



**DIVINE GLOW:** The majestic idol of Goddess Durga on Maha Saptami, at Saheed Nagar in Bhubaneswar, Thursday. PIC: BIKASH NAYAK

## Man critical in 'encounter'

**POST NEWS NETWORK**  
**Sambalpur, Oct 10:** A few days after DGP YB Khurania ordered a CID probe into the mysterious death of a 'ganja smuggler' allegedly after being thrashed by two policemen and three home guards in Kandhamal, cops in the district here fired at a man - who had allegedly hacked three fingers of a constable October 4 during a fight - leaving him critically injured, Thursday.  
 Legal experts, meanwhile, said the back-to-back incidents of brutal police action, which are a crude reminder of last month's alleged assault of an Army officer and his female friend at Bharatpur police station in Bhubaneswar, have raised serious questions over the highhandedness of civilian police force.  
 Sources said Burla police officials had visited Jhairpali village October 4 to investigate a com-



said Pradhan attacked the cops, injuring a sub-inspector. "Police retaliated in self-defence and opened 'controlled fire' at Pradhan who sustained a bullet wound on his right leg," the officer said, adding he was admitted to Burla hospital for treatment.  
 Legal experts said police should use their weapons more responsibly, only as a last resort, to contain and control criminals. "As per the Constitution, no person can be deprived of his or her life without the due process of law. I don't believe in 'encounters'. It must be last step by the police," said advocate Soura Mohapatra.  
 Advocate Byomkesh Tripathy said the Bharatpur police brutality instance showed the cops in poor light. "That definitely impacted the cops' morale," he said. An inquiry should be conducted to find out if the Kandhamal and Sambalpur incidents were a retaliation for the Bharatpur shame, he said.  
 An officer in the search team

## SHORT TAKES

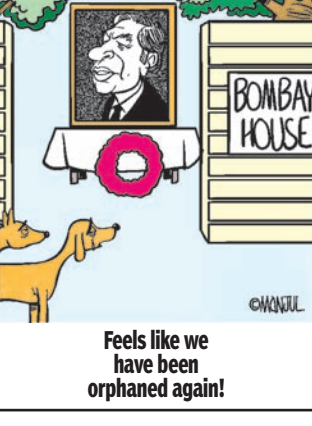
### Kerala resolution opposes 'one poll'

**Thiruvananthapuram:** The Kerala Assembly Thursday unanimously passed a resolution urging the Centre to roll back its decision to approve the proposal for 'One Nation, One Election' recommended by the Ramnath Kovind panel, saying that it was 'undemocratic and unconstitutional'. The resolution was moved on behalf of CM Pinarayi Vijayan by state Parliamentary Affairs Minister MB Rajesh who said that the proposal would weaken the country's federal system and sabotage the diverse nature of India's parliamentary democracy.

### 'Milton' wreaks havoc

**Tampa:** Hurricane Milton barreled into the Atlantic Ocean Thursday after plowing across Florida, where it knocked out power to more than 3 million people and whipped up a barrage of tornadoes. The storm caused at least five deaths and compounded the misery wrought by Helene while sparing Tampa a direct hit. The system tracked to the south in the final hours and made landfall late Wednesday as a Category 3 storm in Siesta Key, about 70 miles south of Tampa.

## IRREGULAR by MANJUL



## Literature Nobel for S Korea's Han Kang

**ASSOCIATED PRESS**  
**Stockholm, Oct 10:** South Korean author Han Kang was awarded the Nobel Prize in Literature Thursday for what the Nobel committee called 'her intense poetic prose that confronts historical traumas and exposes the fragility of human life.'  
 Nobel committee chairman Anders Olsson praised Han's physical empathy for the vulnera-



ble, often female lives of her characters. "She has a unique awareness of the connections between body and soul, the living and the dead, and in a poetic and experimental style, has become an innovator in contemporary prose," Olsson said.  
 Nobel Literature committee member Anna-Karin Palm said Han writes intense lyrical prose that is both tender and brutal, and some-

## Maha seeks Bharat Ratna for Ratan Tata

**AGENCIES**  
**Mumbai, Oct 10:** Maharashtra Cabinet Thursday passed a resolution urging the Centre to confer Bharat Ratna, the country's highest civilian award, on legendary industrialist late Ratan Tata.  
 The Cabinet meeting chaired by Chief Minister Eknath Shinde paid homage to the industry icon, who died at a hospital here Wednesday night.  
 A motion of condolence was passed during the meeting, a statement from the Chief Minister's Office said. "The



DADLS - 41

**'ପବିତ୍ର ବିଜୟା ଦଶମୀ - ୨୦୨୪' ଅବସରରେ ମାନ୍ୟବର ରାଜ୍ୟପାଳଙ୍କ ବାର୍ତ୍ତା ।**

ପବିତ୍ର ବିଜୟା ଦଶମୀ ଅବସରରେ ମୁଁ ରାଜ୍ୟବାସୀଙ୍କୁ ମୋର ଆନ୍ତରିକ ଶୁଭେଚ୍ଛା ଓ ହାର୍ଦ୍ଦିକ ଅଭିନନ୍ଦନ ଜଣାଉଛି । ବିଜୟା ଦଶମୀ ହେଉଛି ଅସତ୍ୟ ଉପରେ ସତ୍ୟର, ଅନ୍ୟାୟ ଉପରେ ନ୍ୟାୟର ଏବଂ ଅଶାନ୍ତି ଉପରେ ଶାନ୍ତିର ବିଜୟ ପ୍ରତୀକ । ପ୍ରତ୍ୟେକ ବ୍ୟକ୍ତି ନିଜ ଜୀବନରେ ତଥା ସମାଜରେ ସତ୍ୟ, ନ୍ୟାୟ ଏବଂ ଶାନ୍ତିର ପ୍ରତିଷ୍ଠା ଦିଗରେ ନିଷ୍ଠାପୂର୍ଣ୍ଣ ଭାବେ କାର୍ଯ୍ୟ କରିବାକୁ ଆହ୍ୱାନ ଜଣାଉଛି ।

*(ରଘୁବର ଦାସ)*

**ଦୁର୍ଗାପୂଜା ଅବସରରେ ମୁଖ୍ୟମନ୍ତ୍ରୀଙ୍କ ଶୁଭେଚ୍ଛା ବାର୍ତ୍ତା**

ପବିତ୍ର ଦୁର୍ଗାପୂଜା ଓ ଦଶହରା ଅବସରରେ ରାଜ୍ୟବାସୀ ଭାଇ ଓ ଭଉଣୀମାନଙ୍କୁ ମୋର ଶୁଭେଚ୍ଛା ଜଣାଉଛି । ମାତୃଶକ୍ତିର ଉପାସନା ଆମ ସଂସ୍କୃତିର ଏକ ଅନନ୍ୟ ପରମ୍ପରା । ମା' ଦୁର୍ଗାଙ୍କ ଆରାଧନା ଏପରି ଏକ ଧାର୍ମିକ, ସାମାଜିକ ଓ ସାଂସ୍କୃତିକ ଉତ୍ସବ, ଯେଉଁଠାରେ ଆଧ୍ୟାତ୍ମିକ ଭାବ ସହ ଆନନ୍ଦମୟ ଭାବର ସମ୍ମିଳିତ ପରିପ୍ରକାଶ ହୋଇଥାଏ । ଜଗତଜନନୀ ମା' ଦୁର୍ଗାଙ୍କ ଅପାର କରୁଣାରୁ ସମସ୍ତଙ୍କ ଜୀବନରେ ସୁଖ, ଶାନ୍ତି ଓ ଆନନ୍ଦ ଭରିଉଠୁ, ପାର୍ବଣର ଏହି ଅମୃତ ଲଗ୍ନରେ ମା'ଙ୍କ ନିକଟରେ ଏତିକି ପ୍ରାର୍ଥନା ।

*(ମୋହନ ଚରଣ ମାଝୀ)*  
 ମୁଖ୍ୟମନ୍ତ୍ରୀ, ଓଡ଼ିଶା

OIPR-15001/13/0240/2425



# leisure



## LOPEZ ENJOYS 'ME TIME' AFTER SPLIT FROM AFFLECK

Actress-singer Jennifer Lopez is enjoying her 'me time' after her much-publicised split from Hollywood star Ben Affleck. LJo opened up about her personal journey in a new conversation with *Interview* magazine.

## HATHAWAY APOLOGISES TO JOURNO FOR BEING 'RUDE'

Anne Hathaway recently apologised to Norwegian entertainment journalist Kjersti Flaa over her 2012 interview for *Les Misérables*. It shows the *Havoc* actress being 'rude' to Flaa. Hathaway reached out to Kjersti, after the latter shared the clip on TikTok.



### FORTUNE FORECAST

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**ARIES**  
You are feeling very excited and are all geared up to do what you want. Put all that energy to productive use. Ganesh says this is the time to work and not to make plans as today you can accomplish very difficult tasks. So work now, you can indulge in your parties later.

**TAURUS**  
This day promises to be like any other. You will, as usual, begin by attending to home chores and then get caught up in your hectic office schedule. Later in the day you will, says Ganesh, feel an urge to take time off and indulge in some socializing. You could, finally, be meeting your loved ones, your close friends and having a great time together.

**GEMINI**  
An auspicious and progressive day awaits you. You will reflect on the problems at the work-place as well as on the home-front. You will try to understand the emotions that lie behind the troubles brewing at home and will try to resolve them. It is a good day to start new ventures in partnership with someone, says Ganesh.

**CANCER**  
The day begins with worship and havan. In the evening, guests will throng your house for a celebration. You will feel sad as your trusted ones will not give you a vital clue or some important information promptly.

**LEO**  
You are facing turbulent times, in spite of your hard work. Obstacles to progress are commonplace and should not tie you down. You need to keep working hard and sooner rather than later, the fruits of your labour will fall into your lap, says Ganesh.

**VIRGO**  
Ganesh says that if your authority is questioned today, you will probably take to wielding your stick. A risky financial venture is a distinct possibility. Something unexpected and unpleasant in the evening will give you cause for some worry. However, Ganesh advises you not to take it to heart, as there is a lot of hope.

**LIBRA**  
Ganesh says those of you in the field of art will find immense success. You will be able to please your beloved with your presence and also shower them with gifts. You may buy something expensive as a gift today. You will also focus on a long-term goal today. Ganesh showers you with his blessings always.

**SCORPIO**  
Everything is fair in love and war, however, make sure your love story does not turn into a cold-war. It may happen that romance may make you altogether a different person. By the end of the day, you may solve the differences that lead to a cold-war between you and your beloved, says Ganesh.

**SAGITTARIUS**  
You seem to be impressed by the handicrafts and plan to take it up as your business. You are a family person and give much attention to your loved ones. You may be smitten by love-bug as passion and intimacy give rise to romance.

**CAPRICORN**  
In the fast paced life of today, rarely anyone gets time to spend with their old friends. Today, you're one of those rare people. Also, you will have a blissful love life, blesses Ganesh. You will develop a better level of understanding with your partner. Family members, your support system, will motivate you to fulfil their demands and expectations.

**AQUARIUS**  
You will now deal with issues which you have brushed under the carpet for some reasons. Keep your affairs neat and tidy so that can avoid further complications, advises Ganesh. If you are seeking a job, you will pass the day scanning through job advertisements and applying for interviews.

**PISCES**  
The day will start on an energetic and enthusiastic note, says Ganesh. Your day will be enjoyable up to afternoon but there will be some unexpected reasons that will make you fidget in your seat after that. Make sure to take a deep breath and do not let small problems overwhelm you. Avoid over thinking and it will lead to unnecessary mental stress.

# TRIPTII'S IDEA OF ROMANCE

MUMBAI: Triptii Dimri recently expressed her views on relationships and romance. The actor said that she wants to have someone in her life who is similar to Shah Rukh Khan's character in *Kabhi Haan Kabhi Naa*. Triptii said that the SRK starrer romantic-comedy is her favourite movie as the love depicted in it is 'very pure.'

Triptii, while speaking about her idea of romance stated that, "I am a romantic like they show in Bollywood films. *Kabhi Haan Kabhi Naa* is my favourite film. It has certain innocence. That is romance. I just felt like it was pure love in that

film. The kind of love Shah Rukh Sir's character had for that girl, just felt very pure. I think I would want that kind of love from a guy. Nothing calculated like this is how it should be or these are my needs and requirements. No, it's not like that. You won't always find a person who fits the bill."

She further said, "There are shortcomings in everyone including me. But it is important how you let go. I think compromise is very important in a relationship where there is one thing I can let go about my partner because there are 100 good things about this person."



## Radhikka joins nepotism debate

MUMBAI: Actress Radhikka Madan acknowledges the prevalence of nepotism in the industry. Speaking on the issue, she remarked that actors with industry connections often get multiple chances to hone their skills, whereas outsiders like herself are dropped from projects after their first mistake.

Radhikka, known for films like *Angezi Medium* and *Sarfira*, began her acting journey in 2018 with *Pataakha*. In a conversation with Shubhankar Mishra, she openly discussed nepotism in the Hindi film industry, acknowledging its presence just like in other fields. She pointed out that star kids often get 2-3 films to improve, even if their debut performance isn't strong. She said, "They get 2-3 more movies after their debut to learn the skills. 'He will learn things soon. He sees, there is improvement' is the approach of the filmmakers toward the industry kids."

However, that's not true for someone like her who lacks connections or family in the industry. Madan noted that for such individuals, filmmakers often say, "You can't act; we gave you an opportunity, you're out." This leads them to feel it's a matter of

life and death, forcing them to develop survival instincts.

She stated, "I'll be removed after one mistake; I won't have the opportunity to learn acting through multiple films," adding that outsiders like her are expected to arrive on set only after mastering their craft.

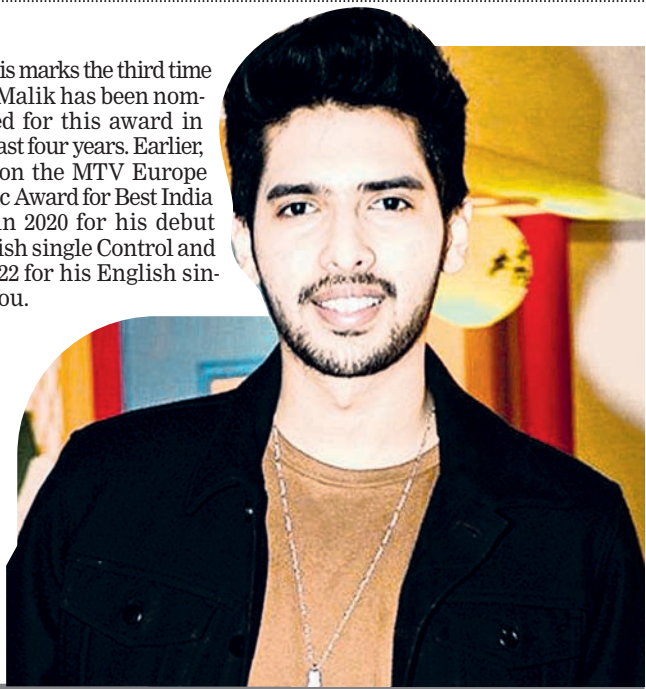
# MTV EMAS Armaan gets nominated for third time

MUMBAI: Singer-songwriter Armaan Malik, has been nominated for the upcoming edition of the MTV Europe Music Awards (EMA) in the category of Best India Act for his single *Always* which features British singer-songwriter, Calum Scott. Reacting to the news, Armaan

As an Indian artiste, representing my country on such a prestigious global stage is both humbling and surreal. There are so many incredible artists alongside me, and I wish everyone the best of luck! Now, it's over to the fans and the MTV EMA voters."

said, "I'm beyond ecstatic to be nominated once again for the MTV EMA's Best India Act. Having won this honour twice before, this third nomination feels especially meaningful."

This marks the third time that Malik has been nominated for this award in the past four years. Earlier, he won the MTV Europe Music Award for Best India Act in 2020 for his debut English single *Control* and in 2022 for his English single *You*.



### PEANUTS



### CALVIN AND HOBBS

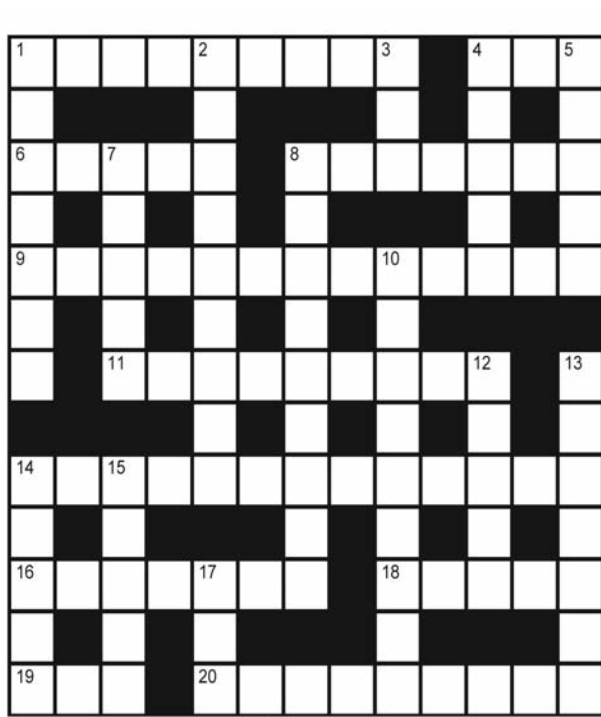


### BREVITY



### FUN post

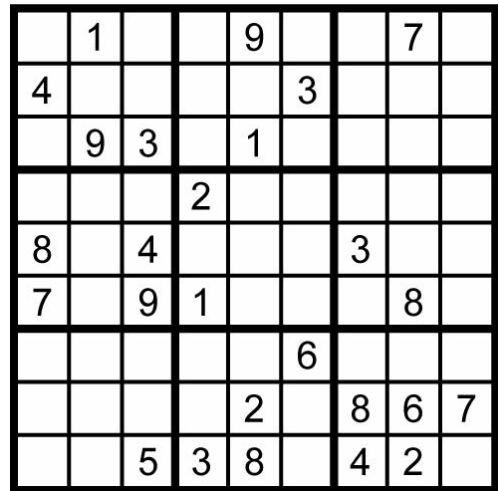
### CROSSWORD



- Across
- 1 Nuclear weapons (4,5)
  - 4 "Arabian Nights" menace
  - 6 Rope fiber
  - 8 Killer whale (5-2-6)
  - 9 Carnival rides
  - 11 Synthetic fabric
  - 14 Ptomaine, for one (4,9)
  - 16 Perils
  - 18 Strong point
  - 19 Wax collector
  - 20 Fast dog
  - Down
  - 1 Took for granted (5-4)
  - 3 Mermaid's home
  - 4 Mature
  - 5 Wine holders
  - 7 Razor sharpener
  - 8 Market gains?
  - 10 Bone
  - 9 manipulator
  - 12 Bridle parts
  - 13 Observed
  - 14 Sundae topping
  - 15 Title holder
  - 17 Work unit

### SUDOKU

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



### SOLUTIONS

#### CROSSWORD

SOBER MAILED  
I L A A N N  
D A U N T E D D A T E D  
E E R R I R I H A  
C O S T A R I C A R U M  
A C I D A  
R A P I E R S C A L E S  
E A A A O  
E R R S E D E N T A R Y  
S F L U M E I D O L L I S E  
M G F U B A  
D T E S T R E I G N

#### SUDOKU

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

CHECK FOR SOLUTIONS OF THE PUZZLES TOMORROW



# SILVER CITY WELCOMES MAA DURGA IN STYLE



MANGALABAG



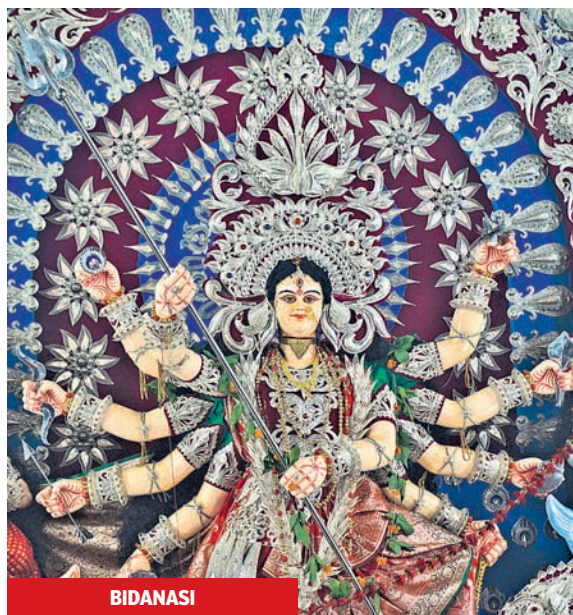
CHOUHURY BAZAAR



RANIHAT



KHANNAGAR



BIDANASI



CHANDNI CHOWK



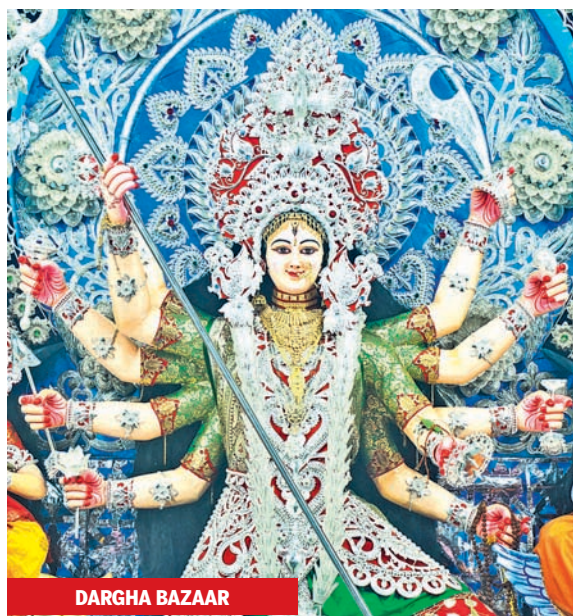
CHHATRA BAZAAR



COLLEGE CHHAK



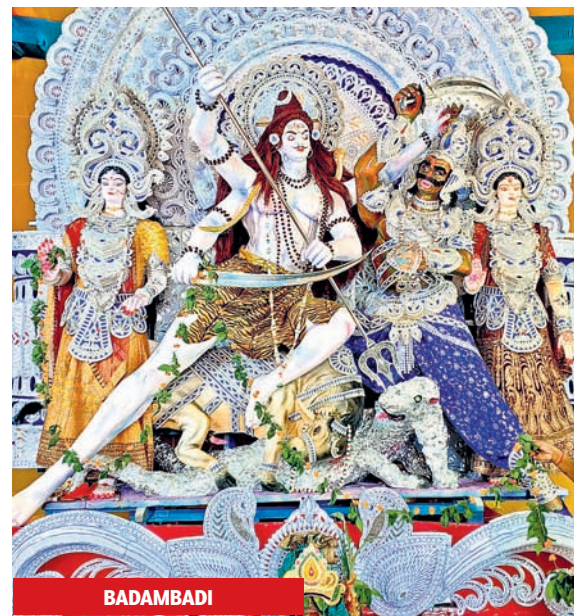
FIRINGI BAZAAR



DARGHA BAZAAR



KHATBIN SAHI



BADAMBADI

PHOTOS: RAJKISHORE MOHANTY

## State gets ₹8,068cr tax devolution from Centre

The advance instalment was released in view of upcoming festive season and to enable states to accelerate capital spending and finance their development/welfare related expenditures

POST NEWS NETWORK

**Bhubaneswar, Oct 10:** The Union government Thursday said it has released tax devolution of ₹1,78,173 crore to state governments, including ₹8,068 crore to Odisha, as against the normal monthly devolution of ₹89,086.50 crore.

The advance instalment was released in view of upcoming festive season and to enable states to accelerate capital spending and finance their development/welfare related expenditures, said sources.

Reacting to the development, Chief Minister Mohan Charan Majhi said, "On behalf of the people of Odisha, we would like to express our gratitude to the Honble Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Finance Minister Niramala Sitharaman for arranging the payment of ₹8,068



crore. This amount will play a significant role in the social and economic development of the state as well as give impetus to the various developmental projects going on in the state." The Centre has released tax

devolution of ₹1,78,173 crore to state governments October 10, 2024, as against the normal monthly devolution of ₹89,086.50 crore.

Of all the states, Uttar Pradesh has received the highest ₹31,962 crore followed by Bihar 17,921 crore, Madhya Pradesh ₹13,987 crore and West Bengal ₹13,404 crore.

Likewise, Maharashtra (₹11,255 crore), Rajasthan (₹10,737 crore), Andhra Pradesh (₹7,211 crore) and Telangana (₹3,745 crore) are among the top receivers.

The Centre will transfer ₹23,48,980 crore to states and Union territories in FY 2024-25, an increase of 11.9 per cent over the actuals of 2023-24.

Devolution to states from the Centre's tax revenue is estimated to be ₹12,47,211 crore in 2024-25, an increase of 10.4 per cent over the actuals of 2023-24.

## Prakash Behera quits BJD

POST NEWS NETWORK

**Bhubaneswar, Oct 10:** Former Salipur MLA Prakash Chandra Behera has resigned from the primary membership of Biju Janata Dal (BJD).

Behera, who had joined BJD just before the simultaneous Lok Sabha and Assembly polls, has sent his resignation letter to party supremo Naveen Patnaik.

He had unsuccessfully contested the 2024 Assembly polls from Barabati-Cuttack Assembly constituency on a BJD ticket.

In his letter to Patnaik, Behera wrote, "After serious thoughts, I'm resigning from the primary membership of BJD. I am grateful to you for making me a candidate from the prestigious Barabati-Cuttack Assembly seat and I have high regards for your leadership. I took the decision as I believe in nationalistic ideologies and am involved in people's issues, development and organisation."

Behera had been elected to the Assembly from Salipur seat in Cuttack district on a Congress ticket in 2014.

He had resigned from the age-old party and jumped to the saffron camp ahead of the 2019 Lok Sabha and Assembly polls.

## High Court goes on Puja vacation



POST NEWS NETWORK

**Cuttack, Oct 10:** The Orissa High Court will remain on vacation from October 10 to 19 for Durga Puja festivities. However, for applications related to urgent matters, the High Court office will remain open for four days during the vacation. Moreover, the vacation bench of the HC will function for one day - October 18, according to a notification issued by the court.

The division bench of Justices Sangam Kumar Sahu and Murahari Sri Raman will preside over the matters at 11am October 18, the notification said.

After wrapping up their work in the division bench, the two judges will also preside over the single benches on that day.

The single-judge bench of Justice Sangam Kumar Sahu will handle criminal matters while that of judge Murahari Sri Raman will conduct hearing on writ and civil matters, the notification added.

For listing of emergency matters for hearing by the vacation bench, applicants should put the petitions in the drop box installed at Deputy Registrar (Judicial) office, between 11am and 00:00 hrs of October 17.

This apart, the High Court office will remain open October 14, 15, 17 and 18 between 11am and 3pm during the vacation.

Applications pertaining to urgent matters during these four days will be received at the computer filing counter between 11am and 00:00 hrs.

The urgent writ, civil and criminal matters applied October 9 will be listed for hearing by the vacation bench.

According to the notification, matters which were not listed under IPC Sections 482 and 483 or fresh bail applications will be listed as per the registration dates.

## Govt names 16 officers for aspirational dists



PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

**Bhubaneswar, Oct 10:** The state government named 16 senior officers in charge of aspirational districts under a NITI Aayog programme to ensure the development of backward areas in the state.

These senior officers will review the progress of the developmental schemes in these districts.

In a notification issued Wednesday, the Planning and Convergence department said the concerned officers will ensure that the programmes are properly implemented at the ground level.

IAS officer Hemant Sharma was named the secretary in-charge for Keonjhar district, Sushil Kumar Lohani for Kalahandi, Bishnupada Sethi for Malkangiri, Chitra Arumugam for Koraput, Saswat Mishra for Bargarh, Usha Padhee for Kandhamal and Vir Vikram Yadav for Bolangir.

IAS officer Vishal Kumar Dev was named in charge for Nuapada, Sanjay Kumar Singh for Mayurbhanj, Subha Sarma for Gajapati and Bhaskar Jyoti Sarma for Nabarangpur.

IAS officer Shalini Pandit was given the responsibility of Rayagada, Aswathy S of Sundargarh, Arvind Agrawal of Sambalpur, N Thirumala Naik of Nayagarh and Sudhansu Mohan Samal of Dhenkanal.

## Bogus realtor who splurged on women & films in City police net

POST NEWS NETWORK

**Bhubaneswar, Oct 10:** Niranjan Rana, 53, splurged on filmmaking and women in Mumbai with the ill-gotten millions he made from duping hundreds of unsuspecting people in Odisha who gave him their life-long savings to buy a dream home, or own a piece of land, in the twin city.

On Thursday, the Baliaanta police ended the bogus property broker-cum-realtor's year-long run from law by arresting him in a swift operation.

DCP Pinak Mishra said Rana had swindled crores of rupees from home buyers by promising them with apartments and landed properties at subsidised rates.

Mishra said Rana, a native of Balipatna, ran a bogus realty



firm- Maa Tarini Estcon - in Bhubaneswar where he projected himself as the managing

director in order to give shape to his devious plans. "Rana channelised the money he raised from his 'customers' in producing a few high-budget Odia films. He did so in order to cover up the black money," Mishra said adding that a hunt is on for few of his associates who are still at large.

Mishra said the Baliaanta police had booked Rana more than 21 times in the past in similar fraud

cases. Besides, seven non-bailable warrants (NBWs) against him are yet to be executed.

The DCP said Rana fled to Mumbai last year soon after obtaining bail from a court on medical grounds. "He went incommunicado thereafter and didn't comply with the court's direction to produce himself before the Baliaanta police for investigation," Mishra said.

Recently, Mishra said, the Baliaanta police received a tip-off from an informer stating that Rana had plans to visit his home during Dusshera. Accordingly, the cops laid a trap in the vicinity and took him into custody Thursday when he showed up. He was booked under Sections 318 (4) and 3 (5) of the BNS, and produced in a court for remand.



# Judges should decide questions shunning popular morality: CJJ

CHIEF JUSTICE OF INDIA DY CHANDRACHUD STRESSED ON THE CREDIBILITY OF JUDICIARY AND THE 'INSTITUTIONAL TRUST' BESTOWED IN COURTS



"Judges are supposed to act in a manner that is unencumbered by popular morality when deciding Constitutional or legal questions," he said.

According to the CJJ, it was in that sense that neither the appointment, nor the continuity of judges was determined by the popular mandate enjoyed by their decisions.

"In fact populist decision-making sits rather uncomfortably on the sinewy shoulders of judicial independence," he said.

Highlighting the importance of transparency, CJJ Chandrachud said sunlight was not only the best disinfectant but also begets public trust and helps keep the house in order and serves as an internal check on the functioning of the courts across the country.

"It ensures that our institutions are better-managed and use their resources effectively," he said, adding that measures such as live-streaming of court proceedings have helped foster internal efficiency, accountability and institutional stability.

He also referred to the concept of Public Interest Litigation jurisdiction in India and said it became a unique part of the nation's constitutional order, which was co-opted by several other jurisdictions.

Supreme Court prides itself in being the people's court," the CJJ said.

He further opined that though as public functionaries, courts were vested with the responsibility to give effect to equity, these judicial bodies were not directly in charge of the manner in which resources were to be distributed.

Distinguishing between the role of the political executive and the judiciary, he emphasised that at the level of the trial courts, judicial officers were trained to apply the letter and the spirit of the law with clinical detachment from the popularity of their decisions.

According to the CJJ, it was in that sense that neither the appointment, nor the continuity of judges was determined by the popular mandate enjoyed by their decisions

## IIS trainees visit state on a 2-day study tour

Bhubaneswar: A group of nine Indian Information Service (IIS) officer trainees from the 2022 and 2023 batches visited the state as part of their two-day Bharat Darshan study tour programme here recently. During their visit, the trainees explored various departments working under the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting. They had the opportunity to visit the Press Information Bureau and the Central Bureau of Communications offices, both situated within the NABM premises. The trainees engaged in insightful discussions with senior officials regarding the operational dynamics and functions of these institutions. The interaction was aimed at enhancing their understanding of the communication strategies employed by the Ministry and the role of these organisations in disseminating information effectively. The visit is an integral part of the IIS training programme, designed to provide officers with practical exposure to the various facets of public communication and governance.

## CHW organises Chandi Medha heritage walk in Cuttack

POST NEWS NETWORK

Cuttack, Oct 10: In order to make the heritage enthusiasts of the Twin Cities conversant with the rich traditions of 'Chandi Medhas' of the Millennium City, the members of Cuttack Heritage Walks (CHW) Thursday organised a curated heritage trail around the living tradition of Silver filigree work. The walk started from Madhusudan Sangrahalaya near Sailabala Women's College.

Around 40 heritage enthusiasts, including the contributors by the Muslim artisans. Eminent writer, ex-bureaucrat and former journalist Raja Parija, who had written several books about Cuttack, led the walk.

Parija shared the genesis of the rich tradition and the socio-economic dynamics of the people as-



sociated with making the Chandi Medhas, including the contributions by the Muslim artisans.

Author, heritage enthusiast, academician and convener of CHW Dipak Samantarai shared how the tradition started at Binod Bihari in early fifties.

"Later, during late fifties, Choudhury Bazaar had the first Chandi Medha and after 2000, various local pandals

started taking up the decoration with their stride," Samantarai said.

Parija, through his lucid narrative briefed the participants on how the Chandi Medhas are made with some basic elements, their periodic cleaning and how the unique brotherhood among the Hindus and Muslims is also reflected in the tradition of the making the pandals.

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, Oct 10: Judges are supposed to act in a manner that is "unencumbered" by popular morality while deciding constitutional and legal questions, Chief Justice of India (CJI) DY Chandrachud said.

The CJI was recently speaking at an event here on the subject of 'Judicial legitimacy through accessibility, transparency and technology: the Indian experience'.

He also spoke on the credibility of judiciary and the "institutional trust" bestowed in courts.

The 50th CJI said institutional trust in courts and their credibility was the very basis of a thriving constitutional order and the courts did not directly hold resources as trustees of people.

"Public trust is central to the credibility of the judicial branch which is otherwise insulated from public opinion in its operations - as it must be. The Indian

MARKET WATCH	
INDEX	VARIATION
SENSEX	81611.41 ↑ 144.31
NIFTY	24998.45 ↑ 16.50
DOLLAR	83.967 ↑ ₹0.01
EURO	91.661 ↓ ₹0.19
GOLD	₹75,287 ↑ ₹353
SILVER	₹89,860 ↑ ₹988

WEATHER		
	BBSR	CTC
Max Temp	35.1°C	34.0°C
Min Temp	24.8°C	24.5°C
Humidity	75%	78%
Rainfall	0.0mm	0.0mm

FORECAST: PARTLY CLOUDY SKY

### CLASSIFIED AFFIDAVIT

I, Sanawaj Alli Khan, S/o - Late Irshad Ali Khan, resident of At - Kurangpradhan, PO : Raipur, PS - Cuttacksadar, Dist. - Cuttack, Odisha, PIN - 754001, declare by this affidavit No. - 12AA806822 dtd. - 7.05.2024 that now onwards I shall be known as SAHANAWAJ ALLI KHAN for all future purposes.

I, Managovinda Dash, S/o - Late Udakar Dash, resident of At - Jafarpur, P.O. - Biripata, P.S. - Mangalpur, Dist. - Jajpur-755013, Odisha declare by this affidavit No.-8019, dtd.- 10.10.2024. That now onwards I shall be known as Managobinda Dash for all purpose.

## NYKS to host youth exchange programme

POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar, Oct 10: The 14th Kashmiri Youth Exchange Programme is set to take place from October 14 to 19 at KIIT University here, organised by Nehru Yuva Kendra Sangathan (NYKS), under the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports and jointly with the Ministry of Home Affairs. Around 132 participants from six districts of Jammu and Kashmir will participate in the event.

The programme aims to foster

cultural exchange, showcasing the region's art, culture, indigenous sports, and promoting national integration, informed Shakti Swarup Singh and Vipin Kumar from NYKS in a press meet recently. The participants will get a chance to interact with Governor Raghubar Das and different sports personalities from the state.

Besides cultural engagements, the participants will also tour key industrial areas, national institutes, and historical sites in the state.



## Awareness campaign on protection of girl child

POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar, Oct 10: ActionAid Association, in collaboration with Centre for Child and Women Development (CCWD) organised an event to mark the International Day of the Girl Child (IDGC) at Patharabandha slum under ward 17, BMC jurisdiction here, Thursday.

"A girl with a dream can change the world. Let's support and uplift every girl's aspirations," reaffirmed the dignitaries present at the event.

Attending as guest, social activist Bholanath Moharana



shared issues, challenges and role of duty bearers. Among others, CCWD secretary Sadasiv Swain discussed the role of parents and community for safe-

guarding female children from social evils.

Child rights activist Gitanjali Panda, Renubala Sahoo, Snigdha Das, Sucharita Behera shared

their views. To mark the day a signature campaign and oath taking ceremony was also conducted. United Nations General Assembly declared October 11 as the IDGC, to recognise girls' rights.

IDGC focuses attention on the need to address the challenges girls face and to promote girls' empowerment and the fulfilment of their human rights.

The 2024 IDGC theme is 'Girls' vision for the future'.

This year's theme conveys both the need for urgent action and persistent hope, driven by the power of girls' voices and vision for the future.

## Drunken woman booked by Khandagiri PS

DEBADURLLAV HARICHANDAN, OI

Bhubaneswar, Oct 10: Three days after the alleged incident of a drunken woman creating ruckus in the Khandagiri police station premises went viral on social media, the police Thursday booked the woman under relevant sections of BNS.

IIC Khandagiri Abhimanyu Das said the woman is identified as Rakhi Mohanty, 35. She has been charged under Sections 351 (criminal intimidation), 132 (use of assault to deter a public servant from his duty), 296 (doing obscene act in public) and 115 (voluntarily hurting an individual) of BNS provisions.

IIC Das said the woman arrived at an intoxicated state in the police station, a little past Monday midnight. "Following which, the woman complained before the cops that an errant



driver hit her vehicle near Jaydev Vihar flyover. She re-

quested the cops to arrest the driver. While the cops enquired

her details, the woman misbehaving and hurling abuses at them."

The video of the incident which has been making rounds in social media shows the woman in a bitter altercation with three male cops. The video entails the cops asking the woman's name and phone number for identification, to which, she says, "I will show you people after walking out of police station."

In a similar incident, a drunken woman lost control over her senses and dozed off on the roadside near Infocity railway station, Tuesday night. After being informed by the locals, Commissionerate Police personnel reached the spot but, the woman began heckling them. Later, officials took her for medical examination at Capital hospital and then left her at home.

## CMS mourn Ratan Tata's death

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Bhubaneswar, Oct 10: Odisha, West Bengal, Jharkhand, and Bihar chief ministers Thursday condoled the demise of Tata Group's chairman emeritus and veteran industrialist Ratan Tata.

Chief Minister Mohan Charan Majhi, in his condolence message, called Tata an industry legend and a true national icon. "Deeply saddened by the passing of Ratan Tata Ji... His visionary leadership, unwavering commitment to ethics and immense contributions to India's growth will inspire generations to come. My heartfelt condolences to his family and loved ones. His legacy will live on forever," Majhi said.

Governor Raghubar Das, who was a former CM of Jharkhand, also expressed grief over the demise of Ratan Tata. "Hon'ble Governor; Shri@dasraghubar, is saddened to learn about the demise of Tata Sons

Chairman Emeritus, veteran industrialist Padma Vibhusan @RNTata2000 ji and conveyed his heartfelt condolence to the bereaved family members. Om Shanti," he said on X.

"Saddened by the demise of Ratan Tata, Chairman Emeritus of the Tata Sons. The former Chairman of Tata Group had been a foremost leader of Indian industries and a public-spirited philanthropist. His demise will be an irreparable loss for Indian business world and society. My condolences to all his family members and colleagues," West Bengal CM Mamata Banerjee posted on X. In a post on X, Jharkhand CM Hemant Soren said he was shocked to hear the news of Tata's death.

"I can't believe it.... May the soul of Marang Buru Ratan Tata ji rest in peace," he wrote.

Bihar Chief Minister Nitish Kumar said Tata inspired everyone with his farsightedness.

FOR CLASSIFIED ADVERTISEMENTS CONTACT OUR BOOKING STATIONS

Acharya Vihar-Dayal Agency-9437135727, A.P. Tours and Travel, Maitri Vihar, C.S. Pur-9861301598, Aurobindo Market-Sai Audio & Electronics-9438304668, Airport Road-Sai Baba Variety Store-9090071530, Anish Infotech-Tankapani Road-9861341488, Bapuji Nagar- Dreamland Studio- 9777517314, Baramunda Rental Colony-Maa Ramchandi Communication-9658821469, Baramunda Housing Board Colony-Pappu Variety Store-9040500106, Cuttack Road-Alishan Snacks-8984236754, District Center (Chandrasekharpur)-Sai Google Mart-9776056507, Forest Park-DTDC Couriers & Services (HB Services)-7381024156, IRC Village-Bapi Xerox-9090090404, Gift Hut(Antriksh Gifts & Decors Pvt. Ltd.)-9954781084, Pruthvi Medicine-9853314816, Janpath-Krupajal Book Store-7978646669, Jaydev Vihar-AK Enterprises-7978116618, Subam Sai Books Store-8895550649, Swain Graphics- 9337121249, Jagannath Mobile Point- Janpath Road, Ram Mandir- 9938475415, Kanan Vihar-Auro Electronics-8260697560, Khandagiri- Swosti Mobile Centre- 7992914045, World Solution- 9938317559, KIIT Road-Jugad Jn-9338545031, Laxmi Sagar-Aditya Mobile-9438191836, Lewis Road-Spider Web-7809186415, Metro Satellite City-Arogya Mitra Medicine Store-9853621640, Madhusudan Nagar-Mohapatra Communication-9124446664, Maa Santoshi travels- Gajapati Nagar- 9777675867, Nayapalli- The Cake Room- 7873660137, Near Mayfair Lagoon-Cookiemann-9439491273, Nigamananda-Omm Sai Travels-9668284823, Nr Cosmopolis Main Gate- Shreeram Medical Store- 8763711714, Net Square- Niladri Vihar (C.S. Pur)- 7205634821, Priyadarshini Market-Astro Point-9938134346, R.N. General Store-Nilakantha Nagar-9438642501, Sahid Nagar- Maa Communication- 9437353424, Sahini General Store- Near Patia Railway Station, Mahavir Vihar- 9937586626, Satya Nagar-Baishnavi Mixture & Sweets-7894821764, Samantapur- Download Point-7504557743, Sailashree Vihar-Harsha Book Store-8093449515, Saheed Nagar-Jagannath Graphics-7978652670, Photo World-7978468191, Sainath Photo Studio-8984436129, Shanti & Co-9937071063, Siripur-Omm Maa Sarala Communication-9777682449, Sushree fashion- Jagmara-9938714347, Shree Vision- Sailashree Vihar-9861476678, Unit-3-LIC of India Premium Point-9337787080, Unit-7- LIC Premium Point- 9338227422, VSS Nagar-Friends Cake & Bake-8658200930, Jeet Infoworld-7205195782, XIMB Square-LD Books-9658061373.



# Dongria kids to suffer as govt shuts down crèches



community will also lose their livelihood.

The role of maternal nutrition centres established in the villages inhabited by the Dongria Kondh tribals was quite important. Many pregnant and expectant tribal women do not visit the hospital and prefer to deliver at home due to lack of awareness.

They do not eat nutritious food during their pregnancy period. However, the maternal nutrition centre was playing an important role by supplying them nutritious food.

Jamuna Kadraka of Khajuri village under Bissam Cuttack block said that the scheme was of great help to the pregnant women and expectant mothers.

Kurli sarpanch Subardini Badka lamented that the children have failed to get nutritious food following the closure of the crèches and maternal nutrition centres.

The children were looked after properly in the crèche. However, its closure will impact primary education in the area. The schools will also witness dropouts as the children will accompany their parents to work. She urged the state government to intervene and re-implement the project in their areas.

When contacted, Jagabandhu Meher, special officer of micro project agency of Dongria Kondh Development Agency (DKDA) at Chatikana in the district said the project was valid till September 30 and had to be discontinued following expiry of the period. He said that he has no information if the state government plans to implement any other project in coming days.

Bissam Cuttack block of Rayagada district, October 1, 2021. The scheme aimed at empowerment of the primitive Dongria Kondh community by provision of nutritious food.

12 maternal and child nutrition centres or crèches were running in Kurli, Khajuri, Rodanga, Jangajodi, Huding Jali, Tanda, Kinjamjodi, Serikpadai, Merekabandli, Khambesi, and Mundabali villages under the Bissam Cuttack block.

The women in the area leave around 214 children, aged six months to three years, in these centres before going to the forest to collect minor forest produce or to work as labourers. In the centres, the children were being given nutritious food thrice a day for their physical and mental development. Around 24 women were employed in the 12 crèches with each having two women to look after the children.

Similarly, 20 women were employed in 20 maternal nutrition centres. With the closure of the facilities, it is apprehended that 44 women of Dongria Kondh



UNIQUE PANDAL: A Durga Puja pandal built on the theme of avian protection, showcasing bird nests at Budharaja-Phatak in Sambalpur, Thursday

# OIL TANKER RUNS OVER 2 BIKERS

POST NEWS NETWORK

**Derabish, Oct 10:** Two bikers were crushed to death under an oil tanker after the speeding vehicle hit their motorcycle and dragged them till a long distance at Alabanka Square on National Highway-53 under this police limits in Kendrapara district, Thursday.

The deceased were identified as Bhabani Shankar Mohapatra, 40, of Pankapal village under Kujang police limits in

Jagatsinghpur district and his brother-in-law Ajay Das, 36, of Bijaynagar village under Chandbali police limits in Bhadrak district.

The mishap occurred when the two were returning home after attending a function at their in-laws' house at Haribhaktapur village under Mahanga police limits in neighbouring Jajpur district. The speeding tanker dragged the two for quite a long distance killing them on the spot.

Tension ran high as locals staged a road blockade at the accident site before informing the police. As a result, hundreds of vehicles were stranded on both the sides of the highway.

Locals alleged that the mishap occurred due to creation of a narrow diversion road on the highway for plying of vehicles as a consultancy agency is building overbridges at various points along the highway as part of road expansion works. Vehicles

are dangerously plying on the diversion route leading to frequent mishaps, they said.

Derabish tehsildar Pragnya Parimita Prusty, Kendrapara SDPO Debendra Kumar Mallick, Derabish IIC Kishore Chandra Tarai and his Kendrapara Sadar counterpart Saroj Kumar Sahu rushed to the spot and pacified the agitators by holding talks. The tehsildar also gave away ₹20,000 each to kin of both the deceased from the district Red Cross funds.

# Wild tusker rescued from abandoned well



PNN & AGENCIES

**Bhawanipatna, Oct 10:** A wild tusker was rescued Thursday morning after falling into an abandoned well in Kalahandi district, Forest officials said.

The tusker, belonging to a five-member herd, had fallen into

the well in Jampada village in Narla block Wednesday night.

The pachyderm was unable to come out of its own despite several attempts and was rescued by Forest personnel with the help of an earthmover, the officials said.

After coming out of the well, the tusker joined its herd which was waiting at a distance, they said. Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (Wildlife), Susanta Nanda shared a small video clip of the rescue operation on X and said, "A tusker rescued from an open well in Narla. Well done team Kalahandi North (forest division)."

# Govt orders spl audit of Keonjhar forest div office

**Keonjhar:** The Deputy Secretary of Forest, Environment and Climate Change Department has ordered for a special audit of the unlawful activities in the Keonjhar forest division office. The matter came to the light after the deputy secretary wrote (Letter No-19602 dated 09.10.2024) to Principal Chief Conservator of Forests Devidatta Biswal and directed him to conduct a special audit of the unlawful activities in the Keonjhar forest division office. According to the order, there were complaints of various irregularities and illegal activities in the Keonjhar forest division office. Following the complaint, the department's additional secretary Umakanta Tripathy and Regional Chief Conservator of Forest, Rourkela visited Keonjhar September 17 to conduct a probe into the complaint. They conducted an inquiry and submitted a report to the state government, September 19. Based on the report, Forest, Environment and Climate Change Minister Ganesh Ram Singh Khuntia has ordered a special audit of the forest division office. As per the order, a three-member team comprising audit officer Mohan Raudia, assistant audit officer Ashutosh Kampa and auditor Sanat Kumar Sahu will conduct the audit in the Keonjhar forest division office October 14 and submit a report.

# STR reopens for tourists following 4-month hiatus

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

**Baripada, Oct 10:** The Similipal Tiger Reserve (STR) reopened for tourists Thursday after four months of annual closure during monsoon, officials said. The national park was out of bounds for tourists from June 12.

As many as 151 tourists in 36 vehicles visited the tiger reserve on the first day, said Samrat Gouda, Deputy Director of STR.

For the first time wildlife safari facilities were provided by STR authorities for the tourists. Interested tourists will have to pre-book the safari vehicles through the Odisha eco tourism web portal in advance, he said.

The wildlife safari vehicles will provide service for five hours in the morning from 5.30am and four hours in the afternoon from 3pm, Gouda said.

Tourists can visit the STR from the Kaliani entry point in Jashipur from 6am to 12pm and the Pithabata entry point in the Baripada division from 11am to 1pm. It has been made mandatory for every tourist vehicle to take one guide with them while entering the tiger reserve.

The tourists will have to exit from the park through the Kalikaprasad check gate by 6pm, another official said.

If a tourist car develops any mechanical snag inside the park, the occupants of such vehicle will have to pay ₹4,000 and avail of vehicles provided by the STR. Spread over 2,750 sq kms, the reserve has numerous varieties of plant species including 96 types of orchids.

It is home to 42 species of mammals, 242 varieties of birds and 30 reptile categories. Besides, rare melanistic tigers, Royal Bengal tigers, leopards, Asian elephants, sambar, barking deer, gaur, jungle cat, wild boar, four-horned antelope and giant squirrels are also found in it.



**बैंक ऑफ महाराष्ट्र**  
Bank of Maharashtra  
एक परिवार का बैंक

**BANK OF MAHARASHTRA**  
BHUBANESWAR BRANCH  
Plot No.: 426/2260, N.B. Tower, Nayapalli,  
Bhubaneswar-751012, Ph.: 0674-2564018,  
E-mail: bom1182@mahabank.co.in

**POSSESSION**  
**NOTICE**  
[Rule-8(1)]

Whereas, the undersigned being the Authorised Officer of the Bank of Maharashtra under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 (54 of 2002) and in exercise of the powers conferred under sub-section (12) of section 13 read with Rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 issued a Demand Notice calling upon the Borrower/Co-Borrower to repay the amount mentioned in the notice plus interest and 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 Borrower/Co-Borrower and the public in general that the undersigned has taken Symbolic Possession of the property described herein below in exercise of the powers conferred on him under sub-section (4) of section 13 of Act read with Rule 8 of the said rules. The Borrower/Co-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 Maharashtra for an amount stated 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.**

Name & Address of the Borrower(s) / Co-Borrower(s)	Description of the Security Interest taken over possession	Liabilities due on the specified date as per Notice	Date of Demand Notice / Date of Possession
<b>Borrower: Mr. Umesh Chandra Mishra, S/o- Mr. Simanchal Mishra / Co-Borrower: Mrs. Bhagyalaxmi Dash, W/o- Mr. Umesh Chandra Mishra, Both are at Address-1: Flat No.: 401, 4th Floor, From Project, "Ayush AArayn", Plot No.: 549/2757, 549/2162, 549/2202 with Corresponding Khata No.: 474/979, 474/360, 474/403, Mouza: Patia, Bhubaneswar, Khurda-751024. (Together with the building and structures/residential block constructed thereon admeasuring 1717 sqft. (carpet) i.e. 1717 sqft. (Built up) in aggregate consisting of 3BHK on floor/s and all the fixture annexed), Mortgage Name-2: At: Gandhi Nagar, 1st Lane, Berhampur, Dist.: Ganjam, Odisha, PIN-760001.</b>	Equitable mortgage of Residential Land & Building situated at Flat No.: 401, 4th Floor, Block-A, Measuring Super Built up Area: 1717 sqft., Plot No.: 549/2757, 549/2162, 549/2202 with Corresponding Khata No.: 474/979, 474/360, 474/403, Mouza: Patia, Bhubaneswar, Khurda-751024. (Together with the building and structures/residential block constructed thereon admeasuring 1717 sqft. (carpet) i.e. 1717 sqft. (Built up) in aggregate consisting of 3BHK on floor/s and all the fixture annexed), Mortgage Name-2: At: Gandhi Nagar, 1st Lane, Berhampur, Dist.: Ganjam, Odisha, PIN-760001.	₹39,27,120.64 as on 27.02.2024 + interest & other charges thereon	27.02.2024 / 09.10.2024

Date: 10.10.2024  
Place: Bhubaneswar

Authorized Officer,  
Bank of Maharashtra

**NATIONAL SAFAI KARAMCHARIS FINANCE AND DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION (NSKFDC)**  
(A Government of India Undertaking under the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment)

## Hiring for Project Managers under NAMASTE

NSKFDC is the nodal agency for implementing the National Action for Mechanized Sanitation Eco-system (NAMASTE) scheme, aimed at zero sanitation deaths and ensuring safety and dignity of sewer and septic tank workers. NAMASTE is being implemented in all cities of the country focusing on sewers and septic tank workers. The scheme has been recently modified to include Waste Pickers as well and various scheme benefits are to be extended to the waste pickers under the scheme across the country.

NSKFDC requires young and dynamic professionals to work as Project Managers purely project based and temporary basis Project Implementation Unit (PIU) to be set up for implementation of the Waste Picker component of NAMASTE.

The Information Brochure containing eligibility conditions, work profile and format of application etc. may be downloaded from NSKFDC website: <https://nskfdc.nic.in/en/content/home/recruitment-0>. Applications complete in all aspects should be submitted latest by 24.10.2024.

CBC- 38123/11/0001/2425

**EAST COAST RAILWAY**

**WALK-IN-INTERVIEW FOR ENGAGEMENT OF CONTRACT PART TIME LADY DOCTORS**

Employment Notice No. 06/2024-PTLD Date : 03.10.2024

It has been decided to engage of Part Time Lady Doctors on contract basis at various health units of Khurda Road Division, East Coast Railway for a period of one year with 04 hours duty per day and 06 days per week which can be renewed as a fresh contract on year to year basis on administrative requirement and willingness of the concerned Part Time Lady Doctor, or till the availability of regular IRHS Lady Doctors or Lady CMP or till the scheme is available, whichever is earlier. The engagement /re-engagement if any is not extendable beyond 05 years. A Walk-in-Interview will be conducted to adjudge the suitability of the willing doctors, the date / time / venue of which are provided below.

Venue of "Walk-in-Interview"	Date and time of "Walk-in-Interview"	Reporting Time
Divisional Railway Hospital, Khurda Road	23.10.2024 (Wednesday) at 11.00 hrs.	10.00 hrs.

NB : For application format, Total no. of vacancies, Educational qualification / Eligibility, Age, Remuneration and other terms & conditions, please refer to website [www.eastcoastrail.indianrailways.gov.in](http://www.eastcoastrail.indianrailways.gov.in) About us > Division > Khurda Road Division > Recruitment

Divisional Railway Manager (Personnel) / Khurda Road

PR-610/P/24-25

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA**

**NATIONAL CENTER FOR SEISMOLOGY (NCS)**

**MINISTRY OF EARTH SCIENCES (MoES)**

**MAUSAM BHAVAN COMPLEX, LODHI ROAD NEW DELHI-110003**

**Advertisement No.: S-03012/1/2017/Manpower/NCS**

Applications are invited for the recruitment of 02-Consultants, 04-Project Scientists (01-Project Scientist II, 03-Project Scientist I); 05 Research Associates (03-Research Associate II, 02-Research Associate I); 02-Research fellows for different projects viz. National Seismological Network (NSN); National Program on Earthquake Precursors (NPEP); Seismic Microzonation; under National Centre for Seismology, Ministry of Earth Sciences. The posts are purely on temporary basis and co-terminus with the project, initially for a period of one year and likely to be extended subsequent years based on the satisfactory performance of the hired project staff.

The details about age, educational qualifications, experience...etc. and application format for various posts are available and may be downloaded from the websites: [www.moes.gov.in/](http://www.moes.gov.in/) and [www.seismo.gov.in/](http://www.seismo.gov.in/).

Online submission of the application for the above said posts would be allowed for two (2) weeks from the date of publication of this advertisement. Duly signed Hardcopy of the completed applications should also be sent to 'The Director, Room No: 402, National Centre for Seismology, Sat-Met Building, IMD Campus, Lodhi Road, New Delhi-110003', by Registered Post in a cover superscribed "APPLICATION FOR THE POST OF \_\_\_\_\_" within three (3) weeks from the date of publication of this advertisement.

Sd./- Administrative Officer  
General Administration, NCS

CBC-12109/11/0001/2425

**Pt. Deendayal Upadhyaya National Institute for Persons with Physical Disabilities (Divyangjan) Under Department of Empowerment of PwDs (Divyangjan)**

Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment  
4, Vishnu Digamber Marg, New Delhi-110002  
Vacancy Notice (Advt. No. 3/2024)

Applications are invited for the post of Director for Composite Regional Centre for Skill Development, Rehabilitation and Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities (Divyangjan) established at Srinagar (UT of J&K) on Deputation / Contract basis.

Sr. No.	Name of Post	No. of Posts	Mode of Recruitment	Pay Matrix Level
1.	Director	One (01)	Deputation / Contract	Deputation: P.M.L.-12 Contract: Consolidated remuneration of Rs.90,000/- per month with provision of annual increment @ 3%.


The last date for receipt of applications is within 15 days of publication of this advertisement in the Employment News Paper. Applications received after the last date or otherwise found incomplete shall not be considered. Our website [www.pdunippd.in](http://www.pdunippd.in) may be referred for more details. Corrigendum, if any, will be published on the website only.

Director  
(PDUNIPPD)

CBC-38103/11/0005/2425



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



SRI AUROBINDO

# Warrior Nations

The French leftist Pierre Goldman was a revolutionary fantasist and a criminal. Charged with killing two women during a holdup in a Paris pharmacy and robbing various other stores, he admitted to the thefts but denied the murders, and received a life sentence in 1974. Goldman was acquitted in a 1976 retrial, which is the subject of *The Goldman Case (2023)*, a fine film directed by Cédric Kahn. By then, Goldman had become a hero to the French left, and many supporters, including luminaries of the Parisian literary and cultural worlds, attended the court sessions. When he was gunned down in murky circumstances in 1979, Jean-Paul Sartre was among the mourners.

This unlikely hero was born in Lyon to Polish-Jewish immigrants, who fought in the communist resistance against the Nazi occupation of France. The genocide of the Jews was a permanent stain marring Goldman's life. Obsessed with anti-Semitism, he wanted to be a resister, too, like his father, and traveled to Cuba and Venezuela in the hopes of seeing revolutionary action before returning to France, where he became a thief. During his trial, Goldman declared that he had always wished to be a "Jewish warrior," for this was, in his view, the only way to eradicate "Jewish shame."

The desire to project toughness to overcome the humiliation of centuries of persecution, culminating in the Holocaust, is not unique to Goldman. It is also useful in understanding the history of Israel and the belligerence of Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu. Of course, there are many reasons why Netanyahu has continued to escalate the war against Hamas and Hezbollah. If he relented, the hardliners in his government would abandon him, and once out of power, Netanyahu could end up in prison.

But there is more than a little of Goldman in Netanyahu's rhetoric. He frequently invokes the Holocaust, when the Jews were forced to suffer their fate alone, to justify fighting the Palestinians. Pressed to stop the war in Gaza, Netanyahu said: "We will defeat our genocidal enemies. Never again is now."

Military prowess has been part of the Israeli ethos since the state's creation in 1948. A new type of Jew - a warrior - would populate the new country. But in the 1940s and 1950s, invoking the Nazi genocide was never done. David Ben-Gurion, Israel's first prime minister, wanted to move on from this European past. Holocaust survivors were an embarrassing reminder of an historic humiliation.

Ben-Gurion changed his mind only after the 1961 trial of Adolf Eichmann, the Holocaust's chief engineer, in Jerusalem. The Holocaust was no longer treated as a symbol of shame, but rather as proof of Israel's destiny to ensure that Jews would never again be the victims of mass murder. Israeli schoolchildren, on visits to the death camps in Poland, are told that if the Jewish nation-state had existed when Hitler came to power, six million lives would have been saved.

Netanyahu prided himself on carrying that burden. He was "Mr. Security." Under his tough leadership, Israeli Jews would be safe. The brutal attack on 7 October, 2023, when Hamas murdered, raped, and kidnapped Jews, was thus a moment of deep humiliation - for the Israel Defense Forces, which were unprepared; for the intelligence agencies, which had largely ignored the warning signs; and, above all, for Mr. Security himself.

Netanyahu had to lash out, and keep on lashing out, first and foremost to stay in office and out of jail, but also to expunge the shame and to show that Jews would fight back, even on their own if need be. The enemy is real: Hamas and Hezbollah are terrorist organisations dedicated to wiping Israel off the map. But with 7 October resurfacing old Jewish traumas, Israel is also fighting phantoms of the past, hence the repeated claims that the Islamist groups are today's Nazis.

The continuing cycles of violence can easily spiral out of control, precipitating a wider war involving nuclear powers. Moreover, Netanyahu's goal of "total victory" against an ideological movement cannot be achieved by military means alone. But, most importantly, war and oppression generate more shame. However justified and necessary the founding of Israel may have been, Palestinians have been humiliated over and over as a result.

Demeaned men and women will only become more militant when barred from their ancestral homes, constantly bullied at roadblocks and border crossings, intimidated by violent Jewish settlers while Israeli soldiers watch, and forced to live under permanent occupation or face oppression by their own extremist leaders. Like Goldman, Palestinians will likely want to be warriors to rid themselves of their shame.

So long as both sides seek to inflict maximum damage on the other to right past wrongs, the violence will not end. Netanyahu may think that total victory is in sight, now that Hezbollah is badly damaged and Gaza reduced to rubble, but that is an illusion. All he has done is create more enemies who will want to restore their honour by killing in a war without end.

*The writer is the author, most recently, of Spinoza: Freedom's Messiah (Yale University Press, 2024).*



Ian Buruma

So long as both sides seek to inflict maximum damage on the other to right past wrongs, the violence will not end



Satya Narayan Misra

**STEREOTYPES NOT ONLY Demean AND STIGMATISE MARGINAL COMMUNITIES BUT ALSO SERVE TO LEGITIMISE A SOCIAL HIERARCHY THAT GOES AGAINST THE CONSTITUTIONAL VALUES OF EQUALITY**

Sukanya Santha, an intrepid journalist, visited several Indian prisons and wrote an article "From Segregation to Labor: The Indian Prison System," recounting the blatant discrimination in work performed by prison inmates, based on caste, sanctified by Prison Manuals. Her writ for repealing the offending provisions in State Prison Manuals has been upheld by the Supreme Court in a historic judgment. The Supreme Court referring to Prison Manuals of several states has brought out how they sanction blatantly unconstitutional practices, violating Articles 14, 15, 17, 21, and 23 which is considered the equality code. The division of manual labour based on caste, segregation of barracks, and discrimination against prisoners belonging to 'denotified tribes' and habitual offenders is prevalent in every state prison.

The Court noted how the prison system has been out of sync with the core philosophy of the Constitution; ushering in an equal society (Art 14), ending all forms of discrimination (Art 15(1)), prohibition unavailability of any form (Art 17), and the abolition of forced labour & exploitation (Art 23). The colonial administration linked castes with prison administration of labour, food, and treatment of prisoners. The Court observed that "not providing dignity to prisoners is a relic of colonizers, where oppressive systems were designed to dehumanize and degrade those under control of the state."

By assigning cleaning and sweeping work to the marginalised castes, while allowing the higher castes to do the cooking, the Manuals directly discriminate under Article 15(1). Phrases such as 'menial jobs to be performed by castes accustomed to performing such duties' are targeted at marginal communities. Such indirect usage of phrases, which target the lower

## FOCUS HUMAN RIGHTS

# BLATANT CASTE BIAS



When caste prejudices manifest in institutional settings like prisons, they create further restrictions on the personal development of individuals from marginal communities

castes cannot be permitted in our constitutional framework, the Court observed. The Court also observed that such Manuals reinforce stereotypes against the marginalised castes. These stereotypes not only demean and stigmatise marginal communities but also serve to legitimise a social hierarchy that goes against the constitutional values of equality.

The persistence of such an approach in official documents like the Prison Manuals normalises the idea that they are incapable of dignified or intellectual work. For instance, the WB Manual says the sweeper should be chosen from the Meri or Hari caste. Art 21 is a constitutional guarantee that individuals from marginalised communities should have the freedom to break free from traditional social restrictions. When caste prejudices manifest in institutional settings like prisons, they create further restrictions on the personal development of individuals from marginal communities. Such restrictions deprive them of a sense of dignity and the expectation that they should be

treated equally. The Court asserts that the right to life in Article 21 is not to live an animal-like existence but a life of dignity, which the Prison Manuals deprive the marginalised communities.

The Court refers to Article 23 (1) which provides an enforceable fundamental right against social and economic exploitation. It aims to prohibit human trafficking and other forms of forced labour. The broad scope can be invoked to challenge practices where no wages are paid, and social security measures are not adopted. Article 23 can be applied inside the prisons if prisoners are subjected to degrading labour or similar oppressive practices. The prison rules by exploiting the labour of the oppressed castes perpetuate the same injustices to guard against Article 23. Thus, the Prison Manuals are violating the equality code enshrined in Articles 14, 15, 17, 21 & 23. The Court has accordingly asked the state governments to revise the Manuals in three months. It has also asked to delete the caste column and any other reference in con-

vict/undertrial prisoner's registers.

The Court refers to Ambedkar's seminal book 'Annihilation of Caste' to underline how the caste system operated as a mechanism that thrived on the labour of the Bahujan communities, ultimately eroding their identity. CJI DY Chandrachud writes: "The body of caste is made of steel. But not so strong that they cannot be broken with the power of the Constitution."

Sukanya Shantha must be complimented for her wonderful research work to unravel the colonial system of caste discrimination that still stalks our Prison Manuals & flagrantly violates the equality jurisprudence which is a basic structure of our Constitution. Memory goes back to another journalist and activist Sheela Barse who was instrumental in bringing out to light the plight of women undertrial prisoners, physically and mentally retarded children who are kept in jail in inhuman condition. The Sheela Barse Vs UOI (1986) case has now made it mandatory for district judges to visit jails once in two months to see the condition of prisoners and undertrials. It was Justice Krishna Iyer in Sunil Batra Vs Delhi Administration Case (1978) whose judgment has ensured that Articles 14, 19, and 21 of the Constitution apply to prisoners also. To quote Justice Iyer: "When a prisoner is traumatized, the Constitution suffers and whether inside the prison or outside, a person shall not be deprived of his guaranteed freedom." The present judgment echoes a similar sentiment; for eschewing the repugnant discriminatory practice of the caste inside Indian jails. Everyone is born equal; there cannot be any stigma attached to caste, whether inside a jail or outside.

*The writer teaches Constitutional Law.*

## SPECTRUM TRADE

# Making of the India-UK FTA



DK Giri

**BRITAIN FORMULATED A 2030 ROADMAP FOR INDIA WITH TWIN OBJECTIVES - INCREASING ITS INFLUENCE IN INDO-PACIFIC, AND BUILDING INDIA AS A COUNTERWEIGHT TO CHINA**

In a UK-India Leaders' Conference held in the British Parliament on 7 October, leaders from politics, business and civil society expressed optimism in a new chapter in bilateral ties. Such feelings stemmed from a Free Trade Agreement (FTA) which is to be signed pretty soon. One of the British negotiators commented: "The fingers are already touching, only a few inches to go for the handshake." Participating in the conference, I stated that, it is a matter of months for the FTA to be signed and sealed. My assertion was based on the realisation that geopolitical and geostrategic considerations backed by progressive realism on both sides would lead them to sign the FTA.

In support of my prediction, I argue that Britain is rediscovering its historic footprint in the world, albeit in a modern cooperative framework, having exited from the European bloc. Likewise, India is exploring its future in the world, as an acknowledged power from the Global South, having shed off its anti-colonial mindset. Also, New Delhi has been negotiating an FTA with the European Union for the last 17 years, and the conclusion is not yet at sight. Britain

came out of the EU in 2020, and offered to sign an FTA with India in April 2022. There have been 14 rounds of negotiations since. And the Treaty is around a striking distance to be sealed.

Britain and India entered into a strategic partnership in 2004. It was changed to enhanced partnership in 2010. After Britain exited from the EU, the partnership was elevated to Comprehensive Economic Partnership. This aimed at bilateral, regional and global cooperation. At the same time, Britain formulated a 2030 roadmap for India with twin objectives - increasing its influence in Indo-Pacific, and building India as a counterweight to China. In this journey, trade and economic partnership was to be the main vehicle. The volume of trade which stood at roughly about \$50bn is to be increased to \$100bn by 2030. Then came the FTA. It is to be the icing on the cake in India-UK relations.

FTA is the most preferred agreement to conduct business between two or more countries. It has potentially both upsides and downsides. The plus points comprise increased trade flows by cutting and eliminating tariff and non-tariff barriers; increased

investment opportunities which create growth of employment and revenue. FTA increases efficiency, promotes cooperation and sustainability and so on.

The negatives consist of job losses due to competition, unequal distribution of benefits, harmful environmental impacts, lower regulatory standards in either country and so on. But these negative consequences of FTA are not inevitable. They can be tackled by collaborative transparent efforts.

In India-UK FTA, there are 26 chapters. Many of these have been concluded except a few, about four chapters which seem to be the sticking points. According to the Global Trade and Research Initiative (GTRI), the deal is almost finalised with a few adjustments to be made. The so-called road blocks, from Indian side, are the leadership instability in Britain which is over as a new party has come to power with a comfortable majority; the visa provision for Indian skilled professionals mainly in IT and healthcare; market access for services and goods, mainly for labour-intensive products; firm stand on data inclusivity, protection, and localisation; the UK demand on Indian government

procurement which will affect the Assamese.

From the British perspective, the roadblocks are Indian tariffs, mainly on export of cars and their components and Scotch whiskeys which are now at 125% and 150% respectively; the issue of data protection and that of intellectual property rights. Britain is concerned about investment and market environment with regard to labour, gender, corruption, and red-tapism. India is clearly wary of giving too many concessions without reciprocal measures and least they should be replicated in other future agreements.

Despite the above differences to be sorted out, I firmly asserted that FTA will surely be signed. It has the bipartisan consensus as both the major parties - Conservative and Labour - have made it a manifesto commitment. To be sure, FTA will deepen the ties between India and UK. Also, it should offer a model to the world, as to how a former colony does business with the former coloniser on equal terms as a partner.

*The writer is Secretary General, Association for Democratic Socialism.*

## WISDOM CORNER

- We all live with the objective of being happy; our lives are all different and yet the same  
ANNE FRANK
- Love is the only reality and it is not a mere sentiment. It is the ultimate truth that lies at the heart of creation  
RABINDRANATH TAGORE
- Die to everything of yesterday so that your mind is always fresh, always young, innocent, full of vigor and passion  
JIDDU KRISHNAMURTI

## THIS DAY IN HISTORY

- 1845:** Founding of the U.S. Naval Academy. To improve the then-unsatisfactory methods of instructing midshipmen, George Bancroft—historian, educator, and secretary of the navy—founded the U.S. Naval Academy in Annapolis, Maryland, on this day in 1845.
- 1911:** A group of revolutionaries launched an uprising in Wuchang, China, which many regard as the formal beginning of the Chinese Revolution, a nationalist democratic revolt that overthrew the Qing dynasty.
- 1963:** The British spy film *From Russia with Love* premiered in London; the second film in the James Bond franchise, it is considered one of the best in the series.
- 1967:** Outer Space Treaty is enforced. Also known as the Treaty on Principles Governing the Activities of States in the Exploration and Use of Outer Space, including the Moon and Other Celestial Bodies, it regulated the exploration and use of outer space and created the field of international space law. The treaty declared that outer space and all celestial bodies were the common heritage of mankind and could not be claimed by any one nation.

## Unexpected victory

Sir, Ignoring all political pundits' analyses and exit poll projections, the BJP unexpectedly won a comfortable majority in the Haryana Assembly elections. The ostensibly favourable mood for the Congress did not appear to transfer into votes. The BJP's strategic campaign was successful in reducing the people's discontent with being in power for two consecutive terms. Not only that, but its performance was even greater than in the previous Assembly elections, and it is now able to form the government on its own. In truth, the solidarity of the loud Jat group in Haryanvi culture, as well as the sense of insecurity in some communities as a result, contributed to polarisation in favour of BJP which was creating this political narrative like a silent voter, whose intentions were unknown to political gurus, the media, and pollsters. However, in this Assembly election, Congress was unable to regain the faith of Dalit voters who had voted for it in big numbers in the Lok Sabha elections. Jammu and Kashmir's Assembly elections were also significant for a variety of reasons. As the BJP did not fight all seats in this election and its influence in the Kashmir valley was minor in comparison to the Jammu division, it had little possibility of becoming a major challenger for power. Even after this, it is worth noting that, in addition to defeating its opponents in the Jammu division, it laid the groundwork for its massive base in the Kashmir valley.

Abhijit Roy, JAMSHEDPUR

## Lost the plot

Sir, Congress, that appeared certain to score an emphatic win in Haryana and regain power after a decade, is shocked in silence by the Assembly election results. Something seemed amiss for the party that fought its election predominantly on caste lines along with issues of farmers and wrestlers, that was aptly reflected in the statement of former Union Minister and Sirsa MP Kumari Selja who lamented that there were some elements in the party that negated all the hard work put in by dedicated party workers and leaders. She was apparently referring to distribution of election tickets. Of course, ticket distribution is a thankless job but in its overconfidence and arrogance, Congress appeared to have lost the plot.

Ganapathi Bhat, AKOLA

# Letters

## TO THE EDITOR

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

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ALARMING SITUATION

In a first, Delhi projected to slip into revenue deficit

The state has historically been a revenue-surplus state and this would be the first instance of a deficit since the reconstitution of the legislative assembly in 1993



revised estimates for the 2024-25 fiscal year. Sources indicate that the finance department recently shared a note on the city's financial situation with chief minister Atishi, who also holds the finance portfolio, detailing tax, non-tax revenues, and expenditures under various categories.

Delhi's earnings are projected to drop from the budgetary estimate of ₹64,142 crore to ₹62,415 crore by the end of FY25

According to sources, the finance department has identified an additional requirement of ₹3,000 crore for various revenue expenditures in the current financial year. These were not accounted for in the 2024-25 budget estimates and include funds for enhanced pensions and allowances as per the National Judicial Pay Commission, power subsidies, viability funding for electric buses, desilting of drains, repair of

roads and covering part of Delhi Metro's operational losses during the Covid years.

"There is a strong possibility of revenue deficit, which may adversely affect the situation of Delhi too," said an official.

Another official mentioned that the govt will need funds to operationalise six hospitals currently being remodelled, which are expected to be completed within the fiscal year. The amount required for these hospitals has yet to be determined.

The govt will need an additional ₹4,000 crore for capital expenditures to complete various infrastructure projects, such as the construction of new court complexes, bus depots and terminals, new hospitals, improvement of jail and forensic science laboratory, and renovation and addition of high court and district courts.

Officials estimate that the total expenditure (both revenue and capital) may exceed budgeted amounts by over ₹7,000 crore. As a result, about ₹83,000 crore will be required, compared to the original budget estimate of ₹76,000 crore.

Polarised atmosphere in UP

THE QUESTION REMAINS WHETHER THE COMMUNAL DISCORD WILL SHAPE VOTER BEHAVIOUR IN BYPOLLS

INDO-ASIAN NEWS SERVICE

New Delhi, Oct 10: While Uttar Pradesh is gearing up for by-polls in ten Assembly seats, a communally charged atmosphere is brewing, which could significantly impact voter behaviour and the electoral outcome.

The communal tension has escalated, particularly following controversial remarks by Yati Narsinghanand against Prophet Muhammad, the head priest of the Dasna Devi temple in Ghaziabad.

In reaction to his statements, various Muslim outfits have mobilised protests across the state, while Hindu groups are planning a large gathering in Ghaziabad to support Narsinghanand.

On October 13, various Hindu outfits, including the Hindu Raksha Dal, Shiv Sena (UBT), Gau Raksha Dal, Bajrang Dal, and Hindu Yuva Vahini, will convene a Mahapanchayat at the Ghaziabad collectorate. Tensions reached a peak when a mob allegedly attacked the Dasna temple, prompting police action and the establishment of a security camp around the site.

Hindu groups are demanding the swift arrest of those responsible for the temple attack, warning that failure to meet their demands could lead to larger protests. In response, the



ASSEMBLY POLLS

Tensions reached a peak when a mob allegedly attacked the Dasna temple, prompting police action, and the establishment of a security camp around the site

police have enforced prohibitory orders in Ghaziabad to prevent gatherings, asserting that no permissions have been granted for the planned rally.

Observers say that the atmosphere of communal discord is likely to polarise voters, making it a crucial factor in the upcoming by-elections. Many political analysts believe that the heightened tensions could drive voter alignment along communal lines, potentially swaying undecided voters towards parties that resonate with their religious identity.

While leaders from the

Samajwadi Party (SP) denounce Narsinghanand's comments, BJP representatives, such as Nand Kishore Gurjar MLA from Loni, are vocal against the violence directed at the temple.

As political parties intensify their campaigns, the BJP expresses confidence in winning all ten seats, while the SP is equally determined to secure a sweeping victory. Led by Akhilesh Yadav, the SP has already announced candidates for six seats, apparently ignoring Congress in light of its recent dismal performance in Haryana.

Given the volatile atmosphere,

FIR against 42 for 'unauthorised' stir

An FIR was registered against 42 people, including two named individuals, Wednesday for allegedly burning an effigy of controversial priest Yati Narsinghanand and blocking a road in Bareilly city, police said. Police said they are scanning CCTV footage from the area to identify the unknown accused and have arrested two of those allegedly involved in the protests. "An FIR has been lodged under BNS sections 223 (disobedience to order duly promulgated by public servant) and 285 (Danger or obstruction in public way or line of navigation) against Samir, Firdous, and 40 unidentified individuals over the incident," Bareilly SP (City) Manush Parik said. "Two of the accused have been arrested. Strict action will be taken against all those involved," he added. Later, a crowd from a specific community gathered outside the police station to demand the release of the detained individuals.



the communal tensions unfolding in Uttar Pradesh may not only influence party strategies but also reshape the electorate's sentiments, making the by-elections a critical test of political resilience in a polarised environment.

DU eyes to launch own satellite

The satellite system could play a major role in scientific research, telecommunications, GPS navigation as well as remote education

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, Oct 10: The Delhi University has set its sight on a range of ambitious initiatives, including launching its own satellite, implementing a policy to allow only electric vehicles on the campus and introducing a free lunch scheme for the students.

These plans are part of the varsity's long-term goals mapped in its Institutional Development Plan (IDP) 2024 - a perspective plan document which charts out the broad goals and objective the Delhi University (DU) wishes to achieve over a period of time.

According to the set goals, the university aims to establish a DU satellite system that could play a major role in scientific research, telecom-



munications, GPS navigation as well as remote education.

However, if financial limitations arise, the DU may consider hiring services from organizations like the ISRO to make this plan a reality, the document states.

Cutting emissions

In addition, the DU is eyeing environmental sustainability with plans to introduce a zero-emission target by restricting fossil fuel vehicles on the campus. The university hopes to phase in electric vehicles, starting with areas like Chhatra Marg, to create a cleaner and greener environment for the students and staff.

The modalities of these projects and feasibility of their implementation will be decided as and when they are considered for rolling out.

Meals for work

Another major initiative the DU plans to introduce is a working lunch scheme for underprivileged students, offering free meals in the university cafeteria in exchange for work. The canteens will follow strict food safety standards and could collaborate with self-help groups for food procurement to support local communities, the IDP envisions.

Alongside these plans, the DU is looking at creating a "University Haat", on lines of the universities abroad, to set up a commercial shopping area where products developed by the university's student-led start-ups can be showcased and put up for sale. The university's massive population of nearly six lakh people presents a unique market opportunity, the document states.

The Institutional Development Plan was approved by the Academic Council members Thursday.

CENTRAL BANK OF INDIA DEMAND NOTICE

Table with columns: Name & Address of the Account / Borrower / Mortgagee, Type of Loan / Loan Amount / Date of Notice, Outstanding Amount, Description of the property. Includes details for SAHEED NAGAR BRANCH.

CENTRAL BANK OF INDIA POSSESSION NOTICE

Table with columns: Name of the Account / Borrowers & Address with Branch Name, Name & address of Guarantors / Mortgagees, Amount demanded in Securitization Notice / Possession Notice, Date of Securitization Notice / Date of Possession, Description of Mortgaged / Charged Properties. Includes details for BJB NAGAR BRANCH, BALASORE BRANCH, BHADRESWAR BRANCH.

REGIONAL OFFICE (SAMBALPUR REGION), E-AUCTION SALE NOTICE

Table with columns: Sl. No., BRANCH / Name & Address of Borrowers / Guarantors, Description of the Properties & the Owner, Reserve Price / EMD / Bid Increase Amount, Total Dues (Type of Possession). Includes details for JUNAGARH BRANCH and RAYAGADA BRANCH.



# national



**We are losing precious lives because of the announcement of the DMK that it would cancel NEET. The DMK government is only deceiving the youth and students on the issue**  
EDAPPADI K PALANISWAMI | GENERAL SECRETARY OF AIADMK

## 'HERITAGE WALK FESTIVAL' BEGINS IN DELHI

Delhi Tourism Minister Saurabh Bharadwaj Thursday inaugurated a 80-day-long 'Heritage Walk Festival' at the Mutiny Memorial in Kamla Nehru Ridge to celebrate the city's rich legacy and culture. The festival, organised by the Delhi Tourism Department, will run from October 10 to December 31



### of the day quote

Education must create harmony between our time-honoured traditions and today's technological advancements  
GULAB CHAND KATARIA | GOVERNOR, PUNJAB

We have decided to hold the 'Rising Rajasthan Summit' in the very first year of our tenure so that the state can become a leader in the field of industries  
BHAIJANLAL SHARMA | CM, RAJASTHAN

If there is a problem or an issue, there must be a solution. And in such cases, the Centre needs to provide assistance to reach such a solution  
IBOBI SINGH | MEMBER OF THE MANIPUR LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

## Ladakh gets world's highest MACE Observatory

*The telescope will allow scientists to study high-energy gamma rays, paving the way for deeper understanding of the universe's most energetic events*

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

**Leh/Jammu, Oct 10:** The Union Territory of Ladakh gets the Major Atmospheric Cherenkov Experiment (MACE) observatory, the world's highest imaging Cherenkov telescope, located at an altitude of over 4,300 meters in Hanle.

This observatory underscores India's advancements in space and cosmic-ray re-

search capabilities.

Dr Ajit Kumar Mohanty, the secretary of the Department of Atomic Energy (DAE) and chairman of the Atomic Energy Commission, officially inaugurated the MACE observatory here, an official spokesperson said.

Built indigenously by the Bhabha Atomic Research Centre (BARC) with support from the Electronics Corporation of India Limited and other Indian industry partners, the MACE is the largest imaging Cherenkov telescope in Asia, he said.

The inauguration ceremony, held as part of the DAE's Platinum Jubilee celebrations, included the unveiling of commemorative plaques by Dr Mohanty at the Hanle site. Addressing the importance



Built indigenously by the Bhabha Atomic Research Centre (BARC) with support from the Electronics Corporation of India Limited and other Indian industry partners, the MACE is the largest imaging Cherenkov telescope in Asia

of balancing tourism and scientific activities within the Hanle Dark Sky Reserve (HDSR),

Additional Secretary Ajay Ramesh Sule encouraged the students to pursue career in sci-

ence and technology.

BARC's Physics group Director Dr SM Yusuf underscored the MACE telescope's significance in advancing India's capabilities in space and cosmic-ray research.

A pictorial compilation documenting the MACE project journey was released during the ceremony. Dr Mohanty also felicitated the village leaders, the school headmaster, and the lama of the Hanle Gompa.

The MACE telescope, observing high-energy gamma rays, will contribute to global efforts to study phenomena like supernovae, black holes and gamma-ray bursts, he said.

He added it aims to foster international collaborations, bolstering India's role in multi-messenger astronomy.

## HATHRAS STAMPEDE

### Surajpal records statement before judicial panel

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

**Lucknow, Oct 10:** Self-styled godman Surajpal alias "Bhole Baba" appeared before a judicial commission here Thursday in connection with the July 2 stampede at his congregation in Hathras that had claimed 121 lives.

The panel recorded Surajpal's statement over the incident, his lawyer AP Singh told PTI, adding that the questioning continued for two hours and a half. He also said the judicial panel has been given a three-month time extension to complete its probe into the stampede.

Surajpal, also known as Narayan Sakar Hari, is not mentioned as an accused in the FIR that was lodged after the stampede at Fulrai village in the Sikandra Rao area of Hathras district. The Uttar Pradesh government formed the three-member judicial commission, headed by a retired high court judge, July 3 to probe the Hathras stampede and look into the possibility of a conspiracy behind the tragedy. This was separate from a police investigation launched in the matter.

"The judicial commission's office is here (Lucknow) and today, Narayan Sakar Hari (Surajpal) was called for (recording) his statement here. We reached the commission's office around 10:30 am and left at 1 pm," Singh told PTI.

He said Surajpal's name is not mentioned as an accused in the FIR or in the police chargesheet.

## India to help ASEAN nations explore linking payment systems

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

**Vientiane, Oct 10:** India will share its knowledge and experiences in using digital public infrastructure (DPI) such as Aadhaar and Unified Payments Interface with the ASEAN nations and explore collaboration to address diverse challenges in education, healthcare, agriculture and climate change, a joint statement said Thursday.

In the joint statement issued after the 21st India-ASEAN summit which was attended by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, the two sides also declared that they would explore collaboration of cross-border linkages between payment systems in ASEAN and India through innovative digital solutions.

The two sides also issued a joint statement on Strengthening the ASEAN-India Comprehensive Strategic Partnership for Peace, Stability and Prosperity in the Region.

It reaffirmed the importance of maintaining and promoting peace, stability, maritime safety and security, freedom of navigation and overflight in the region, and other lawful uses of the seas, including unimpeded lawful maritime commerce and to promote peaceful resolutions of disputes.

"The two Joint Statements we have adopted to strengthen digital transformation and our Comprehensive Strategic Partnership will lay the groundwork for our collaboration in future," Modi said in his closing remarks at the Summit that was attended by leaders of the 10 ASEAN member nations.

The India-ASEAN Summit is taking place at a time when the region is witnessing tensions

between the Philippines and China over maritime issues in the South China Sea and the crisis in Myanmar, where ethnic groups are battling the military regime.

India and ASEAN also extended support to the full and effective implementation of the Declaration on the Conduct of the Parties in the South China Sea (DOC) in its entirety and look forward to the early conclusion of an effective and substantive Code of Conduct in the South China Sea (COC) that is in accordance with international law, including the 1982 UNCLOS.

India and ASEAN nations also agreed to explore partnerships between national agencies for fintech innovations and support digital solutions, including digital financial solutions.

India's digital public infrastructure involves a triad of identity (Aadhaar), payments (UPI) and data management (DigiLocker). The healthcare sector initiatives include Ayushman Bharat Digital Mission and e-sanjeevani for tele-medicine among others.

The two sides said they intend to expand cyber security cooperation to support the digital economy.

The two sides also agreed to support collaboration in the development of necessary knowledge, skills, infrastructure, risk management frameworks and policies to effectively and responsibly leverage AI technologies and applications to harness the potential of AI advancements.

The 10 member countries of ASEAN are Indonesia, Malaysia, the Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, Brunei, Vietnam, Laos, Myanmar and Cambodia.



21<sup>ST</sup> ASEAN-INDIA SUMMIT  
10 OCTOBER 2024, VIENTIANE, LAO PDR

## HUMBOLDT UNIVERSITY OF BERLIN RESEARCH ALSO SHOWS ASIAN ELEPHANTS HAVE MORE WRINKLES THAN AFRICAN COUSINS

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

**New Delhi, Oct 10:** Wrinkles on an elephant's trunk could reveal if it is right- or left-trunked -- indicating its preference for wrapping objects towards its right or left side, a study has found.

While the mammals are known to use the farthest portion of their trunks for wrapping food and other objects, researchers from the Humboldt-University of Berlin, Germany, observed that whiskers or hairs

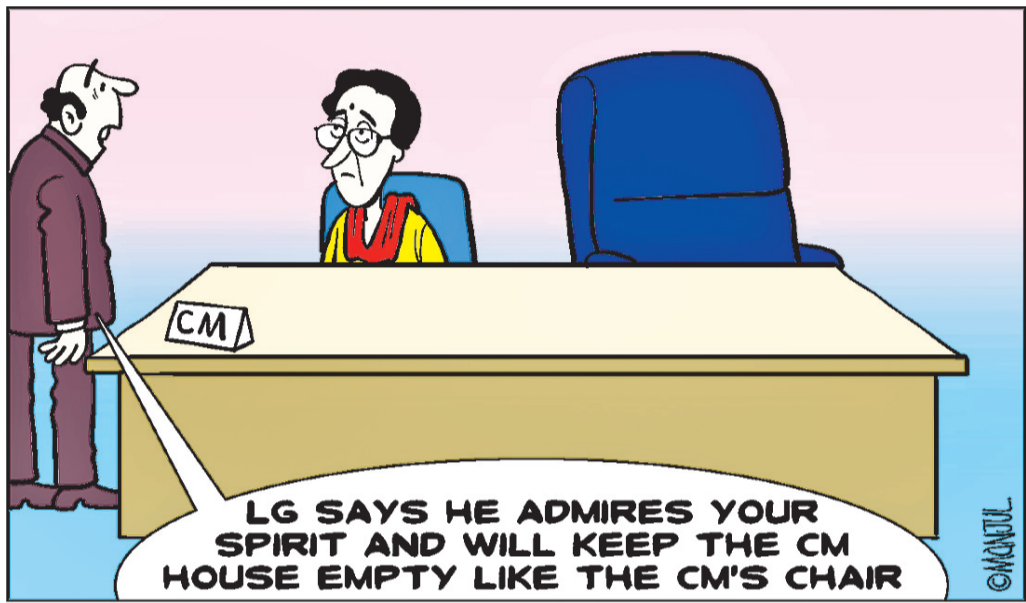
on the trunk are longer on the side towards which the elephants prefer wrapping objects.

This preference gives an elephant its "trunkedness" -- something that a baby elephant is not born with and develops with age and how it bends its trunk, the researchers said.

The repeated motion leads to wrinkle formation on the farthest portion of the trunk, they said.

"A 'left-trunker' would preferably wrap their trunk towards the left of their body and perform left-oriented behaviours with the

## POLITICKLE by MANJUL



## India bids tearful adieu to icon Ratan Tata

BATTLING WITH AGE-RELATED HEALTH ISSUES AT THE BREACH CANDY HOSPITAL SINCE MONDAY, TATA (86) BREATHED HIS LAST SHORTLY BEFORE MIDNIGHT WEDNESDAY

INDO-ASIAN NEWS SERVICE

**Mumbai, Oct 10:** Many thousands including top political leaders, captains of industry, celebs and commoners bid a tearful farewell to the legendary business giant and a genteel Parsi, Ratan Naval Tata at his final journey Thursday.

Battling with age-related health issues at the Breach Candy Hospital since Monday, Tata (86) breathed his last shortly before midnight Wednesday, plunging the world of industry and corporates into gloom.

His mortal remains were taken to the NCPA Lawns this morning to enable the people to pay their last respects before the funeral at the Worli Crematorium in the evening.

Since morning, thousands of people and dignitaries, including Union Home Minister Amit Shah, Maharashtra Chief Minister Eknath Shinde, Deputy Chief Minister Devendra Fadnis and Ajit Pawar, Speaker Rahul Narwekar, Central and state ministers, MPs, legislators and leaders of all political parties turned up to pay their respects.

India's top industrialist tycoons including Mukesh Ambani, his wife Nita Ambani and their family members, representatives or heads of leading business



families like the Piramals, Godrejs, Hinduja, Mahindras, Bajajs, Birlas and more attended and paid homage to the departed star of the country's business galaxy.

Other notables included Nationalist Congress Party (SP) President Sharad Pawar, Working President Supriya Sule, Jayant Patil, Jitendra Awhad, Shiv Sena (UBT) President Uddhav Thackeray, wife Rashmi, son Aditya, Arvind Sawant, MP, Congress' former Chief Ministers Sushilkumar Shinde, Prithviraj Chavan, Leader of Opposition Vijay Wadettiwar, state chief Nana Patole, Balasaheb Thorat, Satej Bunt Patil.

Maharashtra Navnirman Sena President Raj Thackeray and his family, Vanchit Bahujan

Aghadi President Prakash Ambedkar and others also visited or paid glowing tributes to Tata's memory and his contributions to the country.

After the teeming crowds at Nariman Point, this afternoon Tata's glass-topped coffin draped in the Tricolour was mounted in a closed flower-bedecked van which sped off to the Prayer Hall and Crematorium at Worli, some 12 km away.

His head, covered in a typical red Parsi prayer cap and body in a traditional community attire, was visible from the coffin at the NCPA Lawns and the Prayer Hall in Worli, as Hindu, Muslim, Sikh, Christian, Parsi religious men chanted prayers and reverently stood beside.

En route, on both sides, there

were many thousands of Mumbaikars, many with moist eyes, raising their hands in a symbolic 'Goodbye, Tata', some carrying small posters or placards with his photos as the motorcade zipped away.

Before Worli, there were many more thousands of locals who had trooped out on the roads and stood on both sides, hoping to catch a glimpse of the legendary tycoon who had touched the lives of many millions during his lifetime through his industries, social, educational, health and philanthropic activities. Later, it was taken to the cremation spot by a police team, a police band played the Last Post, accorded him a gun salute, and removed and folded the Tricolour which was handed over to a relative.

## Wrinkles reveal whether elephants are left- or right-trunked: Study



The team studied dead specimens of 10 Asian and five African elephants, along with photographs of foetuses, and found that the side bearing longer whiskers or hairs also bore more wrinkles. They added that while behavioural preferences shape how the trunk develops physically, including its wrinkles, there could be partial genetic influences as well.

trunk, thereby frequently compressing the left side of their distal trunk and stretching the right side at the same time," the authors wrote in the study published in the journal Royal Society Open Science.

The team studied dead specimens of 10 Asian and five African elephants, along with photographs of foetuses, and found that the side bearing longer whiskers or hairs also bore more wrinkles.

The opposite side was seen to have fewer whiskers as it was more in contact with the ground, they added.

The authors also found about 1.5 times more wrinkles on the trunks of Asian elephants, com-

pared to African elephants, with the trend beginning early in the womb.

They added that while behavioural preferences shape how the trunk develops physically, including its wrinkles, there could be partial genetic influences as well.

"The high density of wrinkles in the Asian elephants' 'trunk wrapping zone' shows how trunk wrinkles and their unique form in African and Asian elephants could contribute to the phenomically flexible actuation of trunks," the authors wrote.

Right- and left-trunkedness has been previously studied to be equally distributed among elephant populations.





India plays a dominant role in Silicon Valley's computer technology sector, with a significant contribution from the youth of UP

YOGI ADITYANATH | CM, UTTAR PRADESH

## UTTARAKHAND CM LAUNCHES HELICOPTER SERVICE BETWEEN DEHRADUN-ALMORA

Uttarakhand Chief Minister Pushkar Singh Dhami Thursday launched a helicopter service between Dehradun and Almora under the UDAAN scheme besides inaugurating the newly constructed passenger terminal building at the Sahasthradhara helipad here. Dhami also announced that a helicopter service will soon be started from Sahasthradhara to three new destinations including Yamunotri, Gauchar and Joshiyada



### of the day quote

As Guwahati expands and more opportunities arrive, it is pertinent to have streetlight coverage to enhance the safety of an area. This along with recently installed CCTVs will ensure a sense of security for the people. We've set a target of 20k+ lights under this project

HIMANTA BISWA SARMA | CM, ASSAM

Lot of political developments are certainly taking place in the state. In the next few days the kind of fast paced political developments will take place, which both you (media) and the people of the state will see

VIJAYENDRA | BJP PRESIDENT, KARNATAKA

We take a pledge that we will take forward Netaji's campaign to change the lives of people by further spreading his socialist values and principles

AKHILESH YADAV | SP CHIEF

## X POST OF THE DAY

What is India Why is diversity important Why is every religion & culture important Tata's are from the micro minority community of Parsis but still thrive in independent india ( That's the legacy of Indian national movement and Congress..

PRASHANTSAPP

### SHORT TAKES

#### 4th leopard caught by Forest dept

Bahraich (UP): A fourth leopard was caught in the past 12 days after a cage trap was set up by the Forest department in a village under Kakraha range of Katarniaghat Wildlife Sanctuary, a Forest department official said Thursday. Forest Range Officer DP Kanaujia said the leopard, a female, has been brought to the range office, and its age is more than three years. Divisional Forest Officer (DFO), B Shiv Shankar said the health check-up of the leopard will be done by a team of three doctors.

#### IMD issues yellow alerts for Kerala

Thiruvananthapuram: The India Meteorological Department (IMD) has issued yellow alerts for eight districts in Kerala, forecasting the possibility of isolated heavy rain in those areas Thursday. According to the weather office, the three southern districts--Thiruvananthapuram, Kollam, and Pathanamthitta--and the northern districts of Malappuram, Kozhikode, Wayanad, Kannur, and Kasaragod are expected to receive heavy rain accompanied by thunderstorms.

#### Four killed as car crashes into dumper

Varanasi (UP): Four people, including a couple and an elderly woman, were killed here when their speeding car rammed into a stationary dumper Thursday, police said. The couple's 12-year-old son was severely injured in the accident and has been hospitalised for treatment, they said. According to police, the accident occurred near Binda village of Mirzamurad area when Deepak Kumar Pandey (35), a resident of Manduadih, was returning from a pilgrimage to Vindhyachal with his family.

# India prepares to build two nuclear-powered attack submarines

AS INDIA SCRAMBLES TO MODERNISE ITS MILITARY IN THE FACE OF CHINA'S GROWING PRESENCE IN THE INDIAN OCEAN REGION, IT IS FOCUSING ON BOOSTING NAVAL CAPABILITIES, AND IMPROVING DOMESTIC WEAPONS-MAKING CAPACITY

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, Oct 10: The Cabinet Committee on Security (CCS) Wednesday approved procurement of 31 Predator long-endurance drones from the US and indigenous construction of two nuclear-powered conventional submarines with an aim to significantly enhance India's military prowess, people familiar with the matter said.

As India scrambles to modernise its military in the face of China's growing presence in the Indian Ocean region, it is fo-

cus on boosting naval capabilities, and improving domestic weapons-making capacity.

The MQ-9B 'hunter killer' drones are being procured from US defence major General Atomics under the foreign military sales route at a total cost of around USD 3.1 billion.

The two submarines will be built at a cost of around ₹40,000 crore, the people cited above said.

The new submarines will be built at the government's ship-building centre in India's southern port of Visakhapatnam.



The two mega procurement projects were cleared by the CCS chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

India is acquiring the drones primarily to crank up the surveillance apparatus of the armed forces, especially along the contested frontier with China.

### The two mega procurement projects were cleared by the CCS chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi

In June last year, the Defence Ministry approved the procurement of the MQ-9B Predator armed drones from the US under a government-to-government framework.

The MQ-9B drone is a variant of the MQ-9 "Reaper" which was used to launch a modified version of the Hellfire missile that eliminated al-Qaeda leader Ayman al-Zawahiri in the heart of Kabul in July 2022.

While the Navy will get 15 Sea Guardian drones, the Indian Air Force and the Army will each get eight Sky Guardian drones.

The high-altitude long-endurance drones are capable of remaining airborne for over 35 hours and can carry four Hellfire missiles and around 450 kgs of bombs.

# Centre bans Hizb-ut-Tahrir

GOVT SAYS PAN-ISLAMIC GROUP AIMS TO ESTABLISH CALIPHATE

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, Oct 10: The government Thursday banned Hizb-ut-Tahrir (HuT), a global pan-Islamic group set up in Jerusalem in 1953, saying the organisation aims to establish Islamic state and caliphate globally, including in India, through jihad and terrorist activities.

In a notification, the Union Home Ministry said the HuT is involved in radicalisation and motivation of gullible youth to join terrorist organisations, such as ISIS, and raising funds for terrorist activities.

Later, the office of Union Home Minister Amit Shah said in a post on X, "Pursuing PM Shri @narendramodi Ji's policy of zero tolerance towards terrorism, the MHA today declared 'Hizb-Ut-Tahrir' as a 'Terrorist Organisation'."

"The outfit is involved in various acts of terror, including radicalising the gullible youths to join terrorist organisations and raise funds for terror activities, posing a serious threat to the national security and sovereignty of India. The Modi government is committed to securing Bharat by dealing with the forces of terror with an iron fist," the home minister's office said.

The HuT is promoting terrorism by using various social media platforms and secure apps, and by conducting 'Dawah' meetings to encourage gullible youth to indulge in acts of terrorism, the notification said.

The home ministry said the HuT is an organisation which aims to establish Islamic state and caliphate globally, including in India, by overthrowing democratically elected governments through jihad and terrorist activities by involving citizens of the country, which is a grave threat to the democratic



Founded in 1953, HuT is an international pan-Islamic group with a long-term goal of establishing a caliphate rule under Islamic law

Several countries have banned HuT for their subversive activities

The group's headquarters is in Lebanon and it operates in at least over 30 countries including the United Kingdom, the United States, Canada and Australia

The HuT has a history of praising and celebrating attacks against Israel and Jews more widely

And whereas, the Central government believes that Hizb-ut-Tahrir is involved in terrorism and has participated in various acts of terrorism in India," the notification said while declaring the group as a banned organisation under the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act, 1967.

The ban will be effective on HuT and all its manifestations and front organisations.

The National Investigation Agency arrested a key accused

Tuesday in the Tamil Nadu Hizb-ut-Tahrir case related to spreading disaffection and secessionism by promoting the ideology of the anti-India outfit.

A total of seven accused were arrested by the NIA so far in the case.

The NIA had alleged the arrested accused were actively engaged for propagating secessionism and seeking military assistance from Pakistan to liberate Kashmir.

"The ulterior motive of the conspiracy was to establish Khilafat by overthrowing the government of India by waging violent Jihad," the NIA alleged.

Founded in 1953, HuT is an international pan-Islamic group with a long-term goal of establishing a caliphate rule under Islamic law. The group's headquarters is in Lebanon and it operates in at least over 30 countries including the United Kingdom, the United States, Canada and Australia.

The HuT has a history of praising and celebrating attacks against Israel and Jews more widely.

Several countries have banned HuT for their subversive activities. Those countries which already banned the group include Germany, Egypt, the UK and several Central Asian and Arab countries.

### RG KAR RAPE-MURDER

## Sr docs threaten cease work in WB

AGENCIES

Kolkata, Oct 10: Doctors' association 'FEMA' in a letter to West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee has warned of drastic consequences if any of the fasting junior doctors die. In the letter they have stated if there is any casualty among the fasting junior doctors they will go on mass cease work with immediate effect and they will not budge under any circumstances.

FEMA is a body of 69 associations of doctors from all the academic medical streams. In the letter to Banerjee, FEMA said, "If any casualty happens amongst the 'Fasting unto Death' of any of the junior doctors, it will be the last spark to light the flame. Once this happens, all doctors and medical community of West Bengal will go on complete cease work. No amount of vote bank or police force will be able stop that movement."

The senior doctors have urged the West Bengal government to initiate discussions at the earliest to end the present imbroglio. "We hereby request you to pay heed to our junior doctors, whom you have completely neglected and purposefully caused harm, till now. We also would like to sit with you by Friday to find any possible solution to save our children," the letter further states.

Meanwhile, concerned over their deteriorating health conditions due to fasting over the past five days, West Bengal Governor CV Ananda Bose has urged the junior medics to end their hunger strike and advised them to continue their protest without affecting their health, a source in the Raj Bhavan said Thursday.



Farm workers pluck marigold flowers from a field ahead of the Vijaydashami festival, in Karad, Maharashtra, Thursday

# NCPDR identifies over 11L children vulnerable, takes preventive steps

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, Oct 10: The apex child rights body NCPDR Thursday said it identified over 11 lakh children vulnerable to child marriage in 2023-24 and intervened through steps such as family counselling, school reintegration efforts, and coordination with law enforcement.

In a comprehensive report, the National Commission for Protection of Child Rights (NCPDR) underscored the efforts it took under the Prohibition of Child Marriage Act (PCMA), 2006, through collaboration with child marriage prohibition officers (CMPOs), district authorities, and other stakeholders.

More than 1.2 crore people were reached through the awareness campaigns, with Uttar Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, and



CHILD MARRIAGE

Andhra Pradesh emerging as leaders in the fight against child marriage, the commission said. The report, which was prepared after virtual review meetings with district officials and key stakeholders, presents data on children at risk of dropping out of schools, a major factor contributing to child marriages.

Uttar Pradesh, with over 500,000 such children, showed a strong response in addressing this issue, followed by states like Madhya Pradesh and Odisha.

Across India, more than 11.4 lakh vulnerable children were identified, with steps taken to prevent child marriages through family counselling, school reintegration efforts, and coordination with law enforcement, according to the NCPDR.

The preventive measures also included mapping schools to identify children absent for 30 consecutive days without notice and coordinating with school authorities to monitor dropouts.

In states such as Karnataka and Assam, officials conducted over 40,000 meetings with key local figures such as religious leaders, service providers involved in marriage ceremonies, and Anganwadi workers to raise awareness and prevent marriages involving minors, said the report released Thursday.

### AHEAD OF DELHI ASSEMBLY POLLS

# AAP govt raises MLA-LAD fund



According to Atishi, it is the highest MLA-Local Area Development (LAD) fund allocation in the country and three times more than most other states

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, Oct 10: The Delhi government Thursday decided to raise the annual MLA-LAD fund from ₹10 crore to ₹15 crore to expedite development projects ahead of Assembly polls due early next year.

The decision was taken at a Cabinet meeting chaired by Chief Minister Atishi.

According to Atishi, it is the highest MLA-Local Area Development (LAD) fund allocation in the country and three times more than most other states.

Briefing reporters, the chief minister said no other state in the country provides "such a large" fund.

Delhi Assembly elections are due in February 2025.

Atishi, flanked by Urban Development Minister Saurabh Bharadwaj, said the MLA-LAD fund is very important in a democracy as it is used by legislators for the development of their constituencies.

Drawing comparisons with other states, the chief minister noted that Gujarat allocates ₹1.5 crore to an MLA while in Andhra Pradesh and Karnataka, legislators get ₹2 crore each.

Even larger states such as

Maharashtra, Kerala, and Rajasthan allocate only ₹5 crore, making Delhi's ₹15 crore the "most significant" in the country, she said.

"Now, Delhi will provide ₹15 crore per year (to MLAs). It is not only the highest in the country but also three times more than most states," the CM said.

She said for the last 10 years, the AAP government under the leadership of former chief minister Arvind Kejriwal has been working for the people of Delhi -- whether they live in slums, unauthorised colonies, or big bungalows.

In the coming years, the Delhi government will continue to work for the people of Delhi, she said.

Bharadwaj said the main reason for increasing the fund was to ensure that projects that were getting delayed due to departmental sanctions can now get started so that the people can get immediate relief.

Bharadwaj elaborated on the rationale behind the increase, particularly in light of the damage caused by this year's heavy rains.

"This year, Delhi has experienced a lot of rain, which has caused damage to roads, parks, walkways, and walls. Due to the increased rain, there are also issues with sewers in many places as they are clogged or full of silt, and new sewer lines have been laid".

"MLAs have been regularly bringing these issues to our attention, and the increased MLA Fund will enable them to quickly provide relief without waiting for long departmental sanctions," Bharadwaj said.

STATE SELECTION BOARD ODISHA POLICE, CUTTACK. Buxi Bazar, Cuttack-753001, E-mail: opssb.odpol@nic.in. NOTICE. No.03/SSB. Dated 09.10.2024. No.D-11 in view of the Puja vacations, the last date of filling up of online applications for the post of Sepoys/ Constables in Battalions in respect of Indicative Advertisement No.01/SSB, dated 14.09.2024 & Detailed Advertisement No.02/SSB dated 22.09.2024 is hereby extended to 30th Oct. 2024 to facilitate the candidates for submission of the applications. The edit/correction window for all candidates will be opened after the last date of submission of online applications. This will be intimated in due course in Odisha Police website and the State Selection Board Portal. By order of the Chairman, SSB Sd./- Member. OIPR-12028/11/0005/2425



# international



On this land, democracy and freedom are growing and thriving. The People's Republic of China has no right to represent Taiwan  
LAI CHING-TE | PRESIDENT, TAIWAN

## PAK'S DEATH PENALTY

Pakistan's use of the death penalty is among the harshest in the world, accounting for 26 per cent of the global death row population



## of the day quote

Both Indian and Pakistani Punjab should undertake joint efforts to combat smog. Stubble burning in Indian Punjab is impacting here because of air direction. There should be climate diplomacy with India to address the smog issue  
MARIAM NAWAZ | CM OF PUNJAB PROVINCE, PAKISTAN

What we are seeing is the Indian economy is not just becoming a market opportunity, it's becoming an opportunity for manufacturing. But more important is we are seeing a growth of global capability centres in India  
MUKESH AGHI | PRESIDENT OF US-INDIA STRATEGIC AND PARTNERSHIP FORUM

What's important is that friends are able to have direct discussions. It doesn't imply agreement, it doesn't imply compliance and I'll always represent Australia's national interest  
ANTHONY ALBANESE | PM, AUSTRALIA

## SHORT TAKES

### 'SL economy stabilised'

Colombo: Aided by critical structural and policy reforms, the Sri Lankan economy has stabilised after the deep crisis it suffered in 2022 with growth in 2024 expected to be 4.4 per cent up from the previous projections, the World Bank said Thursday. "The good news is that it grew faster than most expected but the not so good news is that it is not out of the woods yet," World Bank country director Gevorg Sargsyan told reporters. The 2024 growth is expected to be 4.4 per cent up from the previous projection of a 2.2 per cent, yet the poverty could increase. Sri Lanka declared its first-ever sovereign default in mid-April 2022, the first since gaining independence from Britain in 1948.

### Ship targeted by suspected Houthis

Dubai: A series of suspected attacks by Yemen's Houthi rebels targeted a ship Thursday in the Red Sea, authorities said. The attack comes as the rebels continue to threaten ships moving through the Red Sea, a waterway that once saw \$1 trillion in goods move through it a year, over the ongoing conflicts in the Mideast stemming from the Israel-Hamas war in the Gaza Strip. A ship in the Red Sea skirting the coast of the East Africa found itself struck first by a projectile that damaged the vessel, but sparked no fire and caused no injuries, the British military's United Kingdom Maritime Trade Operations center said. At least two more projectiles later fell in the waters around the vessel.

### B'desh begins Durga Puja celebrations

Dhaka: Bangladesh Thursday began an extended official holiday as Hindu community's Durga Puja celebration got underway amid tight security at temples and makeshift mandaps across the country. Chief Adviser Muhammad Yunus is expected to visit Sunday the centuries-old Dhakeswari national temple, one of the prominent shaktee peeths. "We are celebrating the puja for the second day today (Saptami) amid festivity. No untoward incident from anywhere has been reported so far," Bangladesh Hindu Buddhist Christian Unity Council leader Kajol Deb Nath told PTI. Hindus constitute about 8 per cent of the 170 million Bangladesh population.

## GULF STATES URGE US

# 'Stop Israel from bombing Iran's oil sites'

AS PART OF THEIR ATTEMPTS TO AVOID BEING CAUGHT IN THE CROSSFIRE, GULF STATES ARE REFUSING TO LET ISRAEL FLY OVER THEIR AIRSPACE



Iran warns of severe fallout if Israel uses Gulf airspace | Gulf states refuse Israeli overflights or missile passage

Dubai, Oct 10: Gulf states are lobbying Washington to stop Israel from attacking Iran's oil sites because they are concerned their own oil facilities could come under fire from Tehran's proxies if the conflict escalates, three Gulf sources told Reuters.

As part of their attempts to avoid being caught in the crossfire, Gulf states including Saudi Arabia, the United Arab Emirates and Qatar are also refusing to let Israel fly over their airspace for any attack on Iran and have conveyed this to Washington, the three sources close to government circles said.

Israel has promised Iran will pay for its missile attack last week while Tehran has said any retaliation would be met with vast destruction, raising fears of a wider war in the region that could suck in the United States.

The moves by the Gulf states come after a diplomatic push by non-Arab Shi'ite Iran to persuade its Sunni Gulf neighbours to use their influence with Washington amid rising concerns Israel could target Iran's oil production facilities.

During meetings this week,

Iran warned Saudi Arabia it could not guarantee the safety of the Gulf kingdom's oil facilities if Israel were given any assistance in carrying out an attack, a senior Iranian official and an Iranian diplomat told Reuters.

Ali Shihabi, a Saudi analyst close to the Saudi royal court, said: "The Iranians have stated: 'If the Gulf states open up their airspace to Israel, that would be an act of war'."

A potential Israeli strike was the focus of talks Wednesday between Saudi de facto ruler, Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman, and Iranian Foreign Minister Abbas Araqchi, who was on a Gulf tour to rally support, Gulf and Iranian sources said.

A person in Washington familiar with the discussions confirmed that Gulf officials had been in touch with US counterparts to express concern about

the potential scope of Israel's expected retaliation. The White House declined comment.

The three Gulf sources stated that Saudi Arabia, as a leading oil exporter along with oil-producing neighbours, the UAE, Qatar, Kuwait, Oman and Bahrain, had keen an interest in de-escalating the situation.

"We will be in the middle of a missile war. There is serious concern, especially if the Israeli strike targets Iran's oil installations," a second Gulf source said. According to two senior Israeli officials, Israel is going to calibrate its response and, as of Wednesday, it had not yet decided whether it would strike Iran's oilfields.

The option was one of a number presented by the defence establishment to Israeli leaders, according to the officials.

The three Gulf sources stated that Saudi Arabia, as a leading oil exporter along with oil-producing neighbours, the UAE, Qatar, Kuwait, Oman and Bahrain, had keen an interest in de-escalating the situation.

## Airstrike on Gaza school kills 28

Cairo: An Israeli airstrike on a school sheltering displaced people in central Gaza killed at least 28 people, including women and children, Thursday, while three hospitals in the north were told to evacuate putting patients' lives at risk, medics say. The strike, in which many more were wounded, happened in the city of Deir Al-Balah, where a million people have taken shelter after fleeing fighting elsewhere after more than a year of war. The Israeli military said Thursday it had carried out a "precise strike on terrorists", who had a command and control centre embedded in a school. "This is a further example of the Hamas terrorist organization's systematic abuse of civilian infrastructure in violation of international law," the military statement said. Hamas denies such allegations. Medics said 54 other people were wounded at the school.



## Israeli forces fire on UN peacekeepers

Jerusalem: Israeli forces fired on two positions used by UN peacekeepers in southern Lebanon Thursday and at another one Wednesday, the UN force said, as Israel pressed its assault on Hezbollah and told Lebanese civilians not to return to homes in the south. The UNIFIL force said two of its peacekeepers were injured in one of the incidents, when an Israeli tank fired at an observation tower at the force's main headquarters in Naqoura, hitting the tower and causing them to fall. There were no casualties in the other two incidents, a UN source said. "Any deliberate attack on peacekeepers is a grave violation of international humanitarian law," UNIFIL said in a statement, adding that it was following up with the Israeli military. There was no immediate comment. The UNIFIL peacekeeping force in Lebanon has around 10,500 personnel, with major contributing nations including France, Italy, Indonesia, Malaysia and Ghana, according to UNIFIL's website.



"We will be in the middle of a missile war. There is serious concern, especially if

the Israeli strike targets Iran's oil installations," a second Gulf source said.

## Zelensky promotes 'victory plan' to allies



AGENCIES

Paris, Oct 10: Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky was city-hopping across Europe Thursday to promote a "victory plan" that he said "aims to create the right conditions for a just end to the war" against Russia, detailing the proposals to European leaders after a scheduled summit involving US President Joe Biden was derailed by Hurricane Milton.

Zelensky's talks in London with British Prime Minister

Keir Starmer and NATO Secretary-General Mark Rutte were quickly followed by another meeting in Paris with French President Emmanuel Macron, who just the previous day sent a strong signal of support for Ukraine by visiting Ukrainian troops being trained in France.

Zelensky posted on X that he "outlined the details" of the Ukrainian victory plan to Starmer and added: "We have agreed to work on it together with our allies."

He also met Rutte with Starmer. Zelensky posted afterward that they discussed trans-Atlantic cooperation and further reinforcing Ukraine militarily. He gave no details but posted that "these are the steps that will create the best conditions for restoring a just peace."

Zelensky has yet to publicly present the proposals for victory. 'Nuclear Five' states to meet soon: Russia

A group of five nuclear weapons states will hold a meeting in New York in the next two weeks, Russian state media quoted Deputy Foreign Minister Sergei Ryabkov as saying Thursday.

The group brings together Russia, the United States, China, France and Britain, all of which are nuclear-armed states and permanent members of the United Nations Security Council.

Ryabkov did not announce a specific date or say what level of officials would attend. The meeting is potentially significant because of a significant escalation in nuclear tensions between Russia and the West since the start of the Ukraine war.



A drone view shows a house destroyed by a tornado as Hurricane Milton approaches Fort Myers, Florida

## ASEAN SUMMIT

# China defiant over SCS skirmishes

ASSOCIATED PRESS

Vientiane, Oct 10: Southeast Asian leaders stepped up pressure on China to respect international law following clashes in the disputed South China Sea during annual summit talks Thursday, but Chinese Premier Li Qiang was defiant as he blamed "external forces" for interfering in regional affairs.

The 10-member Association of Southeast Asian Nations' meeting with Li followed recent violent confrontations at sea this year between China and ASEAN members Philippines and Vietnam that heightened unease over China's increasingly assertive actions in the contested waters.

Malaysian Prime Minister Anwar Ibrahim, who will take over the rotating ASEAN chair next year, said the bloc has called for an early conclusion to a code of conduct to govern the South China Sea. Talks on the code of



conduct have been ongoing for years, hampered by sticky issues including disagreements over whether the pact should be binding. ASEAN reiterated the need to maintain peace and security in the strategic waterway, he said, according to Malaysian national news agency Bernama. But Li said meddling by foreign forces is creating conflicts within the region. "We must realize that our development is also facing some unstable and uncertain factors. In particular, external forces frequently interfere and even try to introduce bloc confrontation and geopolitical conflicts into Asia," Li said during an ASEAN meeting with China, Japan and South Korea. He called for more dialogue between countries to ensure dis-

Chinese Premier Li Qiang says meddling by foreign forces is creating conflicts within the region

putes are resolved amicably.

Li didn't name the foreign forces but China has previously warned the US not to meddle in the region's territorial disputes.

US Secretary of State Antony Blinken, who arrived in Vientiane Thursday for the meetings, is expected to raise the issue of China's aggression in the sea, officials said. The US has no claims but it has deployed Navy ships and fighter jets to patrol the waterway and promote freedom of navigation and overflight.

ASEAN members Vietnam, the Philippines, Malaysia and Brunei along with Taiwan have overlapping claims with China, which claims sovereignty over virtually all of the South China Sea. Chinese and Philippine vessels have clashed repeatedly this year, and Vietnam said last week that Chinese forces assaulted its fishermen in the disputed sea. China has also sent patrol vessels to areas that Indonesia and Malaysia claim as exclusive economic zones.

## SNIPPETS

### NATO to start annual nuclear exercise

Brussels: NATO will hold a long-planned major nuclear exercise next week, the alliance's chief said Thursday, a few weeks after President Vladimir Putin announced changes to Russia's nuclear doctrine to discourage Ukraine's Western allies from supporting attacks on his country. The "Steadfast Noon" exercise starts Monday and will run for about two weeks. It will be led by Belgium and the Netherlands, use eight military bases and involve 2,000 personnel and 60 aircraft from 13 nations. The exercise has been held at roughly the same time each year for over a decade. Bomber aircraft and fighter jets that can carry nuclear warheads are taking part. No live munitions are used. The bulk of the exercise is being held around 900 kilometres from Russia in the North Sea. Moscow has been informed about the drills, NATO officials say.



### Muizzu expresses gratitude to India

Male: Maldives President Mohamed Muizzu Thursday expressed gratitude for India's financial assistance and its consistent support, especially during challenging times, as he and his wife Sajidha Mohamed returned after concluding their five-day state visit to the country. In a press statement, Muizzu expressed gratitude for India's financial assistance, including the rollover of a \$50 million Treasury Bill for another year. The 46-year-old, who was sworn-in as Maldives President in November last year, also thanked India for additional support of INR 30 billion to \$400 million under a bilateral currency swap agreement. This was Muizzu's first state visit to India since taking office at the invitation of President Droupadi Murmu.





# business

## of the day quote

September's reading will bear the brunt of a persistent spike in vegetable prices, especially tomatoes and onions. Even edible oil prices are witnessing momentum due to an increase in international prices. All these concomitantly might put upside pressure on headline inflation

**DIPANWITA MAZUMDAR** | ECONOMIST, BANK OF BARODA

As infrastructure-driven economic growth continues, we expect more companies to be drawn to the area, contributing to its revitalization and long-term commercial sustainability

**SHISHIR BAJAL** | CHAIRMAN & MD, KNIGHT FRANK

With the IPO market thriving, a reverse flip makes sense. Moreover, the streamlined merger process, designed to facilitate swift and efficient scheme approvals without court intervention, further supports this strategic move

**MEHUL SHAH** | PARTNER, KHATIAN & CO

## Q2 RESULTS

**TCS net profit up**

**Mumbai:** Country's largest IT services firm TCS Thursday reported a 4.99 per cent increase in September quarter net profit at ₹11,909 crore, held back by a narrowing of profit margin. The Tata Group company had reported a net profit of ₹11,342 crore in the year-ago period, while in the preceding June quarter, it had a post tax net profit of ₹12,040 crore. Tata Consultancy Services' revenues rose 7.06 per cent to ₹64,988 crore from ₹60,698 crore in the year-ago period, and were marginally higher compared to ₹63,575 crore in the June quarter. Its operating profit margin narrowed to 24.1 per cent, down 0.2 per cent over the year-ago period and 0.6 per cent from the April-June quarter. The company's overall employee base increased by 5,726 to 6,12,724 staffers, and the overall addition in the first half of the current fiscal on a net basis came at over 11,000.

## Ireda profit soars

**New Delhi:** State-owned Ireda Thursday reported a 36 per cent rise in its profit after tax to ₹387.75 crore in the September quarter on higher revenues. The company had posted a profit after tax (PAT) of ₹284.73 crore in the July-September period of the preceding 2023-24 fiscal, it said in an exchange filing. Its total revenue from operations rose 38.52 per cent year-on-year to ₹1,630.38 crore from ₹1,176.96 crore. Ireda's loan book increased by 35.88 per cent to ₹64,564.36 crore from ₹47,514.48 crore in the same quarter a year. Loan sanctions jumped around four-fold to ₹8,723.78 crore against ₹2,852.05 crore in the second quarter last fiscal.

## BoM sees loan rise

**New Delhi:** State-owned Bank of Maharashtra (BoM) Thursday said it has posted a credit growth of 18.7 per cent at ₹2.17 lakh crore in the second quarter of FY24. Total advances were ₹1.83 lakh crore at the end of September 30, 2023, BoM said in a regulatory filing. The lender reported a 15.4 per cent increase in total deposits to ₹2.76 lakh crore against ₹2.39 lakh crore at the end of the second quarter of the previous financial year. The bank's total business rose 16.8 per cent to ₹4.93 lakh crore over ₹4.22 lakh crore in the year-ago period.



**India's wind energy sector is experiencing remarkable growth, with an installed capacity of over 47 GW as of 2024. The trend towards hybrid wind-solar projects is changing the landscape**

**JP CHALASANI** | CEO, SUZLON GROUP

## AUTO SECTOR SEES 32 DEALS; HIGHEST QUARTERLY ACTIVITY

The Indian auto sector saw 32 deals worth \$1.9 billion in the July-September period, marking the highest quarterly activity since Q4 2021, according to a report Thursday. There was robust deal activity in both volumes and values, showcasing the auto sector's resilience and attractiveness to investors, according to the report by Grant Thornton Bharat



## CONSUMER COMPLAINTS

# Govt orders audit of Ola's service centres

Shares in India's biggest e-scooter maker have fallen around 40% in recent weeks, taking the shine out of its stellar market debut in August, as sales have dipped with angry customers taking to social media to complain about its after-sales service

which is already under government scrutiny after a slew of consumer complaints, according to a source and an official directive.

Earlier this week, Ola received a notice from India's consumer protection agency following 10,000 complaints against the company over issues such as delayed and unsatisfactory after-sales services and inaccurate invoices.



The audit by the industries ministry has been ordered to ensure Ola is maintaining its service centres and honouring the warranty given to consumers - conditions it must meet to be eligible for incentives under a government program to promote electric vehicles, according to the source with direct knowledge of the government directive.

The Automotive Research Association of India (ARAI), a testing and certification agency under the industries ministry, has

been asked to conduct the audit after which the government will decide the next course of action, the person said.

"Ola Electric is a beneficiary under the scheme whose eligibility certificate... has been issued by ARAI. Therefore, you are requested to provide your comments," the ministry said in a letter to ARAI.

If found to be in violation, Ola's eligibility to receive incentives under the government program could be affected, the person said.

Softbank Group-backed which has a 27% market share in India's e-scooter market, did not respond to a request for comment.

Reuters last year visited 35 Ola centres in 10 Indian states and found many faced significant backlogs, with demand outstripping their workforce. At one centre, there were more than 100 scooters parked, many covered in bird droppings.

HSBC analysts said in a September note they visited multiple Ola service hubs and most "appeared overwhelmed by the service requests".

Ola has also been in the spotlight this week following a public spat between its founder and a comedian which revived questions over its service and prompted another wave of complaints online.

## Sebi extends deadline to implement direct pay-out of securities to clients' demat a/c

**New Delhi, Oct 10:** Markets regulator Sebi Thursday extended the deadline to implement guidelines mandating the direct pay-out of securities to clients' demat accounts to November 11.

This rule was originally set to take effect October 14.

On June 5, the Securities and Exchange Board of India (Sebi) came out with a circular requiring Clearing Corporations (CCs) to credit pay-out securities directly to the client's demat account to improve operational efficiency and reduce risk.

Currently, the clearing corporation credits the pay-out of securities in the pool account of the broker, who then credits the same to the respective client's demat accounts.

The final operational guidelines were to be issued by CCs to the market by August 5. However, the guidelines were issued by CCs at the end of August on account of extensive consultation in Brokers' Industry Standards Forum (Brokers' ISF).

After a review meeting and representations from the Brokers' Forum, Sebi has extended the implementation date to November 11 to ensure a smooth transition without market disruptions, according to the circular issued on Thursday.

In a separate circular, the regulator announced a change in the timing of securities pay-out under the T+1 rolling settlement.

## TOPSY-TURVY TRADE

# Sensex, Nifty rise on firm global cues

Stock markets mostly traded range-bound in the absence of any major trigger and persistent foreign capital outflows



## RESS TRUST OF INDIA

**Mumbai, Oct 10:** Equity benchmark indices Sensex and Nifty settled higher Thursday, powered by a rally in banking and power stocks amid a largely firm trend in global markets.

The 30-share BSE Sensex rose 144.31 points, or 0.18 per cent, to settle at 81,611.41. During the day, it soared 535.74 points, or 0.65 per cent, to hit an intra-day high of 82,002.84.

The NSE Nifty climbed 16.50 points, or 0.07 per cent, to close at 24,998.45. In the intra-day trade, it rose 152.1 points, or 0.60 per cent, to hit a high of 25,134.05.

"The market was trading lacklustre in the absence of any major trigger and continued selling by FIIs. Overall, we expect the market to consolidate in a range with stock-specific action," Siddhartha Khemka, Head - Research, Wealth Management, Motilal Oswal Financial Services Ltd, said.

From the 30 Sensex companies, Kotak Mahindra Bank, JSW Steel, HDFC Bank, Power

- SENSEX RISES 144.31 POINTS TO SETTLE AT 81,611.41
- NIFTY CLIMBS 16.50 POINTS TO CLOSE AT 24,998.45

Grid, IndusInd Bank, Maruti Suzuki India, NTPC, Axis Bank and Mahindra & Mahindra were among the gainers.

In contrast, Tech Mahindra, Sun Pharmaceuticals, Infosys, Titan, Tata Motors, Larsen & Toubro and Tata Consultancy Services were among the laggards.

In Asian markets, Tokyo, Hong Kong, Shanghai and Seoul were closed higher.

European markets were trading lower in the mid-session deals. US markets ended with gains on Wednesday.

Global oil benchmark Brent Crude climbed 1.37 per cent to \$77.63 a barrel in futures trade.

Foreign Institutional Investors (FIIs) offloaded equities worth ₹4,562.71 crore Wednesday, while Domestic Institutional Investors (DIIs) bought equities worth ₹3,508.61 crore, according to exchange data.

# SIPs hit fresh high

Systematic Investment Plan investments see ₹24,509cr inflow in Sept

**New Delhi, Oct 10:** Equity mutual funds attracted ₹34,419 crore in September, marking a decline of 10 per cent from the preceding month, on a sharp slump in inflow in thematic and large-cap funds.

This was also the lowest level of inflow since April when equity schemes saw investments of ₹18,917 crore.

Despite the drop in net inflows, this was still the 43rd consecutive month of net inflow in the equity-oriented funds highlighting the ever-increasing appeal of mutual funds among investors, data with the Association of Mutual Funds in India (AMFI) showed Thursday.

Moreover, monthly contributions from the Systematic Investment Plan (SIP) rose to an all-time high of ₹24,509 crore in September, as against ₹23,547 in August.

Overall, the mutual fund industry witnessed an outflow of ₹71,114 crore in the month under review, after an investment of ₹1.08 lakh crore in August, largely due to withdrawal to the tune of ₹1.14 lakh crore from debt schemes.

Undeterred by the outflow, the industry's net assets under management rose to ₹67 lakh crore last month from ₹66.7 lakh crore in August.

"The mutual fund industry is proud to reach a milestone of 5.01 crore unique investors. This, along with the folio count surpassing 21 crore, underscores

- Equity mutual funds inflow dips 10% in Sept
- This was also lowest level of inflow since April
- 43rd consecutive month of inflow in the funds
- MF industry witnesses outflow of ₹71,114cr

**This highlights the shifting investor sentiment towards disciplined and long-term wealth accumulation**

**VENKAT CHALASANI**  
| CHIEF EXECUTIVE, AMFI

the efforts taken by the AMCs (asset management companies) and distributors to spread financial awareness. The 'Mutual Funds Sahi Hai' campaign' has helped build investor confidence which is indicated by the growing appreciation for mutual funds as a preferred investment avenue," Venkat Chalasani, Chief Executive, AMFI, said.

Hitesh Thakkar, Acting CEO, IPI Mutual Fund, said investors are now able to understand that short-term volatility in the market is part of a long-term wealth creation journey. That is the reason shares of financial assets have been increasing rapidly & within financial assets, MF shares are increasing gradually.

As per the data, equity-oriented schemes witnessed an inflow of ₹34,419 crore in September, way lower than ₹38,239 crore attracted in August and ₹37,113 crore in July.

Further, equity schemes saw inflows of ₹40,608 crore and ₹34,697 crore in June and May, re-

spectively.

There were a plethora of new scheme launches in September, a trend which has been consistent of late. Cumulatively, these 27 new schemes managed to garner ₹14,575 crore during the new fund offering (NFO) period, Melvyn Santarita, Analyst - Manager Research, Morningstar Investment Research India, said.

The highest number of schemes were launched in the Index fund category -13 which cumulatively mobilised ₹3,656 crore followed by the sectoral/thematic segment which saw the launch of 4 new schemes collecting ₹7,842 crore during the month, he added.

Within the equity schemes, sector or thematic funds attracted investors with the highest net inflows of ₹13,255 crore during the month under review. However, the flow in the segment was less compared to ₹18,117 crore in August.

After seeing two months of consecutive inflows, debt-oriented mutual funds experienced large outflows in September losing ₹1.14 lakh crore, compared to inflow of ₹45,169 crore in August.

# WTO revises trade growth forecast marginally

## RISING GEOPOLITICAL TENSIONS POSE RISKS, SAYS THE ORGANISATION

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

**New Delhi, Oct 10:** The World Trade Organisation (WTO) Thursday revised the forecast for global trade growth marginally upwards to 2.7 per cent for 2024 though it said that rising geopolitical tensions continue to pose substantial downside risks.



In April, the WTO projected 2.6 per cent in global trade for this year. However, the Geneva-based 166-member multi-lateral body slashed the forecast for 2025 to 3 per cent

from 3.3 per cent earlier.

In its Global Trade Outlook, WTO cautioned that rising geopolitical tensions and increased economic policy uncertainty continue to pose substantial downside risks to the forecast.

"Global goods trade is projected to post a 2.7 per cent increase in 2024, up slightly from the previous estimate of 2.6 per cent," it said.

As per the report, Asia saw a strong export rebound in the first half of the year driven by key manufacturing economies such as China, Singapore and Korea.

It added that while China's

growth remains modest, other economies such as Singapore, Malaysia, India and Viet Nam are surging.

"This shift suggests their emerging role as connecting economies, trading across geopolitical blocs, thereby potentially mitigating the risk of fragmentation," it said.

Services trade has a more favourable outlook according to goods according to leading indicators, it said. Further, the report said that in European imports, the largest contraction was in machinery, with a substantial reduction in imports from China.

# India's 100 richest tycoons surpass \$1tn milestone

INDO-ASIAN NEWS SERVICE

**New Delhi, Oct 10:** The collective wealth of India's 100 richest tycoons surpassed the trillion dollar milestone for the first time as more than 80 per cent of the country's richest tycoons are now wealthier than they were a year ago, a Forbes report showed Thursday.

In a record-breaking year, India's wealthiest are now worth \$1.1 trillion, more than twice as rich as they were in 2019, according to the Forbes list of India's top 100 billionaires.

Mukesh Ambani, the chairman and managing director of Reliance Industries, has once again claimed the top position on Forbes' 2024 list of India's 100 richest tycoons. His wealth in-

creased by \$27.5 billion over the past year, bringing his total net worth to \$119.5 billion. This growth makes him the second-largest gainer in dollar terms this year, while also securing his rank as the 13th richest person in the world.

"The biggest dollar gainer is infrastructure magnate Gautam Adani, who posted a strong recovery from last year's short-selling attack and recently placed his sons and nephews in key positions," the report noted.

"With his brother Vinod (Adani), he added \$48 billion to take the family's net worth to \$116 billion, enough to retain the No. 2 position," it added.

According to the report, India's wealthiest added \$316 billion or nearly 40 per cent in just the



past 12 months, as investor enthusiasm about the country's growth story remains robust under Prime Minister Narendra Modi's third term.

"Savitri Jindal, matriarch of steel-to-power conglomerate OP

Jindal Group, whose son Sajjan Jindal recently made an ambitious foray into electric vehicles with MG Motor, moved up to No. 3 for the first time. She's one of nine women on the list, up from eight a year ago," the report re-

- MUKESH AMBANI'S \$119BN NET WORTH PLACES HIM ON TOP OF FORBES 2024 RICH LIST
- INDIA'S WEALTHIEST ADDED \$316BN OR NEARLY 40% IN JUST THE PAST 12 MONTHS

Dilip Shanghvi, founder of Sun Pharmaceutical Industries, jumped three spots to fifth position with \$32.4 billion and siblings Sudhir and Samir Mehta of Torrent Group more than doubled their wealth to \$16.3 billion.

From the Godrej family, brothers Adi and Nadir Godrej, who control listed companies under the Godrej Industries Group, and their cousins Jamshyd Godrej and Smita Crishna Godrej, who control privately-held flagship Godrej & Boyce under the Godrej Enterprises Group, are on the list.

Nikhil Kamath, 38, who co-founded and runs online brokerage Zerodha with his brother Nithin, 45, is among the six nonagenarians on the list.



# Clay court GOAT bids adieu

THERE WILL ALWAYS BE THE DEBATE AS TO WHO AMONG RAFA NADAL, ROGER FEDERER AND NOVAK DJOKOVIC WAS THE GREATEST OF ALL TIME (GOAT). RAFA HOWEVER, WAS KING OF CLAY

ASSOCIATED PRESS

**Madrid, Oct 10:** Rafael Nadal announced his impending retirement from tennis Thursday at age 38 after winning 22 Grand Slam singles titles during an unprecedented era he shared with his rivals in the so-called 'Big Three', Roger Federer and Novak Djokovic. Nadal said he will retire after next month's Davis Cup finals.

"Really, everything I have experienced has been a dream come true," Nadal said in an announcement on social media. "I leave with the absolute peace of mind of having given my best, of having made an effort in every way," the Spanish great added. The Spaniard, a huge fan of Brazilian football great Ronaldo, indicated his decision was related to persistent injury problems. "The reality is that it has been some difficult years, these last two especially. I don't think I have been able to play without limitations. It is obviously a difficult decision, one that has taken me some time to make. But in this life, everything has a beginning and an end," Nadal said.

Nadal's unrelenting, physical style of play — every point pursued as though it was his last, sprinting and sliding into place for that high-bouncing bullwhip of a lefty forehand — made him one of the greats of the game and the unquestioned 'King of Clay', the slow, red surface on which he claimed his record 14 French Open championships.

That's more than anyone, man or woman, won at any one of the sport's four major tournaments. It is a domi-

nance celebrated by a statue of Nadal that stands near the main entrance to the grounds of Roland Garros and in the shadow of its main stadium, Court Philippe Chatrier.

Nadal also won four trophies at the US Open and two apiece at Wimbledon and the Australian Open, giving him a career Grand Slam. His last pair arrived in Melbourne in January and at Paris in June, pushing him ahead of Federer for the men's record of 20 Grand Slam titles.

Federer announced his retirement when he was 41, at the end of the 2022 season,

<b>French Open</b>	2005, 2006, 2007, 2008, 2010, 2011, 2012, 2013, 2014, 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020, 2022
<b>US Open</b>	2010, 2013, 2017, 2019
<b>Australian Open</b>	2009, 2022
<b>Wimbledon</b>	2008, 2010
<b>Olympics</b>	Gold in singles 2008 at Beijing Gold in Doubles 2016 at Rio de Janeiro
<b>Davis Cup titles:</b>	2004, 2009, 2011, 2019
<b>Total titles</b>	92

shortly before bidding adieu by teaming with Nadal in a doubles match at the Laver Cup. Both have since been surpassed by Djokovic, who is up to 24.

"I want to thank the entire tennis industry, all the people involved in this sport, my long-time colleagues, especially my great rivals," Nadal said over images of him playing against Federer and Djokovic. "I have spent many hours with them and I have lived many moments that I will remember for the rest of my life."

So much of Nadal's success was seen, fairly or not, through the prism of his encounters with Federer and Djokovic. The tennis world and plenty outside of it were consumed with the debate over which was most deserving of the 'GOAT' — 'Greatest Of All-Time' — moniker.

Nadal said that he was excited to finish his career at the Davis Cup, which will be played in Malaga, Spain. "I am very excited that my last tournament will be the final of the Davis Cup and representing my country," he said. "I think I've come full circle since one of my first great joys as a professional tennis player was the Davis Cup final in Seville in 2004," the Spaniard added.



Whatever I am today is because of Roger and Rafa. They have inspired me in my search of perfection  
NOVAK DJOKOVIC

# SPORTS FRATERNITY SALUTES RATAN TATA

AGENCIES

this entire nation. I pray that his loved ones find strength. Om



back to society will continue to inspire future generations. Rest in peace."

"An institution who embodied Excellence, Vision and Humility. A Philanthropist par excellence. A massive loss to society. Condolences to the entire Tata family. God bless his soul

#RatanTata," wrote former India player and coach Ravi Shastri.

**Mumbai, Oct 10:** From the time Sir Dorabji Tata sponsored a handful of Indian athletes to the 1920 Antwerp Olympics, the Tata Group has been a constant in India's sporting landscape and the conglomerate's involvement only grew under Ratan Tata, who considered sport a 'way of life'.

The chairman emeritus of Tata Sons died here at the age of 86 Wednesday after being admitted to a hospital Monday for 'age and related medical conditions'. His death triggered an avalanche of tributes from eminent sports personalities.

From being the title sponsor of the glitzy IPL to supporting lesser followed sports like archery to owning a football team in the ISL to sponsoring a high-profile chess tournament, the Tata Group has been deeply involved with the country's sporting ecosystem. Most of these involvements grew during Ratan Tata's tenure.

Five-time World Chess Champion and Indian chess legend Viswanathan Anand was among the first sports icons to pay tributes to the late industrialist. "It is with profound sadness that we bid farewell to a giant of industry and philanthropy. We received our Padma Vibhushan together, and I was truly touched by his humility and genteel nature," Anand wrote on 'X'.

"The chess world and I offer our deepest condolences to @RNTata2000, a human being who touched all our lives and always stood for the good of society. Rest in peace," Anand added.

The legendary Sachin Tendulkar said Ratan Tata's legacy will continue through his foundations. "In his life, and demise, Mr Ratan Tata has moved the nation. I was fortunate to spend time with him, but millions, who have never met him, feel the same grief that I feel today. Such is his impact," Tendulkar wrote.

Double Olympic medallist Neeraj Chopra also remembered the time he spent with Ratan Tata. "I'm very sorry to hear about the passing of Shri Ratan Tata ji. He was a visionary, and I'll never forget the conversation I had with him. He inspired

Shanti," Neeraj said in a social media post.

One of India's greatest spin bowlers and former captain Anil Kumble said, "Mr. Ratan Tata's contribution extends far beyond business. His legacy of giving

Captain of the Indian cricket team Rohit Sharma said, "A man with a heart of gold. Sir, you will forever be remembered as someone who truly cared and lived his life to make everyone else's better."



## SHORT TAKES

### Men paddlers emulate women

**New Delhi:** The Indian men's team bowed out in the semifinals Thursday and settled for a bronze medal following a 0-3 loss to Chinese Taipei in the semifinals of the Asian Table Tennis Championships in Kazakhstan's Astana. The men thus emulated the women's team who had bagged the bronze Wednesday. Sharath Kamal played the first match for India but lost 7-11, 10-12, 9-11 to World No.7 Lin Yun-Ju. Then Manav Thakkar and Harmeet Desai also lost their respective matches as India lost the tie 0-3.

### Footballer found dead in home pool

**Athens:** Panathinaikos defender George Baldock, a former Greece international who also played for Sheffield United for seven seasons, has been found dead in his home here, Greek media reported Thursday. He was 31. State-run ERT Television said the body of Baldock was found late Wednesday in his swimming pool in the southern suburb of Glyfada. The cause of death was not immediately clear. Britain-born Baldock was called up for Greece in 2022 and played 12 matches, the last in March in Greece's loss on penalties to Georgia in the Euro 2024 playoffs.

### Shakib apologises

**New Delhi:** Bangladesh cricket great Shakib Al Hasan has tendered an unconditional apology for his 'silence' during the recent civil unrest against ousted PM Sheikh Hasina, a move that might clear the decks for a farewell Test match at home against South Africa. He is targeting the opening Test starting October 21 in Mirpur as his swansong. "First, I would like to pay my respects to all the students who sacrificed their lives, led the anti-discrimination movement, and were martyred or injured during the people's uprising," Shakib, wrote on his Facebook page. "I sincerely apologise for my silence," he added.

## Latham looking to 'spin' own tale

ASSOCIATED PRESS

**Wellington, Oct 10:** Newly-appointed New Zealand Test captain Tom Latham has said he is looking forward to his progression from a 'caretaker' to a full-time leader of the side that will allow him to put his 'own spin on things' starting with the tour of India this week. Latham, who has captained the Black Caps Test side in nine previous matches, took over as full time captain from Tim Southee, who stepped down last week. He will lead a 15-strong squad, including Southee, to India Friday for the three-match series starting October 16.

"It's obviously a special feeling to be named full-time captain. It's a massive honour and a huge privilege. I think in the past, it's always been a little bit of a caretaker role...But I guess, it's a different situation where I would be able to put a little bit of my own spin on things and what that looks like," the 32-year-old Latham said in a short video posted by



Tom Latham

New Zealand Cricket (NZC).

"I am not 100 per cent sure yet but hopefully we will see where it does look a little bit different. As a Test team, in the past, we have done huge amount of good things. We have been successful playing a brand of cricket that is true to us as Kiwis, Latham said. "It's obviously a great group, a bunch of leaders, a bunch of older guys, and also some amazing talent coming through. So

it's certainly an exciting time and yeah, it will be a great challenge," Latham added.

The series against India will begin with the Test in Bangalore, followed by games in Pune and Mumbai. Gary Stead will lead the Kiwis' coaching staff, alongside batting coach Luke Ronchi and bowling coach Jacob Oram. Sri Lankan spin great Rangana Herath will continue his role as spin-coach for the series.

## Over 1,000 names for HIL auction

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

**New Delhi, Oct 10:** Over 1000 national and overseas names will go under the hammer when the players' auction for the highly-anticipated Hockey India League (HIL) is held here October 13 to 15. The league is returning after a seven-year hiatus with an expanded format which includes both men's and, for the first time ever, women's leagues, running concurrently.

The players' auction for the eight-team men's competition will be held October 13 and 14, while the historic women's auction will take place October 15, Hockey India (HI) stated in a press release Thursday. "This auction not only signifies a revival of one of the most exciting hockey competitions in the world

but also a major step forward in promoting women's hockey in India," HI added.

Over 1,000 players have registered for the two auctions. For the men's event, over 400 of registered players are domestic, while more than 150 are international. The women's pool comprises 250 domestic and 70 overseas players.

The men's auction will kick off with India's bronze medal-winning team from the Paris Olympics, featuring top stars like captain Harmanpreet Singh, vice-captain Hardik Singh, seasoned players like Manpreet Singh and Mandeep Singh, among others. Former legends such as Rupinder Pal Singh, Birendra Lakra and Dharamvir Singh have also registered their names for the auction.

## ALCARAZ BEATEN BY UNKNOWN MACHAC

ASSOCIATED PRESS

**Shanghai, Oct 10:** Second seeded Carlos Alcaraz's 12-match winning streak was ended by Tomas Machac 6-7 (5-7), 5-7 in the Shanghai Masters quarterfinals Thursday. It was No. 33 Machac's third four-level quarterfinal, and the Czech player proved more than a match for the four-time major-winning Spaniard as he earned his second win over a top-five opponent this year in two hours. Machac will play top-ranked Jannik Sinner in the semifinals.

Sinner advanced to his fifth ATP Masters semifinal of the season when the Italian swept aside fifth-ranked Daniil Medvedev in straight sets 6-1, 6-4 in just over an hour.

## Reddy credits Gambhir for all-round performance

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

**New Delhi, Oct 10:** India all-rounder Nitish Kumar Reddy said the idea was to take on the Bangladeshi spinners and credited head coach Gautam Gambhir for boosting his confidence after his all-round effort powered the hosts to an 86-run win in the second T20I here Wednesday. Reddy and Rinku Singh joined forces to blow away the Bangladeshi bowling attack after India had lost three early wickets. Reddy scored 74 off just 34 balls and then picked up two wickets when Bangladesh batted. "The conversation that we (Rinku and Reddy) were having was smooth. We were not taking any pressure. We did not plan anything about the score. We saw the spinners coming on to bowl, and we thought that we should take them on," Reddy said in a video shared Thursday by BCCI. "To be honest, I should thank



Gautam (Gambhir) sir for this. He gave a lot of confidence in me. He told me to believe in my bowling. He said 'when you are bowling, you should think like a bowler and not as a batsman who can bowl'," Reddy added.

Reddy said he was grateful for being adjudged the player of the match. "Playing for India is in itself a proud moment and getting the man of the match (award), I feel so grateful for this and I just want to live in this moment," he said.

## IOA skirmish turns murkier

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

**New Delhi, Oct 10:** Indian Olympic Association (IOA) president PT Usha barred Thursday the body's staff from taking any instructions from joint secretary Kalyan Chaubey and the rest of the executive council members while declaring the agenda unveiled by him for the October 25 special general body meeting (SGM) 'illegal and unauthorised'.

Chaubey issued a circular Wednesday on the official IOA letterhead, listing 26 agenda items for the SGM to be held here October 25. One of the items was a vote of no confidence against Usha 'in light of alleged constitutional violations and actions potentially detrimental to Indian sports'.

Chaubey, who had issued the circular 'pursuant to a directive from 12 members of IOA EC', had signed it as IOA's joint secretary and acting CEO. Usha declared that Chaubey does not hold the acting CEO's post.

## Rohit may miss 1 Test against Oz

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

**New Delhi, Oct 10:** India could miss the services of skipper Rohit Sharma during one of the first two Test matches in Australia due to personal reasons which have been communicated to the BCCI. The Indian team will embark on tough five-Test series in Australia starting November 22 in Perth. There is a possibility that Rohit could give either the first or the second game in Adelaide (December 6-10) a miss.

"There isn't any complete clarity about the situation. It is understood that Rohit has intimated to the BCCI that there is a possibility that due to a pressing personal matter, he might have to skip one of the two Tests



Rohit Sharma

at the beginning of the series," a BCCI source stated Thursday on conditions of anonymity. "In case, the personal issue is sorted before the start of the series, he will play all five Tests. We will get to know more in coming days," the source added.

The 37-year-old Rohit played both the home Tests against Bangladesh. India will next host New Zealand for a three-Test

rubber starting October 16. In case Rohit misses a Test match in Australia, the in-form Abhimanyu Easwaran is likely to be his cover although Shubman Gill and KL Rahul are also players with enough experience in the opening slot. Easwaran will also be in Australia with the India A team which he is supposed to lead.

However, there is no word who the vice-captain of the Test team will be as there was no official deputy for Rohit during the recent home series against Bangladesh.

There are three candidates for the role — Rohit's white ball deputy Gill, pace spearhead Jasprit Bumrah, who has led India in a Test in England, and keeper-batter Rishabh Pant.