

Death row: Qatar court admits appeal

New Delhi: A Qatari court has admitted the Indian government's appeal against the death penalty handed down to eight former Indian Navy personnel in that country, according to media reports, even as there was no official word from the Ministry of External Affairs here Friday. The Qatari court Thursday admitted the appeal filed by the Indian government and the next hearing is to be held soon, the reports said. Last week, India said the appeal process against the death sentence given to the eight former Indian Navy personnel by a Qatari court is under process and it was hopeful of a positive outcome from it.

Tunnel rescue ops hit fresh hurdle

Uttarkashi: Drilling at the collapsed Silkyara tunnel to rescue 41 men trapped inside for 12 days was halted again Friday, officials said. Officials said the auger drilling machine faced a hurdle, apparently a metal object, soon after drilling resumed Friday, a day after officials had put the operation on hold following a technical snag. That snag was set right earlier in the day and the 25-tonne auger machine was restarted.

IRREGULAR by MANJUL



FOR A BETTER TOMORROW: Dharitri and Orissa POST Editor Tathagata Satpathy and Chief Executive Adyasha Satpathy, actor Sonu Sood, Padma Shri Jadav Payeng, EFI founder Arun Krishnamurthy, environmentalist Sneha Shahi and founder Bakul Foundation Sujit Mahapatra, along with recipients of Dharitri Climate Grants as well as Dharitri Youth Action Award, at the 'Dharitri Youth Conclave 2023 - Climate Change: The Path Ahead' hosted at the Rail Auditorium in Bhubaneswar, Friday. (MORE ON P3,5, 6 & 7)

ODISHA ASSEMBLY ADJOURNED SINE DIE

AGENCIES

Bhubaneswar, Nov 24: Amid protests and walkout by Opposition BJP and Congress members, Speaker Pramila Mallik adjourned Assembly sine die Friday, at least 26 business days ahead of its schedule.

The Winter Session of the House, which commenced November 21, was scheduled to conclude December 30. The Assembly secretariat had notified about 30 business days during this session. Government chief whip in Assembly Prashanta Muduli brought a motion to adjourn the House sine die for the remaining period. The proposal was supported by treasury bench members Shashi Bhusan Behera and Bhupinder Singh. The House could transact for only four days of which two days were wasted.

Hamas frees 24 hostages

REUTERS

Gaza/Israel-Gaza Border, Nov 24: Hamas fighters released 24 hostages Friday during the first day of the war's first truce, the Red Cross said, including Israeli women and children and Thai farm workers.

Nine hours after guns fell silent for the first time in seven weeks, the Red Cross said it had begun an operation to facilitate the transfer of hostages in Gaza to Israel in return for Palestinians held in Israeli jails.

Twenty-four hostages were transferred out of Gaza and handed over to Egyptian au-

thorities at the Rafah border crossing, accompanied by eight staff members of the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) in a four-car convoy, the ICRC said.

Qatar, which acted as mediator for the truce deal, said 13 Israelis had been released, some with dual nationalities, plus 10 Thais and a Filipino. Thirty-nine Palestinian women and children were released from Israeli jails in return for the 13 Israelis, Qatar said.

"The deep pain that family members separated from their loved ones feel is indescribable. We are relieved that some will be reunited after long agony," said

Fabrizio Carboni, the ICRC's regional director for the Near and Middle East. The Israeli military said the freed hostages had already been brought to Israel.

"The released hostages underwent an initial medical assessment inside Israeli territory. They will continue to be accompanied by IDF soldiers as they make their way to Israeli hospitals, where they will be reunited with their families," the military said.

Under the terms of the four-day Israel-Hamas truce, 50 women and children hostages are to be released over four days, in return for 150 Palestinian women and children among thousands of detainees in

Israeli jails. Israel says the truce could be extended if more hostages are released at a rate of 10 per day. The first 13 released Friday were to be exchanged for 24 Palestinian women and 15 teenagers.

A source briefed on the negotiations said the release of the Thai workers, who were all men, was unrelated to the truce negotiations and followed a separate track of talks with Hamas mediated by Egypt and Qatar.

Thai and Filipino farmworkers employed in southern Israel were among around 240 hostages dragged back to Gaza by gunmen when Hamas fighters launched a killing spree Oct. 7.

Nod to projects worth ₹84,918cr

POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar, Nov 24: The High-Level Clearance Authority (HLCA), chaired by Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik, Friday approved 12 key industrial projects, including those of Welspun Group, with a cumulative investment of ₹84,918.75 crore.

These projects are poised to create employment opportunities for 42,281 people across various sectors, an official said.

The HLCA approved the proposal of Welspun Living Limited to establish an integrated textile and logistics facility at Choudwar in Cuttack, with an investment of ₹3,050 crore. The project would provide employment opportunities to 20,210 people.

Welspun New Energy Limited's proposal to set up a 0.70 MMTPA Green Ammonia manufacturing unit in Kendrapara with an investment of ₹13,860 crore also got a go-ahead from the state government. The unit will provide jobs to 1,000 individuals.

Welspun Corp Limited will invest ₹3,137 crore to set up 1,00,000 MT ERW pipes, 3,00,000 MT DI pipes, 1,00,000 MT HSAW pipes and 10,00,000 Square Metre Pipe Coating plant in Sambalpur. It would provide jobs to 3,830 persons.

Among others, Tata Steel's plan to establish a HR and CR Coil plant in Dhenkanal also received HLCA's nod. With an investment of ₹10,351.11 crore, the project would create employment opportunities for 3,725 persons.

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HILTON WELCOMES BABY GIRL, NAMES HER LONDON

Socialite Paris Hilton surprised her fans on Thanksgiving by announcing that she has welcomed a baby girl via surrogate, and named her London. The star, 42, shared the happy news by posting a pink baby outfit with the name 'London' - thereby revealing the gender and name of her little one.

'TENNIS IS THE SECRET TO MY HAPPY MARRIAGE'

American actress Hilary Duff has revealed her secret to a happy marriage is playing tennis together - insisting she told husband Matthew Koma they needed to pick a sport so they now play tennis every week without fail.



FORTUNE FORECAST

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ARIES
You will exhibit your worth in ample measure today. You will probably chalk out great plans and ideas at work, and this will be very beneficial. But despite this, Ganesh says, if you don't get the deserved recognition, don't lose heart. Learn to take setbacks without getting disappointed.

TAURUS
You will be feeling listless, lazy and out of sorts today, and will tend to ignore and neglect important tasks scheduled for the day. Ganesh urges you to guard against this tendency as you could miss out on opportunities that others could then benefit from.

GEMINI
A crucial social event at home is on the anvil, and it will demand most of your attention. Intense business negotiations, which were going on for a long time, will come to a logical conclusion. The results are likely to be stacked in your favour. This, coupled with after-office parties, will ease out the stress.

CANCER
Today, you are likely to achieve something that you have badly wanted for a long time. It is very likely that you will get very emotional in the moment of victory today, predicts Ganesh. Your arrogance and overconfidence can throw you off track.

LEO
Unlike Dennis or Calvin, expect your sometimes haughty and mostly naughty kids to behave 'just right' at the right time. It's not that children like to break rules, they just want to have some fun, reminds Ganesh. Keep this in mind while you go about arranging for special classes to improve their academic skills and performance.

VIRGO
Foreign contacts will in all likelihood be a source of monetary profits. Ganesh says you will perform wonderfully in anything you might choose to undertake today. Even your ambition of setting up an offshore business enterprise will take root today.

LIBRA
Ganesh says that today will be a lucky day for you. You may receive some financial gain. There will be some good news about your children's progress. This is the right time to invest in business. For financial investors and share brokers this period is beneficial, so make the most of it.

SCORPIO
Keep your guards up and be wary today, warns Ganesh. A heat seeker meant for someone else may hit you in mid-flight. But all that watchfulness will save you from embarrassment. Like those old fables, these experiences have a lesson in them, says Ganesh.

SAGITTARIUS
Expect yourself to be hit with religious fervour. You may find yourself in the spotlight for an event or inauguration. Ganesh indicates travelling, so pack your bags for a long-distance business trip.

CAPRICORN
Numerous projects and building work pressure can keep you busy, but get done with whatever you have on hand, for Ganesh says the day has a host of recreational activities lined up for you. This will also be the right time to reach out to more people, and devour whatever knowledge or information they have to offer. Moreover, you will experience complete personal freedom and will communicate freely with those around you.

AQUARIUS
Optimism rules today, and you are assured of your success. You are not usually affected by others' opinions, and that is how it should be. But you must keep in mind the inconvenience your decisions may cause people. Any stress or tension will vanish in the arms of your beloved, says Ganesh.

PISCES
Confusion and uncertainty will linger like dark clouds in today's sky which will rain on your decision making parade and make it hard for you to find tangible solutions to problems. Steer clear of controversy and try and delay any important decisions and stick to your daily routine, advises Ganesh.

When Sanjay feared being encountered

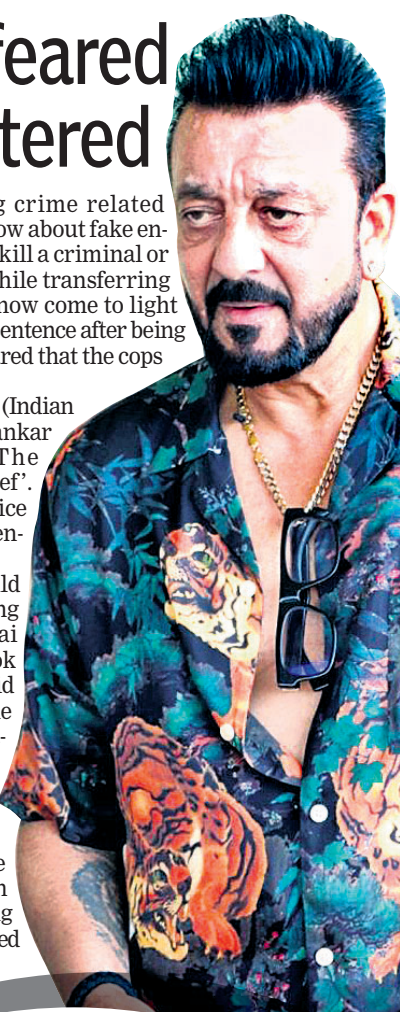
Mumbai: Those accustomed to watching crime related Bollywood movies over the decades would know about fake encounter scenes. Generally, the cops in movies kill a criminal or an undertrial in the name of an encounter while transferring him or her from one place to another. It has now come to light that when Sanjay Dutt was completing his jail sentence after being convicted for illegal possession of arms, he feared that the cops might kill him in a fake encounter.

This was recently revealed by the former IPS (Indian Police Service) Officer Meeran Chadha Borwankar in her book 'Madam Commissioner: The Extraordinary Life of an Indian Police Chief'. She was the additional director general of police (prisons) when Dutt was serving his prison sentence.

Borwankar said that Dutt felt that he would be killed in a fake encounter when he was being transferred from Arthur Road Jail in Mumbai to Yerawada Jail in Pune. She said in the book as reported by Indian Express, "Dutt was afraid that he would be killed in an encounter on the way! His fear was so real that he started sweating and complained of having a fever. Meanwhile, news of his move out of Arthur Road Jail was leaked and a huge crowd started to gather outside the prison gates."

She added, "So, we decided to postpone the transfer and withdrew the team that had been deployed. Dutt was counselled against making his shift to Yerawada an issue and it was impressed upon him that his apprehension about an 'encounter' was misplaced. Sometime later we were able to quietly and successfully move him and prevented the sober work of judicial custody from becoming a public farce."

AGENCIES



Sanya's mantra for work-life balance

Mumbai: After a hectic last year, Sanya Malhotra has been taking it slow when it comes to her work schedule, and the actor admits that it was a conscious decision to enjoy all her releases this year, saying it is her way to create a balance between her personal and work life.

Last year, the actor shot back to back for her projects without taking a break, missing a lot of personal events in her life.

"At the moment, my career is going really well, and my personal life is also amazing. That's because I have a very solid system supporting me. While last year was more about back to back work, this year, I intentionally wanted to sit back and enjoy all the releases," says the *Dangal* actress.

The 31-year-old adds, "I have got wonderful responses for *Kathal* and *Jawan*, and am looking forward to my other releases this year. I feel very lucky because I have some really amazing projects in my kitty and opportunities."

She asserts that disconnecting from the glamour world is crucial for her.

"It is very important for you to stay grounded and to be authentic to yourself as an actor. Because we get much attention and love as actors.

But neech bhi aana padta hai, and my family does a very good job in that. Mujhe zyada udne nahi dete," she ends.

AGENCIES



'I'm not a superstar'

Mumbai: Salman Khan's *Tiger 3*, which was released November 12, has been doing well at the box office. In a recent interview, the actor talked about his 'superstar tag'. When asked what his feelings were about being called a 'superstar', Salman said 'nothing about him is superstarry'. He added he has 'never felt like a superstar, ever'.

Salman Khan told the portal, "I have never felt that way. I have never felt like a superstar ever. My habits are not that of a superstar. The way I travel, the way I dress, there is nothing I do that speaks superstar. My mind is not tuned that way. Nothing about me is any superstarry. Nothing at all. I don't think

Salman Khan is a superstar. I have never felt it. I am just happy to wake up in the morning, have my coffee and start my day. I just want to give my best."

Salman is often spotted in casual outfits at Bollywood parties as well as red carpet events. Earlier this month, he attended various Diwali bashes and stood out in his basic denim looks.



Alia to advocate for environmental cause



Mumbai: All Living Things Environmental Film Festival (ALT EFF), India's largest environmental film festival, is thrilled to join forces with actor, producer, and entrepreneur Alia Bhatt's production house, Eternal Sunshine Productions. As the festival's advocate, Alia Bhatt will be lending her support to bringing sustainability and storytelling together. Set to take place from December 1st to December 10th, 2023, the festival, now in its fourth year, is dedicated to leveraging the power of cinema to address pressing environmental issues.

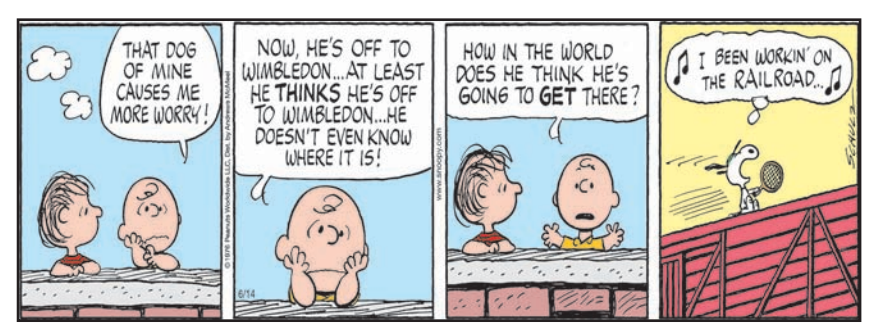
Alia Bhatt, celebrated for her conscientious approach and advocacy on social and environmental causes, is a natural choice for the role of an 'advocate' for the festival and everything it stands for. Her commitment to using her influential platform for the greater good aligns seamlessly with ALT EFF's mission to foster awareness and dialogue around climate change, sustainability, and the environment.

This year, ALT EFF is set to make an even greater impact with screenings scheduled in over 20 cities throughout India with films selected from across 50 countries. Speaking of her association with the festival, Alia expresses, "It is such an honour to be associated with ALT EFF 2023. Cinema is not just a form of entertainment; it's a powerful tool for sparking an important conversation, and the festival is a great amalgamation of the same."

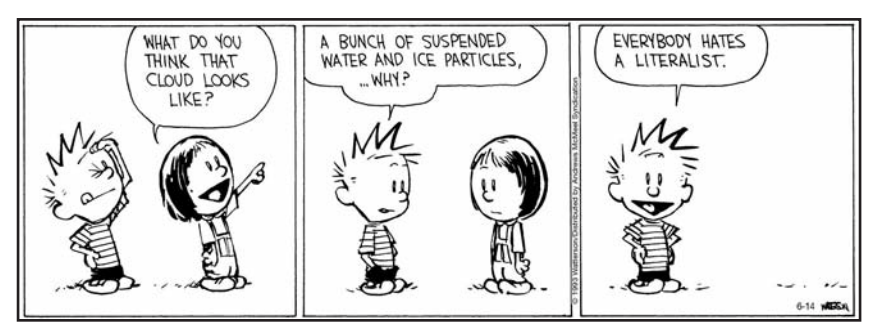
She further added, "At Eternal Sunshine Productions, our aim is to tell stories that evoke thought or change in whatever way possible and it's such a joy for us at Eternal to be supporting a festival that wants to tell powerful stories while being environmentally conscious, driving meaningful change."

AGENCIES

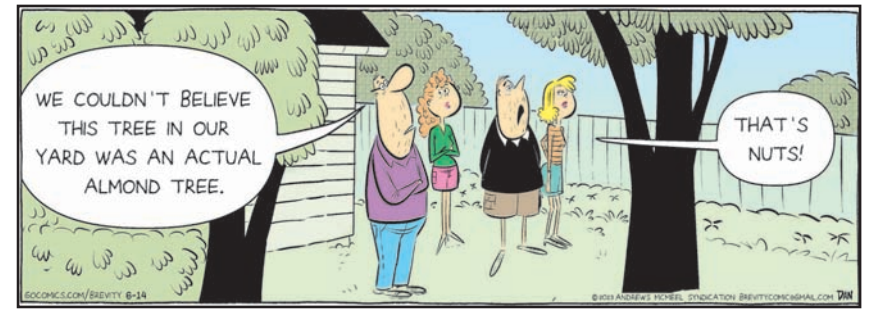
PEANUTS



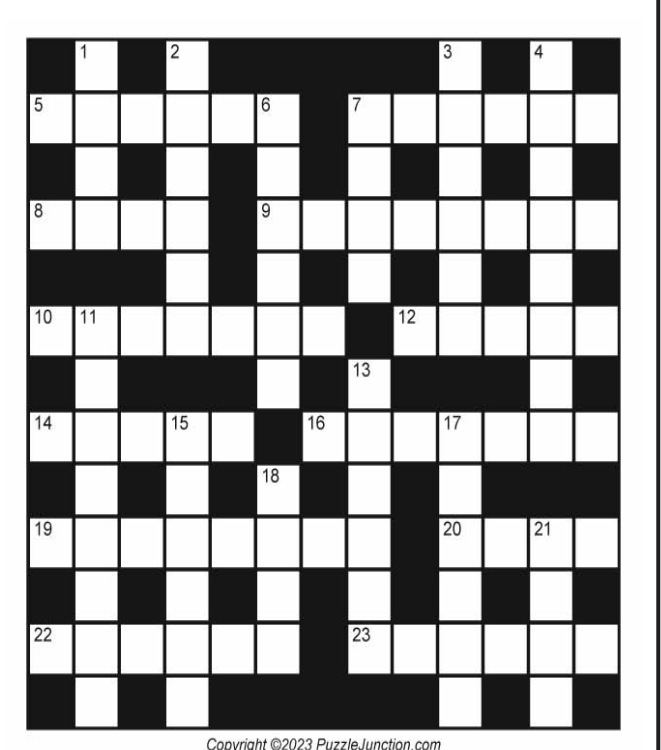
CALVIN AND HOBBS



BREVITY



FUN post CROSSWORD



- Across**
- 5 Renowned
 - 7 Cordial
 - 8 Gulf of _____, off the coast of Yemen
 - 9 Knitted jacket or sweater
 - 10 Wife of Ahab
 - 12 Dynamite inventor
 - 14 Fencing move
 - 16 Cocktail type?
 - 19 Authentic (4,4)
 - 20 Nile snakes
 - 22 Pressing
 - 23 Ballet wear
 - Down**
 - 1 Domestic
 - 2 Seating area
 - 3 Blue-violet colour
 - 4 Chipotle, e.g.
 - 6 Bag of perfumed powder
 - 7 Wise guy
 - 11 Beguiles
 - 13 Packing a wallop
 - 15 He can be grim
 - 17 Citrus fruit
 - 18 Decree
 - 21 Walkway

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.

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

SOLUTIONS

CROSSWORD

A	D	M	I	R	A	L	A	A	A	D	I	T
L	I	E	E	E	E	E	S	E	P	I	A	
P	U	D	D	L	E	S	S	E	P	I	A	
H	G	E	E	M	O	O	P					
A	R	E	N	A	I	M	P	A	S	S	E	
			S	S							I	
C	R	E	M	E	D	E	M	E	N	T	H	
Y	N					R	X					
M	A	J	O	R	C	A	H	A	B	I	T	
B	O	E	B	L	I	T	I	E				
A	B	Y	S	S	L	O	B	S	T	E	R	
L	E	I	E	I	E	O						
S	E	D	A	N	S	U	T	U	R	E	S	

SUDOKU

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

CHECK FOR SOLUTIONS OF THE PUZZLES TOMORROW

DHARITRI YOUTH CONCLAVE 2023

'Want to do many things for this beautiful state'

POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar, Nov 24: Dharitri Friday hosted the third edition of the 'Dharitri Youth Conclave, 2023 - Climate Change: Path Ahead', wherein the youth, intelligentsia, celebrities and climate warriors came together to work towards sustainable climate change solutions and action as the state's leading Odia daily celebrated its golden jubilee.

The conclave at Rail Auditorium here began with a scintillating dance performance by children on the theme song of Dharitri, followed by a video highlighting the 50-long-year journey of the newspaper. Actor and youth icon Sonu Sood, who was the chief guest at the conclave, along with Dharitri and Orissa POST Editor Tathagata Satpathy and Chief Executive Adyasha Satpathy feted the Forest Man of India, Padma Shri Jadav Payeng, with Lifetime Achievement Award for his noteworthy contribution towards environment protection.

They also handed over the Dharitri Climate Grant worth Rs 1 lakh each to Sathee Parivar, Odisha Paryavaran Sanrakshan

Abhiyan Trust (OPSAT), Aahwan Foundation (group category), and Jalendra Mohalik and Chandan Panda (individual category). Sattvic Soul Foundation was awarded the Dharitri Youth Action Award, which was announced by Tathagata Satpathy.

In her welcome address, Adyasha Satpathy shed light on Dharitri's relentless pursuit to highlight issues related to youth and environment. "This conclave has been organised to drive consciousness on climate change at local level," she said while reminding that Dharitri's long journey of 50 years was made possible because of impartial and unbiased journalism.

During the panel discussion on climate change, which was moderated by Sujit Mohapatra of Bakul Foundation, Tathagata Satpathy said Odisha suffered natural calamities every year and that made people understand that awareness about climate was important in minimizing damages. "There is a light at the end of tunnel," Satpathy said, adding that Dharitri's initiative of restoration of water bodies in different districts of the state with the help

of environmentalist Arun Krishnamurthy is a step in that direction.

Managing Editor, Down To Earth, Richard Mahapatra, said rich countries were to be blamed for climate damage. "The crucial thing is to adapt to the changes as climate change is a reality and you can't stop it," he added.

EFI founder Arun Krishnamurthy called upon the youth to raise environment and climate issues during elections.

The Forest Man of India said even one man can save 'Dharitri' (mother earth). "Instead of cutting cakes on birthdays, children should plant trees as it will make earth more greener," he said.

Actor Sonu Sood, during an interaction with the audience, promised his whole-hearted support for environment causes in Odisha. "Odisha has always been my second home. I want to do many things for this beautiful state," he said.

The conclave, attended by hundreds of students from the prestigious institutes, culminated with a splendid performance by three-time Grammy Award winner Ricky Kej.



BASKETBALL TOURNEY: A basketball match of the 54th Inter College Basketball Tournament underway at the People's College ground in Buguda of Ganjam district

ODM holds annual sports meet in City

ARINDAM GANGULY, OP

Bhubaneswar, Nov 24: ODM Public School organised its 33rd annual sports day at Railway Stadium here, Friday.

The sports meet was inaugurated by Hockey India president Dilip Tirkey in the presence of ODM Educational Foundation chairman Satyabrata Minketan and Regional Institute Professor Pramod Kishore Das.

On this occasion, the sports captain led the march past with the Olympic torch and administered the oath to conduct the sports according to principles and discipline.

Addressing the students, Tirkey said that education is the key to intellectual development, while sports are an indicator of physical fitness and for the overall development of the students. He underscored the fact that Odisha has been titled as the Sports Capital of India and urged that all schools and colleges to promote sports talents. Among other dignitaries present on the occasion were Indumati Ray, Director (Finance & Admn), Director (Academics) Artatran Mishra, Academic Counsellor Brahmaanda Rout, Vice-Principal Sandhyarani Swain and Rajesh Kumar Padhy.

Cabinet sends tribal land transfer decision for review

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Bhubaneswar, Nov 24: Faced with criticism of the move to allow transfer of land belonging to ST people to non-tribals, the government Friday informed the Assembly that it has sought reconsideration of the recommendations based on which the decision was taken.

The Cabinet had November 14 decided to amend a law to allow the Scheduled Tribe people to sell their land to non-tribals in scheduled areas, with permission from the state government. However, the decision was put on hold three days later.

Opposition parties have created a ruckus in the Assembly demanding that the decision Wednesday and Thursday, taken following recommendations from the Tribes Advisory Council (TAC), be withdrawn.

Parliamentary Affairs Minister Niranjan Pujari informed the Assembly that a Cabinet meeting chaired by Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik Friday urged the TAC to reconsider its earlier decision of allowing the ST people to transfer their land



IN THE HOUSE

to non-tribals.

"Based on the recommendation of the TAC's meeting July 11, 2023, the state Cabinet had approved a proposal to amend the Odisha Scheduled Areas Transfer of Immoveable Property (By Scheduled Tribes) Regulation, 1956," Pujari informed the House.

Both the BJP and Congress members demanded that the state government totally withdraw its November 14 decision instead of referring it to the TAC for reconsideration.

Congress Legislature Party (CLP) leader Narasingha Mishra

said, "The state Cabinet itself could have withdrawn such a decision. But things became further suspicious as it recommended the TAC to reconsider its decision."

BJP Chief Whip Mohan Majhi said, "Friday's Cabinet decision indicated that the state government has been forced to eat its own words. The actual intention of the state government is now exposed. They were working against the interest of tribals and now put in a fix."

BJP MLA Nityananda Gond alleged that the state government was lying in the name of the TAC. "I am a member of the TAC and the issue of tribal land transfer to non-tribals was never discussed in the meeting. Now, the government was claiming that it had decided to amend the law allowing transfer of ST land to non-tribals," Gond said in the Assembly challenging the state government to prove him wrong.

Revenue and Disaster Management Minister Sudam Marndi, however, said that the state cabinet had taken the decision based on the recommendation of TAC at its meeting June 28, 2018.

SP Excise under Vig net

POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar, Nov 24: The Odisha Vigilance conducted raids at six places of Superintendent of excise, Nabrangpur, for allegedly amassing unlawful assets. The initial enquiries have unearthed the value of assets running into crores of rupees. The special district judge issued a search warrant for a raid on the properties belonging to the accused, Gopal Paikray, here Friday. Six Vigilance teams comprising 3 DSPs, 5 Inspectors, 6 ASIs and other officials conducted the raids.

The officials seized a triple storeyed residential building with approx 4,000 Sqft area at Jeypore, triple storeyed residential building with approx 1,600 Sqft area at Nuasahi Lane-1, and one tin parking shed surrounded by compound wall of 1,450 Sqft area at Jagadhatripur.

Stay non-political, BJD urges Chhattisgarh Guv

Bhubaneswar: The ruling BJD on Friday urged Chhattisgarh Governor Biswabhusan Harichandan to refrain from making statements on Odisha matters, which according to the regional party was not expected from a person in the stature of a governor. The BJD's reaction came after two statements of Harichandan during his recent Odisha visit. The Chhattisgarh governor had expressed displeasure over crowd mismanagement and plight of devotees at Srimandir in Puri. Referring to the ongoing controversy on ST people being allowed to transfer their land to non-tribals, Harichandan, who was earlier the revenue and disaster management minister in Odisha in the BJD-BJP coalition government from 2000 to 2009, had said tribal people's rights should be protected. "We hope Governor Biswabhusan Harichandan will refrain from making such statements which is not expected of him and his office. His responsibility is to stay non-political," BJD spokesperson Sasmith Patra and Priyabrata Majhi told reporters at a joint press conference. They also described Harichandan's statement as "unwarranted" and suggested the Chhattisgarh governor to maintain sanctity and dignity of his office. Over the past few days Harichandan expressed views on various subjects on Odisha which is not expected of him, the BJD leaders said.

Foundation stone laid for NSTI Plus

PNN & AGENCIES

Bhubaneswar, Nov 24: Union Skill Development and Entrepreneurship Minister Dharmendra Pradhan Friday laid foundation stone for the National Skill Training Institutes (NSTI) Plus at Jatni, about 25 km from Bhubaneswar.

NSTI Plus, the apex organisation of the Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship, will train 500 instructors in phase 1 of the Craftsmen Instructor Training Scheme. It will further incorporate another 500 instructors for upskilling and reskilling in a later phase.

Speaking on the occasion, Pradhan said the campus of NSTI Plus will come up on an area of 8 acres at Jatni with a cost of more than Rs 90 crore.

The institute will help in providing quality national-level training to the trainers of 524 Industrial Training Institutes (ITIs) functioning in the state and also central skill development training institutions, he



said. "The NSTI Plus will emerge as a modern gurukul to equip candidates as well as trainers with industry and future-ready skills," Pradhan said.

Pradhan said the ministry of skill development and entrepreneurship is introducing several fresh and innovative initiatives and NSTI Plus is a robust step in this direction.

The selection of courses and training programmes will be de-

signed in association with industries to meet the needs of the local community.

On completion of training, the ministry will provide certificates to students in collaboration with Indira Gandhi National Open University (IGNOU), National Institute of Open Schooling and NIESBUD to propel vertical and horizontal mobility of the candidates, the official said.

Paradip Port cargo terminal to be operational in 2025

POST NEWS NETWORK

Paradip, Nov 24: The first phase of the dry bulk cargo terminal at the western dock of Paradip Port is expected to be operational in early 2025, an official said. Last year, a JSPL-led consortium won the bid to build the cargo terminal with a 25 million-tonne capacity.

A special purpose vehicle, Jindal Paradip Port Limited (JPPL), has been formed by the leading steel major Jindal Steel & Power and Jindal Port Private Ltd for the project. JPPL will invest about Rs 3,392 crore for development of the western dock of the Paradip Port, the official said.

"The first phase of the project with a capacity of 12.5 million tonne per annum is expected to be operational in early 2025," the company official said. Jindal Steel & Power Ltd chairman Naveen Jindal Thursday performed Bhoomi Puja for the construction of the 25-MT capacity dry bulk cargo terminal.

'Karuna Silk' showing mercy to silkworms

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Bhubaneswar, Nov 24: Odisha has adopted a new method where silk is extracted without killing silkworms for making traditional 'Patta' sarees, a senior official of the Handloom department said.

The new silk is named 'Karuna Silk' as compassion is involved in the procedure instead of killing silkworms, the official said.

As per trade information, a typical mulberry silk saree is produced by killing 10-20 thousand silkworms. Similarly in the traditional process, 5-7 thousand silkworms lose their life in the making of a tasar silk saree.

Handlooms, Textiles and Handicrafts Department Director Shovan Krishna Sahu said, "Our Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik always promotes the idea of non-violence and desires that all production processes follow the same. So we wanted to promote compassion by breaking the traditional method of 'Filament Silk' which kills the silkworms. In the new process, we let go of the moth honouring its life cycle".

"When the moth flies away from the cocoon it ruptures the fibre. Through the 'worsted spinning process' we develop the silk fibre ready for dyeing and weaving. This humane process adopted by Odisha is being appreciated in the industry," explains Sahu.

With 'Karuna Silk' blending

tradition with technology along with fostering compassion, Odisha is setting a new benchmark in sustainable fashion, the director claimed.

Odisha's new initiative of saving silkworms has been drawing the attention of visitors at the India International Trade Fair (IITF) Pragati Maidan, New Delhi, Sahu said.

Guided by the state government, the skilled weavers from Roupada of Khurda district are demonstrating their artistry live at IITF. The artisans, who make the holy 'Khandua Patta' for Lord Jagannath for generations, are now weaving the same exclusively from 'Karuna Silk'.

"The cruelty-free 'Karuna Silk', a new venture by Odisha, has become the USP at Odisha Pavilion this year. Visitors are taking a keen interest to know about this innovation story of ours", said Sanjay Kumar Singh, Principal Secretary Information and Public Relations Department.

Odisha grows three types of silk namely Mulberry, Tasar and Eri. Out of these Eri silkworms are reared in this new and compassionate method under the brand name of 'Karuna Silk'.

Under the Odisha government's 5T (teamwork, technology, transparency, timely completion leading to transformation) initiative 'Karuna Silk' was introduced as a pilot programme involving about 700 sericulture farmers.

20 mins workout can boost brain after a bad night's sleep

The study, led by the University of Portsmouth researchers explored how sleep, oxygen levels, and exercise affect our ability to perform mental tasks.

The team found that cognitive performance improves during a bout of moderate intensity exercise, regardless of a person's sleep status or oxygen levels.

"We know from existing research that exercise improves or maintains our cognitive performance, even when oxygen levels are reduced. But this is the first study to suggest it also improves cognitive performance after both full and partial sleep deprivation, and when combined with hypoxia," said Joe Costello, from the University's School of Sport, Health & Exercise Science

(SHES).

"The findings significantly add to what we know about the relationship between exercise and these stressors, and help to reinforce the message that movement is medicine for the body and the brain," he added.

The study, published in Physiology and Behaviour, involved two experiments, each with 12 participants (24 in total).

The first looked at the impact of partial sleep deprivation on a person's cognitive performance, and the second examined the impact of total sleep deprivation and hypoxia.

In both, all participants experienced an improvement in cognitive performance after a bout of 20 minutes of cycling.

"Because we were looking at exercise as a positive interven-



tion, we decided to use a moderate intensity programme as recommended in existing literature," added Costello.

"If the exercise was any longer or harder it may have amplified the negative results and become a stressor itself."

In the first experiment, individuals were only allowed five hours of sleep a night, over three days.

Each morning they would be given seven tasks to perform at rest, and then while cycling. They were also asked to rate

their sleepiness and mood before completing the tasks.

The results showed the effects of three nights of partial sleep on executive functions were inconsistent.

The paper says an explanation for this could be that some people are more resilient to a mild or moderate sleep deficit. However, regardless of sleep status, moderate-intensity exercise improved performance across all the tasks.

In the second experiment, participants went an entire night without sleep and were then put in a hypoxic (low levels of oxygen) environment at the University's Extreme Environment Labs.

Despite oxygen levels being lowered, exercise continued to improve cognitive performance. PAWS

FOCUS SUSTAINABILITY

GREEN INDUSTRIAL POLICY



To avoid being seen as breaking promises, policymakers must embrace, rather than dismiss, the tensions and trade-offs at the heart of green industrial policies and subject them to public deliberation

long into the future. This is not to say that policymakers should give up on designing ambitious strategies to address these crises. On the contrary, swift and effective action is an absolute necessity. Yet packaging these plans in win-win narratives that paper over the difficult trade-offs they involve significantly raises the risk that governments will lose popular support. The complex and conflicting nature of these policy objectives means that even the best-designed strategies will fall short, at least in some respects. This is unavoidable and an important component of learning-by-doing.

To avoid being seen as breaking promises, policymakers must embrace, rather than dismiss, the tensions and trade-offs at the heart of green industrial policies and subject them to public deliberation. This is essential to securing broad support for state-led decarbonisation projects. Such an approach would help build robust, transparent governance structures rooted in the principles of democratic deliberation and public oversight and control. As matters stand now, many industrial strategies are the product of top-down, technocratic policymaking processes, despite all the talk of "leaving no community behind" and a "just green transition."

Subjecting the economy to democratic decision-making in this way would, admittedly, constitute a radical challenge to the current system of private ownership and market coordination. But it is essential to secure and maintain popular legitimacy for green industrial policies, as well as to facilitate collective and efficient decision-making and minimise mismanagement. Otherwise, we risk a public backlash that impedes the collective action needed to safeguard our future on this planet.

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From the European Union's Green Deal Industrial Plan and the United States' Inflation Reduction Act (IRA) to Japan's Green Growth Strategy and the Korean New Deal, industrial policies aimed at accelerating the energy transition are proliferating in wealthy, technologically advanced economies. Many developing economies are also designing and deploying state-led projects to foster green industrialisation, as competition intensifies for electric vehicles (EVs), so-called transition minerals, and clean energy.

For example, several African countries, including South Africa, Kenya, Mauritania, Egypt, Djibouti, Tunisia, Morocco, and Namibia, have enacted state-led initiatives to support the development of green hydrogen. Others, including Indonesia, Bolivia, and Chile, are implementing national strategies to stimulate industrialisation based on the extraction and processing of nickel, cobalt, copper, lithium, and other transition minerals and metals.

These policies use a broad range of instruments—including subsidies, regulations, incentives, and diverse state-business arrangements—and differ widely in terms of the public and private resources at their disposal. But they all seek to tackle three crises simultaneously: economic stagnation, polarised and precarious employment, and intensifying climate change.

The revival of industrial policy is based on the logic that addressing all three crises will create a virtuous cycle: targeted investment in green manufacturing and energy will boost economic activity, create well-paying jobs, and usher in a low-carbon economy. The Biden administration's "modern American industrial strategy," comprising the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law, the CHIPS and Science Act, and the IRA, exemplifies this approach. What has been called the "Biden trier" is designed to boost US competitiveness in key industries vis-à-vis China, provide better economic opportunities for American workers, and accelerate decarbonisation.

But the win-win narrative undergirding these new industrial strategies tends to obfuscate

the risk that solving one problem may exacerbate another. In fact, the tensions between these policy objectives are already visible. For example, the decarbonisation of the economy may not create as many decent jobs as initially expected. In the US, both car companies and the United Auto Workers union have warned that the shift to manufacturing EVs, which require fewer parts, could lead to job losses. Some of these jobs will be redistributed to battery production, but this may be cold comfort for American and European auto workers, given China's dominance over the global battery supply chain.

At the same time, the growth of green industries can result in other environmental harms. Despite aiming to generate employment and value through the production of transition minerals, the industrialisation strategies of several Global South countries tend to entrench extractive practices. For example, Argentina, Bolivia, and Chile—South America's "lithium triangle"—are seeking to capture various stages of the lithium supply chain, from mineral extraction to processing to battery assembly. But the growth of this industry threatens to deplete water supplies, degrade soil, and disrupt habitats, often in zones inhabited by indigenous Andean peoples. Similarly, the production of semiconductors, which are at the heart of clean tech, is energy-, water-, and land-intensive and releases perfluorocarbons and other po-

tent greenhouse gases into the atmosphere. Finally, economic stagnation can have a destabilising impact on domestic politics, impelling governments to aim for a higher growth rate regardless of the environmental costs. For example, British Prime Minister Rishi Sunak recently announced a series of U-turns on the government's net-zero pledges. Shedding burdensome climate commitments may seem like a politically attractive strategy to boost immediate growth prospects. But—and herein lies the contradiction—longer-term growth will at least partly depend on governments ensuring that their economies are competitive in the green industries of the future.

As these examples show, industrial policy is not a silver bullet for the intersecting crises of our times. The policy objectives of environmental sustainability, industrial dynamism, and full employment are difficult to reconcile and require hard political choices about resource allocation, strategic priorities, and, crucially, the distribution of economic and social costs. Moreover, the trade-offs will grow more complex and challenging as global warming worsens and growth continues to sputter. What we call the "wicked trinity" of contemporary governance—climate catastrophe, economic stagnation, and surplus humanity—will not go away anytime soon. In fact, it will likely shape the trajectories of public policymaking



Ilias Alami & Jack Copley

ECONOMIC STAGNATION CAN HAVE A DESTABILISING IMPACT ON DOMESTIC POLITICS, IMPELLING GOVERNMENTS TO AIM FOR A HIGHER GROWTH RATE REGARDLESS OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL COSTS

SPECTRUM SOCIETY

Navigating the shopping frenzy

Shopping events like Black Friday, originating in the United States, have transcended borders, influencing consumers worldwide, including countries like India. Taking place on the last Friday of November, this annual extravaganza sees stores opening early and offering enticing discounts, luring customers to empty their wallets just before the holiday season, resulting in record breaking sales.

Ever wondered why it's called Black Friday? Traditionally, major retailers in the US operated at a loss throughout the year until the pre-holiday buying spree tipped their financial scales from red (loss) to black (profit). The name "Black Friday" reflects this accounting transformation that turns losses into gains during this shopping spectacle. Over the years, Black Friday has evolved from a single-day event into a weekend-long

shopping bonanza, further extending into Cyber Monday, a day dedicated to online deals.

A barrage of advertisements is designed to create irresistible desires. It's crucial to approach these high-decibel marketing occasions with a balanced mindset. Here are some tips to ensure you make the most out of these events without succumbing to the pitfalls.

Differentiate between needs & wants: Advertising and marketing often influence our brains to desire things we don't actually need. As humans, the promotions are directed towards our primal brain which often clouds our logical brain functions. We end up pressing the buy button in our brains easily. Combat this by creating a pre-shopping list based on your genuine needs for personal use, household items, or gifts. Stick to the list and resist the allure of impulse buying. For big ticket items, check the

best deals: If you're eyeing significant purchases like white goods or electronic gadgets, engage in "web-brooming" and "showrooming" by comparing prices, features, and offers across various brands, both online and brick and mortar stores or vice versa. Ensure you're genuinely getting a good bargain by doing your research.

Do not go shopping hungry or thirsty: Give yourself the time to make informed decisions by going shopping early and well-nourished. Avoid shopping on an empty stomach or when fatigued, as this weakens your resolve and can lead to impulsive purchases.

Avoid decision fatigue: Long shopping hours can lead to decision fatigue, impairing your ability to make objective choices. If you've been shopping for a while, consider taking a break to refresh your mind before mak-

ing more decisions. Do Your Maths: Be cautious of seemingly irresistible discounts. Differentiate between genuine bargains and fake discounts by comparing prices and understanding the actual value of the products. Keep in mind credit card interest rates if you're using plastic money, ensuring that the discounts you earn aren't eroded by interest charges.

In the midst of the temptation for Black, don't find yourself in the Red. Be a savvy shopper by preparing in advance and staying mindful of your needs and budget. These tips will help you navigate the shopping extravaganza, ensuring that you emerge with satisfying purchases rather than succumbing to buyer's remorse. Happy shopping!

The writer is a business consultant.



Shivaji Mohinta

IN THE MIDST OF THE TEMPTATION FOR BLACK, DON'T FIND YOURSELF IN THE RED

True knowledge is not attained by thinking. It is what you are; it is what you become.

SRI AUROBINDO



Enigmatic move

In Maharashtra's intricate administrative landscape, where the ebb and flow of power is often measured by the stability of key personnel, the recent and somewhat enigmatic removal of Ashish Sharma, Principal Secretary attached to the office of Deputy Chief Minister Ajit Pawar, has sent ripples through the babu corridors of the state.

Clearly, it is not merely a routine administrative shuffle, most observers state. Given the current complexity of the politics in the state, it's a view that is not unfeasible. It is highly unusual for an IAS officer, especially one posted in either the CM or Deputy CM's office, to be unceremoniously shunted out before completing a normal tenure. Sharma's abrupt transfer not only marks the premature end of his first stint in the prestigious Mantralaya but also marks his third relocation in just six months—a puzzling pattern that has now invited scrutiny.

With Ajit Pawar conspicuously absent from the Mantralaya, recovering from a bout of dengue, the transfer of his Principal Secretary has left the office in a state of inertia. Pawar's silence has further fuelled the speculation. In the absence of official statements clarifying the rationale behind the move, the vacuum is filled with conjecture and whispers of power play behind the scenes. Ajit Pawar, so far, is still trying to find his feet after joining the BJP-led alliance government in Maharashtra. Though he was made deputy chief minister and his NCP faction bagged crucial portfolios, the deputy CM is still No. 3 in the pecking order. And Sharma's exit seems to indicate that the current hierarchy is unlikely to change.

MEA to take a maritime call

The entry of a Chinese "spy" ship into Sri Lankan waters a while ago, despite attempts by the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) to prevent it, has already underscored the delicate dance of diplomacy in the Indian Ocean region. Now a new challenge has emerged, demanding a strategic response from the MEA.

The looming arrival of three oil tankers carrying Russian crude, allegedly sanctioned by the US, has created a piquant situation for the ministry. Although the transactions did not occur at major Indian ports overseen by the Shipping Ministry, sources have informed DKB that the potential of these ships docking at a state port raises questions about the MEA's role in shaping India's maritime policies. In the event of sanctions and a lapse in shipping insurance, the MEA is entrusted with the critical decision of whether to allow these ships into Indian waters, especially when dealing with non-major ports.

While the protocols outlined by senior Shipping Ministry babus shed light on the procedural intricacies involved in vessel entry, the decision to greenlight or deny entry ultimately lies with the MEA. India has, so far, played neutral in the Russia-Ukraine conflict despite attempts by the US to wean it away from its old ties with Russia. This is a test case for the MEA to walk the tightrope and find a solution that does not tilt the delicate balance.

IAS officers unite against Kerala govt

This is perhaps the first time that IAS officers in Kerala have jointly sought action against a government. The Central Administrative Tribunal (CAT) has taken a firm stance against what it perceived as a lack of due process in the appointment, transfer and posting of IAS officers within the state government. An interim order issued by a CAT bench has directed the Pinarayi Vijayan government to refrain from making such decisions, without the prior convening of the Civil Services Board's meeting.

The CAT directive comes in response to a petition filed by the Kerala IAS Officers' Association, alleging a pattern of frequent transfer and posting orders being issued without the necessary recommendations from the Civil Services Board.

The petition highlights a concerning trend: the average tenure of cadre officers is well below the prescribed minimum period of two years. Even in key roles such as district collector, secretary to the government, and head of critical departments, the average tenure has dwindled to less than a year.

The tribunal observed that the Kerala government neither obeyed the Supreme Court directions nor adhered to the rules and notifications issued by the Centre in the wake of the Supreme Court verdict. It also noted that no explanation was offered as to why the Civil Services Board's meeting was not convened. The IAS officers claim that the board has become dysfunctional after only two meetings, the last of which occurred in 2015.

While the tribunal has set the next hearing on January 10, the interim order has focused the spotlight on the need to adhere to established norms and procedures. The outcome of this case is being watched keenly by the babus.

Share a babu experience! Follow dilipthecherian@twitter.com. Let's multiply the effect

WISDOM CORNER

- When you love someone, you love the person as they are, and not as you'd like them to be. LEO TOLSTOY
- Our anxiety does not come from thinking about the future, but from wanting to control it. KAHLIL GIBRAN
- It is amazing what you can accomplish if you do not care who gets the credit. HARRY S. TRUMAN

THIS DAY IN HISTORY

- 1936: Nazi Germany and Japan sign the Anti-Comintern Pact. The treaty was directed towards the Soviet Union and stipulated that in case of Soviet aggression towards either country, the other would consider it as an act of aggression towards it as well. The pact was later signed by other countries including Italy, Romania, Spain, and Turkey.
- 1950: "Storm of the century" hits eastern US. Also known as the Appalachian Storm, the storm reached blizzard conditions and dumped nearly 60 inches of snow in the Appalachian area. It brought unseasonal temperatures to the region and caused widespread damage to property. About 150 people were thought to have been killed as a result of it.
- 1952: Agatha Christie's The Mousetrap opens at London's West End. The longest running show in history, the play began as a radio play called Three Blind Mice. It is based on the death of Dennis O'Neill, who died while in foster care.

LOL

BUYING A BRAIN

A client of a hospital where they made brain transplantations asked about the prices. The doctor said, "Well, this Ph.D. brain costs \$10,000. This brain belonged to



a NASA top scientist and costs \$15,000. Here we have a policeman's brain as well. It costs \$50,000." The client asked, "What? How's that possible?" The doctor replied, "You see, it's totally unused."

Letters

TO THE EDITOR

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

OrissaPOST
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Role model

Sir, Justice M. Fathima Beevi, who passed away Thursday, broke the proverbial glass ceiling to become the first woman judge of the Supreme Court of India. Her journey in law wasn't without challenges, as she navigated through a traditionally male-dominated profession with determination and fortitude, and her achievements in the field paved the way for countless aspiring women to pursue careers in the legal field. In her long and decorated career, Fathima Beevi served as a role model for women across the country, and was a beacon of hope for women's rights, advocating for gender equality in all aspects of life. Her legacy extends beyond the courtroom, leaving an indelible mark on the societal fabric of the country.

Ranganathan Sivakumar, CHENNAI

Prevent violence

Sir, Despite increased global awareness, violence against women remains prevalent worldwide. The rapid expansion of digitalisation has heightened online violence against women and girls, compounding existing issues and introducing new challenges. This pervasive problem impedes advancements in equality, development, peace, and the realisation of human rights for women and girls, presenting a significant obstacle to the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Acknowledging violence against women as a severe form of gender inequality, it is seen as a big issue for both public health and human rights. The impacts go beyond just the women affected, affecting their physical and mental well-being, children's development, family and community health, and even the economic aspects of nations. November 25 is observed as the International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women, an annual commitment to preventing and eradicating gender-based violence globally. It's a platform for awareness, advocacy, and uniting individuals, activists, and organisations against gender-based violence. This year's campaign theme, "Investing to prevent violence against women and girls," underscores the essential need to allocate human, financial, and other resources to evidence-based prevention strategies. The theme emphasises a collective effort to address the root causes of gender-based violence and work towards a safer and more equitable world for women and girls.

Krishna Kumar Vepakomma, HYDERABAD



Ricky Kej holds audience in thrall

The highlight of Kej's riveting performance was Kudrat, a rendition highlighting the Odisha government's initiative to promote millet-based diet

DEBADURLAV HARICHANDAN, OP

Bhubaneswar, Nov 24: While heartthrob Sonu Sood was the centre of attention in the inaugural session of Dharitri Youth Enclave 2023 here at Rail Auditorium Friday, the concluding session certainly belonged to legendary music composer Ricky Kej.

The three-time Grammy Award winner and his troupe struck a chord with the crowd from the word go with their spellbinding portrayal, showcasing concerns for climatic disasters.

The show, which lasted around an hour, was met with applause and cheers from the audience throughout.

'Shine Your Light', a song dedicated to the Conclave, an event marking the golden jubilee celebration of Dharitri, strived for collaborative efforts to usher positive change in environment. The lines - It is this time. It is our time. Shine your light—underscored the alarming climatic conditions that urgently need a remedy.

The highlight of Kej's riveting performance, however, was

Kudrat, a rendition highlighting the Odisha government's initiative to promote millet-based diet. The song, which defines Odia identity, is sung by tribal farmers.

Another song performance, 'Vishwa,' highlighted the burning issue of global warming, which has posed a serious threat to human settlements worldwide. It depicted the sad state of Kiribati, an Oceanian republic, and how the island nation is on the verge of being drowned by the sea.

A contemporary interpretation of a Rajasthani folk song (Kesariya Balam) with bright instrumental notes highlighted India's rich ecosystem. The song also emphasised the state's diverse cultural traditions.

Similarly, the steady decline in the number of elephants was given an endearing touch by a Punjabi song.

Ricky's magnetic performance concluded with a rendition of the national anthem anchored by instrumentals and percussion. On the occasion, Orissa Post and Dharitri Editor Tathagata Satpathy honoured the band.

MOODS AND MOMENTS



A DAY TO REMEMBER FOR CLIMATE ENTHUSIASTS



POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar, Nov 24: The third edition of 'Dharitri Youth Conclave - The Path Ahead' held at Rail Auditorium here, Friday, pulled around 1,200 students from as many as 45 institutions of districts like Khurda, Cuttack, Kendrapara, Jagatsinghpur, Dhenkanal, Jajpur, Bhadrak and Ganjam. Orissa POST spoke to some of these young climate warriors about the conclave and their future strategies to protect the Mother Earth.

Dharitri holds a revered position as a newspaper that has been part of my life since childhood. The Youth Conclave enlightened us about the diverse methods of preserving environment. I thoroughly enjoyed Ricky Kej's spectacular performance and gained valuable insights from Sonu Sood regarding his work. The experts delved deep into climate change issues and shared their stories of climate action.

Debi Prasad Rath, Ravenshaw University

For me, this is the maiden grand event organised by Dharitri. I along with my classmates was thrilled to be a part of the Youth Conclave and we enjoyed every aspect of the discussion to the fullest. It was a surprise to see such a performance by Ricky Kej and I got an opportunity to interact with youth icon Sonu Sood.

Gayatri Behera, BJB Autonomous College

Every year, Dharitri organises a debate competition on its anniversary, it's a great step taken by the organisation and I feel very happy and excited.

Durga Prasad Sahu, Ravenshaw University

This is for the first time that I attended the Youth Conclave. Like every year, this year too a large no of students participated in the debate on climate and environment. I got a very good opportunity to listen to the experts on the emerging climate issues.

Sthiti Pragnan Swain, Ravenshaw University

It was a great opportunity for me to learn from the experts about how climate change is impacting us, and Dharitri Youth Conclave is a big platform to create an ecosystem for students to learn about climate crisis and become climate warriors. I feel glad to be here. It's really amazing to see Ricky Kej's stellar performance at the event.

Biswambar Mohanty, FM College, Balasore

I feel privileged to be a part of the conclave. I learnt a lot about climate change crisis and thoroughly enjoyed Ricky Kej's performance.

Deeptesh Kumar Maharaj, St Mary's Jajpur Road

Dharitri Youth Conclave was a wonderful experience for me. I learnt a lot about climate change, its effects and the solutions. I got to know from the environmentalists about their efforts to lessen the impact of climate change. I loved it and enjoyed the Ricky Kej show.

Jyotirmayee Mishra, BJB Autonomous College

Dharitri Youth Conclave a roaring success

POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar, Nov 24: Leading Odia daily Dharitri, which is celebrating this year its 50th anniversary, organised Dharitri Youth Conclave-2023, the most popular climate conference of the state, here at Rail Auditorium, Friday. The event saw participation of climate activists, more than a thousand students from schools and colleges of the state, film personalities and people from all walks of life with an interest in environment.

With the activists and experts inspiring the youth to take leadership in climate action, on the occasion, Orissa POST gives a rundown of the events and presents highlights from addresses of the panelists and speakers.

Fifty years is a long journey: Adyasha

The conclave began with a musical performance by children to the theme song of Dharitri. Following that, in her welcome address Dharitri and Orissa POST Chief Executive Adyasha Satpathy said, "Fifty years is a long journey as it is a big thing for a newspaper to survive without much backing. It has only been possible because of the impartial and unbiased reporting of the paper."

She said that Dharitri has always given importance to youth and environment and this conclave has been organised to drive consciousness on climate change at the local level. "This year we are giving Dharitri Climate Grant to environmentalists of the state who are working at ground level," she announced.

After that the conclave began with a panel discussion that included panelists Arun Krishnamurthy, environmentalist and founder of Environmentalist Foundation of India (EFI), Richard



Mahapatra, managing editor of Down to Earth, Sneha Shahi, a young environmentalist, and Tathagata Satpathy, Editor of Dharitri and Orissa POST. The panel session was moderated by Sujit Mohapatra of Bakul Foundation.

Digital media is future: Tathagata

In the panel session Tathagata Satpathy said, "Odisha every year suffers natural calamities and that made us realise that awareness about the climate is important and could help in minimising the damages. So, keeping that in mind we started this conclave in 2021 and it has completed three years. I can say that awareness has increased a lot. We have also started restoration of water bodies in different districts of the state with the help of environmentalist Arun Krishnamurthy. We can say that there is light at the end of tunnel."

Responding to a question, he also said, "Digital media is the future and we must be aware of that. We must be ready for trans-

formation for that change as paper printing affects environment by way of tree cutting in a large way."

Today's generation doesn't experience normal climate: Mahapatra

Speaking about the role of media, Managing Editor of Down To Earth magazine Richard Mahapatra said, "Climate change is now a mainstream issue and media is covering it more in comparison to previous years."

"Today's generation is living in a situation where there is no normal climate. In the last twenty years, Odisha has suffered 17 disasters which have become a normal for the state. The per-capita loss due to climate disasters is similar to per-capita income in Odisha. In social media age, each of us is a reporter and journalist and that has increased the capacity to communicate," he added.

Action begins at your backyard: Sneha

Young environmentalist Sneha Shahi addressed the gathering suggesting the youth to begin with climate action from their

own backyards rather than looking elsewhere to fight the climate crisis.

"Planting a tree is not enough. We have to take care of it throughout its life. Practical knowledge regarding a tree is very important to fight climate crisis," she added.

Collective action paramount to thwart climate disasters: Arun

Encouraging the youths, environment activist and founder of EFI Arun Krishnamurthy said, "Collective action is needed for climate and environment safety. As Dharitri is working for the climate, we would extend our help to all those who are working with the Dharitri grant."

"Initiatives like Dharitri Youth Conclave are necessary. We need collective action to tackle the challenge of climate crisis because one man or one hero cannot win it for us," he opined.

One man can save mother 'Dharitri': Payeng

Environmentalist and the Forest Man of India Jadhav Payeng was presented the Lifetime achievement award for his work in forest regeneration by Dharitri Editor Tathagata Satpathy, Adyasha Satpathy CEO of Dharitri and Orissa POST and Actor Sonu Sood.

Sharing the story of his life, the Padma Shri awardee said, "One man can save mother 'Dharitri' (earth). After planting a tree our work and responsibility doesn't end. We need to take care of the tree until it's fully grown."

After his address, the Dharitri Climate Grants were handed over to the recipients including Sathee Parivar, Odisha Paryavaran Sanrakshan Abhiyan Trust (OPSA Trust), Aahwan Foundation, Jalendra Mohalik and Chandan Panda. Sattvic Soul Foundation meanwhile received the Dharitri Youth Action Award.



The Dharitri Youth Conclave 2023 was a congregation of green activists, students, thought leaders, change agents and celebrities who deliberated on the theme 'Climate Change: The Path Ahead'. **Orissa POST** presents glimpses of the gala event..



Calcutta High Court allows BJP meeting

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Kolkata, Nov 24: Observing that processions, rallies and meetings are a "regular feature" in West Bengal, a division bench of the Calcutta High Court Friday upheld a single bench order allowing a BJP public meeting to be addressed by Union Home Minister Amit Shah on November 29 here.

The division bench presided by Chief Justice T S Sivagnanam dismissed an appeal by the West Bengal government, challenging the November 20 order of the single bench.

Taking notice of the fact that processions, rallies and meetings "are a regular feature in the state of West Bengal and more particularly in Kolkata", it upheld the order of the single judge bench which had allowed the BJP to hold the public meeting in front of the Victoria House at Esplanade in central Kolkata on November 29.

Kolkata air quality turns 'very poor'

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Kolkata, Nov 24: Even 11 days after Diwali and Kali Puja festivals, air quality remained 'very poor' on Friday in several pockets of Kolkata, causing serious health concerns to citizens.

While Ballygunge area in the southern part of the city recorded an air quality index of 309 at 1 pm, the readings of the monitoring station at Victoria Memorial showed AQI at 310 and Fort William at 309, a West Bengal Pollution Control Board (WBPCB) official said.

All these AQI readings were categorised as 'very poor' in environmental terms and indicated how the conditions worsened in 24 hours with the onset of winter, he said. In the northern part of the city, the air quality was recorded at 286 at Bidhannagar, 218 at Rabindra Bharati University and in the south, the AQI was at 260



During Kali puja and Diwali, the AQI ranged between 189 and 255 across the city

An AQI between 0-50 is considered good, 51 and 100 satisfactory, 101-200 moderate, 201-300 poor, 301 and 400 very poor and 401-500 'severe'

Tuesday, the average air quality ranged between 160-220 in the city. An AQI between 0-50 is considered good, 51 and 100 satisfactory, 101-200 moderate, 201-300 poor, 301 and 400 very poor and 401-500 'severe'.

During the Kali Puja and Diwali festivals, the AQI ranged between 189 and 255 across the city. The official said as the wintry conditions set in and the temperature dipped below 20 degrees celsius on Friday morning, cases of respiratory problems have started to spiral.

"An AQI between 201 and 300 causes health alert, over 300 triggers health warnings of emergency conditions," he said. Environmentalist Somendra Mohan Ghosh said, "The entire population is likely to be affected by serious health effects if there is no rain caused by depression or other weather disturbances in a few days."

Mumbai airport gets bomb threat mail

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Mumbai, Nov 24: A Kerala resident was arrested by the Maharashtra Anti-Terrorism Squad (ATS) Friday for allegedly threatening to blow up the Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj International Airport here if he was not paid "one million US dollars in Bitcoin", an official said.

The ATS started probe after the Mumbai International Airport Limited, which operates the airport, received a threatening email in its feedback inbox

at 11.06 am on Thursday, the police official said. "This is a final warning to your airport. We will blast Terminal 2 in 48 hours unless one million US dollars in Bitcoin is transferred to the address. Another alert will be after 24 Hrs," the email read.

A FIR was registered under Indian Penal Code Sections 385 (putting a person in fear of injury in order to commit extortion) and 505 (1) (b) (statements made with intent to cause fear or alarm to the public or against the public tranquility) at the Sahar police station.

Tiger census in Sundarbans starts from November 27

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Kolkata, Nov 24: The annual tiger census in West Bengal's Sundarbans will begin November 27, a senior Forest department official said Friday.

The tiger census is part of the nationwide census by different states having big cat populations, the official said. The camera trap exercise will be in the Sundarban Tiger Reserve (STR) along with some contiguous parts of South 24-Parganas district in the first phase.

Some other adjacent parts of the district will be covered in the second phase of the camera trap exercise, he added. Over 40 forest personnel and some locals will be involved in the census and they have been trained in the use of the camera technology and how to retrieve data from them.

Around 1,500 cameras have been set up in 720 strategic points to record the movement of big cats. According to the last count, there are 101 tigers in the



Sundarbans, 20 of them in contiguous areas of Sunderban Tiger Reserve outside STR.

The official said the forest department has taken steps like prevention of poaching, sensitising villagers about protecting tigers when the big cats stray into localities at times to avert man-animal conflict situations, and beefing up networks about poaching activities in their respective areas.

Also, there had been regular release of deer in the forest area as tiger fodder. All these steps have borne fruit with the rise of tigers from 96 in 2020-21 to 101 till the last census.

The West Bengal part of Sundarbans is split between the STR and the South 24-Parganas forest division.

Mumbai-Ahmedabad bullet train: 100 km of viaducts completed

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Mumbai, Nov 24: The National High Speed Rail Corporation Limited (NHSRCL), which is building the Mumbai-Ahmedabad bullet train corridor, has said that 100 kilometres of viaducts and 230 kilometres of pier work had been completed for the ambitious project.

The milestone of construction of 100 km of viaducts has been achieved through launching of 40-metre long 'full span box girders' and 'segmental girders', the NHSRCL said. Railway Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw uploaded a video on X to give information about the feat.

According to the NHSRCL, the viaducts include bridges over six Gujarat rivers, namely Par and Auranga in Valsad district, as well as Purna, Mindhola, Ambika and Vanganiya in Navsari district.

"The first girder of the project was launched on November 25, 2021, while the first kilometre of



viaduct was ready in six months on June 30, 2022. It achieved construction of 50 kilometres of viaduct on April 22, 2023 and, thereafter, in six months 100 kilometres of viaduct were completed," the NHSRCL said.

"The Full Span Launching technique (FSLM), where 40-metre long box girders are launched by state-of-the-art equipment, is being used along with span-by-span launching of segments. FSLM is 10 times faster than the span-by-span method, which is normally used to build metro viaducts," it added.

According to the NHSRCL, apart from the viaduct work, 250 kilo-

metres of pier work has also been completed for the project, while installation of noise barriers has begun along the constructed viaduct.

"Besides this, the laying of the first reinforced concrete (RC) track bed for the Mumbai Ahmedabad high speed rail corridor track system as used in the Japanese Shinkansen has also started in Surat," the NHSRCL said.

The total cost of the Mumbai-Ahmedabad High Speed Rail Corridor project is pegged at ₹1.08 lakh crore. As per the shareholding pattern, the Union government will pay ₹10,000 crore to the NHSRCL, while Gujarat and Maharashtra are to pay ₹5,000 crore each.

The rest of the cost is by way of a loan at 0.1 per cent interest from Japan. The foundation of the bullet train project was laid in Ahmedabad in September 2017. The train is expected to cover a distance of more than 500 km in around two hours.

The Odisha Small Industries Corporation Ltd.
(A Government of Odisha Undertaking)
(An ISO:9001:2008 certified Govt. Company)
Industrial Estate, Madhupatna, CUTTACK - 753 010, Odisha
Tel No. : 0671-2341204, 2342816 Fax : 0671-2341875/2342561
e-mail: osicld@gmail.com, osicld@gmail.com, website: osicld.in
No.CAD-3039 OSIC GST No. 21AAAC02101M1Z1

TENDER CALL NOTICE

Tender Notice No.6099/RE/OSIC Dt.23.11.2023
The Managing Director, OSIC Ltd., Cuttack invites tender from experienced MSMEs for execution of work "Supply, installation, Testing and commissioning of CCTV based Smart Surveillance System in Jharsuguda Town and seamlessly integrating it with the existing traffic management system and the control room". Tender details can be downloaded from the OSIC website www.osicld.in. Authority reserves the right to accept or reject any or all tenders without assigning any reason thereof or the tendering process may be cancelled in Toto. Any corrigendum/ changes/ modifications will appear in OSIC Ltd. website www.osicld.in only.

Sd/-
GENERAL MANAGER(O)

OIPR-14073/11/0079/2324

OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER CUTTACK (R&B) DIVISION NO.I, CUTTACK
E-mail I.D.- eepwcuttack@gmail.com, Tele/Fax No. (0671)- 2304128
No.B-1338
GOVERNMENT OF ODISHA
(e' PROCUREMENT NOTICE)
Bid identification No. S.E. CTC (R&B)-40 of 2023-24

TENDER CALL NOTICE

1. The Superintending Engineer, Cuttack (R&B) Division No.I, Cuttack on behalf of Governor of Odisha invites on Percentage rate basis bid in **Single cover system** in ONLINE MODE from eligible contractor for Road works as mentioned below.

2. No. of Work :- 08 Nos.

3. Nature of work :- Road works

4. Class of Contractor :- "C" & "B" & "D" & "C"

5. Tender Paper Cost :- Rs.6000/- (Online)

6. Available of bid documents :- From 28.11.2023 to 5PM of 07.12.2023

7. Date of Opening of Bid :- 11 AM of 08.12.2023

8. The Bidders have to participate in ONLINE bidding only. Further details can be seen from the website <https://tendersodisha.gov.in>. Any addendum/ corrigendum/ cancellation of tender can also be seen in the said website.

Sd./- (Er. P.K. Majhi), Superintending Engineer, Cuttack (R&B) Division No.I

OIPR-34091/11/0041/2324

GOVERNMENT OF ODISHA
OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER, NATIONAL HIGHWAY DIVISION, JHARSUGUDA
At-PWD Colony, Po-Kalimandir Road, Dist-Jharsuguda, Pin-768202
E-mail-eejhsg@gmail.com
1ST CORRIGENDUM NOTICE TO BID INVITATION NO. E.E (NH) -1/2023-24/JHARSUGUDA

No. b-52:- The Executive Engineer, N.H.Division, Jharsuguda on behalf of the Governor of Odisha invites percentage rate bid in **double cover system** in ONLINE MODE from eligible contractors for construction of road works as detailed in table below:-

1	Nature of the work	Road Works
2	Total Nos. of the work	01 (One No.)
3	Estimated cost	Rs.63.43 Lakhs (Appx.) (Excluding GST) as per work
4	Period of Completion	04 (Four months)
5	Cost of Bid Document	Rs. 10,000/-
6	Bid Security	As per column no.06 of IFB
7	Class of contractor	"B"
8	Date & Time of Availability of Bid Document in the portal	From 11.00 hours of dt.28.11.2023 to 17.00 hours of dated 11.12.2023
9	Last date/time for receipt of bids in the portal	17.00 hours of dated 11.12.2023
10	Opening dates of Bid	11.00 hours of dated 12.12.2023
11	Name and address of the Officer inviting Bid	EXECUTIVE ENGINEER, NATIONAL HIGHWAY DIVISION, JHARSUGUDA, At-PWD Colony, Po-Kalimandir Road, Dist-Jharsuguda, Pin- 768202

Further details can be seen from the e-procurement portal <http://www.tendersodisha.gov.in>. Any addendum/corrigendum/cancellation of tender can also be seen in the said website only.

Sd./- Executive Engineer N.H. Division, Jharsuguda

OIPR-34020/11/0003/2324

GOVT. OF ODISHA
ST & SC DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT
INTEGRATED TRIBAL DEVELOPMENT AGENCY, KARANJIA, DIST.- MAYURBHANJ
E-PROCUREMENT NOTICE
BID IDENTIFICATION NO. - 05/2023-24
e-mail - itdkja@nic.in

No. 1894 Dtd. 24.11.23
No. CAD-3041:- Bid Documents consisting of Work, Estimated costs, Cost of Tender Papers, EMD, Time of completion, Class of Contractors and the set of terms and conditions of contract and other necessary documents can be seen/downloaded from Govt. Website i.e. <https://tendersodisha.gov.in>

1. No. of works : 2 (Two) Nos.
2. Amount put to tender : 2,50,05,011/-
3. Period of completion : 9 Calendar months.
4. Date & Time of availability of the Bid documents : From 10.00 AM of dt. 28.11.2023 to 5.00 PM of dt. 16.12.2023.
5. Last date & time of receipt of Bids in the portal : Dt. 16.12.2023 upto 5 P.M.
6. Bids received online shall be : Dt. 19.12.2023 - 11 A.M. onwards opened on
7. Name and Address of the : Project Administrator, ITDA, Karanjia Officer Inviting Bids

Further details can be seen/downloaded from the procurement portal i.e. <https://tendersodisha.gov.in>

Sd./- Project Administrator I.T.D.A., Karanjia

OIPR-19007/11/0008/2324



Tourists outside the Taj Mahal Palace hotel, one of the sites of the 26/11, 2008 terror attacks, ahead of the attack's anniversary, in Mumbai, Friday PPI PHOTO

TMC hails Supreme Court's judgement on Governors

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Kolkata, Nov 24: Commending the recent Supreme Court judgment that Governors cannot indefinitely withhold Bills without action, the TMC labelled it a "lesson for the BJP-appointed Governors" and called for the abolition of the post, asserting that it is time to terminate its existence.

Governors cannot be at liberty to keep Bills pending indefinitely without any action, the Supreme Court has said while emphasising that the unelected head of the state is entrusted with constitutional powers that cannot be used to thwart the normal course of lawmaking by state legislatures.

Observing that unbridled discretion to the Governor would "virtually veto the functioning of the legislative domain by a duly elected legislature, a bench comprising Chief Justice of India D Y Chandrachud, Justice JB Pardiwala and Justice Manoj Misra said such a course of action would be contrary to fundamental principles of a constitutional democracy based on a Parliamentary pattern of governance.

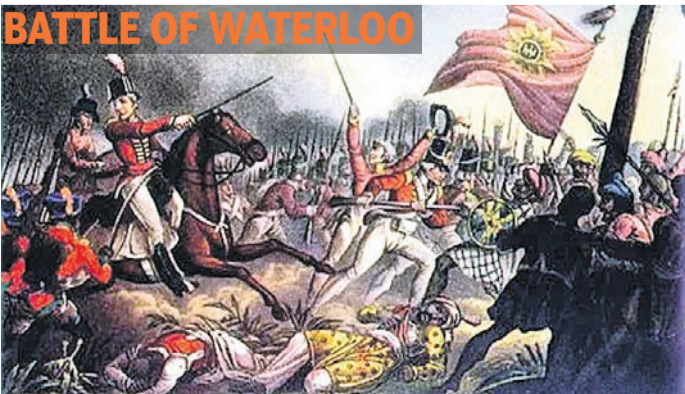
'Lord Wellesley defeated Napoleon by adopting strategy of Marathas'

The Sirsoli battle and the strategy adopted by Marathas are also mentioned in the books written by Lord Wellesley

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Akola, Nov 24: The forces led by Lord Arthur Wellesley defeated French emperor Napoleon Bonaparte in the decisive Battle of Waterloo in 1815 by adopting the strategy of Marathas that he had earlier witnessed in a battle fought in Maharashtra, a former British army officer has said.

Retired British army officer Major Gordon Corrigan, 81, along with a group of citizens from his country Thursday visited Sirsoli village in Akola district of Maharashtra, where a battle was



fought between the Marathas and the British forces in 1803. The group visited the battle-field site to study various aspects related to it and to pay homage to the British soldiers who laid down their lives during the battle.

The battle fought at Sirsoli is also known as the Battle of Argaoon.

Under the leadership of Captain Kane and in the presence of Lord Wellesley, the British forces fought against the Marathas for seven days from November 23 to 29, 1803.

The Maratha soldiers fought with traditional weapons against the British. The Maratha forces were led by Nagpurkar Bhosle. From the Marathas, Kartajirao

Jayle killed Captain Kane, but sacrificed his own life. However, the British forces defeated the Marathas.

Speaking during his visit, Major Corrigan said, "After this battle, Lord Wellesley was sent back to England. In the Battle of Waterloo, Wellesley used the tactics as used by the Marathas in the Sirsoli battle and defeated Napoleon."

According to him, the Sirsoli battle and the strategy adopted by Marathas are mentioned in the books written by Lord Wellesley. For the past 220 years, British citizens have been visiting Sirsoli every November.

national

of the day quote

In the coming days, sugarcane farmers will get good news regarding rate and compensation for losses they incurred due to floods earlier this year

In this complicated world, it is the trust between like-minded partners such as India and Australia, along with others, that is helping us in our efforts to secure a free, open, peaceful and prosperous Indo-Pacific region along with a rules-based international order

The BJP-led state government has been giving due respect to the Manikya dynasty for its contribution towards the state's overall development through the years

SHORT TAKES

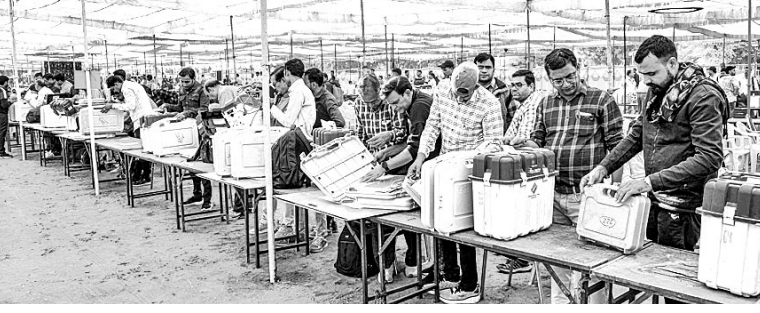
India, Bangladesh vow to boost ties

New Delhi: India and Bangladesh Friday vowed to bolster cooperation in key areas such as security, trade and regional connectivity. At the foreign secretary-level meeting here, the two sides also discussed the Teesta river dispute and other water-sharing treaties. The deliberations happened during the 'India-Bangladesh Foreign Office Consultations', with India being represented by Foreign Secretary Vinay Mohan Kwatra and the Bangladesh side by Foreign Secretary Masud Bin Momen.

PM to attend UN climate talks

New Delhi: Prime Minister Narendra Modi will attend the UN climate talks in Dubai on December 1 and deliver a national statement highlighting India's climate action, sources said Friday. The prime minister will reach the UAE on November 30, deliver India's national statement during the United Nations World Climate Action Summit on December 1 and return the same day, a source said.

Rajasthan set to vote today



Polling officials collect EVMs and other election material at a distribution centre ahead of voting for Rajasthan Assembly elections, in Ajmer, Friday

Jaipur, Nov 24: Rajasthan is all set to vote Saturday to elect members of a new assembly with the BJP aiming to unseat the ruling Congress, which is fighting hard to change the trend of alternate governments in the state. Polling will be held from 7 am to 6 pm in 199 out of 200 constituencies amid tight security arrangements, chief electoral officer Praveen Gupta said. Due to the death of Congress candidate in Sriganganagar's Karanpur seat Gurmeet Singh Koonar, also the sitting MLA, election in this constituency has been adjourned. The past few days saw a high-pitch electoral campaign with Congress focusing mainly on the works and performance of the Ashok Gehlot government, its schemes and programmes and also banked on the promise of seven guarantees if the

party retains power. The BJP attacked the Congress on issues such as crime against women, appeasement, corruption and paper leak. As many as 1862 candidates are in the fray with the number of voters being 5,25,38,105. These include 1,70,99,334 voters in the age group of 18-30, and of them, 22,61,008 are new voters in the 18-19 age group. Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot, state Congress chief Govind Singh Dotasra, assembly speaker CP Joshi, several ministers including Shanti Dhariwal, BD Kalla, Bhanwar Singh Bhati, Saleh Mohammad, Mamta Bhupesh, Pratap Singh Khachariyawas, Rajendra Yadav, Shakuntla Rawat, Udai Lal Anjana, Mahendra Singh Malviya, Ashok Chandra and former deputy chief minister Sachin Pilot are among the Congress leaders contesting the elections. In BJP, leader of opposition Rajendra Rathore, deputy leader of opposition

The BRS government in Telangana is nearing its expiry date and gross injustice is being meted out to youth, women and farmers of the state



PRITYANKA GANDHI VADRA | CONGRESS LEADER

India monitoring outbreak of H9N2 in China

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, Nov 24: India is prepared for any kind of exigency that may emerge from the current influenza situation in China, the government said Friday, highlighting that it is monitoring the outbreak of H9N2 and clusters of respiratory illness in children in that country.

There is a low risk to India from both the avian influenza - H9N2 - case reported in China as well as the clusters of respiratory illness, the Union health ministry said. Some media reports have indicated clustering of cases of respiratory illness in children in northern China for which the World Health Organization (WHO) has also issued a statement, it said.

Based on available information, an increase in incidence of respiratory diseases in China has been reported in the last few weeks. "The usual causes of respiratory illness in children have been implicated and there has been no identification of an unusual pathogen or any unexpected clinical manifestations," the ministry said.



There is a low risk to India from both the avian influenza -- H9N2 -- case reported in China as well as the clusters of respiratory illness, the Union health ministry said

Based on available information, an increase in incidence of respiratory diseases in China has been reported in the last few weeks

Recently, a meeting was held under the Directorate General of Health Services to discuss the preparedness measures against human cases of avian influenza in the country against the backdrop of a human case of H9N2 (avian influenza virus) in October in China that was reported to the WHO, it said. "The overall risk assessment by the WHO indicates a low probability of human-to-human

spread and low case fatality rate among human cases of H9N2 reported to the WHO so far. The need for strengthening surveillance among human, animal husbandry and wildlife sectors and improving coordination was recognised. India is prepared for any kind of public health exigency," the ministry added. The WHO on Thursday said it has made an official request to China for detailed information

Govt to help citizens file deepfake FIRs

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, Nov 24: The government will assist people in filing FIRs against social media platforms in case they are aggrieved by objectionable content like deepfakes that are in violation of IT rules.

Union minister Rajeev Chandrasekhar on Friday said the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY) will develop a platform on which people can notify the ministry about IT rule violations by social media platforms. Speaking to the media after a meeting with the representatives of social media platforms here, the minister also said that social media platforms have been given seven days time to align their terms of use as per the IT rules.



Further, Chandrasekhar said it will be acceptable for the government if social media platforms label content as deepfake instead of taking down the content. The ministry will appoint an officer who will deal with implementation of Rule 7 of IT Rules that were notified in October 2022.

According to Chandrasekhar, the move will enable people who are aggrieved by objectionable content to file FIRs against social media platforms. MeitY will put

in place a platform through which the aggrieved people can very easily notify the ministry about the violations. Also, a mechanism will be designed by the ministry that will assist them in filing FIRs, he said.

Section 7 of the IT rules deals with revoking the intermediary status of social media platforms and taking action against them as per Indian Penal Code if they fail to adhere with the rules. "From today onwards, there will be a slight departure in the way MeitY will handle this (violation of IT rules). "In the past, we were not necessarily going for 100 per cent response to 100 per cent violations but today onwards, there will be 100 per cent compliance, zero tolerance for any violations by any of the platforms," Chandrasekhar said.

'SURYA KIRAN' BEGINS

The 17th edition of joint military exercise 'Surya Kiran' between India and Nepal started in Pithoragarh, Uttarakhand Friday. The annual exercise, which is conducted alternately in the two countries, will conclude December 7, 2023, the Defence Ministry said in a statement



Afghanistan shuts embassy in Delhi

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, Nov 24: Afghanistan's Embassy in India Friday announced its permanent closure, citing "persistent challenges from the Indian government".

This comes after the Afghanistan Embassy had announced on September 30 that it is ceasing its operations from October 1. The mission had back then cited a lack of support from the host government, failure to meet expectations in serving Afghanistan's interests and reduction in personnel and resources. In a statement, the Embassy said it regrets announcing the permanent closure of its diplomatic mission in New Delhi, effective from November 23, "owing to persistent challenges from the Indian government". "This decision follows the embassy's earlier cessation of operations on 30th September 2023, a move made in the hope that the Indian government's stance would evolve favourably for the normal continuation of the Embassy of the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan in New Delhi," the statement said.

PUBLIC NOTICE: Notice is hereby given to all concerned that, Babita Pasayat, W/o. Satchidananda Behera resident of N-5, Plot No. 433, IRC Village, P.S.: Nayapalli, Bhubaneswar, Dist.: Khordha has lost the original Regd. Sale Deed No. 10471302372 Dt. 11.11.2023 which executed by Akshaya Kumar Mohanty in favour of Prasant Kumar Das relating to Plot No. 2209/3138, Area Ac.0.026.7 Kadi under Khata No. 835/1268 of Mouza: Balisahi, P.S.: Salipur District: Cuttack for which she has lodged a F.I.R. on 19.11.2023 before the Nayapalli Police Station, Bhubaneswar. However said Babita Pasayat has applied for a housing loan before the LIC Housing Finance Ltd. Cuttack by offering mortgage of the said property title documents.

CENTRAL COUNCIL FOR RESEARCH IN AYURVEDIC SCIENCES (Ministry of Ayush, Government of India) J.L.N.B.C.A.H. Anusandhan Bhawan, No. 61-65, Institutional Area, Opp. 'D' Block, Janakpuri, New Delhi-110058

Advertisement 2023 (December Batch) CCRAS Post Doctoral Fellowship Scheme (CCRAS PDF Scheme) The Central Council for Research in Ayurvedic Sciences (CCRAS), an autonomous body of the Ministry of Ayush, Government of India, has recently initiated "CCRAS Post Doctoral Fellowship Scheme" with the approval of Ministry of Ayush to identify promising young researchers with innovative ideas and provide them with training and research opportunities in different multidisciplinary areas in the field of Ayurveda. The scheme aims at facilitating their transition from mentored to independent research career. CCRAS intends to offer ten (10) such fellowships every year to promising fresh PhD/PG degree holders of Ayurveda and Ph.D. holders of related science disciplines at reputed organizations like CSIR, ICMR, DBT, National Institutes, recognized Universities and National Institutions of Ayush etc. These fellowships will be allocated by Director General, CCRAS, depending upon the needs of the Institute/Centre. 7 PDF have been awarded in June, 2023 batch. This advertisement is to apply for the remaining 3 PDF for December, 2023 batch. The Last Date of Application is 31st December, 2023 for December, 2023 batch.

EAST COAST RAILWAY File No. DRM/Engg/KUR/23-24/ E-Tender/107, Dt. 21.11.2023 Tender No. e-TenderSouthKUR-348-2023, Date: 16.11.2023 Description: PROPOSED EXTENSION OF EXISTING FOOT OVER BRIDGE (FOB) TOWARDS OUTSIDE END AT JHAODUPDI, ICHCHAPURAM, BALUGAON AND MANDASA ROAD RAILWAY STATION OF KHURDARAOD DIVISION. Approx cost of the work: ₹402.25 lakhs, EMD: ₹3,51,100/-, Completion Period of the work: 12 (Twelve) Months. Date & Time of Tender Closing: 07.12.2023, 1500 hrs.

Dalit man forced to put footwear in mouth

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Morbi, Nov 24: Police in Gujarat's Morbi city have registered a case against a businessman and at least six others for allegedly assaulting a 21-year-old Dalit man, who worked in her company for a fortnight, and forcing him to apologise by holding her footwear in his mouth for demanding salary, an official said.

The incident occurred Wednesday, he said. The victim, Nilesh Dalsaniya, lodged a complaint, based on which Morbi city's 'A' division police on Thursday registered a first informa-

tion report (FIR) against the woman, identified as Vibhuti Patel aka Raniba, and others including her brother Om Patel and manager Parikshit, said Pratapsinh Zala, Deputy Superintendent of Police (SC/ST Cell).

Vibhuti Patel is the owner of Raniba Industries Pvt Ltd, which has an office in a commercial complex at Ravapur Crossroad. In the beginning of October, she hired Dalsaniya, who is into tiles marketing, on a monthly salary of Rs 12,000, the FIR said.

However, on October 18, she suddenly sacked him.

Bank of India Zonal Office : Star House, 1/1D, Jayadev Vihar, Nayapalli, Bhubaneswar-751015 POSSESSION NOTICE [Rule-8(1)] of Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules-2002 Whereas, the undersigned being the Authorised Officer of the Bank of India, Gopalpur Branch under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 and in exercise of powers conferred under section 13(12) read with Rule 8 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 issued a Demand Notice calling upon the Borrower in the loan account given below to repay the amount mentioned in the Notice plus interest & expenses thereon within 60 days from the date of receipt of the said Notice. The Borrower having failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to the Borrower and the public in general that the undersigned has taken possession of the property described herein below in exercise of powers conferred on him/her under section 13(4) of the said Act read with Rule 8 of the said rules. The Borrower in particular and the public in general is hereby cautioned not to deal with the property and any dealings with the property will be subject to the charge of the Bank of India, Gopalpur Branch for an amount mentioned below with interest & expenses thereon. The Borrower's attention is invited to provisions of Sub-Section (8) of Section 13 of the Act, in respect of time available to redeem the secured assets.

Bank of Baroda REGIONAL STRESSED ASSETS RECOVERY BRANCH : SAMBALPUR Ground Floor, At: Christian Para, G.M. College Chowk, Dist.: Sambalpur, Odisha, PIN - 768001 E-AUCTION SALE NOTICE E-Auction Sale Notice for sale of Immovable Assets under the Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest (SARFAESI) Act, 2002 read with provision to Rule 6(2) & 8(6) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 to be held on 29.12.2023 from 2:00 PM to 6:00 PM

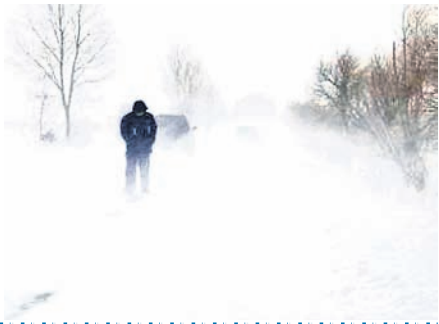
international



The Antarctic is waking up, and the world must wake up
ANTONIO GUTERRES | UN SECRETARY-GENERAL

COLD AIR GRIPS CHINA

Temperatures in central and eastern China plummeted Friday and cold air is expected to continue gripping various parts of the country over the next 10 days, meteorological authorities said



of the day quote

The facilities provided to him (Imran) are more than those provided to an ordinary prisoner or a prime minister behind bars as he is, after all, a laadla (darling) of the courts. The kind of facilities being provided to him in jail, they weren't given to any prime minister and a common citizen cannot even imagine them

Our government will rebuild the economy to ease the cost of living, and deliver tax relief to increase the prosperity of all New Zealanders

Tunisia doesn't want to be Europe's border guard to slow migration

SHORT TAKES

NZ announces coalition govt

Wellington: Three political parties of New Zealand announced Friday the lineup for a new coalition government after weeks of negotiations. The new coalition government of National Party, ACT New Zealand party and New Zealand First party will be stable, effective and will deliver for all New Zealanders, National's leader and incoming Prime Minister Christopher Luxon said during the signing ceremony at Parliament.

Sunak gets small bump

London: British Prime Minister Rishi Sunak and the governing Conservatives are enjoying a small bump in the opinion polls after some crowd-pleasing tax cuts were announced in the Autumn Statement budget this week, it emerged Friday. According to a YouGov survey for 'The Times' conducted after the budget was tabled by UK Chancellor Jeremy Hunt in Parliament Wednesday, the popularity rating for the Sunak-led Tories rose to 25 per cent - which is four points up from the previous week, the party's highest rating in recent weeks.

SL central bank cuts interest rates

Colombo: The Central Bank of Sri Lanka on Friday announced its decision to reduce its Standing Deposit Facility Rate (SDFR) and the Standing Lending Facility Rate (SLFR) by 100 basis points to 9.00 per cent and 10.00 per cent, respectively. The central bank said its monetary policy board arrived at this decision following a careful analysis of the current and expected developments in the domestic and global economy, with the aim of achieving and maintaining inflation at the targeted level of 5 per cent over the medium term, while enabling the economy to reach and stabilise at the potential level, reports Xinhua news agency.

Thousands march

Havana: Thousands of people led by Cuban President Miguel Diaz-Canel marched along Havana's iconic boardwalk Thursday in a show of solidarity with the Palestinian people and demanding an end to the war between Israel and Hamas. Wearing a black-and-white Palestinian keffiyeh scarf, Diaz-Canel was accompanied by Cuban's main leaders, including Prime Minister Manuel Marrero and Foreign Minister Bruno Rodriguez.

Ukraine eyes Crimea next

Russia annexed the peninsula from Ukraine in 2014, a move that most of the world considered illegal, and has used it as a staging and supply point during the war

AGENCIES

Kyiv, Nov 24: Ukraine launched one of the biggest drone attacks on the Moscow-annexed Crimean Peninsula since the full-scale war that started with Russia's invasion 21 months ago, Russian officials said Friday.

They did not mention any casualties or damage.

At the same time, Ukrainian officials reported that the Kremlin's forces escalated their weeklong and costly attempt to storm Avdiivka, a strategically important city in eastern Ukraine.

The stepped-up efforts came as both sides are keen to show they are not deadlocked as the fighting approaches 2024. Neither side has gained much ground despite a Ukrainian counter-offensive that began in June, and analysts predict the war will be a long one.

With winter weather setting in, bringing snow and freezing temperatures to the battlefield, Ukraine and Russia are looking to take ground that could provide platforms for future advances.

The Moscow-appointed governor for the Russian-occupied part of southern Ukraine's Kherson region, Vladimir Saldo, said Ukraine launched a major drone attack on Crimea early Friday. He claimed that dozens of drones were shot down over the province and the northern part of Crimea. Russia annexed



the peninsula from Ukraine in 2014, a move that most of the world considered illegal, and has used it as a staging and supply point during the war. The Russian Defense Ministry said air defences downed 13 Ukrainian drones over Crimea and three more over southern Russia's Volgograd region. Ukrainian officials did not comment on the Russian reports. It was not possible to independently verify either side's battlefield claims.

Russia has been trying to capture Avdiivka since October 10, using heavy bombardments and reportedly taking heavy losses. The city is wrecked, and the

battle has become reminiscent of the fight over the eastern Ukraine city of Bakhmut, which was largely destroyed during nine months of fighting before Russian troops eventually captured it.

Avdiivka lies in the northern suburbs of Donetsk, a city in a region of the same name that Russian forces partially occupy. Avdiivka's location grants Ukrainian forces artillery advantages over the city and could serve as a springboard for them to liberate Donetsk. After intense artillery and aerial bombardments, Russian troops attacked the heavily fortified city

THE STEPPED-UP EFFORTS CAME AS BOTH SIDES ARE KEEN TO SHOW THEY ARE NOT DEADLOCKED AS THE FIGHTING APPROACHES 2024

NEITHER SIDE HAS GAINED MUCH GROUND DESPITE A UKRAINIAN COUNTEROFFENSIVE THAT BEGAN IN JUNE, AND ANALYSTS PREDICT THE WAR WILL BE A LONG ONE

RUSSIA HAS BEEN TRYING TO CAPTURE AVDIIVKA SINCE OCTOBER 10, USING HEAVY BOMBARDMENTS AND REPORTEDLY TAKING HEAVY LOSSES

World Hindu Congress renounces 'Hinduism'

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Bangkok, Nov 24: The World Hindu Congress Friday renounced the word Hinduism, contending that the term reflected oppressive and discriminatory and embraced Hindutva and Hindu Dharma to refer to the "eternal" religion.

The third World Hindu Congress (WHC) adopted a declaration here asserting that the word Hindutva was more accurate as it includes the gamut of all that the word 'Hindu' implies.

"In the term 'Hindu Dharma', the first word, i.e. 'Hindu' is an unbounded word. It signifies all that is Sanatan or Eternal. And then there is Dharma, which means 'That, which sustains'," read the declaration adopted at the end of the first day of deliberations of the WHC.

It said that in contrast, Hinduism is totally different because it is suffixed with an "ism", which is a term defined as an oppressive and discriminatory attitude or belief. "It is for such reasons that many of our elders preferred the term 'Hindutva' over Hinduism as the former is a more accurate term since it includes the gamut (spectrum) of all that the word 'Hindu' implies. We agree with them and should do the same," the declaration read.



The Leo balloon floats by along Central Park West during the Macy's Thanksgiving Day parade

AP/PTI PHOTO

China allows visa-free travel for 6 countries

Beijing: China announced Friday that it will allow visa-free entry for citizens of five European countries and Malaysia as it tries to encourage more people to visit for business and tourism. Starting December 1, citizens of France, Germany, Italy, the Netherlands, Spain and Malaysia will be allowed to enter China for up to 15 days without a visa. The trial program will be in effect for one year.

SNIPPETS

Plea against Imran, Bushra's 'un-Islamic' marriage dismissed

Islamabad: In some relief to embattled former Pakistan prime minister Imran Khan, a court here Friday dismissed a petition challenging his

'un-Islamic' marriage to his third wife Bushra Bibi, a media report said. A local court in Islamabad dismissed the plea filed by the petitioner Muhammad Hanif after he withdrew his case against the jailed former prime minister, Geo News reported.

Ukrainian PM, EU official discuss border blockade

Kiev: Ukrainian Prime Minister Denys Shmyhal said he had an online meeting with European Commission Vice President Valdis Dombrovskis to discuss the blockade of the Ukrainian border with some European Union (EU) countries. Ukraine has outlined its proposals on the issue to the EU and is counting on the European Commission's help in resolving the problem, Shmyhal wrote on Facebook. Ukraine is also rapidly developing alternative logistics routes for its exports and imports, Xinhua news agency quoted the Prime Minister as saying.

World's largest iceberg breaks free, heading towards Southern Ocean

REUTERS

United Nations, Nov 24: The world's largest iceberg is on the move for the first time in more than three decades, scientists said Friday.

At almost 4,000 square km (1,500 square miles), the Antarctic iceberg called A23a is roughly three times the size of New York City. Since calving off West Antarctica's Filchner-Ronne Ice Shelf in 1986, the iceberg - which once hosted a Soviet research station - has largely been stranded after its base became stuck on the floor of the Weddell Sea. Not anymore. Recent satellite images reveal that the berg, weighing nearly a trillion metric tonnes, is now drifting quickly past the northern tip of the Antarctic Peninsula, aided by strong winds and currents.

It's rare to see an iceberg of this size on the move, said British Antarctic Survey glaciologist Oliver Marsh, so scientists will be watching its trajectory closely.

As it gains steam, the colossal berg will likely be launched into the Antarctic Circumpolar Current. This will funnel it toward the Southern Ocean on a path known as "iceberg alley" where others of its kind can be found bobbing in dark waters. Why the berg is making a run for it now remains to be seen. It's possible A23a could again become grounded at South Georgia island. That would pose a problem for Antarctica's wildlife. Millions of seals, penguins, and seabirds breed on the island and forage in the surrounding waters.

PNEUMONIA OUTBREAK

No 'unusual' virus behind rising cases: China

SINCE MID-OCTOBER 2023, THE WORLD HEALTH ORGANISATION HAS BEEN MONITORING DATA FROM CHINESE SURVEILLANCE SYSTEMS SHOWING AN INCREASE IN RESPIRATORY ILLNESS IN CHILDREN IN NORTHERN CHINA

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Beijing/Geneva, Nov 24: Claiming no unusual or novel pathogens other than the seasonal ones were detected, China has sought to play down the global concerns amid surging cases of mycoplasma pneumoniae and influenza flu, especially among children, in its southern and northern provinces.

Even when China's widely-publicised exchange with the World Health Organisation (WHO) in response to the queries over the reports of surging cases of mycoplasma pneumoniae and influenza flu triggered the worldwide alert, including in India, China said the spike in respiratory diseases was due to an 'immunity gap.'

Both WHO and China have

received global criticism for their non-transparent data/information sharing about Covid-19 and the world still has apprehensions over the emergence of the deadly virus in the Chinese city of Wuhan in 2019 which later spiralled into a massive pandemic resulting in deaths of and ill-health to millions of people across countries.

In response to the media reports in China about a spike in children's hospitalisation, the WHO Thursday made an official request to China for detailed information.

On Friday, a WHO statement issued in Geneva, quoting information it received from the Chinese health officials, said: "There has been no detection of any unusual or novel pathogens or unusual clinical presenta-



tions but only the aforementioned general increase in respiratory illnesses due to multiple known pathogens."

The WHO statement said that the requested data was provided (by China) when its officials held a teleconference with health authorities from the Chinese Centre for Disease Control and

Prevention and the Beijing Children's Hospital, facilitated by the National Health Commission and the National Administration of Disease Control and Prevention on November 23.

After reviewing the Chinese response, the WHO said, it does not recommend any specific measures for travellers to China and advises against the application of any travel or trade restrictions based on the current information available on this event.

However, the WHO also quoted the Chinese response that said: "Some of these increases are earlier in the season than historically experienced, but not unexpected given the lifting of Covid-19 restrictions, as similarly experienced in other countries."

Chinese health officials, as quoted by the WHO, further stated that the rise in respiratory illness has not resulted in patient loads exceeding hospital capacities. But local media reports suggested otherwise.

State-run Global Times quoted China's National Influenza Centre as saying that in the week of November 13-19, "the positive rate of influenza virus detection continued to rise in the southern and northern provinces, with the A (H3N2) subtype predominating, followed by B (Victoria)."

The newspaper quoted a parent who had brought her sick child to the Beijing Children's Hospital saying that the hospital was fully packed with over 300 people and that she had to wait for four hours to see a doctor.



India is looking at building its first strategic natural gas reserves by using old, depleted hydrocarbon wells to store the fuel and hedge against global supply disruption
SUMIT KISHORE | EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, GAIL

MMT PARTNERS WITH WEP

Travel portal MakeMyTrip Friday said it has partnered with the Women Entrepreneurship Platform (WEP) to launch 'Project Maitri' that is aimed at empowering women homestay owners in North Eastern Region. As part of the project, select women homestay owners will receive specialised training tailored to their unique business needs, MakeMyTrip said



of the day quote

The fear of losing companies has led to over Rs 9 lakh crore of filed debt being settled before the cases arrived at the IBC doorstep for admission. This is around three times the stressed debt resolved via the code in the past seven years, underscoring its deterrence effect

MOHIT MAKHIA | SENIOR DIRECTOR, CRISIL RATINGS

The senior care industry in India holds immense potential, but we acknowledge the challenges it faces, be it regulatory frameworks or infra development. We are dedicated to advocating transformative approaches that prioritise the well-being and dignity of seniors

ADARSH NARAHARI | CHAIRMAN, ASLI

We have done pre-sales of around Rs 11,000 crore in the first two quarters. We had guided around Rs 16,000 crore (for the entire 2023-24)

IRFAN RAZACK | CHAIRMAN AND MD, PRESTIGE ESTATES

SHORT TAKES

3 banks fined ₹10cr

Mumbai: The Reserve Bank Friday imposed penalties totalling Rs 10.34 crore on Citibank, Bank of Baroda, and Indian Overseas Bank for contravention of various regulatory norms. The highest penalty of Rs 5 crore has been imposed on Citibank NA for non-compliance of norms related to depositor education and awareness fund scheme, and code of conduct on outsourcing of financial services, the RBI said in a statement. A fine of Rs 4.34 crore was imposed on the state-owned Bank of Baroda for violation of certain directions related to the creation of a central repository of large common exposures, and others, another release said. Chennai-based public sector lender Indian Overseas Bank was slapped with a Rs 1 crore fine for contravention of directions concerning loans and advances.

Tata Tech IPO shines

Bangalore: India's Tata Technologies' Rs 30.43 billion initial public offering (IPO) remained the most oversubscribed domestic IPO this week, signalling robust demand for the Tata group's first public float in nearly two decades. Investors bid for about 3.13 billion shares worth Rs 1.56 trillion by the close of subscriptions Friday, compared with the 45 million shares on offer, with institutional investors showing the most interest. The bids were roughly 69.43 times the issue on offer.

BLACK FRIDAY

Retailers offer deep discounts to lure shoppers

A DOWNTURN IN LUXURY SPENDING HAS ALSO PROMPTED DEPARTMENT STORES INCLUDING BERGDORF GOODMAN AND NORDSTROM TO OFFER STEEP DISCOUNTS ON ITEMS SUCH AS BALENCIAGA SHOES AND OSCAR DE LA RENTA EARRINGS

REUTERS

New York, Nov 24: Retailers around the world are hoping millions of shoppers will take advantage of Black Friday discounts in the kickoff to the key holiday shopping season, against a backdrop of financial pressure on households in the US, Europe and elsewhere. With many consumers squeezed by persistent inflation and higher interest rates, US holiday spending is expected to rise at the slowest pace in five years. Most major retailers slashed their seasonal hiring. A record 130.7 million people are expected to shop in stores and online in the US on Black Friday this year, the National Retail Federation (NRF) estimates. The event is known for crowds lining up at big-box stores

ADANI-HINDENBURG ROW

No reason to discredit SEBI: SC

Apex court reserves judgment on Adani, CJI indicates at passing directions to SEBI as Hindenburg report on the conglomerate highlights extreme market volatility

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, Nov 24: The Supreme Court Friday said it has no reason to "discredit" SEBI, which probed allegations against the Adani group, as there was no material before it to doubt what the market regulator has done and the court does not have to treat what was set out in the Hindenburg report as a "true state of affairs".

While asking the Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) what it intends to do in future to ensure investors don't lose wealth due to volatility in stock market or short-selling, the apex court observed it would not be proper for it to set up a special investigation team (SIT) on its own without any material before it.

A bench headed by Chief Justice D Y Chandrachud, which reserved its order on a batch of pleas concerning the Adani-Hindenburg row on allegations of stock price manipulation,

said it cannot ask a statutory regulator to take as a "gospel truth" something which was published in the media.

"We don't have to treat what is set out in the Hindenburg report as ipso facto (automatically) a true state of affairs. That is why we directed the SEBI to investigate. Because for us to accept something which is in the report of an entity which is not before us and whose veracity we have no means of testing, would really be unfair," the bench, also comprising justices J B Pardiwala and Manoj Misra, told advocate Prashant Bhushan, who was appearing for one of the petitioners.

Bhushan argued that SEBI's role in the matter was "suspect" for several reasons because a lot of information was available to the regulator way back in 2014.

"They have completed their investigations. They are saying that is now in their quasi-judicial power. Should they disclose the investigation before they issue a notice to show cause," the bench asked.

Bhushan said it was for the



There was a growing tendency of planting stories outside India to influence things and policies inside India
TUSHAR MEHTA | SOLICITOR GENERAL

ADANI GROUP STOCKS HAD BEEN BLUDGEONED ON THE BOURSES AFTER HINDENBURG RESEARCH MADE A LITANY OF ALLEGATIONS, INCLUDING THOSE ABOUT FRAUDULENT TRANSACTIONS AND SHARE-PRICE MANIPULATION, AGAINST THE BUSINESS CONGLOMERATE

apex court to see whether the probe done by the SEBI was credible or not and whether some other independent organisation or an SIT was needed to be formed to investigate it.

"Where is the material before us for us to doubt what SEBI has done," the bench observed.

It also took serious note of Bhushan's claim that two of the members of the apex court appointed expert committee have serious "conflict of interest". The bench said there has to be some responsibility about the allegations being made as it was easy to level allegations.

Dealing with the submissions

relating to SEBI probe, it said, "We have to be also conscious that SEBI is a statutory body exclusively entrusted with the jurisdiction to investigate into stock market violations. Today, is it proper for a court, the highest court, to just without any material to say that we will not let you investigate and we will constitute a SIT of our own? This has to be done with a great deal of calibration."

Bhushan referred to the

Adani stocks jump by ₹15K-crore

Stock prices of Adani group companies soared by almost Rs 15,000 crore as the Supreme Court Friday heard and reserved its verdict on a batch of petitions seeking examination of allegations of fraud against the conglomerate. Nine of the 10 listed group companies ended in the green, adding Rs 14,786 crore in group market capitalisation, stock exchange data showed. The overall market capitalisation of the 10 Adani Group companies stood around Rs 10.26 lakh crore at the close of trading Friday as against Rs 10.11 lakh crore on the previous day.

POOR GOVERNANCE

RBI supersedes Abhyudaya Coop Bank board

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Mumbai, Nov 24: The RBI Friday superseded the board of Abhyudaya Cooperative Bank for one year over poor governance standards, and appointed an administrator to manage the affairs of the lender.

Satyra Prakash Pathak, former Chief General Manager of State Bank of India, is the 'Administrator' to manage the affairs of the Mumbai-based bank during the one-year period, the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) said.

Also, a committee of advisors has been appointed to assist the administrator to discharge his duties.

"The action is necessitated due to certain material concerns emanating from poor governance standards observed in the bank," the RBI said.

However, no business restriction has been placed by the RBI and the bank will continue to carry on its normal banking activities, under the guidance of the administrator, it added.

The members of the 'Committee of Advisors' are Venkatesh Hegde, former General Manager, SBI, Mahendra Chhajed, Chartered Accountant, and Suhas Gokhale former MD, COSMOS Co-operative Bank Ltd.

POSITIVE OUTLOOK

Benchmarks log fourth week of gains

REUTERS

Bangalore, Nov 24: India's benchmark indexes saw a fourth straight week of gains, led by improved growth prospects in auto and pharma sectors.

Both the Nifty 50 and Sensex climbed about 0.3% this week. "The outlook remains positive for Indian equities," said Devan Choksey, managing director of DRChoksey Finserv. Choksey attributed the rise in domestic equities to sustained retail inflows, bets of US rates peaking and robust domestic macroeconomic conditions.

Auto index gained 0.80%, hitting record highs during the week.

Hero MotoCorp and Bajaj Auto jumped 6.41% and 5.31%, respectively, extending their post-earnings rally. Both the auto makers were among the top gainers this week.

Pharma stocks advanced 0.95%. The stocks have gained in seven of the eight sessions since the release of soft US inflation data November 14.

Profit margins in Indian pharma companies will likely remain strong due to easing price erosion in the US and improved prices of active pharma ingredients, analysts at Bernstein wrote in a note.

Realty extended its winning streak to the fourth week, when



BOTH THE NIFTY 50 AND SENSEX CLIMBED ABOUT 0.3% THIS WEEK
AUTOMOBILE INDEX TOUCH RECORD HIGHS DURING THE WEEK
PHARMA STOCKS HAVE GAINED IN SEVEN OF THE EIGHT SESSIONS
REALTY EXTENDED ITS WINNING STREAK TO THE FOURTH WEEK

Forex kitty surge to \$595.40 billion

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Mumbai, Nov 24: India's forex reserves increased by \$5.077 billion to \$595.397 billion during the week ended November 17, the Reserve Bank said Friday.

In the previous reporting week, the kitty declined \$462 million to \$590.321 billion.

For the week ended November 17, the foreign currency assets, a major component of the reserves, increased \$4.387 billion to \$526.391 billion, according to the Weekly Statistical Supplement released by the Reserve Bank of India (RBI).

It can be noted that in October 2021, the country's forex kitty had reached an all-time high of \$645 billion.

The reserves took a hit as the central bank deployed the kitty to defend the rupee amid pressures caused majorly by global developments since last year.

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

Gold reserves were up \$527 million to \$46.042 billion during the week, the RBI said.

The Special Drawing Rights were up \$120 million to 418.131 billion, it said.

India's reserve position with the IMF was up \$42 million to \$4.833 billion in the reporting week, the RBI data showed.

₹ ends at fresh nadir

The rupee declined 6 paise to close at its all-time low of 83.40 against the US dollar Friday, tracking higher demand for the greenback from importers and a weak tone among Asian peers. At the interbank foreign exchange market, the local unit opened at 83.33 against the US dollar and moved in the range of 83.33-83.40 during the session. It finally settled at its lifetime low of 83.40 against the dollar, registering a fall of 6 paise from its previous close. On Thursday, the rupee settled at 83.34 against the American currency.

IT lost 0.42% this week and 0.97% on the day. IT companies, which earn a significant share of their revenue from the US, had jumped 5.07% last week, their best in 16 months.

Tesla ready to invest up to \$2bn to build India factory

REUTERS

Bangalore, Nov 24: Tesla is ready to invest up to \$2 billion to set up a factory in India if the government cuts import duty on its vehicles to 15% for the first two years of operations, as per reports Friday.

Reuters reported in August that India is working on a new EV policy to slash import taxes to as low as 15% - compared to the current 100% on cars priced above \$40,000, and 70% for the rest - in exchange for a commitment to some local manufacturing.

The Elon Musk-led electric vehicle (EV) maker is willing to

invest up to \$500 million if the government approves the reduced duty for 12,000 vehicles and up to \$2 billion if the concession is for 30,000 vehicles, reports said, citing unnamed sources.

The government is examining the viability of Tesla's proposal to invest \$2 billion but wants to reduce the number of cars imported on a lower duty, compared to Tesla's proposal, it said.

Tesla, the department for promotion of industry and internal trade, ministry of heavy industries, ministry of road transport & highways and the ministry of finance did not immediately respond to Reuters' requests for comment.



Consumers are being very cautious, so if holiday sales do go up, we think it will be due to inflation raising prices

JESSICA RAMIREZ | SENIOR RESEARCH ANALYST, JANE HALL & ASSOCIATES

at dawn to scoop up discounted TVs and home appliances.

In a line of shoppers outside Macy's flagship store in Manhattan, Hannah Lusk, from Kentucky, who was visiting New York for Christmas, said she plans to spend the same as last year, adding that "it depends on what we need," as shopping has become more expensive.

US shoppers plan to spend an average \$875 on holiday purchases - \$42 more than last year - with clothing, gift cards and toys at the top of most shopping lists,



according to a survey of 8,424 adults conducted in early November by the NRF, a US retail trade group.

The Black Friday tradition began in the US but has gone global, as well as moving online.

In France, Italy, and Spain, most shoppers planned to buy clothing on Black Friday, with electronic goods coming second,

according to a PwC survey. On average, shoppers in France planned to spend 295 euros (\$322) on Black Friday, the survey found, with 65% of purchases expected to be made online.

In the UK, spending was up just 1.4% in the week to Wednesday compared to the same period last year, according to data from Barclays, a bank that sees nearly

half the country's credit and debit card transactions.

The rise of online shopping has reduced the importance of Black Friday as a single-day event. Retailers from Macy's to Amazon now launch deals as early as October, and often offer additional discounts closer to Christmas, Macy's CEO Jeff Gennette told investors this month.

To be sure, some retailers hold their biggest markdowns for the Thanksgiving holiday weekend, and big-box players including Walmart, Lowe's and Home Depot maintained or deepened their advertised discounts.

British retailer Argos said the PlayStation 5 gaming console, Beats wireless headphones, and Apple AirPods were among its top-selling products on Black Friday so far.

DUO REFUSES TO TRAVEL



Rinku opens up on his finisher's role in 1st T20

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Visakhapatnam, Nov 24: India batter Rinku Singh credited legendary former captain MS Dhoni for helping him stay calm in crunch situations which he showed in ample measure during his knock in the first T20 against Australia here.

Rinku played the role of a finisher Thursday, hitting the winning runs in the final over and handing India a two-wicket victory.

"As for my secret to calmness, I had discussions with Mahi (Dhoni) about what he does to stay calm, especially in the last over," Rinku was quoted as saying in a BCCI video after Thursday's win.

"He (Dhoni) told me to try to remain as calm as possible and try looking straight (at the bowler). That's how I tried to stay calm in the game," he said, though he did not mention when the discussions with Dhoni happened.

The 26-year-old Uttar Pradesh batter remained not out on 22 off 14 balls, hitting four fours at a strike rate of 157.14. "Feeling good that we won. My only aim was to be perfect when I walked out to bat, and it felt good out there to be playing alongside Surya. I was thinking of doing what I generally do in crunch situations and was trying to stay as calm as possible," he added.

With a single needed off the final delivery, Sean Abbott was deposited into the stands for a six by Rinku but it turned out to be a big no-ball. Hence, the six was not counted but only the run off the no-ball was considered.



"I didn't realise it was a no-ball until I heard it from Axar bhai in the dressing room. Although the winning six won't be considered, it doesn't matter; we won the match, that's what matters," he said.

Rinku came into the spotlight in the IPL. Initially roped in by Kings XI Punjab (now Punjab Kings) for IPL 2017, he has been playing for Kolkata Knight Riders (KKR) since 2018.

He did well in the IPL 2022 and drew eyeballs in the 2023 season for hammering five sixes in an over versus Gujarat Titans. His IPL numbers read 725 runs in 31 matches at an average of 36.25 and a strike rate of 142.16, with four half centuries. Eventually, he earned his Indian team call-up in August during the Ireland T20I tour. So far, he has batted in just three T20I matches, amassing 97 at an average of 97.0 and a strike rate of 194.0.

Sumit, Sasikumar 'won't' visit Pakistan for India's Davis Cup tie

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, Nov 24: India's top two singles players Sumit Nagal and Sasikumar Mukund have conveyed to the national tennis federation that they won't travel to Pakistan for the next Davis Cup tie and the baffled AITA has decided to discuss the players' refusal at its next Executive Committee meeting.

Nagal is India's best-ranked singles player at number 141 in the ATP chart and Mukund is second-best at No.477. The two players have conveyed their unavailability for the World Group I play-off tie to be played in

February but have not specified the reason behind their decision.

The PTI has learnt that Nagal did not want to play because the tie will be held on grass courts, a surface that does not suit his game style. Mukund has opted out of the matches because of "personal reasons".

"Nagal had conveyed to the team management long back that he should not be considered for the tie against Pakistan because grass court is not his preferred surface," said an AITA source.

In the current scenario, India's challenge will be led by Ramkumar Ramanathan, who

with his 'serve and volley' style is best-suited player for the tie, the winner of which will stay in World Group I for the year 2024.

The next best choice for India will be Digvijay Pratap Singh, who had made his Davis Cup debut against Morocco in September this year.

Rohan Bopanna has already retired and India, without its top singles player Nagal will not be overwhelming favourite in the tie despite the fact that Pakistan's tennis is being carried by old and ageing horses Aqeel Khan and Aisam ul haq Qureshi.

AITA UNHAPPY
All India Tennis Association

(AITA) secretary general reminded that the players should not think twice when it comes to national duty. "This is wrong. When it's a question of serving the country why would you not do it? I have put the matter in the hands of the executive committee," Dhupar told PTI.

"There is no choice for players if they want to represent India. My theory is simple. But I am nobody to take a call. The call has to be taken by the Executive Committee. If the player is sick and injured, I can understand but this is not the first time that Mukund has made himself unavailable for national duty. He

has done it twice," he added.

"Let the administrators of the country decide what's best for India," he said indicating that the AITA may come up with a Davis Cup selection policy.

EFFORTS STILL ON

India had drawn Pakistan back in 2019 also but due to "security concerns" the Asia/Oceania Group I tie was shifted to Kazakhstan, a neutral venue. As a mark of protest, Pakistan's top players Aisam-ul-haq Qureshi and Aqeel Khan had opted not to play the tie in which rookies Mohammed Shoaib, Huzaifa Abdul Rehman and Yousaf Khalil competed for them.

Djokovic leads Serbia into Davis Cup semis

ASSOCIATED PRESS

Malaga (Spain), Nov 24: Novak Djokovic became the outright most successful Serbian player in the history of the Davis Cup as he took his nation to the semifinals for the second time in three years with his 21st straight singles victory Thursday.

The top-ranked Djokovic beat Cameron Norrie 6-4, 6-4 to give Serbia a 2-0 victory over Great Britain and set up a last-four encounter with Jannik Sinner's Italy Saturday in the top team event in men's tennis.

It was a record 44th Davis Cup match win overall for Djokovic, moving him one ahead of Nenad Zimonjic. Djokovic now has 40 singles wins for his country.

The Italians beat the Netherlands 2-1 in the other quarterfinal match Thursday to reach the semifinals for the second straight season. Sinner kept Italy alive by winning his singles match and he then successfully teamed up with Lorenzo Sonigo in the doubles.

Djokovic's last singles loss in the Davis Cup was when he retired against Juan Martin del Potro in Serbia's 2011 semifinal defeat against Argentina. Djokovic's last loss in a completed singles match in the Davis Cup was in 2009.



Satwik-Chirag marches into semifinals

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Shenzhen, Nov 24: Asian Games champions Satwiksairaj Rankireddy and Chirag Shetty stormed into the men's doubles semifinal with a straight-game win over Indonesia's Leo Rolly Carnando and Daniel Marthin at the China Masters Super 750 badminton tournament here Friday.

The top seeded Indian pair dished out an attacking game to outwit the World No.13 Indonesian combination 21-16, 21-14 in 46 minutes. However, World No.8 Prannoy had a bad day in office as he struggled to curb his errors and went down 9-21, 14-21 against Japan's World Championship silver medalist Kodai Naraoka in a lopsided contest later in the day.

Satwik and Chirag, who won the Indonesia Super 1000, Korea Super 500 and Swiss Super 300 this year, will face the winner of the other quarterfinal match between two Chinese pairs - He Ji Ting and Ren Xiang Yu and eighth seeds Liu Yu Chen and Ou Xuan Yi.

The former World No.1 Indian duo showed great coordination as they interchanged their positions frequently, also altered the direction of their stinging attack which made life difficult for their Indonesian rivals, who wilted under pressure.

The match started on an even keel with both the pairs fighting



tooth and nail. But the Indian combination soon started dominating the proceedings with an onslaught of attacking shots to break off at 14-14.

Chirag made some right judgments as they were 19-16 up soon and then the Mumbaier displayed his attacking intent once again, coming to the front court after serving to quickly close out the issue with a quick return.

The Indians kept up the tempo to surge to a 5-2 lead early in the second game. A few taps went to the net from but they ensured a two-point lead at 7-5 with Satwik unleashing a stiff return. A flurry of smashes took the Indians to a healthy 11-6 advantage at the interval.

The Indonesians couldn't match the attack of their rivals, who were relentless from the

first point. The Indians quickly moved to 17-10. The longest rally of the match with 48 shots ensued next with Marthin producing a precise smash.

A lucky net chord put the Indians three points away and Marthin next went to the net as they grabbed seven match points. Satwik and Chirag squandered one before winning a video referral to seal their last four place.

WPL '24 auction to take place in Mumbai Dec 9

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, Nov 24: The players' auction ahead of the 2024 edition of the Women's Premier League (WPL) will be held December 9 in Mumbai, the BCCI announced Friday. The second edition of the WPL could take place in February-March next year.

Mumbai Indians are the defending WPL champions, as they had beaten Delhi Capitals by seven wickets in the final March 26 at the Brabourne Stadium earlier this year. Mumbai were led by Harmanpreet Kaur, while the recently-retired Meg Lanning captained Delhi in 2023.

The five franchises - Mumbai, Delhi, Royal Challengers Bangalore, Gujarat Giants and UP Warriorz - had retained 60 cricketers, including 21 from overseas, ahead of the auction. A total of 29 players were released from contract from the existing squads.

Surprisingly, Delhi Capitals released USA star Tara Norris, while Gujarat Giants's list of released players include Georgia Wareham, Kim Garth, Mansi Joshi, Sabbini Meghana and Sushma Verma. Royal Challengers Bangalore too made shocking calls to put South African Dane van Niekerk and Australian pacer Megan Schutt.

All bases covered for India ahead of FIH Junior WC

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Bangalore, Nov 24: India defender Amandeep Lakra on Friday said the team has "identified" and addressed the chinks in their armour to ensure all bases are covered before the upcoming FIH Junior Hockey World Cup in Kuala Lumpur.

The tournament will be held from December 5 to 16, with India starting their campaign against South Korea in a Pool C match on the opening day.

"We have had a fantastic preparatory camp. We identified chinks in our armour and worked on them to cover all aspects of our game.

"Each and every one of us has worked extremely hard and there's great camaraderie in the camp. I will give this tournament my all and hopefully contribute significantly to winning the Junior World Cup," the Sundargarh lad said in a Hockey India release.

Lakra said the senior men's team's bronze medal-winning outing at the Tokyo Olympics



motivated him to establish himself in the sport and aim for glory. The bronze ended India's

41-year-long wait for a medal in hockey at the Olympics. "I started dreaming about

achieving the same milestone and upon sharing the same with my father, he said that hard work was the only way I would get there," Lakra said.

He said he was also driven to do well in the sport after watching Hockey India president Dilip Tirkey go about his job during his playing days with the national team, of which he is the most capped player. "As an aspiring player, I had the opportunity to meet the legendary Dilip Tirkey, who told me that he used to work out for four hours a day," he said.

"He also advised us to be hard-working and focused in our efforts to become good players. His words inspired me, and I began making similar efforts. I started out at Panposh Sports Academy, but after my father was transferred, I had to stop playing."

He also stated that he is impressed by the drag-flicking abilities of current India captain Harmanpreet Singh. "Watching him train closely here in SAI Bangalore, I get to learn a lot

from him and his on-field focus and style," Lakra said.

Recalling the challenges he faced in his early days in the sport, he added, "I faced a little bit of difficulty finding places to train, so I started training on grass with my father.

"Then I received a call informing me that I had been invited to join the SAI Centre in Bhopal as part of the Khelo India scheme in 2020. Later, I returned to play in Nationals for Odisha and was chosen for the national camp based on my performance."

Lakra played sub-junior Nationals in 2015 in Delhi and in 2016 in Manipur and made his junior Nationals debut for Odisha in 2021 at the Junior Men's National Championship in Kovilpatti, Tamil Nadu, where he helped his side win the bronze medal.

In 2021, Lakra received a call to the junior men's national camp and he made his debut for the Indian team at the 2022 Sultan of Johor Cup, where India won the gold medal.