qataris like he had done four years ago.

Ranked 61 in the world, Qatar are coming off an 8-1 thrashing of Afghanistan in their earlier match in Doha November 16, and they would be looking to make the record of the drawn game in 2019 straight with a dominating win against the 102nd-ranked India. Qatar were 1-0 victors in the reverse fixture of the two teams in the 2022 World Cup qualifiers.

**Matchday**  
**INDIA vs QATAR**  
TIME: 7 PM  
TELECAST: SPORTS 18 NETWORK  
STREAM: JIO CINEMA

Star striker Almoz Ali, who struck four times against Afghanistan the other day and was the top-scorer for Qatar at the 2019 Asian Cup with nine goals, would be the man to watch out for as he can create trouble at the Indian defence, which looked weak in the absence of Anwar Ali.

Sandhu would remember that he and India were lucky in Doha in 2019 as Ali was denied by the upright and the Indian custodian will have to marshal the defence, along with veteran Sandesh Jhinghan.

Head coach Igor Stimac could not use the services of both Ali and defensive midfielder Jeakson Singh in the Kuwait match due to injuries, and it was a blow to the plans of the Croatian tactician though India won the match. Ali had suffered an ankle in-

jury in Mohun Bagan's AFC Cup match against Bashundhara Kings of Bangladesh last month. Kerala Blasters player Jeakson suffered a shoulder injury in an Indian Super League match against Mumbai City FC and he had undergone a successful surgery early this month.

Midfield mainstay Sahal Abdul Samad and Manvir Singh, who scored the lone goal for India against Kuwait, were there in Doha four years ago and they would look to make life difficult for the Qataris, more so after the duo's good outing in Kuwait City.

India are placed in Group A alongside Qatar, Kuwait and Afghanistan with the top two from the group progressing to the third round of the FIFA World Cup qualifiers. The top two teams from each group will also secure qualification to the 2027 AFC Asian Cup.

The Blue Tigers have never advanced to the third round of AFC's FIFA World Cup qualifiers but they now have a high chance of doing so after their 1-0 win over Kuwait.

# DISRESPECTING THE WORLD CUP TROPHY



AGENCIES

**Ahmedabad, Nov 20:** Sunday turned out to be a day to forget for Indians as they lost the ICC Men's World Cup final against Australia, who secured their record extending sixth world title in 50-over format.

Their celebration, however, was marred by controversy. A photo is circulating on social media platforms grabbing attention of cricket fans. The image captures Aussie all-rounder Mitchell Marsh resting both his legs on the trophy, a gesture that has been deemed offensive by netizens, leading to widespread criticism of the player.

The photo was originally shared by the Australian skipper Pat Cummins on his Instagram handle. Subsequently, numerous users reposted the picture on various social media platforms, condemning the act as disrespectful.

Taking to social media, netizens began to chastise and troll the cricketer for the 'questionable' action and flooded the internet with their harsh criticism. Most called it a 'disrespect' to the win, while others commented on Marsh's way of 'acknowledging' his team's win.

India is a country where people tend to respect several objects that are meaningful or earned by hard work. The people do not touch books with feet,

while trophies, medals, degrees and certificates are held high. This is probably why several Indians were left angered and disappointed after seeing the picture. For Indians, cricket is religion and the world cup trophy is like an idol to be worshipped.

"Such a disgusting thing that he put his legs on @cricketworldcup. Such a shame. Take some action against them @ICC. He would have respected the cup. Such a shameless behavior by him," wrote a user on 'X' (previously twitter).

"This is the attitude with which Australia has won 6 ODI world cup titles. No emotional attachment to the title is the key to their success. We Indians should learn from them," wrote another.

Supporting the action a user even wrote, "They have every right to do whatever with the trophy!! They have won it." The same goes for another user as well, who wrote, "They have their way to celebrate everybody not gonna keep on head."

One comment stated, "For you, it's a dream; for them, it's a routine! Work on it so it becomes a routine... What goes around comes around! Today, it's the trophy; tomorrow, it will be their team at someone's feet!", while another comment remarked, "Disgracefully putting legs on the trophy... Civilizational difference."

# Surya to captain in T20Is vs Oz, no place for Samson

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

**New Delhi, Nov 20:** The national selectors Monday entrusted a set of next-gen stars under the leadership of Suryakumar Yadav with the task of taming Australia in the upcoming five-match T20I series, beginning November 23 at Visakhapatnam.

India expectedly did not pick many senior players in the 15-member squad, with only Suryakumar, Prasidh Krishna and Ishan Kishan crossing over for the T20Is. Shreyas Iyer will join the team for the last two matches at Raipur and Bangalore.

Sanju Samson might have been hoping to find a place in the squad but the Kerala batsman was a notable absentee. Perhaps, his lukewarm effort in the SMAT forced the selectors to overlook him for the time being. VVS Laxman will be the head coach for the series.

**The squad:** Suryakumar Yadav (C), Ruturaj Gaikwad (vc), Ishan Kishan, Yashasvi Jaiswal, Tilak Varma, Rinku Singh, Jitesh Sharma (wk), Washington Sundar, Axar Patel, Shivam Dube, Ravi Bishnoi, Arshdeep Singh, Prasidh Krishna, Avesh Khan, Mukesh Kumar.

# Verstappen wins Las Vegas GP



ASSOCIATED PRESS

**Las Vegas, Nov 20:** Max Verstappen hated everything about the Las Vegas Grand Prix from the moment he arrived in Sin City. Formula One's (F1) three-time reigning world champion over the excess and opulence over-the-top and prioritized over the actual racing. He changed his tune — literally — following his 18th win of the season.

"Viva Las Vegas! Viva Las Vegas!" sang Verstappen as he crossed under the checkered flag waved by Justin Bieber.

Verstappen had slammed Saturday night's spectacle at every chance, yet raced in an Elvis-inspired firesuit and took the victory on the famed Las Vegas Strip.

Verstappen passed Charles Leclerc at the start then overcame a penalty to pass Leclerc once more with 13 laps remaining to continue his season-long dominance. Verstappen, Leclerc and Sergio Perez were driven in a limousine to a stage located near the Bellagio — "we go straight to the nightclub,"

# Djokovic in seventh heaven

ASSOCIATED PRESS

**Turin (Italy), Nov 20:** Novak Djokovic ended the year just as he started it — by setting records. The top-ranked Djokovic won a record-breaking seventh ATP Finals title Sunday with a straight-set victory over home favorite Jannik Sinner. Djokovic took 1 hour, 43 minutes to win 6-3, 6-3 as the Serbian continues to reach new heights at the age of 36.

He started 2023 with a record-extending 10th Australian Open title and went on to claim his 23rd Grand Slam singles trophy at the French Open, breaking Rafael Nadal's mark. Djokovic, who lost the Wimbledon final to Carlos Alcaraz, also won the US Open.

Djokovic entered Sunday's final tied with Roger Federer on six titles at the season-ending tournament for the year's top eight players. And he stretched out his arms and beamed broadly after clinching his seventh when Sinner double-faulted.

The victory had echoes of the clinical way Djokovic dispatched second-ranked Carlos Alcaraz in Saturday's semifinal encounter.

It was his fourth win over Sinner, who had recorded a first-ever victory against Djokovic in the group stage in Turin and was the first Italian to reach the final. But Djokovic was in imperious form on Sunday and won 14 straight points from the end of the first set to the third game of the second to leave him firmly in control and subdue the Turin crowd.

Djokovic had already secured the year-end No. 1 ranking for a record-extending eighth time by winning his opening match at the ATP Finals.

After this tournament, Djokovic will become the first player to hold the No. 1 ranking for 400 weeks, with Roger Federer at 310 the only other man to eclipse the 300-week mark.

It was also only the second time in the last 15 years that a player has made the finals of all four Grand Slam tournaments and the ATP Finals. The only previous occasion was when Djokovic did it in 2015.



Sinner came into the final having won all of his matches in Turin and backed by a fervent home crowd, who had dreams of him becoming the first Italian to win the tournament in its 54-year history.

But the 22-year-old Sinner could offer little in response to a master class from Djokovic, especially in a blistering first set that lasted just 38 minutes and saw the Serbian win 20 of 22 service points. Djokovic also served up 13 aces during the match.

"Congratulations to you (Novak) for this week and not only: you started the season by

**One of the best seasons I've had in my life, no doubt. To crown it with a win against a hometown hero in Jannik (Sinner), who has played amazing tennis this week, is phenomenal**

NOVAK DJOKOVIC

winning and you ended it by winning, you won three Slams and many other tournaments," Sinner said. "What else is there to say? You're an inspiration not only for all those watching, but especially for the players," he added.

# Six Indians named in Rohit-led Team of World Cup 2023

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

**Dubai, Nov 20:** Rohit Sharma was Monday named the captain of the ICC's Team of the Tournament after the conclusion of the World Cup, with a total of six Indians including the Player of the Tournament, Virat Kohli, featuring among the XI.

India lost the summit clash to Australia who clinched their sixth win in World Cup with a six-wicket victory in Ahmedabad Sunday.

With more than half of the ICC's Team of the Tournament comprising Indian players, it was yet another indication of the fact that despite not winning the title, the hosts were the best side in the competition having registered a record 10 wins on the trot.

KL Rahul, Mohammed Shami, Jasprit Bumrah and Ravindra Jadeja are the other four Indian players to feature in the team.

**THE TEAM**

Rohit Sharma (C), Quinton de Kock, Virat Kohli, Daryl Mitchell, KL Rahul (wk), Glenn Maxwell, Ravindra Jadeja, Jasprit Bumrah, Mohammed Shami, Adam Zampa, Dilshan Madushanka; 12th man: Gerald Coetzee.

# Cummins opens up on 'most satisfying' moment

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

**Ahmedabad, Nov 20:** The deafening silence at the Narendra Modi Stadium, packed with over 90,000 fans, when Pat Cummins snuffed out the peerless Virat Kohli in the World Cup final was perhaps the "sweetest moment" the Australian skipper had ever experienced on a cricket field.

After becoming the fifth Australian captain to secure his country's sixth ODI World Cup here Sunday, Cummins admitted that he has "fallen in love with 50-over format all over again". He got Kohli, who was well-set on 54, with a delivery that had an extra bounce and the premier India batter played on trying to jab it towards the covers.

"Yeah, I think so," Cummins nodded in affirmative when asked if the silence was his

sweetest experience on a cricket field. In fact, going against their custom, the Aussies had a second huddle to just acknowledge how big the moment in the game it was.

"We did take a second in the huddle just to acknowledge the silence that was going around the crowd. It just felt like it was one of those days where it was all made for him to score another hundred like he normally does and that was satisfying," Cummins said.

He believes that ODI World Cup is here to stay as it has got its own legacy and also players have their stories to tell and perhaps, it is the bilateral series that became a problem.

"I must say, maybe because we won, I did fall in love with ODI again this World Cup. I think the scenario where every game



Australian skipper Pat Cummins address the journalists during the post-match press conference in Ahmedabad, Sunday

really matters, it does mean a bit different to just a bilateral," he acknowledged.

"I mean, the World Cup's got such rich history, I'm sure it's going to be around for a long time. Yeah, there's so many wonderful games, so many wonderful stories within this last couple of months. So, I think there's definitely a place."

He lost his mother in March, during a tour of India, which he had to curtail. He returned, leading the country to the World Test Championship title, secured the coveted Ashes, and now clinched what he termed the "pinnacle of this sport".

Australia's 'Captain Marvel' has accomplished it all. "Yeah, I mean at this moment just incredibly proud really of the year we've had. I have obviously had a really big year," he said.





**FIFA**

# Inauguration of **AIFF-FIFA TALENT ACADEMY**

by

**Sj. Naveen Patnaik**

Hon'ble Chief Minister, Odisha

in the august presence of

**Mr. Arsène Wenger**

Chief of Global Football Development, FIFA

21 November 2023, Bhubaneswar

*“Sports for Youth  
Youth for Future”*

**Sj.Kalyan Chaubey**

President of the  
All India Football Federation

**Sj. Tusharkanti Behera**

Hon'ble Minister  
E & IT, Sports & YS, Home  
Govt of odisha



*Transforming The Sports Landscape | Empowering Athletes*