

### Sam's desire

Actor Samantha Ruth Prabhu, 37, despite suffering from rare health conditions, says she still dreams to become a mom

LEISURE | P2



### **COP29 summit**

Earth's biggest polluters aren't sending leaders to UN climate talks in a year of weather



Bitcoin rallies to the verge of \$90,000, riding a wave of

BUSINESS | P11



### Deepika shines

Deepika scores two goals as India script a thrilling 3-2 win over Korea in the women's Asian

SPORTS | P12

**VOLUME 14, ISSUE 222 I www. orissapost.com** 

**BHUBANESWAR | WEDNESDAY | NOVEMBER 13, 2024** 

# **PBD** opportunity to

Bhubaneswar, Nov

Majhi said this after participating in the launch of the website for the 18th PBD in Delhi along with External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar. He said the PBD will be celebrated in Bhubaneswar from January the Ministry of External Affairs.

## man rams car into crowd

Beijing/Zhuhai: Thirty-five injured when a 62-year-old man rammed his car into a crowd of people exercising at a sports centre Monday in the Chinese a "major vicious incident", local around 7:48 pm Monday when citizens were exercising at the sports centre where a large number of people gathered for physical workouts, the official media reported Tuesday.



we built lasted the whole term!

### **NBW** against N Bhaskar Rao in murder case

POST NEWS NETWORK

Rayagada, Nov 12: A local court Tuesday issued a non-bailable warrant (NBW) against BJD leader and former Rajya Sabha (RS) MP N Bhaskar Rao in connection with the murder of tribal leader Bhagirathi Mandangi in 2010.

Sub-divisional judicial magistrate (SDJM) Varsha Das also issued arrest warrants against five others -Yala Venkateshwara Rao alias Konda Babu. K Krishna Rao, Epili Sanyasi Raju, N Adi Narayana, and P Dilip Kumar, counsel for the defendant Samuel Tandi said.

In April this year, the deceased Bhagirathi's brother. Jagannath Mandangi, moved the Rayagada SDJM Court, alleging that Bhagirathi had been murdered.

On December 15, 2010, Bhagirathi's decomposed body was recovered near Totapilli dam in Andhra Pradesh. Rayagada police had registered a case and launched an investigation. The state government transferred the investigation to Crime Branch in February 2011. However, the Crime Branch failed to make any headway. The dissatisfied family members and members of Adivasi Mahasangh repeatedly demanded a CBI probe into the case.

INTERNATIONAL | P10



### Bitcoin boom

euphoria since the election of Donald Trump as US president



Champions Trophy hockey match

**POSTS AHEAD OF** 

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

JHARKHAND POLLS

Bhubaneswar, Nov 12: Ahead

of the first phase of polling for

the Assembly elections in

Jharkhand Wednesday, the Odi-

sha Police have tightened secu-

rity in the districts sharing the

border with the neighbouring

state to ensure peaceful voting

there. ADG Law and Order Sanjay Kumar said 29 check posts in

the border districts have been

set up and patrolling intensified

in the borders of Mayurbhanj, Keonjhar and Sundargarh dis-

Security has been tightened

"The measures were taken after a meeting with the Election

Meanwhile, a report from

Commission of India (ECI)," the

Rourkela said that the Sundargarh police were in touch with the West Singhbhum district

police. The objective of the co-

ordination is to ensure that any

attempt by Maoists to disrupt

Sundargarh has a 75 km bor-

The security arrangements

der with Jharkhand and most

of the places are forested areas.

were made in the wake of the

Bihar-Jharkhand Special Area

Committee of the outlawed CPI

(Maoist) outfit asking Jharkhand

voters to boycott the election

through posters and banners.

the elections is prevented.

in all the sensitive areas.

tricts close to Jharkhand.

ADG said.

12 PAGE I ₹5.00

## 29 BORDER CHECK

## showcase state's vibrant culture: CM

Chief Minister Mohan Charan Majhi Tuesday said the upcoming Pravasi Bharatiya Divas (PBD) celebrations in Bhubaneswar will be an opportunity to showcase Odisha's rich hospitality and vibrant culture to the world.

8-10 with around 7,000 guests and delegates expected to attend. The event will be jointly organised by the Odisha government and

## 35 killed, 43 injured as

people were killed and 43 others city of Zhuhai, which is currently hosting the country's prestigious international air show. Terming it police said the incident occurred

# HEAVY PRICE SOP for dealing with defence personnel at PS

The economic tailspin continues to give rude shocks as the country's retail inflation surged to a 14-month high in October, driven by a jump in food prices. The October retail inflation of 6.21 per cent breached the RBI's tolerance band for the first time in more than a year, according to government data. The RBI is mandated to keep inflation in a range of 2-6 per cent, with a medium term target of 4 per cent. In September, retail inflation surged to a nine-month high of 5.49 per cent. Back home in Odisha, the rising inflation seems to have pinched consumers as never before. With prices of onion touching ₹80 per kg, potato ₹35 and garlic ₹400 in retail market during the Kartik month - when the demand for these vegetables plummets – the state (7.51 per cent) registered the third highest retail inflation in the country, after Chhattisgarh (8.84 per cent) and Bihar (7.83 per cent). Nevertheless, as hopes for a rate cut by the RBI next month appear bleak, the aver-



New Delhi, Nov 12: Retail inflation breached the Reserve Bank's upper tolerance level, soaring to a 14-month high of 6.21 per cent in October mainly on account of rising food prices. Inflation based on the con-

sumer price index (CPI) was 5.49 per cent in September and 4.87 per cent in the year-ago month. Retail inflation trended be-

low the RBI's upper tolerance band of 6 per cent since September last year. It was at 6.83 per cent in August 2023.

The RBI, which mainly factors in the CPI while arriving at its bi-monthly monetary policy, has been tasked by the government to ensure retail inflation remains at 4 per cent with a margin of 2 per cent on either side.

POLL BOUND: Election officials with EVMs and other election materials on the eve of the first phase of Jharkhand Assembly elections, at Morhabadi Grounds in Ranchi, Tuesday

The NSO data showed that during October 2024 significant decline in inflation was observed in the 'pulses and products', eggs, 'sugar and confectionery' and spices subgroup.

"High food inflation in October 2024 is mainly due to increase in inflation of vegeta bles, fruits and oils and fats,' the NSO said.

Aditi Nayar, chief economist, ICRA the CPI inflation worryingly soared further to a 14-month high in October 2024, breaching the upper limit of the MPC's medium-term target range of 2-6 per cent.

Nayar further said that with the retail inflation breached the 6 per cent tolerance level and expected to exceed the MPC's estimate for the third quarter FY2025 by at least 60-70 bps, "a rate cut in the December 2024 policy review appears ruled

The RBI had kept the key short-term lending rate unchanged after the last monetary policy review in October citing concerns on the inflation front.

POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar, Nov 12: The state government has issued a standard operating procedure (SOP) for cops in their interaction with defence personnel at police stations, Advocate General Pitambar Acharya informed the Orissa High Court Tuesday.

The move came in the backdrop of the alleged assault on an Army officer and his female friend at Bharatpur police station in September this year. Sources said according to

the SOP, officers at all police stations are required to extend due courtesies to armed forces personnel. "Grievances and problems of the defence personnel would be promptly attended to by the police officer, and all required legal and logistic sup port extended to him as early as possible. If any defence personnel make a written complaint, the same would be promptly attended to in accordance with the law," the SOP said.

"Pro-active steps would be taken by the police officer to mitigate the grievance of defence personnel," it added.

## Shutdown in Manipur over 'fake encounter'

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Imphal, Nov 12: Warring Meitei and Kuki-Zo groups staged peaceful bandhs in their respective areas of influence in Manipur Tuesday following the deaths of at least 10 armed men and two civilians in an attack on a police station and a CRPF camp in Jiribam district, and abduction" of six civilians.

While Meitei organisations demanded the immediate release of the civilians, which included women and children, allegedly kidnapped by the militants, the Kuki-Zo groups alleged that "11 youths of the community" were treacherously murdered in a fake encounter"

The Manipur Police said 10 suspected militants were killed in a fierce gunfight with security forces Monday after insurgents in camouflage uniforms. armed with sophisticated weapons, fired indiscriminately at the Borobekra police station and an adjacent CRPF camp at Jakuradhor in Jiribam district. However, a senior government



official put the toll at 11.

An uneasy calm prevailed in Jiribam district Tuesday as police patrolled vulnerable areas amid a rescue operation launched for the missing ci vilians. Police said purported photographs of the six missing persons in captivity of militants doing the rounds on social media could not be confirmed and the rescue operations will continue till they were traced

Around 100 internally displaced persons (IDPs) were sheltered in a relief camp on the police station compound.

Following the attack, the bod ies of two elderly IDPs were recovered and another three res cued, while six, including three women and children each, remained untraced.

## Spy sat images reveal historic battle site in Iraq

near future.

Beirut, Nov 12: Declassified 1970s-era US spy satellite imagery has led a British-Iraqi archeological team to what they believe is the site of a seventh-century battle that became decisive in the spread of Islam throughout the region.

age consumer can ill afford to

dream of any 'achhe din' in the

The Battle of al-Qadisiyah was fought in Mesopotamia – in present-day Iraq — in the AD 630s between Arab Muslims and the army of the Sassanid Persian dynasty during a period of Muslim expansion. The Arab army prevailed and continued on its march into Persia,

A joint team of archeologists from the UK's Durham University and the University of Al-Qadisiyah stumbled across

the site while undertaking a remote sensing survey to map the Darb Zubaydah, a pilgrimage route from Iraq's Kufa to Mecca in Saudi Arabia built more than 1,000 years ago. The findings were published Tuesday in the journal Antiquity. While mapping the route, the

team noticed that a site some 30 kilometers (20 miles) south of Kufa in Irag's southern Najaf province — a desert area with scattered plots of agricultural land — had features that closely matched the description of the al-Qadisivah battle site described in historic texts.

William Deadman, a specialist in archaeological remote sensing at Durham University, said the Cold War era satellite images are a commonly used tools by archeologists working



in the Middle East, because the older images often show features that have been destroyed or altered and would not show up on present-day satellite images. "The Middle East has developed so much

cultural expansion and urban expansion," he said. Some of the distinguishing features at the al-Qadisiyah site, such as a distinctive trench, were "much more pristine and clear" in the

1970s images, he said.

A survey on the ground confirmed the findings and convinced the team that they had correctly identified the site.

The key features were a deep trench, two fortresses and an ancient river that was reportedly once forded by elephant-mounted Persian troops, said Jaafar Jotheri, a professor of archeology at the University of Al-Qadisiyah who is part of the team that made the discovery. The survey team also found pottery shards consistent with the time period

when the battle took place. Jotheri said that Iraqis of his generation, who grew up under the rule of Saddam Hussein, were all familiar with the battle in minute detail, down to the names of the generals on both sides.

### **BBSR** CTC Min Temp Humidity

**FORECAST** Light rain very

WEATHER



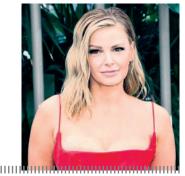


### **SELENA HIRED A BOTANICAL GARDEN FOR HER DATE**

American singer and actress Selena Gomez once hired out an entire botanical garden for a date with boyfriend Benny Blanco. The loved-up pair enjoy waking up early in the morning before the rest of the world to spend time together.

### ARIANA MADIX DREAMS OF **RETURNING TO BROADWAY**

Reality star Ariana Madix would love to appear in Mamma Mia! on Broadway. The 39-year-old TV star made her Broadway debut earlier this year, when she played Roxie Hart in the award-winning revival of *Chicago*.



**Aamir defines** 

real stardom

In a video, which is cur-

rently doing the rounds on social media, Aamir was in

conversation with Holly

vood Reporter and spoke

about what stardom means

today and how social media affects or impacts star

quality. In the clip, Aamir could

e seen saying: "The re-

seats do you fill? If you are

Today people will actually drag you into altercations, so flash the peace sign if you must. You may face some sort of egal troubles from peace-loving groups Therefore, Ganesha advises you to meditate, take a walk or just seek out the company of your near and dear ones.

Ganesha sees you in a very romantic mood today. Your thoughts, tender and dreamy, will keep drifting towards someone special: someone of the opposite sex. Come evening and you will, in all likelihood, be sitting closely together, arm in arm, with your spouse or your sweetheart. The magic of love will raise your spirits and get you in a light and lively mood.

Today, you are likely to remain transparent in all your dealings, forecasts Ganesha. You can be optimistic about your chances of success if you choose to propose to

### CANCER

There is something different about today. It is unlike any other day. Just when you will start believing that there is nothing great about the day, it will spring a surprise. There have been days where life has thrown carrots at you: then there have been days when it

You will be in a light-hearted mood today. Be it at the will be full of joy and will be looking to pass your time lesiurely. You will spend time with family and friends. You will be unable to implement your plans for tackling work today in your current mood, says Ganesha

The artist, the comedian and the showman in you are all set to take the floor today. Entertain people and set the evening ablaze with your arsenal of jokes and gags, says Ganesha. But save valuable time and energy for other pressing matters and responsibilities too.

### **LIBRA** It is more than likely, and

possible indeed, that you will surpass your own past performances today. All this is on the cards. despite the fact that your peers at work will try to outwit you. But it is your consummate set of skills that shall help you pre-empt all such attempts, says Gane

### **SCORPIO**

You will see every colour of the kaleidoscope today people with different temperaments and different attitudes many of whom will surprise you with their reactions. You may be shocked at the way your colleagues or close friends react to your strategies or success.

### **SAGITTARIUS**

You may have been experiencing hair loss in the past due to back-breaking stress, but things will begin to clean up today. As complex issues begin to fall in place, you are likely to receive some good news about a promotion or increment

### **CAPRICORN**

Planning strategic moves will be done with, and all that will remain is execution. But Ganesha says there may be delays in implementing ideas that are crucial to the success of your project, and this may leave you disappointed and dismayed. But the problem will be short-lived and you will have nothing to worry about as you have all it takes to be a winner.

### **AQUARIUS**

Ganesha says it's okay to cry on somebody's shoulders. In fact, sharing problems lightens the load, and if nothing else, your friends will think you're as human as them. You will feel much better by evening and will even smile a little, says Ganesha.

### **PISCES**

Now is the time when the inner circle of friends that you have nurtured over the years will prove their worth, says Ganesha. It is good to know that in times of need you can bank on their support and count on their cooperation. You will be able to luxuriate in the benefits of their friendship today.



## Anuv Jain to regale music lovers Nov 16

Bhubaneswar: City music lovers are set to get an extraordinary treat as CASA BACARDÍ On Tour, presented by BAC-ARDÍ Experiences, returns for its highly anticipated Season 4. This exciting event will take place November 16, 2024, at Dreamcity Resorts, featuring the soulful sounds of acclaimed

independent artiste Anuv Jain. Celebrated for his soulful sound and captivating lyrics, Jain has garnered a devoted folworld-His permance in baneswar is set to be

a highlight

fans eager to experience his unique artistry in person. The city, known for its rich cultural landscape, provides the perfect setting for this musical celebra-Sharing his excitement about

the event, Mahesh Kanchan, Marketing Director at Bacardi India Pvt Ltd, said: "We're thrilled to bring Anuv Jain to Bhubaneswar for the first time. With the artiste trending among Gen Z, it was the perfect moment to bring him closer to his fans here. The response has been absolutely phenomenal since we announced the event." Considered among one

of the most popular Indian indie artistes, Baarishein (2018), Alag Aasmaan (2020), Gul (2021), Husn (2023), and Jo Tum Mere Ho (2024) are some of his bestknown works. Husn charted at No. 1 on Apple and Spotify India charts for all genres. He featured in the Forbes India 30 Under 30 List of



currently enjoying the success of Citadel: Honey Bunny. Co-starring Varun Dhawan, Samantha plays a mother, besides being a spy, in the Raj and DK series. Now, in a recent interview, the actor said that she is hopeful about motherhood.

In an interview with a news portal, Samantha discussed her role as a mother in her recent project and expressed her desire to become a mother in real life. She mentioned that her dreams of entering that phase of life remain unchanged and emphasised that age should not be a barrier to having a child. Samantha stated, "I don't think it's too

late. I still have dreams of being a mother and, yeah, of course, I would love to be a mother. I have always wanted to be a mother; it's quite a beautiful experience. I am looking forward to it. People often worry about age, but I think there is no time in life when you cannot be

The actor has also been battling myositis. However, she feels that she is currently in a good phase in her life. Samantha said in the same interview, "I think I'm in a very good phase in life. I'm genuinely very happy and I feel I'm blessed to have the opportunity to live every day to the fullest.'



## Ali Fazal to share screen space with Waller-Bridge



Mumbai: Indian actor Ali Fazal will be seen starring alongside Hollywood star Phoebe Waller-Bridge in the upcoming film Rule Breakers. He called the actress a powerhouse of talent and that her addition has lifted the film to greater heights.

Rule Breakers, directed by two time Oscar winner Bill Guttentag, explores themes of

MY DAD'S GOING OUT OF TOWN AGAIN...

CAN SNOOPY COME

OVER AND BE

MY WATCHDOG?

I DON'T SEE WHY

NOT ... HE'S NOT

DOING ANYTHING

resilience and defiance in Afghanistan. Known for his previous work in Victoria & Abdul and Furious 7, Fazal's collaboration with Waller-Bridge is highly anticipated. The film is set for a release in March 2025.

"I am thrilled to be a part of Rule Breakers and to share the screen with such a talented actress as Phoebe Waller-Bridge," said Fazal. He went on to add, "This project resonates with me deeply, and I believe it's crucial to tell stories that highlight the strength and resilience of individuals in challenging circumstances. I look forward to bringing this narrative to life and reaching audiences globally.

AU CONTRAIRE! I'M

QUITE BUSY STORING

UP SOLAR ENERGY

Mumbai: On the 13th anniversary of her debut film Rockstar, Nargis Fakhri reflected on how the Ranbir Kapoor-starrer became a turning point in her life. Imtiaz Ali's musical romantic drama, which was released on November 11, 2011, revolved

**Nargis on** 

life's turning point

around the love story between Heer (played by Nargis) and Jordan (Ranbir). As the film celebrates its 13th anniversary today, Nargis shared how it left an indelible mark on her heart and soul. Fakhri expressed, "Rockstar was a piv-

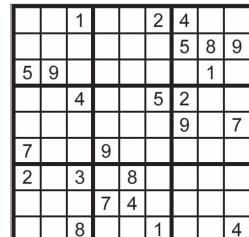
otal turning point in my life, and the experiences during pre-production, the shoot, and after the film's release were all impactful moments that left a lasting impression in my heart and soul.'

> In Rockstar, Nargis starred opposite Ranbir Kapoor, and their fresh pairing created an effortless, vibrant chemistry that captivated



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.



### CALVIN AND HOBBES

**PEANUTS** 

HI, CHUCK

I NEED A

LITTLE

HELP ...



### BREVITY



### Copyright ©2024 PuzzleJunction.com 13 Turkey's

highest peak

16 Curios (4-1-4)

18 Cave dweller

21 Animal with

22 Four-bagger

striped legs

20 Nutty

1 Small indefinite

Across

amount

5 Like a

POST

superhero

8 Vantage point

9 Cure-alls 10 Fr. summer

11 2nd largest Australian

city 12 Formally

approve

23 Detective's target

<u>Down</u>

1 Debonair 2 Balm

CHECK FOR SOLUTIONS OF THE PUZZLES TOMORROW

15 Builds

17 Expression 19 Tarnish

(3.4)

3 Baker's supply

manipulators

7 Banoffee pie,

14 Chest protector

(5,2,6)

4 Tease

5 Bone

6 Former

e.g. 12 Codswallop

**CROSSWORD** 

# 8 **SOLUTIONS** MOURN

CROSSWORD

S E N E R CRAVAT ADORES

SUDOKU

## Int'l teams to enthral Bali Yatra hoppers



Cuttack, Nov 12: Visitors to 'Bali Yatra Utsav 2024' here will witness mesmerising cultural programmes by renowned international teams, official sources said. Tuesday.

At Ganakabi Baishnab Pani Mancha (Stage I), Thailand team will perform November 16 (8:05pm to 8:35pm), Nepal team November 17 (7:30pm to 8:00pm), Sri Lanka team November 19 (6:30pm to 7:00pm), ICCR team from Slovakia November 21 (6:35pm to 7:05pm) and Bali Indonesia team November 22 (7:55pm to 8:25pm), according to information shared by the district administration.

Bhutan team will perform at Akshay Mohanty Mancha (Stage II) November 18 (7:25pm to 7:55pm), it said.

Meanwhile, Development Commissioner Anu Garg, Information and Public Relations and Rural Development departments' Principal Secretary Sanjay Kumar Singh, Tourism department Commissioner-cum-Secretary Balwant Singh and Cuttack Collector Dattatraya Bhausaheb Shinde, along with senior officials, took stock of arrangements for the

# **SRIMANDIR SEES PANCHAKA RUSH**

Puri, Nov 12: Thousands of devotees visited Srimandir here on the occasion of Panchaka amidst tight security Tuesday, officials said.

While at least 30 platoons (one platoon comprises 30 personnel) of security forces were deployed to man the crowd, the Shree Jagannath Temple Administration (SJTA) was allowing devotees to enter the 12th-century shrine only through the 'Singhadwar' (Lion's Gate), they said.

"Expecting a huge rush of devotees on the occasion of Panchaka, the administration allowed entry into the 12th century shrine only through the Singhadwar and exit by three other gates. We seek the cooperation of servitors and devotees for smooth conduct of Panchaka," SJTA chief administrator Arabinda Padhee said.

Puri Collector Siddharth Shankar Swain said that the administration has also raised barricades and 'Bada Danda' (Grand Road in front of the temple) has been declared a



### Woman from abroad enters shrine

foreign lady entered the Srimandir through Singhadwar Tuesday. Some people Anoticed her presence at the temple gumuta (entry to the main temple) and alerted the security personnel. She was then taken to the police. Her language was beyond the understanding of the police, who let her go after issuing a warning. This incident exposed chinks in the security arrangements at the 12th century shrine, said sources.

'no-vehicle zone' from Municipal Market Square.

"Lifeguards and Fire Services personnel have been deployed on the five-km stretch of beach (from Chakratirtha to Swargadwar) in order to prevent any drowning incident as a large number of devotees take holy dip in the sea

on the occasion of Panchaka,' Swain said.

Though Panchaka is celebrated for five days every year, this time it is confined to four as per the almanac. The people of Odisha usually refrain from eating non-vegetarian food during Kartik month.

During the Panchaka, devo-

tees worship Goddess Lakshmi and Lord Narayan. Married women also worship Goddess Brundavati, the wife of the demon Jalandhara, in the form of the sacred tulsi plant, praying for the long life of their husbands.

During the Panchaka, Lord Jagannath is adorned in different beshas (attires). Lord Jagannath is adorned in Lakshmi-Narayan Besha on the first day of the Panchaka. Lakshmi-Narayan Besha is followed by Bankachuda Besha, Tribikrama Besha and Lakshmi-Nrusingha Besha.

## Oram: Our target to see EMRS among top schools in country

PNN & AGENCIES

Bhubaneswar, Nov 12: Union Minister for Tribal Affairs Jual Oram said Tuesday his ministry's target is to place Eklavya Model Residential Schools (EMRS) among the leading



inaugurating the fifth edition of EMRS National Cultural and Literary Fest and Kala Utsav 2024 - UD-BHAV here Tuesday.

More than 1400 EMRS students from 22 states are participating in the cultural festival which will continue till November 15.

To bring prosperity among tribals through education, the establishment of 100 EMRS was conceptualised during the tenure of the then Prime Minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee, he

The Centre is providing all facilities, starting from education to food, accommodation and daily need items to the tribal students at EMRS free of cost, Oram said.

However, there is a need to enhance the quality of education in the institutes, he said.

"For this, the dedication of teachers and effort of students are needed," he said. The Union Minister said he wants to see EMRS on par with institutes like Central schools.

He encouraged the students to make EMRS the top school in the country.

Along with this, he called for the success of this national festival with the cooperation of all.

Oram asked the officials concerned to organise a tour of the participating students to different historical places in Puri and Bhubaneswar.

Minister of State for Tribal Affairs, Durgadas Uikey advised students to reflect the ideals of Ekalavya in their lives, stating that the exchange of ideas between each other has increased by organising such events.

He said the folk art, culture, music and literature of their respective regions have been allowed to be displayed here in different styles.

ST and SC Development, Minorities and Backward Classes Minister Nityananda Gond said EMRS is a wonderful initiative towards mainstreaming tribal children.

He said that the unique ideal residential school started by the efforts of Atal Bihari Vajpayee by prioritising the education of tribals is now a special opportunity in the education field in every state of the country.

UDBHAV is an annual celebration aimed at showcasing the diverse cultural and literary talents of students from the EMRS across India.

The participating students will compete in 47 diverse events, including storytelling, music, dance, singing, debate, and elocution, showcasing their talents and creativity.

## Bike-borne miscreants attack man in City

POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar. Nov 12: A week after a man was attacked by five unidentified miscreants in Palashpalli area, yet another incident of vicious attack on a 40-year-old man at Badagada Chhak occurred Monday night when two bike-borne miscreants targeted him over suspected political rivalry.

The victim was identified as Deepak Pradhan, who lives in the area along with his family. Pradhan said the incident occurred when he was feeding dogs in the locality after returning from a nearby club around 10:15pm.

'Two miscreants wearing helmets rushed towards me, and frisked me if I was carrying any weapons. I took an objection, since I did not recognise them. To my utter shock, they took out surgical blades and attacked me. As I screamed for help, my friends chased them. However, they sped away on the motorcycle," he added.

Later, Badagada police reached the spot and admitted

Pradhan to Capital Hospital. A senior police official said, "Though we have not found any specific reason behind the attack, initial investigation indicates bitter political rivalry. We are scanning CCTV footage of the nearby area to nab the

hoodlums. Badagada police have lodged a case under Section 3 and 109 of BNS and launched an investigation.







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### Min orders probe into jumbos' death

POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar, Nov 12: Forest, Environment and Climate Change Minister Ganesh Ram Singh Khuntia Tuesday ordered a comprehensive probe on death of elephants on Railway tracks recently in Rourkela and Dhenkanal.

The Minister has directed department's additional chief secretary Satyabrat Sahu to conduct a detailed investigation into the incidents.

He has instructed Sahu to submit a report and recommend disciplinary actions against any lapses within 15 days.

Two elephants were killed in train collisions October 3 in Rourkela and October 15 in Meramundali, Dhenkanal, sparking widespread media coverage and public concerns. Minister pointed to a lack of coordination between the Railways and the Forest department, which led to the deaths despite the existence of standard operating procedures (SOPs) intended to protect wildlife.

### **CLASSIFIED**

I. Vikash Kumawat, S/o. Trilok Kumawat and Kamla Kumawat, R/o. At-Bombay Chowk, Jharsuguda, P.O. Industrial Estate, P.S.-Sadar, Dist.- Jharsuguda (Odisha) - 768203 declare that I have passed Class-X in the year 2023 through Assembly of God Higher Secondary School, Jharsuguda vide ID- 7968883. That the original mark sheet issued by the ICSE, New Delhi has been eaten by white Ants.

### AFFIDAVIT

I, Sangeeta Dandia, W/o- Sri Ratnakar Dandia, C-Block, B-202, Shree Jagannath Plaza, Press Square, Gajapati Nagar, Bhubaneswar, Dist.-Khorda, State-Odisha, Pin-751013 declared by this affidavit No.-12, dt 21.10.24 that now onwards I shall be known as Sangeeta purposes.

I, Sashmita Patra, W/o -Nirakar Patra, resident of Adang, Po/Ps - Soro, Dist - Balasore, Pin -756045, Odisha declare by this affidavit No.479 dtd. - 23.04.2024 that now onwards I shall be known as Sasmita Patra for all future purposes.

By an affidavit vide no. 12376, dated 10.11.2024, before Notary Public Rayagada, Odisha, I Pravasini Gouda, W/o Damburudhara Nayak, resident of Kasturi Nagar, 3rd lane, Ward No. 16, Po/ Ps - Rayagada, Dist -Rayagada. Previously called Prabhasini Gouda now change my name PRABHASINI GOUDA to PRAVASINI GOUDA . Henceforth I shall be known as PRAVASINI GOUDA for all purpose.

### **POWER MINISTERS' MEET**

# Dy CM unveils Odisha's energy transition plan

Bhubaneswar, Nov 12: Deputy Chief Minister and Minister for Energy and Agriculture & Farmers' Empowerment Kanak Vardhan Singh Deo attended the Power Minister's Conference held at Yashobhoomi in New Delhi Tuesday.

Deo presented the state's comprehensive energy transition plan. He was joined by the Energy department principal secretary Vishal Kumar Dev.

In his address, Singh Deo highlighted Odisha's pioneering role in power sector reforms and its commitment to advancing India's green energy agenda through modernised infrastructure and innovative approaches.

He said that Odisha's success in implementing Public-Private Partnership (PPP) models in power distribution has led to improved operational and financial performance across all four of the state's Distribution Companies (DISCOMs).

Three of these DISCOMs-TPCODL, TPWODL, and TPNODL—are now ranked among the top 10 in the country, according to ratings by the Ministry of Power, positioning Odisha as a national leader in power sector reform, he added.

Deo also provided an update on the State's Revamped Distribution Sector Scheme (RDSS) proposal, a Rs 3,069 crore project designed to build disaster-resilient infrastructure, which is currently under



review by the Government of

Discussing consumer rights and solar power initiatives, the Deputy Chief Minister underscored Odisha's proactive adoption of the Electricity (Rights of Consumers) Rules, 2020, and its work under the PM-Suryaghar scheme, aimed at making roof top solar installations more affordable for households. Odisha is considering providing state financial assistance to make the scheme accessible to more citizens.

In terms of power generation capacity, Deo outlined that Odisha currently sources 8,856 MW of power and has set an ambitious target of reaching 15,603 MW by 2030, with over half of this capacity expected to come from renewable sources. As part of this shift, the state aims to develop 10,000 MW of renewable energy capacity by the end of the decade.

Energy storage also remains a priority for Odisha, with plans to build over 10,000 MW of pumped storage plants (PSP). Singh Deo appealed to the Central government to provide financial support for these PSP projects on par with Battery Energy Storage Systems (BESS), which would enhance their financial viability.

Furthermore, Deo urged the Central government to support Odisha's efforts in developing the Green Energy Corridor Phase III to connect renewable energy projects to the national grid. He also highlighted the need for expedited forest clearances for key transmission projects to ensure a consistent power supply across the state.

With a clear commitment to sustainable energy, Odisha is poised to reduce its reliance on fossil fuels and increase the share of renewables in its energy mix.

The state's forward-looking approach, combining sectoral reforms, robust infrastructure, and strategic investments. underscores its vital role in India's transition to a low-carbon future, ensuring affordable, reliable, and clean energy for

### **Govt urged to stop eco** retreat at Pentha beach

POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar, Nov 12: Environmental activist Alaya Samantaray Tuesday urged the state government to stop eco retreat programme at Pentha beach in Kendrapara citing threats to Olive Ridley sea turtles.

In a letter to the regional office of Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEFCC), Samantaray requested the state authorities not to continue with the eco retreat programme at kanika Wildlife Sanctuary.

He said the beach is getting polluted as a result of eco-tourism activities which also cause environmental hazards in the area. "Human activities are posing a threat to the habitat and nesting sites of these turtles. Besides, they are also getting caught in shrimp nets," he said.

Samantaray also mentioned that Pentha beach is one of the nesting sites of Olive Ridley sea turtles and the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) puts them in endangered species category.

In view of these facts, he said the eco retreat programmes should be stopped as they are prohibited in view of the restrictions under Wildlife Protection Act 1972.



### **TAKE HOME RATION CONCLAVE**

## Malnutrition-free Odisha our priority: Deputy CM Parida



POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar, Nov 12: Making Odisha free from malnutrition is the government's priority, said Deputy Chief Minister Pravati Parida at a state-level Take Home Ration (THR) conclave here Tuesday. The event was organised by the department of Women and Child Development (W&CD), in collaboration with UNICEF.

Parida lauded the Central government for its support in implementing 'Poshan Abhiyaan' and other nutrition interventions in the state. She also emphasised the need for strengthening the existing systems and bringing about transformation in the nutrition supplements provided under THR for the beneficiaries in the state.

The Deputy Chief Minister stressed upon the need to rezero malnutrition in the state "Discussion among various stakeholders on the best practices options for Take Home Rations and production would help the state to refine and mod ify its existing strategy for nutrition," she added.

Chief Secretary Manoj Ahuja also joined the programme and opined that 'Malnutrition free Odisha' is the major goal to achieve for 'Odisha Vision - 2047'. "We must work in mis sion mode with timebound manners to eradicate malnutrition," he added.

W&CD principal secretary Subha Sarma said that the programme was organised to learn from state specific nutrition interventions, different types of THR produced, THR production models, value ad dition to the existing THR and best practices adopted in the respective states.

## ACRM on coastal security held



Bhubaneswar, Nov 12: The 6th Apex Committee Review Meeting (ACRM) on Coastal Security was held here Monday. The ACRM was convened to conduct an annual review of Odisha's coastal security framework, assess progress on previously identified issues, and address emerging security concerns. Discussions included a comprehensive evaluation of developments and progress achieved since the last review. focusing on enhancing maritime safety and operational preparedness.

The meeting was co-chaired by Vice Admiral Rajesh Pendharkar, Commander-in-Chief, Eastern Naval Command and Chief Secretary Manoj Ahuja.

During the meeting, officials

identified key challenges faced in the maritime domain and deliberated on future measures. emphasising collaborative solutions to improve coastal security and strengthen resilience

against potential threats. Key representatives from various agencies attended the meeting, including officials from the Indian Navy, led by the Naval Officer-in-Charge (NOIC) Odisha, along with senior officials from the state government, the Indian Coast Guard, and representatives from Dhamra, Paradip and Gopalpur Ports.

Additional participants included officials from the Subsidiary Intelligence Bureau (SIB). the Integrated Test Range (ITR) Balasore, and departments of

## KIMS installs 3D digital mammography machine

POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar, Nov 12: As part care and treatment to patients, Kalinga Institute of Medica Sciences (KIMS) has installed Odisha's first 3D Digital mammography machine, featuring an integrated Stereotactic Biopsy System here recently.

Unveiled by the KIIT and KISS founder Achyuta Samanta, the state-of-art technology is set to transform breast cancer diag nosis in the region by enabling early and accurate detection.

Samanta expressed his happiness in the technological leap, emphasising its potential to save lives by providing the people of state with access to

early breast cancer diagnosis. The new addition, known for its high-resolution imaging capabilities and minimal radiation exposure, offers dual-mode tomosynthesis, an innovative method of capturing breast tissue images from multiple



tures, significantly enhancing diagnostic accuracy. A key highlight of the machine is its flat-panel detector,

which facilitates quick, lowdose examinations to minimise patient exposure to X-rays.

One of the standout features of the system is the Image-based Spectrum Conversion (ISC) technology, which enhances image contrast to improve the clarity of dense breast tissue. This will be particularly beneficial for patients with higher breast density, as it ensures more accurate screenings and reduces the risk of

missed diagnoses. Additionally, the tomosynthesis iterative super-resolution (ISR) method applied in this system further optimises image quality while significantly reducing the re quired X-ray dosage.

For added precision, the intelligent automatic exposure control (AEC) technology adjusts the X-ray dose based on individual breast types, ensuring a customised, safer diagnostic experience. The machine is also equipped with breast density measurement software, which assesses and displays density categories, providing clinicians with valuable information for risk assessment and follow-up care.

### **CRUT now on ONDC**

POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar, Nov 12: The Capital Region Urban Trans port (CRUT) is now registered as a digital ticketing seller on the Open Network for Digital Commerce (ONDC) platform.

The move marks a significant milestone in CRUT's ongo ing commitment to innovation and improving the commuting experience for passengers. The first ticket was generated in the presence of Housing and Urban Development principal secretary Usha Padhee, CRUT managing director N Thirumala Naik and ONDC senior

integration with ONDC will enable CRUT to expand its reach and provide enhanced digital solutions, making public transport more accessible and user-friendly.

vice-president Nitin Nair.

an official said. CRUT aims to simplify ticket purchases, reduce friction for commuters, and provide real-time solutions for urban

transportation needs, he added Chalo Mobility Private Ltd is the first buyer on the platform This advancement allows pas sengers to conveniently purchase bus tickets through any ONDC-compliant app, expanding ticketing options beyond the Mo Bus app.

As CRUT continues to expand its digital offerings, it remains dedicated to enhancing the commuter experience, driv ing innovation and fostering collaboration in India's urban mobility landscape.



## ECoR to enhance electrification infra for train operations

POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar, Nov 12: The East Coast Railway (ECoR) is all set to enhance its electrification infrastructure with the introduction of the 2×25 KV Overhead Electrification (OHE) systems across several key railway sections in its jurisdiction, said an official Tuesday.

The move aims at improving voltage regulation, facilitating smoother operations for semihigh-speed trains, and enabling the increased movement of

heavily-loaded goods trains. In line with the Railway Board's target of achieving 3000

MT loading capacity and to sup-

port the introduction of highspeed trains, the existing 1X25 KV OHE system will be upgraded to the more robust 2X25 KV system. This upgrade is crucial to meet the increased load demands and ensure the maintenance of a proper voltage level

throughout the network. ECoR sources stated that the 2X25 KV system works by distributing the voltage along the line at a higher level (50 KV) and feeding the train at 25 KV. This is achieved by providing power from Traction Sub-stations (TSS) using 50 KV transformers, with intermediate autotransformers supplying 25 KV power to the rolling stock.



This system ensures improved voltage regulation, extending from the TSS to the farthest end of the sectioning and paralleling posts (SP). In addition to providing enhanced voltage stability, the upgraded system can support the growing traction load, ensuring the smooth running of both semihigh-speed passenger trains

and heavy freight trains.

As part of thes initiative, ECoR has planned to convert the existing 1X25 KV OHE system to the 2X25 KV system in the Bhadrak-Khurda Road, Palasa-Vizianagaram, Cuttack-Paradeep, Cuttack-Talcher-Angul and Vizianagaram-Rayagada railway sections.

The 2X25 KV system upgrade work is being carried out by the Construction Organisation of ECoR. Tenders for the execution of the system in the Cuttack-Paradeep and Cuttack-Talcher sections have already been invited, with the tender opening scheduled for December 2024. The project is expected to be completed by March 2027, the officials said. The upgrade is also aligned

with ECoR's commitment to sustainability and green energy. The transition to the 2X25 KV OHE system will contribute to reducing the railway network's dependence on fossil fuels by promoting electric-pow-

This significant infrastructure enhancement is expected to play a crucial role in boosting both passenger and freight operations across the railway network, ensuring the ECoR remains at the forefront of railway electrification and operational efficiency in India.

## 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-986134148

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-Cookieman-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.

# Scam, delays mar Rengali left canal work

Jaipur, Nov 12: Substandard work, delays and wrong recommendations in land acquisition, and irregularities in compensation payments have marred the progress of the left canal work under Rengali multipurpose irrigation project on Brahmani river, leaving the local farmers in dire straits.

According to Water Resources department reports, as of August, about ₹1,260 crore had been spent on the canal works. However, soil work is pegged at 56.28 per cent, concrete work 74.61 per cent, canal lining work 45.75 per cent, and packing work 66.40 per cent, while the remaining work has been pending. The delays have left local farmers worried.

The left canal was originally intended to cover 39,416 hectares of land across 71.313 km to 123.550 km, but departmental reports said only about 900 hectares have been irrigated



along certain stretches of the canal have led to water seepage issues, triggering discontent among the farming community. Conceived in 1980s with funding from Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA), Rengali project aimed at addressing flood control.

generation of hydropower,

and irrigation, with a budget of

₹2,255.30 crore, of which JICA

contributed ₹1,787.30 crore. The

project was scheduled to com-

plete within eight years - from 2015-16 to 2022-23 - but current progress suggests otherwise.

The department had previously set the target of completing the project by July 2024, but land acquisition issues and disputes over forest land acquisition are proving to be significant bottlenecks on its

The construction of the left canal spanning over 141km has been taken up by consultancy firms like Biraja Constructions, DD Builders, GVV Constructions and Durga Constructions.

It is alleged that necessary construction materials are not being utilised as per project estimates.

Meanwhile, the department has clarified that seepage of water is taking place as the canal construction has been taken up in areas having deposits of laterite stones.

In a separate investigation by the Water Resources department, three land acquisition officials and a staffer were found to have misappropriated ₹1.22 crore meant for farmers' compensation. These officials,

Departmental action initiated against four persons

Only 45.75% of canal lining

irrigation dim

including the land acquisition officer and a staff member Dambarudhar Pradhan, Giriia Bhushan Pradhan, Prafulla Kumar Mohapatra, and Bholeshwar Sahu - have since been suspended by the additional secretary of the department. Further disciplinary action has been directed against them.

Rengali dam Chief Engineer SJ Jali said about 155 acres of private land are yet to be acquired due to lack of land acquisition officers, and the government has been informed, asserting that no negligence is involved in executing the



MARITIME FEST: An artisan making a thermocol boat at Sarmara village under Bant block in Bhadrak district ahead of Kartik Purnima, a festival reminding ancient maritime traditions, Tuesday

## Jajpur postmaster flees with depositors' money

Jajpur, Nov 12: A postmaster in Jajpur district is absconding after allegedly misappropriating around ₹50 lakh of depositors' money, an official said.

Postmaster of Kuanalo post office, Kodanadhara Boitai allegedly siphoned off around ₹50 lakh from the savings account of more than 50 depositors who had deposited their money in the post office and has been absconding since October 23, the official said Monday. The depositors gheraoed the

Assistant Superintendent of post offices in Jajpur town Monday, demanding their money back. The forgery came to light

when a woman depositor came

to Kuanalo post office to with-

draw money from her account. 'The postmaster had collected passbooks of many depositors including me on the plea of entry of quarterly interest in the passbooks in September. The passbooks have been with him since then. When I came to withdraw money from my account, he asked me to come after two days on the plea that all passbooks have been sent to the Jajpur head Post office for interest calculation," said Sabi-

Jajpur Postal Division Assistant Superintendent Harisankar Subudhi said that the deposited money has been siphoned off by the postmaster over the last cou-

### **Elephant tramples** elderly man to death

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Rourkela, Nov 12: A 75-yearold man was trampled to death by a wild elephant in Sundargarh district Tuesday morning, police said.

The deceased, identified as Sudhu Badaik, was out to relieve himself when the lone elephant attacked him, they said.

The incident happened near Hamirpur on the outskirts of the Steel City, they added. The elephant had been separated from its herd, Forest

department officials said. The man's body was sent for post-mortem, police said.

The elderly man might not have noticed the elephant as there was dense fog in the morning, they said.

## 2 killed in separate road mishaps



POST NEWS NETWORK

Baripada, Nov 12: Two persons were killed in separate road accidents under Kuliana and Suliapada police stations in Mayurbhani district Tuesday.

In one incident, a biker was killed after a pick-up van hit him on National Highway 18, near Kuchei under Kuliana police limits. The deceased was identified as Sanjay Nayak, son of Gajendra Nayak, a resident of Nadhabani under Chandua

According to sources, the incident took place when Sanjay

was on his way to his in-laws house for taking stock of the "Shraddha" ceremony of his father-in-law who had died four days ago. Angry locals staged a road blockade following the incident. On being informed, Kuliana police reached the spot, pacified the agitators and cleared the road blockade.

In another incident, a motorcyclist was killed in a road mishap at Khetrapatna near Deuli under Suliapada police limits. The deceased was identified as Sambhunath Singh, son of Baidhar Singh, a resident of Dantuni of Bireswarpur panchayat under Badasahi police limits. Some villagers spotted his body lying in a farmland and informed police. On being informed, Badasahi police reached the spot and started an investigation.

### KHADI AND VILLAGE **INDUSTRIES COMMISSION** Ministry of MSME, Govt. of India

Plot No.J-16, Bhimpur, Gandamunda, Khandagiri, Bhubaneswar-751030 Tel: (0674) 2351131, E-Mail: directorkvicbbsr@gmail.com

No.:SO/KVIC/Legal/PA/2024-25 Dated:12.11.2024

### **ENGAGEMENT OF PANEL OF ADVOCATE**

Applications are invited from Advocates having 10 years practice in Civil, Criminal and Labour/Services matters etc. in any Court/Tribunal for inclusion of their names in the panel of Advocates to be constituted for rendering legal opinion and contesting cases in various Courts/Tribunals for and on behalf of the Khadi & Village Industries Commission, State Office, Bhubaneswar (Odisha)-751030. Complete application in Form I, which may be collected from State Office, KVIC, Bhubaneswar should reach the State Director in the address mentioned on or before 10.12.2024. Selection will be made through a Screening Committee and the decision of the Committee shall be final and binding. Khadi & Village Industries Commission, State Office, Bhubaneswar (Odisha) reserves the right to accept or reject any application without assigning the reason thereof.

Sd./- State Director

## India test-fires cruise missile

New Delhi, Nov 12: India Tuesday successfully carried out the maiden flight-test of a Long Range Land Attack Cruise Missile (LRLACM) from an integrated test range off Odisha

Defence Ministry said all sub-systems of the missile system performed as per expectation and met the primary mission objectives.

It said the missile followed the desired path using way point navigation and demonstrated its capability to perform various manoeuvres while flying at various altitudes and speeds. The missile is also equipped with

advanced avionics and software to ensure better and reliable perfor-"The Defence Research and De-

velopment Organisation (DRDO) conducted the maiden flight-test of Long Range Land Attack Cruise Missile from the integrated test range Chandipur off the coast of Odisha from a mobile articulated launcher,' the ministry said.

It said the missile performance



was monitored by several range sensors like radar, electro optical tracking system and telemetry deployed at different locations to ensure complete coverage of the flight path.

LRLACM has been developed by the Aeronautical Development Es-

Call for solution as traders exploit tribals

ratories and Indian industries. Bharat Dynamics Limited, Hy-

derabad and Bharat Electronics Limited. Bangalore are the two development-cum-production-partners for LRLACM and they are engaged in the missile development and in-

scientists from various DRDO laboratories along with the representatives from the three Services, the users of the system.

project.

complimented DRDO, armed forces. and the industry on the successful maiden flight test.

programmes, he said.

tablishment, Bangalore along with contribution from other DRDO labo-

The test was witnessed by senior

LRLACM is a Defence Acquisition Council-approved mission mode

It is configured to launch from ground using mobile articulated launcher and also from frontline ships using universal vertical launch module system, officials

Defence Minister Rajnath Singh

It paves the way for future indigenous cruise missile development

### Bank of India Zonal Office: Bhubaneswar Zone, 1/1D, Star House, Javadev

Vihar, Nayapalli, Bhubaneswar-751015, Ph.: 0674-2362249

E-AUCTION

Where as the Bank acting through its Authorised Officer in exercise of its powers under-Section 13(4) of Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act 2002 (SARFAESI) has decided to put up for E-auction of the following properties "As is where is", "As is what is" and "Whatever there is" basis for realization of the

BRANCH / Name & Address of the Borrower / Co-Borrower/ Co-Applicants/Guarantors / Total Dues

**BHUBANESWAR BRANCH & MAHANADI VIHAR** BRANCH (NOW THE BELOW ACCOUNTS ARE TRANSFERRED TO ASSET RECOVERY BRANCH,

(For Cash Credit, Term Loan, WCDL & WCTL) Borrower M/s. Meera Creation, Prop.: Mr. Jiban Jyoti Barik / Guarantors: 1) Late Sumitra Barik, W/o.: Late Chitta Ranjan Barik, 2) Suchitra Barik, D/o.: Late Chitta Ranjan Barik, All are At: Plot No.: 267/B, Chitta Nivas, Nuapada, Balisahi, Borrower: Mr. Jiban Jyoti Barik / Co-Applicant: Mrs. Subhashree Behera, Both are At: Plot No.: 267/B, Chitta Nivas, Nuapada, Balisahi, Madhupatna, Cuttack - 753010, 3) (For Loan 2) Land & Building over Khata No.: 614/39, Plot Against Property) Borrower: Mr. Jiban Jyoti Barik / Co-Applicants: 1) Late Sumitra Barik, W/o.: Late Chitta Ranjan Mouza: Nuapada, PS: Cuttack Sadar, SRO/Tahasil Barik, 2) Suchitra Barik, D/o.: Late Chitta Ranjan Barik, All are At: Plot No.: 267/B, Chitta Nivas, Nuapada, Balisahi, Late Sumitra Barik, W/o.: Late Chitta Ranjan Barik Madhupatna, Cuttack - 753010 / Total Dues: ₹3,24,24,768.63 Bounded by North: Suchitra Mandal, South: Kailash + interest, costs and expenses, less any part amount repaid.

GOPALPUR BRANCH, PH.: 9007488999

Borrower: Mr. Sukanta Charan Sethy (Borrower of Home Loan), S/o: Late Santilata Sethy / Guarantor: Mr. Basanta Kumar Sethy(Guarantor of Home Loan) & Legal Heirs of Late Santilata Sethy (Mortgagor of Home Loan) are: 1) Mr. Sukanta Charan Sethy, 2) Mr. Basanta Kumar Sethy, 3) Mr. Bisanta Charan Sethy, 4) Mr. Hemant Kumar Sethy, 5) Mamita Sethy, 6) Miss Meghana Priyadarshini Sethy (Grand Daughter of Late Santilata Sethy), 7) Mr. Soumya Ranjan Sethy (Grandson of Late Santilata Sethy), At

Elamapur, PO.: Ramakrishnapur, PS.: Salipur, Dist.: Cuttack / Total Dues: ₹22,80,927.13 as on 29.11.2022 nterest, costs and expenses from 30.11.2022, less any part amount repaid. TANGI BRANCH, PH.: 8327793415 Borrower: Mrs. Bandana Swain, At: Jasorajpur, PO. Samsarpur, Dist.: Cuttack, PIN-754023 / Total Dues:

₹17,61,964.40 + interest, costs and expenses, less any part

VSS NAGAR BRANCH, PH.: 8249758170

Borrower: Tarique Ahemad Khan, S/o.: Late Liyakat Alli Khan At: Renchkhelar, Nimapara, Dist.: Puri, PIN - 752114 / Total Dues: ₹9,33,802.80 + interest, costs and expenses, less any part amount repaid. Road, West: Rest part of Plot No.: 17, North: Mouza Renchsasan, South: Rest part of Plot No.: 17

NAYAGARH BRANCH, PH.: 7873098116 / Borrower: Mr. Gunanidhi Dakua, S/o.: Sri Narayan Dakua

Co-Borrower: Mr. Rakesh Kumar Dakua, S/o.: Mr. Gunanidhi Dakua / Guarantor: Mr. Purna Chandra Mohapatra, S/o.:

Dakua, Bounded by North: Village Road, South
Mr. Rakesh Mohaptra, All are At: Balikudia, PO.: Barapalli, Dist.:

Own, East: Kirtan Muduli, West: Akura Pradhan Nayagarh, PIN-752070 / Total Dues: ₹11,44,188.72 + interest, costs and expenses, less any part amount repaid.

**Description of the Properties** EMD / Bid ncrement Amoun 1) Vacant Land situated at Mouza: Adalia, Thana ₹1.11.45.000/-Cuttack Sadar, Tahasil: Cuttack. Dist.: Cuttack (excluding Pertaining to 1) Khata No.: 686/392, Plot No. GST & other 1290, Area: Ac.0.07 Dec. & Plot No.: 1287, Area: statutory dues) Ac.0.07 Dec., Kissam: Gharabari, Standing in the

Barik & Mrs. Suchitra Barik, 2) Khata No.: 686/ ₹11,14,500/-934, Plot No.: 1291, Area: Ac.0.01Dec., Kissam

tatutory dues)

₹21,80,200/- /

₹ 50,000/-

(excluding

GST & other

statutory dues)

₹1,23,500/-

₹ 10,000/-

₹65,90,000/-

(excluding

GST & other

statutory dues)

₹6,59,000/-/

Gharabari, Standing in the name of Mr. Jiban Jyoti ₹ 50.000/-Barik, Total 2 Khata & 3 Plot, Total Area: Ac.0.15 Madhupatna, Cuttack - 753010, 2) (For Personal Loan) Dec., Plot No.: 1290, 1287 & 1291 is Bounded by East: Plot No. 1286 & 1288, West: Road, North: Plot No.:1290(P) & 1288, South

Plot No.:1291(P) & 1282 ₹2,18,02,000/-No.: 1088/2628, Area: Ac.0.12 Dec. i.e. 5227 Sq.ft (excluding GST & other

Cuttack, Dist.: Cuttack, Standing in the name o Choudhary, East: Gunanidhi Pasayat, West: Road All that part and parcel of Residential Plot situated over Khata No.: 355/78, Plot No.: 810, Area Ac.0.135 Dec. i.e. 5880.60 sqft., Kissam: Gharabar

at Mouza: Elamapur, SRO: Salipur, Tahasil Salipur, Tahasil No.: 451, P.S.: Salipur, Dist. Cuttack-754200, Standing in the name of Late Santilata Sethy, Bounded by North: Road, South Plot No.: 812, East: Plot No.: 811, West: Road.

All that part and parcel of Land & Building situated over Khata No.: 815/89, Plot No.: 820/2257, Area: Ac.0.060 Dec. i.e 2613.6 Sqft., Kissam: Gharabar at Mouza: Kaitha, P.S.: Mahanga, SRO: Mahanga Tahasil: Mahanga, Dist.: Cuttack-754023, Standing in the name of Mrs. Bandana Swain, Bounded by

North: Gopinath Swain, South: Road, East: Batakrushna Rout, West: Pitambar Swain. All that part and parcel of Residential Sheds situated over Khata No.: 255/189, Plot No.: 17/880, Area Ac. 0.030 Dec. i.e 1307 sqft., Mouza: Renchkhelar P.S.: Nimapara (48), Tahasil: Nimapara, Dist.: Puri Odisha, Standing in the name of Tarique Ahemad

Khan, S/o: Late Liyakat Alli Khan, Bounded by East Land & Building over Khata No.: 257/153, Plot No 13, Area: Ac.0.07 Dec. i.e. 3049 Sqft, Mouza Balikudia, P.S.: Itamati, SRO/Tahasil: Nayagarh Dist.: Nayagarh, in the name of Mr. Gunanidh

₹ 50,000/-₹5,37,000/-(excluding GST & other tatutory dues) ₹53,700/-/ ₹ 10,000/-₹11,67,000/-(excluding GST & other statutory dues)

₹1.16.700/-/

₹ 10,000/-

Date & Time of E-Auction: 09.12.2024 From 11.00 A.M. to 5.00 P.M. with unlimited extension of 10 (Ten) minutes each

Last Date & Time for submission of EMD & Documents: 09.12.2024 upto 4.00 P.M.

Inspection will be provided to the prospective bidders on any working day before 07.12.2024 with prior appointment of the authorised officer

The sale shall be subject to the terms and conditions and provisions prescribed in the SARFAESI Act 2002 read with the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules 2002. This is also a 15 days sale notice to the Borrower(s)/Guarantor(s)/Mortgagor(s) of the aforesaid loan account for settlement

of their outstanding dues with the Bank and to participate in the public auction on the above mentioned date. For detailed terms and conditions of the sale, please refer to the link provided in https://ebkray.in/eauction-psb/home

Place: Bhubaneswar, Date: 13.11.2024 Authorised Officer, Bank of India

ers due to administrative apathy, said the reports. The forest dwellers are facing numerous problems due to lack of proper arrangements to

Keonjhar, Nov 12: Lack of a prop-

er marketing policy and a support

mechanism to protect the livelihood

of tribals who sell minor forest pro-

duce has left them vulnerable to ex-

ploitation by middlemen and traders

in this town, according to reports.

Forest dwellers of this district are

falling prey to exploitation by trad-

POST NEWS NETWORK



Banspal block collect/produce forest goods like tooth sticks, leaves, fruits, honey and medicinal herbs, which they bring to different places in Keonihar town for sale. After selling their products, they return home with money and purchase essential items like oil, salt and clothes. Some forest dwellers come to the weekly markets only Sundays, while others

They either travel alone or in groups - a daily sight in the town.

come every two or three days.

These tribals primarily rely on buses, jeeps, and auto-rickshaws to travel. These products are high in demand as they come from natural and organic sources.

Customers making a beeline to purchase these goods is a daily morning sight here. However, these tribals often fall prey to traders' de-Buvers, too, incur losses as they

end up purchasing these goods from traders at higher prices. This sometimes leads to disputes between tribals, traders, and buyers. Since the administration has not taken any steps to protect tribals from such exploitation, the problem continues

To stop this, former MLA Subarna Nayak has urged the administration to take appropriate measures. Ramakanta Swain, principal of

Shuakati Pateshwar Plus II College, suggested that setting up independent spaces for tribals to sell their products in town, providing rest areas and drinking water facilities and establishing creches for their children could help them escape exploitation.

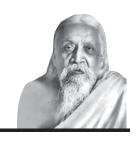






Sin and virtue are a game of resistance we play with God in His efforts to draw us towards perfection.





## **Profession & Religion**

rala government's suspension of two IAS officers - Kerala Inevidence of how deep communal poison has infected the country's body politic. What causes alarm is that religion, as famously articulated by Karl Marx, turns out to be the opium not simply of the masses, as a section of the highly educated class in the country too appears to be not immune to this addiction. Last year, top scientists of the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) unabashedly displayed their blind religious faith mixing it with the pursuit of science promoted by the government flouting the Constitution in which there is no place for

Gopalakrishnan, a 2013-batch officer, has courted controversy this month following the formation of a WhatsApp group called "Mallu Hindu Officers." Prasanth, a 2007-batch officer, caused a commotion during the past three days making multiple posts in the social media against another IAS officer, Additional Chief Secretary A Jayathilak, calling him a reporter of a well known newspaper for articles critical

The Kerala government took the punitive action based on reports from Chief Secretary Sarada Muraleedharan. The Revenue Minister K Rajan made it clear that the government would "not allow officials to act as they feel" and that they are bound to "work as per norms

The controversy snowballed after the "Mallu Hindu Officers" group was formed 30 October adding the names of several senior IAS officers, who were Hindoo, as its members. However, it was deleted within hours of its creation as several officers vehemently questioned the propriety of such a group. Days later, Gopalakrishnan filed a police complaint claiming that the group was created after his phone was hacked and that several other groups, including one called "Mallu

However, it appears such a plea was Gopalakrishnan's after thought. For, the order suspending him said that a police investigation revealed there was "no evidence indicating that the device was hacked" as had been claimed. It is also revealed that repeated 'factory reset' of the mobile phone was done by Gopalakrishnan himself before submitting his phones for forensic examination. This technique is used to delete the existing data of a mobile in its entirety. The report shows the

the WhatsApp group "was intended to foment division, sow disunity and break the solidarity within the cadres of the All India Services in the state." It was also prima facie found to be creating communal formations and alignments within the cadres of the All India Services

This is indeed a damning report and confirms what is long been believed that communal parties have been trying to invade the state apparatus through indoctrination of the police and administrative cadres so as to take political control through them. Nothing can be more dangerous for the country since an administration biased towards any one religious faith not only runs counter to the country's laws and Constitution, but is capable of doing gross injustice to the populace owing allegiance to different religious faiths and practices. Today some may favour Hindoos but when real trouble starts the same mindset could veer elsewhere, in support of some other beliefs. Historically, it has always been observed that internal sabotage alone had been responsible for the defeat of Indian kings in wars against outsiders. Unfortunately, there existed no minorities to blame at those

including chairman S Somanath, visited Hindoo temples before the launch of the Chandrayaan-3 mission. Religious dogma is anathema to scientific temper. That is what the nation deserves and desires. A former ISRO chairman G Madhavan Nair even went to the length of justifying the scientists' action by distorting Albert Einstein's belief in God. Nair said that even great scientists such as Einstein were of the view that there is something beyond the visible universe and referred to it as God or creator. However, Einstein said: "I believe in exists, not in a God who concerns himself with the fates and actions

The Kerala episode needs to be understood well. The attitude and

### WISDOM CORNER

Treat those who are good with goodness, and also treat those who are not good with goodness. Thus goodness is attained.

Security is mostly a superstition. It does not exist in nature, nor do the children of men as a whole experience it. Avoiding danger is no safer in the long run than outright exposure. Life is either a daring adventure, or nothing.

If you are the kind of person who is waiting for the 'right' thing all the traffic lights to be green for five miles before starting

dustries and Commerce Director K Gopalakrishnan and Agriculture Department Special Secretary N Prasanth - is yet another any particular religion regarded as a person's private article of faith.

of him appearing in it.

Muslim Officers," had also been created.

officer in a sinister light.

The government order on the suspension shows it is of the view that in the state.

The country had been in the eye of a storm when ISRO scientists, Spinoza's God who reveals himself in the orderly harmony of what

actions of those bureaucrats needs to be dealt with firmly and in an exemplary manner so as to ensure the sanctity of the Constitution and prevent government officers – bureaucrats or scientists – from mixing religion with public service for which they get their salaries with the money provided by the country's tax-payers who are of every caste, religion and creed.

Be honest to those who are honest, and be also honest to those who are not honest. Thus honesty is attained.

to happen, you might wait for a long time. It's like waiting for

## FOCUS CLIMATE ACTION

# GO BEYOND GDP

he first part of this piece proposed the following. Three decades of COP meetings have been unable to bring down global carbon emissions because of our entrenched belief that human well-being is predicated on raising GDP. Since an increase in GDP under present conditions of historic inequalities cannot happen without increasing GHG emissions alongside, it ought to be no surprise that global efforts for thirty long years have failed to bring down emissions, even though humanity is at the edge of the precipice of a grave ecological and climate catastrophe. The simple point being made is that to confront climate change with any sincerity, we are first required to call the bluff on GDP being the marker

of human well-being. To be fair, the critique of GDP is not new. Its many shortcomings are common knowledge. We all know it counts good things - and bad. So, while increase in production adds to GDP, so does the clean-up of dirty air and water! It omits important activities like what mothers do to sustain the household, and what people do for each other in the community, because these transactions are not happening via the market. It considers nature to be a mere exploitable resource. Perhaps the most misleading feature of GDP is that it is a measure of averages - so when we talk of per capita GDP (income per person in the country) it obscures how this income is distributed. Sample this for a 'misleading measure' check: the per capita GDP in India today is roughly Rs 1,84,000 per year. This implies that the average household in India, which has five members, has an annual income of Rs 920,000 per year, or Rs 76,666 per month. The reality is that 80% of Indian households earn less than Rs 20,000 per month!



Let a truer measure of societal well-being than GDP arise organically from our villages, towns, and cities. Our only hope of combating climate change rests on this reset

In other words, per capita GDP hides the appalling inequality across the world today.

But even if these accounting and statistical flaws of GDP were eliminated, we need to realise it will still not measure human well-being even remotely. We humans are multidimensional beings. We have a diverse set of needs all of which are critical. Just as a healthy heart is of little use in a body where the liver is giving way or where the kidneys function only at 50%, GDP is a most inadequate and misleading measure of human well-being. All of us seek a prosperous, fulfilling, meaningful life. So, any societal vision and design that cannot provide the opportunity for such a life for all its members is doomed from the start. A good life entails basics like food, shelter, sanitation. It means affordable healthcare and education to enable the body and the mind. It then involves offering each of us work through which we can meaningfully contribute, and feel a sense of belonging, dignity and self-worth — and not just some meaningless employment that merely ensures bodily survival! We need healthy relationships and a sense of community. We need clean air and water, non-toxic food, stable climate and an environment in which all species thrive

and sustain. We need leisure, and time to ponder. We need to have political voice — a say in affairs that matter to us. All

this is necessary. Yes, the 21st century world is very complex. So complex, that any serious thinker could rightly come to the conclusion that we really have no handles to manoeuvre or change it. However, the only way out is to ask fundamental questions, approach things from first principles. That could be our only hope for both truth and simplification. We have to ask, 'What comprises human well-being? Because what purpose are democratic governments meant to serve other than ensuring the well-being of societies that elect them. GDP could at best be a means to those ends. It cannot be an end in itself. We need to replace the 'single, objective, quantifiable' number of GDP with a dashboard of metrics that give a true picture of how society is faring on each of the aforementioned components of a prosperous, fulfilling, meaningful life.

Fortunately, academicians have not lacked in asking these questions. The 'Beyond GDP' project has been underway for decades — not just in theory but also as experiments here and there. From the GNH of Bhutan, to the GPI of the ecological economists, to Kate Raworth's 'Doughnut', measures abound. We in India could draw from these, but design one that works best for our context. And in our case. not only do we need to monitor well-being across various dimensions that matter in human life, we need to collect and report the data at a level at least as small as a district. This would help us understand and respond to the specific needs and constraints at the grassroots level of the polity. Let a truer measure of societal well-being than GDP arise organically from our villages, towns, and cities. Our only hope of combating climate change rests on this reset.

India has over 30 million students at the undergraduate and postgraduate levels. Imagine a biennial exercise where a tenth of them, in groups of 10, along with a teacher spends a month of their summer break in a village, or an equivalent urban agglomeration collecting data on this multi-dimensional measure of well-being. We could easily sample upto 25% of the country in every round. What an exposure to ground realities, of voluntary national service, of character and nation-building, and lowcost, honest, accurate data collection it could be!

Such a revamp will also earn us kudos from top notch Systems thinkers. For Systems theory tells us that for changing large and complex systems, we need to identify leverage points. A leverage point is where a small shift in something causes large, desired changes in the overall system. Changing the goal of a system is amongst the top two or three known leverage points to date. Let's get the goal of our society and economy right. Climate balance, and much else will follow suit.

Praveen Singh is an independent researcher on socio-economic and political issues. Aseem Shrivastava teaches ecosophy.

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IN JEST THIS

Aseem Shrivastava

**CLIMATE** 

**TO CONFRONT** 

**CHANGE WITH** 

**WE ARE FIRST** 

TO CALL THE

**BLUFF ON GDP** 

**REQUIRED** 

**BEING THE** 

**HUMAN** 

**MARKER OF** 

**WELL-BEING** 

ANY SINCERITY,

## Moving abroad? Here's an immigration guide



Melvin Durai

THE LAST **TIME TRUMP** OCCUPIED THE WHITE HOUSE, **NUMEROUS** TRAVEL PLANS WERE AFFECTED

TO THE EDITOR

are most welcome to contribute letters

requested to send their contact

address/email ID. They may also send in their valuable comments, opinion and

suggestions, preferably by email, to:

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Readers of Orissa Post

(100 words), articles and

words). Contributors are

numbers and full postal

columns (between 600-1000)

onald Trump is head-House, having defeated Kamala Harris in the US presidential election. The last time Trump occupied the White House, numerous travel plans were affected. America became a less attractive destination for students and skilled workers from India and else-

Canada and Australia were perhaps the top beneficiaries of Trump's xenophobic rhetoric. They attracted many Indian students who decided to avoid America and any obstacles that the Trump administration would erect for them.

Some Americans joined the throng of people visiting immigration websites for Canada, Australia, Germany and other countries. Australia was particularly attractive, as they wanted to move as far away from Trump as possible.

When Trump lost in 2020, some of these Americans returned home. But now that he has somehow managed to get re-elected, a number of Americans are once again trying to emigrate. This is understandpeople move to America and other countries to get away from Trump-like figures in their home countries.

I've moved around quite a bit in my life, so I know how challenging immigration can be. Is it worth the trouble? Only if you lack opportunities or freedom in your home country. The grass may be greener on the other side, but you might also have to cut it vourself.

If you're eager to move to another country, you'll be glad to know that there are many countries around the world that welcome skilled immigrants. Here are just some of them and a few of their immigration requirements:

You must be of good character and declare all recorded offenses, such as fraud, sexual assault and insurrections.

Your occupation must be on a list of eligible occupations, such as accountant, clinical psychologist, and rugby player.

You must be able to tell the and a kangaroo

### United Kingdom

You must be fluent in English, with a vocabulary that includes basic words such as "blimey," "chuffed" and "knackered."

You must not use the word "soccer." It's called football

You must have a job offer with a decent salary, so you can afford to share an apartment with five other immigrants

### Canada

You get extra points in our points-based immigration system if you are bilingual in English and French. No extra points for English and Punjabi until 2035.

You get maximum points if you are under the age of 30. and much fewer points above 45. But you can compensate for this by being bilingual and showing a willingness to settle in Nunavut and live in an igloo.

Having a graduate degree gets you extra points. But points are subtracted if University

### Spain

If you are a manager at a big company or a researcher at a university, you can apply for a Highly Skilled Visa. If you have no skills but tons of money, you can apply for a Highly Loaded Visa.

A Non-Lucrative Visa allows you to live in Spain, as long as you have a good source of income, private health insurance, and no sign of Ebola. You must demonstrate the

ability to run away from bulls. Mexico You must be willing to use

the phrase "Señora Presidenta" (Madame President). Mexico welcomes retirees

who are receiving at least \$1,620 per month (Rs 1.3 lakh) from their pension, Social Security or rich uncle.

You must not blame any of yo ur economic struggles on Mexicans. If any blame needs to be made, please point your finger at AGE (Americans, Guatemalans, and Ecuadorians).

### THIS DAY IN HISTORY

- 1850: Robert Louis Stevenson—the Scottish essayist, poet, and author of fiction and travel books who was best known for his novels Treasure Island (1881), Kidnapped (1886), The Strange Case of Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde (1886), and The Master of Ballantrae (1889)—was born.
- 1916: During World War I a costly four-month Allied offensive against German positions along the Somme River ended.
- 1918: Egyptian patriot Saad Zaghloul formed Al-Wafd al-Mi r (Arabic: "Egyptian Delegation"), the nationalist political party that was instrumental in gaining Egyptian independence from
- 1940: The animated film Fantasia had its first public screening, and it became one of Disney's more controversial works. derided for its portentousness and praised for its stunning visual virtuosity.

### Growth paradox

Sir, India's economic growth presents a paradox, as it coincides with worrying trends like a decline in rural-urban migration and stagnant rural wages. These developments indicate that economic opportunities may not be reaching all sectors equally. For years, rural-urban migration has signified economic dynamism, but recently, a marked reduction in migrant flows to cities, as evidenced by declining daily train passengers, signals otherwise. The pandemic's disruptions, coupled with government welfare programmes such as MGNREGA, have influenced labour preferences, potentially reducing the need or appeal for rural workers to seek urban employment. A key concern is that urban areas may not be creating sufficient high-quality jobs. Despite economic expansion, the rate of urban job creation may be too low to sustain a steady influx of rural migrants. This trend suggests that economic growth, while evident in GDP figures, is not translating into widespread employment opportunities. Government welfare programmes have improved rural income security, but may unintentionally lessen the incentive to migrate, as people find sufficient support locally. Additionally, the pandemic caused many rural workers to reconsider migration, with health risks and economic instability making urban areas less attractive. Simultaneously, rural wages, particularly when adjusted for inflation, have stagnated, highlighting an underlying economic inequality

Amarjeet Kumar, HAZARIBAGH

### New vision

Sir, After Chandrayaan-3's successful moon landing, some might question why a developing country like India is so keen on sending missions to the moon, given its many political and socio-economic problems. I would argue it is because initiatives like these help articulate a vision that emphasises technological progress and futuristic thinking, helping spur growth and innovation. States without a progressive vision tend to fall into decay. There are many opportunities for us to shift away from our reliance on agricultural commodities and geostrategic rent-seeking but we rarely make use of them. We need to invest more in science and technology if we want to compete and remain relevant in this fast-changing world.

Jubel D'Cruz, MUMBAI



## TWO STATES





# Priyanka faces key test in Wayanad Security agencies conduct mock drill at Chenab bridge

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Wayanad (Kerala), Nov 12: Congress general secretary Priyanka Gandhi Vadra, in her maiden electoral contest in Kerala's Wayanad Lok Sabha bypoll Wednesday, faces a key test -- not only to hold onto the party's stronghold but also to widen the victory margin her brother, Rahul Gandhi, achieved in the last two

The constituency, which Rahul won this year with a victory margin of over 3.5 lakh votes, was vacated by him following his success in the Rae Bareli LS seat also, necessitating a bypoll in Wayanad

During the nearly monthlong, high-voltage campaign, Priyanka has relied heavily on her brother's tenure as Wayanad MP and his popularity in the constituency to boost her prospects, frequently highlighting the "love and affection" he has for the people of Wayanad and how they supported him during challenging

Rahul, who is the Leader of the Opposition in the Lok Sabha, has also joined her at public meetings and roadshows in the constituency on several occasions, urging the people of Wayanad to show her the same support they gave him.

Meanwhile, her rivals, LDF's



Sathyan Mokeri and NDA's Navya Haridas, are hoping that Priyanka's lack of electoral experience will discourage voters from choosing her.

Mokeri has a history of contesting from the Wayanad LS seat in 2014 and reducing the victory margin of then UDF candidate to 20.000.

The LDF and NDA campaign also focused on pointing out that Rahul allegedly rarely

counting of votes will be done November 23.

came to the constituency after

his win from there in 2019 and

that he abandoned them after

his win in 2024. Both political fronts have claimed that Priyanka too will follow in her brother's foot-

The LDF and NDA are also of the view that Rahul won in the general elections held in April as the people thought he would be the next prime minis-

16 candidates vying for support of over 14L voters

A total of 16 candidates, including Congress's Priyanka Gandhi Vadra, CPI's Sathyan Mokeri and BJP's Navya Haridas, are vying for the support of the over 14 lakh voters in the Wayanad Lok Sabha constituency where

a bypoll will be held Wednesday. The constituency, which Congress leader Rahul Gandhi won this year with

also, necessitating a bypoll in Wayanad. While the Congress plans to retain the seat -- considered to be a UDF

the grand old party. The last day of by-election campaigning in the hill constituency saw roadshows Monday

by all three major political fronts, with Rahul showing up in person to garner support for his sister, who is

making her electoral debut. Meanwhile, extensive preparations have been made in the constituency, where

a bypoll was announced by the Election Commission October 15. The Wayanad LS constituency comprises

seven Assembly segments - Mananthavady (ST), Sulthan Bathery (ST), and Kalpetta in Wayanad district;

Thiruvambady in Kozhikode district; and Eranad, Nilambur, and Wandoor in Malappuram district. Several

companies of the Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF) and the Armed police Battalion have been deployed

for election duties in the seven Assembly segments, according to details shared by the respective district

and round-the-clock police patrolling ahead of the polling, which will commence at 7 am Wednesday. The

administrations. Polling will be conducted in over 1,000 booths across the constituency and special security

arrangements have been made at the places where there was a Maoist presence or which are considered to be

trouble-prone, the district administration said. The preparations also include setting up 24-hour control rooms

bastion -- by fielding Rahul's sister Priyanka, the CPI and the BJP are hoping to wrest the hill constituency from

a victory margin of over 3.5 lakh votes, was vacated by him following his success in the Rae Bareli LS seat

ter, which would not be the case this time round.

Priyanka has answered the LDF and BJP's statements questioning her experience by pointing out that she has been active in politics for 35 years, since 1989, when she campaigned for her father, Rajiv Gandhi.

She also said that she would keep coming to Wayanad if she wins from here, till the people tell her not to come there so frequently.

The Congress leader further contended that she was a "fighter" and would fight for the interests of the people of Wayanad on every platform.

The constituency, which Rahul won this year with a victory margin of over 3.5 lakh votes, was vacated by him following his success in the Rae Bareli LS seat also, necessitating a bypoll in Wayanad.

He won the constituency in 2019, with a margin of over 4.3 lakh votes.

Jammu, Nov 12: Multiple security agencies conducted a mock drill at the Chenab Railway Bridge, the world's highest rail bridge and a critical infrastruc ture of the country, in Jammu and Kashmir's Reasi district Tuesday, an official said.

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Spanning over 1.3 kilome tres, the bridge is a vital link in the 111-km stretch from Katra to Banihal, which forms part of the Udhampur-Srinagar-Baramulla section of the Kashmir Railway project, officials said.

'The district police in Reasi, along with various security agencies, successfully conduct ed a full-scale mock drill at the Chenab Railway Bridge in Kouri, lasting over two hours," a police officer said.

Seven security agencies participated in the drill, including the Police, Special Operations Group (SOG), Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF), General Railway Police (GRP), Railway Protection Force (RPF) State Disaster Response Force

(SDRF), and Village Defence Groups (VDG), the officer added.

Fire and Emergency Services, as well as medical teams, also were a part of the mock drill at Kouri.

The exercise was designed to assess the preparedness of the forces to respond quickly and effectively to potential threats from anti-national elements. "This was a proactive step to safeguard critical infrastructure," the officer said

The Chenab bridge, an engineering marvel, is an arched steel and concrete structure connecting Baramulla to Jammu via the Udhampur-Katra-Qazigund route, with a travel time of approximately six-and-a-half hours, railway officials said.

Standing 35 metres higher than the Eiffel Tower in Paris, the bridge is designed to withstand a blast of up to 40 kg of TNT and an earthquake of magnitude 8 on the Richter scale. It can also endure winds of up to 260 km/h and has an estimated lifespan of 120 years.

Construction of the bridge began in 2002 but was halted in 2008-09 to address safety concerns for rail passengers due to high-velocity winds in the area. The project was completed in 2024. Indian Railways successfully conducted a trial run of an eight-coach MEMU train on the Chenab bridge June 20 this year, paving the way for

in Kashmir. Udhampur-Srinagar-Baramulla Rail Link (US BRL) project, which includes the 48.1-km-long Banihal-San galdan section, was inaugurat ed by Prime Minister Narendra Modi February 20, 2024.

the start of rail services on the

route from Reasi to Baramulla

Phase I of the project, covering the 118-km Qazigund-Baramulla section, was inaugurated in October 2009 under the Con gress-led UPA government Subsequent phases included the inauguration of the 18 km Banihal-Qazigund section in June 2013 and the 25-km Udhampur-Katra section in

# in Shopian village



The bench of NGT Chairperson Justice Prakash Shrivastava said the authorities failed to take remedial measures to ensure the residents of Pahnoo village had access to clean drinking water

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi. Nov 12: The National Green Tribunal (NGT) has pulled up the authorities over over the outbreak of jaundice at a village in the district, and also castigated the Jammu and Kashmir Pollution Control Committee and the Shopian Deputy Commissioner for filing a "casually prepared" report on the matter.

The bench of NGT Chairperson Justice Prakash Shrivastava said the authorities failed to take remedial measures to ensure the residents of Pahnoo village had access to clean drinking water.

It directed the Union Ministry of Health and Family Welfare and the Deputy Commissioner of Shopian to ensure the village had proper sanitation and safe drinking water.

The green body took suo motu cognisance of a news report regarding several children in the village getting jaundice earlier this year ostensibly because of drinking contaminated water. In its order passed November 6, which was uploaded on the tribunal's website Tuesday, the bench, also comprising judicial member Justice Arun Kumar Tyagi and expert member A Senthil Vel. noted the J&KPCC and the Deputy Commissioner of Shopian have filed their re-

ports in the matter. While the district officer initially submitted a report about 21 children being diagnosed with jaundice, he did not disclose the details of the individuals who suffered from the disease from June to August, the bench said.

The tribunal also said the J&KPCC and the district officer filed action taken reports without mentioning other key details. "It is evident from the material on record that reports have been casually prepared."

It said these reports failed to look into several aspects, including what was the source of supplying drinking water in the area, whether any untreated sewage or other pollutant was being discharged in the source, what remedial measures were required and whether the requisite steps had been taken.

Referring to some Supreme Court verdicts, the tribunal said the Right to Life under Article 21 of the Constitution includes the right to enjoyment of pollution-free water. It underlined that a United Nations (UN) General Assembly resolution of July 2010 acknowledged that the right to safe and clean drinking water as well as sanitation were basic human rights necessary for the enjoyment of life.

# NGT slams authorities First seaplane of Kerala takes over jaundice outbreak off from Kochi, lands in Idukki

Kerala plans excellent transport facilities, connecting four international airports, state-of-the-art national highways, hill highways, and upcoming high-speed rail corridors

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Kochi. Nov 12: The first seaplane of the Kerala state, took off from the backwaters here and landed in Mattupetty dam in the hill district of Idukki Monday.

Tourism and Public Works Minister PA Mohamed Riyas flagged off the amphibious aircraft from the Bolgatty Palace Waterdrom in the port city. The Minister also took a short trip on the 17-seater aircraft, along with Industries Minister P Rajeev, General Education Minister V Sivankutty and senior government officials.

Riyas said that with the addi-



tion of seaplane services, it will be possible to reach remote areas of the state in less time and

at a lower cost. Kerala plans excellent transport facilities, connecting four international airports, state-ofthe-art national highways, hill highways, and upcoming highspeed rail corridors, he said.

"Seamless connectivity for tourists arriving at our four international airports to reach hinterland destinations is something everyone wants, Riyas said. The minister further said that the objective of the government is to popularise the seaplane services. "We are trying to make this affordable and accessible to everyone. A detailed plan on this is getting ready." Rivas added.

Mayor M Anilkumar, Aviation Secretary Biju Prabhakar, Tourism Secretary K Biju, Additional Tourism Director P Vishnurai and Kerala Travel Mart Society officials were also present in the function.

A Switzerland-based private company and SpiceJet operate the De Havilland Canada, which arrived here after trial services in Andhra Pradesh and Karnataka. SpiceJet operates the services, while Canadian aircraft manufacturer De Havilland offers engineering expertise and assists with technical and logistical challenges, according to an official

The seaplane service is provided under the Ministry of Civil Aviation (MoCA)'s Regional Connectivity Scheme (RCS)-UDAN. Kerala targets increasing connectivity among its airports, hill stations, and backwaters by offering subsidised fares, it said.

'INDUSTRY 4.0'

## IIIE-2024 to kick off in Kochi with over 300 exhibitors

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Kochi, Nov 12: The India International Industrial Expo 2024 (IIIE-2024), organised by the Kerala State Small Industries Association (KSSIA) and Metro Mart, is set to begin December 13.

The three-day event, which aims to accelerate and promote industrial growth across the state, will be held at the KIN-FRA International Exhibition Centre in Kochi, running until December 15. The Expo will be officially inaugurated December 13 by Kerala Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan, according to a statement from KSSIA Tuesday.

Union Minister of MSME Department, Jitan Ram Manjhi, will inaugurate the closing session December 15.

Supported by the Industries and Commerce Department of Kerala, the MSME Department of India, K-BIP, KINFRA, and Metro Mart, IIIE-2024 will feature more than 300 exhibitors, including some of the leading

will also include participants from international markets. This expo is expected to play a key role in advancing the 'In dustry 4.0' concept in Kerala

machine manufacturers from

Kerala and beyond. The event

providing a significant boost to the state's industrial landscape "This prestigious event will welcome over 10,000 trade visitors, including industry profes sionals, decision-makers, and

potential business collabora tors, creating a dynamic plat form for knowledge exchange networking, and new business ventures," said M A Nizaru deen, state president of KSSIA The expo aims to attract

more investment to Kerala, po sitioning the state as a hub for industry-friendly initiatives, said K P Ramchandran Nair. Chairman of the Expo Organising Committee.

The event will also feature a variety of seminars and product presentations, including sensors, robots, and software, added the release.

## Tourism threatens Himalayan brown bear habitat

The tribunal had noted that according to a study, 75 per cent of the diet of bears in the area comprised human-made garbage dumps including plastic and organic food waste

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, Nov 12: The National Green Tribunal has been informed that tourism activities and tunnelling projects in Kashmir's Sonamarg have negatively impacted the habitat of the Himalayan brown bear. Earlier, while hearing the

issue of the depleting habitat of the Himalavan brown bear because of the several reasons. including the unplanned disposal and treatment of waste in the Sonamarg region, the tribunal sought a response from the Jammu and Kashmir Pollution Control Committee (JKPCC).

The tribunal had noted that according to a study, 75 per cent of the diet of bears in the area comprised human-made garbage dumps including plastic and organic food waste.

In its reply dated November



the few Himalayan stopover for the pilgrims of the Amarnath bear habitats in the Yatra, besides connecting the Union Territories countrypress trust of india (UTs) of Jammu and Kashmir and Ladakh

11, the JKPCC said it had directed the regional director of the pollution control committee in Kashmir to submit a comprehensive report.

Pursuant to its directions, the committee formed a panel to find the status of tourism and its impact on brown bear habitat, besides assessing the quantification and disposal of the food waste in the area, the reply said.

The panel's report, which was annexed to the reply, said Sonamarg was among the few Himalayan bear habitats in the country. It was a key tourist place, serving as a stopover for the pilgrims of the Amarnath Yatra, besides connecting the Union Territories (UTs) of Jam-

mu and Kashmir and Ladakh. "Tourism activities, such as the construction of hotels, guest houses, restaurants, markets, roads and various tunnelling projects, have led to habitat fragmentation and increased human intervention in an area that once entirely served as a habitat for various species of wild animals including the Himalayan Brown Bear," the

Quoting the report, the JK-PCC's reply said between 7-10

report said.

metric tons (MT) per day of solid waste was generated in Sonamarg, which increased to up to 20 MT during the peak season.

Regarding waste management, the reply said, "Huge quantity of solid waste was found dumped around the sol id waste management facility (established by the Sonamarg Development Authority) and piles of untreated solid waste were also found stacked inside the facility without proper disposal arrangements in place for the compost generated.'

It said action would be taken against the authority for violat ing environmental rules.

The reply also recommended fencing the facility, installing a weigh bridge for quantifying the waste, secondary segregation of the waste in the facility and prohibiting open dumping of waste around it.

# national



work together across borders and disciplines to create a safer world P K MISHRA I

### **LAWYER HELD OVER DEATH THREAT TO SRK**

A lawyer from Chhattisgarh's capital Raipur was arrested by the Mumbai police Tuesday over allegations of threatening to kill Bollywood superstar Shah Rukh Khan and demanding Rs 50 lakh last week, an official said







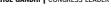
The existing government ruined the state's rich wealth of forest minerals and water

SHIVRAJ SINGH CHOUHAN UNION AGRICULTURE MINISTER

**Prime Minis** ter Narendra Modi has ended terrorism and Naxalism AMIT SHAH JNION HOME MINISTER







### **SHORT TAKES**

### 12 TN fishermen detained by SL navy

Chennai: Twelve fishermen from Tamil Nadu's Nagapattinam district were apprehended by the Sri Lankan navy November 11, allegedly for trespassing and fishing in the island waters, a fisheries department official said Tuesday. Their counterparts in Rameswaram staged a protest in Pamban demanding the Central government's immediate intervention to secure the release of the Nagapattinam fishermen and also others from the state arrested by the Lankan navy.

### **Sitharaman meets** Russian first dy PM

New Delhi: Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman Tuesday met Russianfirst Deputy Prime Minister Denis Manturov and exchanged views on measures to strengthen ties between the two nations. The finance ministry in a post on X said Sitharaman and Manturov discussed issues of bilateral and multilateral interest. "They exchanged views on measures to strengthen financial and economic ties between the two nations,"

### Indian national dies in road accident in Nepal

the ministry said.

Kathmandu: A 32-year-old Indian national died in a road accident in Nepal's Sirarha district, police said Tuesday. Pankaj Kumar, a resident of Madhubani Thana in Bihar, was riding a motorcycle when he met with an accident near the Balan river bridge in Bhagwanpur Rural Municipality Monday night. police said. Pankaj, who sustained injuries, was rushed to a hospital, where he was declared dead, they added,

### **Several shanties** gutted in Kolkata

Kolkata: Several shanties were gutted in a massive blaze in Kalikapur area of Kolkata Tuesday evening, a fire official said. Four fire tenders were deployed to douse the blaze that erupted around 5.15 pm, he said. The fire also spread to adjacent buildings which were partially damaged, the official said.

### **Indore: 42 evacuated** as fire breaks out

Indore: As many as 42 persons were evacuated after a fire broke out on the second floor of a six-storey commercial building here Tuesday night, a civic official said. There was a chaotic situation inside the building, located near Vijay Nagar intersection and housing shops and offices, but the fire was doused in time, he said.



# ED raids in J'khand, Bengal

"Incriminating" items like fake Aadhaar cards, forged passports, illegal arms, immovable property documents, cash, jewellery, printing paper and machines and blank proforma used for forging Aadhaar ID were recovered during the raids carried out at a total of 17 places in the two neighbouring states by the Ranchi office of the federal probe agency

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Ranchi, Nov 12: The Enforcement Directorate Tuesday raided multiple locations in poll-bound Jharkhand apart from West Bengal in a money laundering investigation linked to alleged illegal infiltration of Bangladeshi nationals, official sources said.

"Incriminating" items like fake Aadhaar cards, forged passports, illegal arms, immovable property documents, cash, jewellery, printing paper and machines and blank proforma used for forging Aadhaar ID were recovered during the raids carried out at a total of 17 places in the two neighbouring states by the Ranchi office of the federal probe agency, the federal agency said in a statement. The action came a day before the first phase of polling in Jharkhand.

Visuals of CRPF personnel positioned outside a hotel located on Bariatu Road in Ranchi and a resort in the city were captured by press teams as ED teams scoured for documents, ledger entries and financial records inside. Sources said a few people have been detained and questioned by the ED officials.

The ruling Jharkhand Mukti Morcha (JMM) slammed the BJP-led Centre alleging that the central agency's action was an attempt to "help the saffron camp establish its Bangladeshi infiltration narrative". The Congress, an ally of the government, also made a similar



allegation saying the raids are not for Bangladeshi infiltrators but a last attempt to save BJP's political ground in the state."

The searches came after the ED had in September filed a case under the Prevention of Money Laundering Act (PMLA) to probe an instance of alleged infiltration and trafficking of some Bangladeshi women into Jharkhand leading to the generation of alleged slush

Prime Minister Narendra Modi and other BJP leaders have accused the state government of aiding such infiltration leading to the altering of the demographic landscape of the tribal-dominated areas of Santhal Pargana and Kolhan regions during the recent poll campaign.

Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath Monday accused the ruling JMM-led coalition of converting Jharkhand into a 'dharmashala' for Ro-

hingyas and Bangladeshi infiltrators.Union Home Minister Amit Shah announced in Seraikela Monday that a committee would be formed, if BJP is voted to power in Jharkhand, to identify and drive out infiltra-

claiming land grabbed by them. The first phase of the Assembly polls is slated for 43 constituencies Wednesday, while the second for 38 seats will be held November 20.

tors from the state besides re-

The ECIR (enforcement case information report) filed by the central agency stems from a Jharkhand Police FIR filed at the Bariatu police station (Ranchi) in June.

The police FIR, filed on the complaint of a Bangladeshi woman who allegedly infiltrated into the country from along the India-Bangladesh border with the help of touts to find work, has named around six women as accused who were arrested following a raid at a local resort. The woman who filed the complaint escaped from a similar guest house and reached the police station. Police also recovered a 'fake" Aadhaar card from one of these women.

Police pressed multiple IPC sections like 420 (cheating), 467 (forgery of valuable security), 468 (forgery for purpose of cheating), 471 (using as genuine a forged document) and 34 (common intention) in the FIR.

It also slapped section 12 of the Passport Act (knowingly furnishing any false information or suppressing any material information with a view to obtaining a passport or travel document) and 14A of the Foreigners Act (penalty for entry in restricted area) in the com-

The FIR quoted the woman complainant saying they were trafficked into India from Bangladesh allegedly for prostitution by luring them in the name of getting a job in beauty salons. ED sources had earlier said the agency will investigate the "entire gamut" of infiltration from across the eastern borders, including Bangladesh, into Jharkhand including in the tribal districts of Santhal Pargana and Kolhan.

Prime Minister Modi, while addressing a poll rally a few months ago, accused the Jharkhand government of encouraging Bangladeshi and Rohingya infiltration for vote bank politics and criticised it for "rampant corruption".

KERALA WHATSAPP GROUP CONTROVERSY

# Suspended IAS officers face serious charges



Thiruvananthapuram, Nov 12: The suspension orders issued by the Kerala government against two IAS officers, K Gopalakrishnan and N Prashant, cite violations of service rules and serious indiscipline, alleging that the former's action sowed disunity within the All India Service Cadre, while the latter's conduct undermined the public image of the state's administrative machinery.

Gopalakrishnan was sus pended for creating a religion-based WhatsApp group for government officials, and Prashant faced action for publicly criticising a senior IAS officer on social media.

In the suspension orders issued late Monday night, the government made it clear that the act of both civil service officers amounted to grave indiscipline and violation of various sections of the All India Service Conduct Rules, 1968

The order said that it has come to the notice of the government that a WhatsApp group was created recently, of which Gopalakrishnan, Director of Industries, was stated to be the administrator of the said group. The order, issued by Chief Secretary Sarada Muraleedharan, further stated that a police inquiry revealed that there was no evidence indicat ing that the mobile phone of Gopalakrishnan was hacked, as claimed by the officer.

peated factory reset of the mobile phone was done by the of ficer himself before submitting his phones for forensic exam ination, according to the order It was also prima facie found

It is also revealed that a re

to be creating communal formations and alignments within the cadres of the All India Ser vices, the order added.

Meanwhile, in a separate order placing Agriculture Special Secretary N Prashant under suspension, the gov ernment accused the officer of making "derogatory state ments" on social media against A Jayathilak IAS, Additional Chief Secretary, Finance Department.

As per the order issued by the Chief Secretary, these remarks amount to grave indis cipline and that such remarks undermine the public image of the administrative machinery in the state.

### **WAYANAD BYPOLL**

## LDF accuses Priyanka of 'misusing' religious places

Wayanad (Kerala), Nov 12: With just hours left for the Wayanad Lok Sabha by-poll, CPI(M)-led LDF Tuesday lodged a complaint with the Election Commission (EC) accusing Congress candidate Priyanka Gandhi Vadra of "exploiting religious sentiments to influence voters".

E J Babu, the chief election agent of LDF candidate Sathyan Mokeri, filed the complaint, alleging that Priyanka and her supporters were "using religious priests to conduct public prayers and promote her campaign, thereby exploiting religious sentiments to influence voters.'

"This practice appears to violate the Election Code of Conduct and provisions of the Representation of the People Act, 1951," the complaint stated, urging the EC to launch an immediate investigation into the allegations. The LDF also

called for a cease-and-desist order to prevent Priyanka and her supporters from organising or promoting religiously oriented events for campaign purposes, arguing that such practices undermine the integrity of the electoral process and exert unfair influence on voters.

The complaint demanded strict penalties, including potential disqualification, if violations were confirmed, citing the Model Code of Conduct and the Representation of the People Act.

"I urge the Election Commission and Returning Officer to act swiftly to address these violations to ensure that the election remains free, fair, and secular. This matter requires urgent attention and appropriate action to uphold the integrity of the electoral process. Babu wrote.

The Wayanad by-poll has 16 candidates in the fray, including Mokeri, Privanka, and BJPled NDA's Navya Haridas.



FOR A CAUSE: Senior BJP leader Kirori Lal Meena climbs a water tower to talk with aspirants protesting for the cancellation of the SI recruitment exam in Jaipur

### PM to travel to Brazil next week to attend G20 summit

NEW DELHI: Prime Minister Narendra Modi will travel to Brazil to attend the annual G20 summit and to Nigeria and Guyana as part of a three-nation tour beginning November 16, the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) said Tuesday. Modi's first destination will be Nigeria and it will be the first visit to the resource-rich African country by an Indian Prime Minister in 17 years. From Nigeria, Modi will travel to the Brazilian city of Rio De Janeiro on a two-day trip beginning November 18 to participate in the G20 summit. India is part of the G20 troika along with Brazil and South Africa. The Prime Minister will put forward India's positions on various issues of global importance and build on the outcomes from the G20 New Delhi Leaders' Declaration and Voice of the Global South Summits, the MEA said.

### **PANNUN'S THREAT** Security beefed up around Ram Temple

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Ayodhya, Nov 12: Security was tightened around the Ram Mandir in Ayodhya Tuesday after pro-Khalistan leader Gurpatwant Singh Pannun allegedly issued a video message threatening to attack the temple.

In the purported video, the founder of the banned outfit 'Sikhs for Justice' warned of potential bloodshed at the Ram Temple November 16-17, coin ciding with the 'Ram Vivah festival scheduled for November 18, which Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath is expected to attend.

Following the alleged threat, Avodhva effectively turned into a fortress with the already tight security around the Ram Janmabhoomi complex intensified further, police said.

Armed members of the Anti-Terrorist Squad (ATS) have been deployed at the critical junctures of the temple town, where surveillance has been intensified through CCTV and drone cameras, officials said.

## Draft Bill on IWRM authority circulated among states

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, Nov 12: A draft model Bill proposing to set up an Integrated Water Resources Management (IWRM) Authority which will be responsible for developing water security plans from villages to cities, groundwater management and floodplain management has been circulated among the states, a senior official said Tuesday.

Rakesh Kumar Verma, Additional Secretary, Department of Water Resources, said that to achieve water security as part of the vision for Viksit Bharat, the government has proposed the Integrated Water Resources Management Authority (IWRM) at the state level which

The ministry of Jal Shakti also has a national strategy for accelerating innovation in the water sector

departments and agencies.

"A draft model Bill has been circulated to all the states. This state IWRM authority, under the overall supervision of an IWRM council headed by chief minister, has been vested with various regulatory powers to set the direction of water sector development," he said at the inaugural session of the 10th Water Innovation Summit or-

CII-Triveni Water Institute.

"It will be responsible for developing water security plans from villages and cities to districts and state level, groundwater management, floodplain management and river con-

National Water Data Policy is another significant step in this direction

The ministry of Jal Shakti also has a national strategy for accelerating innovation in the water sector. "This policy

change in the water sector to achieve water security for all. Its mission is to create open collaboration opportunities and enabling platforms for public-private partnership across the water sector to drive innovation," he said.

Verma also said there is a need for achieving better efficiency in the industrial use of water. "About 40 billion cubic metres of water is used in industrial areas of the country. The water use efficiency in Indian industries continues to be much lower as compared to developed countries. There is considerable scope available for improved water use efficiency," he added.

Speaking at the event, Kim-

the integrated water management management strategy in his country.

Lahdevirta stressed on recycling waste water and said India recycles only 30 per cent of its waste-water and that most of the installed sewage treatment plants are not in an

active condition. Nikhil Sawhney, Chairman, CII-Triveni Water Institute, highlighted that by 2050, an estimated four billion people will live in water-stressed areas and 1.6 billion people will be exposed to floods.

He said the Water Institute is a nationally accredited institute for undertaking water audits with a team of over 40 water auditors certified by the Central Groundwater Authority, Ministry of Jal Shakti.

servation zones," Verma said. mo Lahdevirta, Ambassador of will coordinate and integrate efganised by the Confederation aims to make innovation a driv-Finland to India, talked about forts of multiple water-related of Indian Industry (CII) and The official said a new draft ing force for transformational

# national



The clock is ticking and it is imperative for all of us to adopt proactive measures to mitigate the effects of climate change

BHAGWANT MANN | PUNJAB CM

### **BOOSTING TIES**

India and Bangladesh Tuesday decided to enhance cooperation in building infrastructure and operational efficiency at the various land ports and check-posts located along the 4,096-km long shared international border



Maha Cong chief

compares BJP to

'dog', sparks row

rashtra Congress president

Nana Patole's remarks urging

OBC voters to shun the BJP

which he claimed likened the

community to dogs (kutta)

drew sharp condemnation from

Addressing a gathering

Nov 12: Maha-

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

the saffron party.

Akola,

you to take diplomatic efforts to prevent further

to ensure the prompt release of all detained fishermen and their fishing boats

M K STALIN | TAMIL NADU CM

Public funds cannot be wasted for political gain











BJP alliance leader Ajit Pawar says Gautam Adani was present in the meeting where he decided to break MCP and support BJP.

What is Adani doing in political This is a massive allegation.

@RoshanKrRaii

### SHORT TAKES

### 6 students killed in road accident

**Dehradun:** Six students were killed and another was seriously injured when their car collided with a truck here in the early hours of Tuesday, police said. The collision, which reduced the car to a mangled wreck, occurred around 1.30 am at the ONGC Chowk. The car rammed into the truck from behind and the six died on the spot, Circle Officer (City) Neeraj Semwal said. Chief Miniser Pushkar Singh Dhami, who was on a visit to Uttarkashi and Rudraprayag, expressed grief at the loss of lives in the accident.

### Lokayukta raids 9 govt officials

**Bangalore (Karnataka):** The Karnataka Lokayukta conducted raids on nine government officials across various parts of the state Tuesday, officials said. Raids were carried out at 40 locations linked to these officials in several districts, including Belagavi, Haveri, Davangere, Kalaburagi, Mysore, Ramanagara, and Dharwad,

### Four die in mud mound collapse

they added

Kasganj/Agra (UP): Three women and a 10-year-old girl died after a mound of mud fell on them Tuesday morning in Mohanpura area in Kasganj district, police said. The incident occurred around 7 am when they were collecting mud from a ditch dug for the construction of a bridge between Rampur and Kataur

### Class IV student killed as bus hits scooter

Kolkata: A Class IV student by locals. They blocked a road resulting in a major traffic jam in and around the Salt Lake.

## CISF's first all-women reserve battalion sanctioned

New Delhi, Nov 12: A first-ever all-women CISF reserve battalion comprising more than 1,000 personnel has been sanctioned by the Union government keeping in mind the burgeoning duties of the force at airports and other vital installations

Officials told PTI that the unit will be raised from within the sanctioned manpower of the force of about two lakh personnel.

The Union Home Ministry issued a sanction order this

New Delhi, Nov 12: The Con-

gress expressed concern Tues-

day over the high inflation due

to food prices rising beyond the

RBI's tolerance level and took a

dig at the government, saying

in such a situation, all it could

do was exclude food prices

from inflation measurement.

surging to double digits. Veg-

etable prices jumped 42.18

per cent in October. Onions

are now selling in places like

Mumbai at prices as high as ₹80

per kilogram. Retail inflation is

now above the RBI's tolerance

sluggish consumption, luke-

warm investment, stagnant

real wages, and widespread

unemployment. And when

faced with this food price rise,

the government's impulse is on-

ly to exclude food prices from

inflation measurement," Con-

gress general secretary Jairam

Retail inflation breached the

Reserve Bank of India's (RBI)

upper tolerance level, soaring

to a 14-month high of 6.21 per

cent in October mainly on ac-

count of the rising food prices.

Ramesh said in a post on X.

"All this is happening with

ceiling of 6 per cent.

"Food inflation is now



week approving an exclusive women reserve unit in the force with a total strength of

**Cong takes dig at govt** 

over rising food prices

sluggish consumption,

lukewarm investment,

stagnant real wages, and

price rise, the

JAIRAM RAMESH I

CONG GENERAL SECY

widespread unemployment.

And when faced with this food

government's impulse is only

Inflation based on the con-

sumer price index (CPI) was

5.49 per cent in September and

4.87 per cent in the year-ago

month. Retail inflation trended

below the RBI's upper tolerance

band of 6 per cent since Sep-

tember last year. It was at 6.83

The RBI, which mainly fac-

tors in the CPI while arriving at

its bi-monthly monetary policy,

has been tasked by the govern-

ment with ensuring that retail

inflation remains at 4 per cent,

with a margin of 2 per cent on ei-

ther side. According to data re-

leased by the National Statistics

Office (NSO) Tuesday, inflation

in the food basket increased to

10.87 per cent in October, com-

pared to 9.24 per cent in Septem-

per cent in August 2023.

to exclude food prices from

inflation measurement

1,025 personnel led by a senior commandant-rank

ber and 6.61 per cent in October

2023. The Congress has been

critical of the BJP-led Centre

over its failure to control food

The RBI had kept the key

short-term lending rate un-

changed after the last monetary

policy review in October citing

concerns on the inflation front.

ed from selected 1,114 urban

markets and 1,181 villages cov-

ering across the country by the

Aditi Nayar, chief econo-

mist, ICRA the CPI inflation

worryingly soared further to a

14-month high in October 2024,

breaching the upper limit of

the MPC's medium-term target

NSO on a weekly roster.

range of 2-6 per cent.

The price data are collect-

reserve battalions under its establishment at present. As the name suggests, these units are kept in reserve and used as reinforcement when the force gets a new job like temporary duties of conducting elections and permanent tasks of guard ing an installation like the Parliament House complex that came under CISF cover this year, an official said.

The force has a huge women interface at facilities like the 68 civil airports that it guards, the Delhi Metro and historical

and the Red Fort. The force had projected

a requirement of having an all-women reserve battalion which has been recently sanctioned, a home ministry official said. Apart from these installations, the 1969-raised CISF provides a counter-terrorist security cover to a number of facilities in the nuclear and aerospace domain apart from those in the private sector like the Infosys offices in Bengaluru and Pune, Reliance refinery in Jamnagar (Gujarat), among

in Akola West constituency, Patole also said the time had come to treat the BJP like a dog. "I want to ask the people belonging to the OBC community in Akola district, will you vote for the BJP who calls you 'kutta'? Now, the time has come to make the BJP 'kutta'," Patole said, speaking at a meeting in support of Congress candidate Sajid Khan Pathan.

He also accused the BJP of attempting to undermine na tional unity through fear tac tics. Patole's remarks evoked sharp criticism from the BJP with its former MP Kirit Somaiya saying that such comments reflected the Congress party's growing frustration.

"These statements indicate the declining state of the Maha Vikas Aghadi. They are moving from disappointment to dejec tion," Somaiya said. "Sharad Pawar is saying something Uddhav Thackeray is verbally abusing the Election Commission, and now Congress is call ing the BJP a 'kutta' because opinion polls show that Ma hayuti is going to win the elec tions," Somaiya said. The rival

# Air quality 'very poor' for 14th day in Delhi

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, Nov 12: Delhi's air quality remained "very poor' for a 14th consecutive day Tuesday, with an AQI reading of 334, as vehicular emission was the biggest contributor to the city's pollution, accounting for 15.4 per cent. The Air Quality Index (AQI) has been in the "very poor" category since October 30. when it was recorded at 307.

An AQI between zero and 50 is considered "good", 51 and 100 "satisfactory", 101 and 200 "moderate", 201 and 300 "poor", 301 and 400 "very poor", 401 and 450 "severe" and above 450 "severe plus". According to the Centre's Decision Support System for Air Quality Management, vehicular emissions will remain the top contributor to Delhi's pollution over the next two days, with an estimated share of approximately 10 per cent.

The national capital's 24-hour average AQI, recorded at 4 pm every day, stood at 334, down from 354 Monday. Air pollution levels reached the "severe" category at one station in Anand Vihar. Across the country, three stations registered "very poor" air quality, including Delhi, while one station in Bi har's Hajipur recorded the AQI in the "severe" category with a reading of 427. Delhi recorded the fourth-worst air quality in



the country, ranked behind Hajipur, Chandigarh (343) and Patna (340), according to the data.

Meanwhile, the prominent pollutants in Delhi Tuesday were PM10, according to the Central Pollution Board (CPCB). PM10 refers to a particulate

matter that is 10 micrometre or less in diameter.

The sources of PM10 include dust, pollen, mold, vehicle exhaust and industrial emissions, which can cause respiratory problems as they penetrate deep into the lungs, potentially leading to issues such as asthma, bronchitis and other respiratory diseases.

Long-term exposure to it can also increase the risk of heart and lung diseases. Apart from transportation, other contributors to Delhi's pollution include farm fires, though data was not available on the website of the Consortium for Research on Agroecosystem Monitoring and Modeling from Space, which tracks the number of stubble-burning incidents reported each day.

### alliances, Mahayuti and MVA, are in a fierce battle for power in the run-up to the November 20 state Assembly election.

**Taliban appoints** 

acting consul in

Mumbai: Report PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

reported.

New Delhi, Nov 12: The Taliban regime has appointed Ikramuddin Kamil as the acting consul in the Afghan mission in Mumbai, Afghan media has

It is the first such appointment made by the Taliban set up to any Afghan mission in India. There was no immediate comment from the Indian side on the appointment that came

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Afghanistan has announced the appointment of Kamil as the acting consul in Mumbai, the Taliban-controlled Bakhtar News Agency report ed Monday, citing unnamed

"He is currently in Mumbai, where he is fulfilling his duties as a diplomat representing the Islamic Emirate," it said.

The appointment is part of Kabul's efforts to strengthen diplomatic ties with India and enhance its presence abroad, the media outlet said.

Kamil holds a PhD degree in international law and previously served as the deputy director in the department of se curity cooperation and border affairs in the foreign ministry

## **COURT CORNER**

### HC quashes lookout circular against Ashneer Grover, wife

New Delhi: The Delhi High Court has ordered cancellation of a lookout circular (LOC) issued against Ashneer Grover, the former MD of payment app BharatPe, and his wife Madhuri Jain Grover, noting that the FIR lodged against them over allegations of cheating and forgery has already been quashed. Justice Sanjeev Narula passed the order Monday after the court was informed that another bench of the high court guashed the FIR on the same day. The FIR was guashed by Justice Chandra Dhari Singh after considering a plea moved by the Grovers stating that they have arrived at a settlement with the fintech company.

### Excise policy scam: HC asks ED to respond to Kejriwal's plea

New Delhi: The Delhi High Court Tuesday sought response of the Enforcement Directorate on a plea by AAP leader Arvind Kejriwal challenging summons issued to him on the agency's complaint in a money laundering case related to the alleged excise scam. Justice Manoj Kumar Ohri refused to stay the trial in the criminal case and said the trial court's order, which has been challenged by Kejriwal, is two months old and not a fresh order. The high court issued notice to the Enforcement Directorate (ED) on the petition which has challenged the summons issued to the former chief minister of Delhi on the complaint filed by the agency in the case.

## **POLITICKLE** by MANJUL









# No more oral mention, write in for urgent hearing: CJI

The CJI has outlined a citizen-centric agenda for judicial reforms and said ensuring easy access to justice and equal treatment to citizens regardless of their status is the constitutional duty of the judiciary

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, Nov 12: Chief Justice of India Sanjiv Khanna Tuesday said no oral submissions for urgent listing and hearing of cases will be permitted and urged lawyers to either send emails or written letters for it.

Usually lawyers mention their cases before the CJI-led bench at the outset of the day's proceedings for out of turn listings and hearing of cases on grounds of urgency.

'No written or oral mentionings anymore. Only in email or written slip/letters. Just state the reasons for urgency," the CJI said.

The CJI has outlined a citizen-centric agenda for judicial reforms and said ensuring easy access to justice and equal treatment to citizens regardless of their status is the constitutional duty of the judiciary.



Justice Khanna, who was sworn in as the 51st CJI by President Droupadi Murmu at the Rashtrapati Bhavan Monday, expressed deep honour in leading the judiciary, the third pillar of democracy.

"Judiciary is an integral, vet distinct and independent part

of the governance system. The Constitution trusts upon us the role of constitutional guardian, protector of fundamental rights, and responsibility to fulfil the important task of being a service provider of justice," the CJI had said in his first state ment Monday.

He said, "The justice delivery framework in terms of providing equal treatment necessitates fair opportunity to succeed to all, regardless of status, wealth or power, and a just and unbiased adjudication. These mark our core principles.'

"The responsibility entrusted upon us affirms our commitment as protectors of citizens' rights and as dispute resolvers. It is our constitutional duty to ensure easy access to justice to all citizens of our great nation," he said.

Chief Justice Khanna identified pressing challenges facing the judiciary, including the need to reduce case backlogs, make litigation affordable, and simplify complex legal processes.

Recognising that the justice system must cater to all citizens, he outlined a vision to make courts more approachable and user-friendly.

The CJI aimed to adopt a self-evaluative approach which is receptive and responsive to feedback in its working, the apex court said in a statement "Making judgments comprehensible to the citizens and promoting mediation will be a priority." it said.

With a focus on criminal case management, the CJI pledged to prioritise reducing trial durations, adopting a systematic approach, and ensuring that legal procedures are not gruelling for citizens

He also highlighted the importance of promoting mediation to resolve disputes efficiently and provide timely

was killed and two others were injured as their scooter was hit by a speeding bus in Salt Lake near Kolkata Tuesday, police said. The accident. which happened around 11,30 am, sparked a huge protest

# international



We continue to support an expansion in both the permanent and non-permanent categories of membership to a total in the mid-twenties. We want to see permanent African representation, and permanent seats for Brazil, Germany, India and Japan

ARCHIE YOUNG | UK AMBASSADOR TO THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

### **SECRETARY OF STATE NOMINEE**

Foreign policy hardliner and India backer Marco Rubio will be Presidentelect Donald Trump's nominee for the nation's top diplomatic job, according to several media outlets





is surprising to what extent the current generation of European politicians wants into their territory

to drag the (Russia-Ukraine) war

DMITRY MEDVEDEV | FORMER PRESIDENT.

The maximum pressure campaign of Trump has failed, even if people have been burdened by it. What is import-

ant will be actions and not words but we recommend Trump to take into account the failure of his past policies

FATEMEH MOHAJERANI I GOVERNMENT SPOKESPERSON, IRAN





GILBERTO TEODORO | DEFENSE SECRETARY,

### **SHORT TAKES**

### Mauritius Oppn wins country's election

Johannesburg: Mauritius' Opposition coalition has won the country's election by a landslide, taking all seats in the country's Parliament in a major rejection of the current government. According to results released at various constituencies across the country throughout Monday, the governing coalition led by Prime Minister Pravind Jugnauth failed to get any of the 62 seats available for voters to directly decide on. Jagnauth conceded defeat before all results were announced, saying his Militant Socialist Movement coalition was headed for a huge defeat as it became clear that the Opposition was winning in all of the country's 21 constituencies. The Alliance for Change coalition's win will see the return of Navin Ramgoolam as the country's Prime Minister. He served as Prime Minister from 1995 to 2000 and again from 2005 to 2014.

### Bus in Pak plunges into river, kills 16

Peshawar: At least 16 people were killed and one woman was injured Tuesday when a bus carrying wedding guests fell into the Indus river in Pakistan's mountainous Gilgit-Baltistan region, police said. The incident took place at the Diamer district. The bus was travelling from Astore to Punjab's Chakwal district when it fell from the Telchi bridge into the river, the Dawn newspaper reported. Diamer Senior Superintendent of Police Sher Khan confirmed that 16 bodies have been recovered, with search efforts ongoing for the remaining victims. He added that a woman, who was the bride, sustained injuries and was receiving treatment at a hospital. However, rescue officials said that 22 people drowned, while one person

### Houthis attack near vessel in Red Sea

**Dubai:** A suspected attack by Yemen's Houthi rebels saw multiple explosions strike near a vessel travelling through the Red Sea Tuesday, though no damage was immediately reported by the ship, authorities said. The attack comes as the rebels continue their monthslong assault targeting shipping through a waterway that typically sees \$1 trillion in goods pass through it a year over the Israel-Hamas war in the Gaza Strip and Israel's ground offensive in Lebanon.

# **Major pollution emitters ignore COP29**

Earth's biggest polluters aren't sending leaders to UN climate talks in a year of weather extremes

ASSOCIATED PRESS

Baku, Nov 12: World leaders are converging Tuesday at the United Nations annual climate conference in Baku, Azerbaijan although the big names and powerful countries are noticeably absent, unlike past climate talks which had the star power of a soccer World Cup.

But 2024's COP29 climate talks are more like the International Chess Federation world championship, lacking the recognisable names but big on nerd power and strategy. The top leaders of the 13 largest carbon dioxide-polluting countries will not appear. Their nations are responsible for more than 70% of 2023's heat-trapping gases.

"The people who are responsible for this are absent," said Belarus President Aleksandr Lukashenko during his speech at the summit. "How effective are our actions at this meeting, when the President of France, which was the country which was responsible for the Paris is not even here, feels it's not relevant? There's nothing to be proud about."

France isn't the only one. The world's biggest polluters and strongest economies, China and the United States, aren't sending their No. 1s. India and

How effective are our actions at this meeting. when the President of France, which was the country which was responsible for the Paris is not even here, feels it's not relevant? There's nothing to be proud about

ALEKSANDR LUKASHENKO PRESIDENT, BELARUS

Indonesia's heads of state are also not in attendance, meaning the four most populous nations with more than 42% of all the world's population aren't having leaders speak.

'It's symptomatic of the lack of political will to act. There's no sense of urgency," said climate scientist Bill Hare, CEO of Climate Analytics. He said this explains "the absolute mess we're finding ourselves in."

### **LEADERS HIGHLIGHT INEVITABLE** WARMING

The world has witnessed the hottest day, months and year on record "and a master class in climate destruction," United Nations Secretary-General Antonio Guterres told the world leaders who did show up.

But Guterres held out hope, saying, in a veiled reference to Donald Trump's re-election in the United States, that the "clean energy revolution is here. No group,



The world's biggest polluters and strongest economies, China and the US, aren't sending their No. 1s. India and Indonesia's heads of state are also not in attendance

no business, no government can stop it.

United Nations officials said in 2016, when Trump was first elected, there were 180 gigawatts of clean energy and 700,000 electric vehicles in the world. Now there's 600 gigawatts of clean energy and 14 million electric vehicles.

Host Azerbaijan President Ilham Alivev kicked off two scheduled days of world leaders' speeches by lambasting Armenia, western news media, climate activists and critics who highlighted his country's rich oil and gas history and trade. calling them hypocritical since

the United States is the world's biggest oil producer. He said it was "not fair" to call Azerbaijan a "petrostate" because it produces less than 1% of the world's oil and gas.

Oil and gas are "a gift of the God" just like the sun, wind and minerals, Aliyev said. "Countries should not be blamed for having them. And should not be blamed for bringing these resources to the market because the market needs them."

### **UK, SMALLER NATIONS FILL THE**

One of the most notable leaders to make the talks is UK Prime Minister Keir Starmer. He announced an 81% emissions reduction target on 1990 levels by 2035, in line with the Paris Agreement goal to limit warming to 1.5 degrees Celsius above pre-industrial Many climate analysts wel-

comed the announcement. "It sets a strong bar for other countries," said Debbie Hillier, the global climate policy lead of Mercy Corps. Nick Mabey from the climate think-tank E3G said "other nations should follow suit with high-ambition targets."

There's also a strong showing from the leaders of some of the world's most climate-vulnerable countries. Several small island nations presidents and over a dozen leaders from countries across Africa are speaking the twoday World Leaders' Summit.

"Our forebears map the tides with sticks, coconut fronds and shells. It is in our blood to know when a tide is turning. And on climate, the tide is turning today," said Marshall Islands President Hilda Heine. "Time will judge those that fail to make the transition.

United Nations officials downplayed the lack of head of state star power, saying that every country is represented and active in the climate talks.

HINDU TEMPLE IN CANADA CANCELS CONSULAR EVENT PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Ottawa, Nov 12: The Brampton Triveni temple in Canada has cancelled a consular event after the Canadian police warned them of an "extremely high and imminent" threat lev el of violent protests.

The Life Certificate event, organised by the Consulate General of India, Toronto, was scheduled for November 17 at the temple premises. It was part of the consulate's many camps for issuing Life Certificates for pension purposes. On Monday, the temple au-

thorities said the event was cancelled due to "official intelligence from Peel Regional Police, stating that there is an Extremely High and Imminent Threat Level of violent protests" "We must make the appropri-

ate decision to cancel to ensure the safety of Brampton Triveni Mandir devotees, community visitors, and the general pub lic," the temple authorities said in a statement. "We are deeply saddened that

Canadians now feel unsafe coming to Hindu Temples in Canada," it added. Temple authorities called

on Peel Police to address the threats being circulated against the temple and provide security guarantees to the Canadian Hindu community and the general public.

## Iran, Russia link banking systems

The move is part of a raft of sanctions that were imposed on Iran, Russia

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE

Tehran, Nov 12: Iranian bank cards can now be used in Russia, state television reported, as the two countries linked their banking systems in the latest bid to counteract sanctions. Iranian banks have been

excluded since 2018 from the SWIFT international financial messaging service, which governs the vast majority of transactions worldwide.

The move is part of a raft of sanctions that were re-imposed on Iran after the United States withdrew from a landmark 2015 nuclear deal.

The operation was made possible by connecting Iran's interbank network Shetab to its Russian equivalent Mir, the channel said.

Iranians can currently withdraw money in Russia, and will in the future be able to use their cards to pay for in-store purchases, it added.

"The plan is also going to be implemented in other countries that have a wide range of financial and social interactions with Iran, for example Iraq, Afghanistan and Turkey," it said.

Both Iran and Russia have sought to counteract the ef-



fects of sanctions on their economies.

Since the start of Russia's invasion of Ukraine in 2022, Moscow has faced mounting sanctions, and its ties with Tehran have grown closer in parallel.

Ukraine and its Western allies have since the start of the conflict accused Iran of supplying Russia with both drones and missiles for use in the war.

### Blinken heads to Europe

The outgoing Biden administration's top diplomat, Antony Blinken, heads to Brussels Tuesday for talks with European allies concerned that President-elect Donald Trump could abandon Ukraine in its war with Russia.

In his first overseas trip since Trump's November 5 election victory, Secretary of State Blinken will stop in Brussels ahead of scheduled visits to Peru and Brazil later this week, according to an announcement.

### **Ahead of US deadline**

### Israeli army opens Gaza aid crossing

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE

Jerusalem, Nov 12: Israel's army announced the opening Tuesday of an additional aid crossing into Gaza, on the eve of a US-imposed deadline to improve humanitarian conditions for Palestinians in the war-ravaged territory.

commitment to increase the the Gaza Strip, the 'Kissufim' Crossing was opened today, the army said in a joint statement with COGAT, the Israeli defence ministry agency responsible for civilian affairs

"The operation includes the delivery of food, water, medical supplies, and shelter equipment to central and southern Gaza,' the military, COGAT and defence ministry.

"The IDF (Israeli army), through COGAT, will continue to operate in accordance with international law to facilitate and ease the delivery of humanitarian aid to the Gaza Strip."

"As part of the effort and

volume and routes of aid to in the Palestinian territories.

they said, adding it involved

Last month, US Secretary of State Antony Blinken and Defense Secretary Lloyd Austin warned Israel it had until November 13 to improve aid delivery to Gaza or risk the withholding of some military assistance from the United States, Israel's biggest supporter.



Aircraft of the Chinese People's Liberation Army Air Force's Red Falcon aerobatic team perform at the China International Aviation and Aerospace Exhibition, or Airshow China, in Zhuhai, Guangdong province, China

## New York judge delays proceedings

New York, Nov 12: A judge postponed a decision on whether to undo President-elect Donald Trump's conviction in his hush money case, after his lawyers called for freezing and ultimately dismissing the case so he can run the country.

New York Judge Juan M Merchan had been set to rule Tuesday on their earlier request to throw out his conviction because of a US Supreme



Court ruling this summer on presidential immunity. Instead, he told Trump's lawyers Tuesday he'd delay the ruling until November 19.

According to emails filed

in court, Trump lawyer Emil Bove asked for the delay over the weekend, arguing that putting the case on hold and then ending it altogether, is "necessary to avoid unconstitutional impediments to President Trump's ability to govern."

Prosecutors agreed to the

Trump won back the White House a week ago but the legal question concerns the Republican's status as a past President, not an impending one.

# Meta allows military agencies to access its AI software

The decision appears to contravene Meta's own policy which lists a range of prohibited uses for Llama, including 'military, warfare, nuclear industries or applications'

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Sydney, Nov 12: Meta will make its generative artificial intelligence (AI) models available to the United States' government, the tech giant has announced, in a controversial move that raises a moral dilemma for everyone who uses the software.

Meta last week revealed it would make the models, known as Llama, available to government agencies, "including those that are working on defence and national security applications, and private sector partners supporting their

The decision appears to contravene Meta's own policy which lists a range of prohibited uses for Llama, including

"military, warfare, nuclear industries or applications" as well as espionage, terrorism, human trafficking and exploitation or harm to children. Meta's exception also report-

edly applies to similar national security agencies in the United Kingdom, Canada, Australia and New Zealand. The situation highlights the

increasing fragility of open source AI software. It also means users of Facebook, Instagram, WhatsApp and Messenger, some versions of which use Llama, may inadvertently be contributing to military programs around the world.

### What is Llama?

Llama is a collation of large language models, similar to ChatGPT, and large multimodal



models that deal with data other than text, such as audio and im-

Meta, the parent company of Facebook, released Llama in response to OpenAI's ChatGPT. The key difference between the two is that all Llama models are marketed as open source and free to

use. This means anyone can download the source code of a Llama model, and run and modify it themselves (if they have the right hardware). On the other hand, ChatGPT can only be accessed via OpenAI.

The Open Source Initiative, an authority that defines open

source software, recently released a standard setting out what open source AI should entail. The standard outlines "four freedoms" an AI model must grant in order to be classified as open source: Use the system for any purpose and without having to ask for permission, study how the system works and inspect its components, modify the system for any purpose, including to change its output, share the system for others to use with or without modifications, for any purpose.

Meta's Llama fails to meet these requirements. This is because of limitations on commercial use, the prohibited activities that may be deemed harmful or illegal and a lack of transparency about Llama's

Despite this, Meta still describes Llama as open source.

### **INTERSECTION OF TECH**

**INDUSTRY, MILITARY** Meta is not the only commercial technology company branching out to military applications of AI. In the past week Anthropic also announced in is teaming up with Palantir, a data analytics firm and Amazon Web Services to provide US in telligence and defence agencies access to its AI models

Meta has defended its decision to allow US national se curity agencies and defence contractors to use Llama. The company claims these uses are "responsible and ethical" and "support the prosperity and security of the United States".

# Business



We are the only brand which is not having any stocks, because our model is direct to consumer, and we have no stock at dealer partners enabling them to invest in better sales and service facilities

### **NSE INKS PACT WITH ZOMATO**

The National Stock Exchange of India (NSE) Tuesday said it has inked a pact with online food delivery platform Zomato to promote financial literacy and investor awareness programmes among the gig economy workers. This partnership aims to launch an extensive financial literacy and investor awareness drive, specifically designed for Zomato's delivery partners, impacting the lives of over 50,000 gig workers across the country, NSE said in a statement.



**Just look** around. we are living in a world where there is so much change... The

year 2025, for me, is definitely going to be a lot more about technology adoption and more of strategic partnerships

SINDHU GANGADHARAN I NASSCOM CHAIRPERSON

The sluggishness in the investment activity by corporates in traditional sectors such as food and beverages, auto

years is a temporary blip SUNIL MATHUR | MD AND CEO, SIEMENS INDIA

and pharma for the last few

Our automotive booked business is **USD 88 billion** approximate-



growth with stability and

diversification VIVEK CHAAND SEHGAL

### RESULTS CORNER

### Mondelez India net profit up 72%

**New Delhi:** Confectionary maior Mondelez India Foods Pvt Ltd posted a 71.85 per cent increase in profit at ₹2.020.87 crore in FY24, according to the RoC filing from the beverages major. The company's sales (revenue from operations) rose 13.3 per cent to ₹12.746.98 crore in FY24, the filing added. The total consolidated income of Mondelez India Foods, which owns iconic brands such as Cadbury Dairy Milk, 5 Star and Gems, has also climbed 20.7 per cent to ₹13.782.45 crore for the financial year ended on March 31, 2024, as per the financial data accessed through business

### Hvundai PAT declines 16%

New Delhi: Hyundai Motor India Tuesday reported a 16 per cent year-on-year decline in consolidated profit after tax to ₹1,375 crore for the second guarter ended in September 2024, hit by lower sales in the domestic market. The automaker had reported a consolidated profit after tax (PAT) of ₹1.628 crore in the July-September quarter of the last fiscal. Announcing its first quarterly results after listing on stock exchanges, Hyundai Motor India Ltd (HMIL) reported a 7.5 per cent decline in revenue from operations to ₹17,260 crore for the second quarter compared to ₹18.660 crore in

### Bosch net profit falls 46%

the year-ago period.

New Delhi: Auto components firm Bosch Tuesday said its consolidated net profit declined 46 per cent on-year to ₹536 crore in the September 2024 quarter. The company reported a net profit of ₹1,000 crore in the July-September quarter of last fiscal. Revenue from operations increased to ₹4,394 crore in the second quarter as compared with ₹4,130 crore in the year-ago period, Bosch Ltd said in a regulatory filing. "Despite unpredictable rainfall and several macroeconomic industry's overall performance this quarter, we showcased our capacity to adapt to changing market demands and provide high-quality solutions that align with our customers' needs,' Bosch Ltd MD Guruprasad

# **Investors lose over** ₹5 lakh cr in single day

**BSE SENSEX** 

**NOVEMBER 12, 2024** 



PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Mumbai, Nov 12: Benchmark BSE Sensex tumbled by nearly 821 points or more than 1 per cent and broader Nifty plunged below 23,900 level Tuesday due to heavy selling in banking, power and auto shares and sluggish global trends.

+0.16%

AINERS

**(** 

The 30-share Sensex tumbled 820.97 points or 1.03 per cent to settle at 78,675.18 with 25 of its constituents ending lower and five higher. During the day, it plunged 948.31 points or 1.19 per cent to 78,547.84.

Falling for the fourth day running, the NSE Nifty tanked 257.85 points or 1.07 per cent to close at 23,883.45. As many as 46Nifty stocks closed lower and four higher.

Investors' wealth eroded by ₹5.29 lakh crore to ₹437.24 lakh crore (USD 5.18 trillion). From the 30-share Sensex

pack, NTPC, Asian Paints, HD-FC Bank, State Bank of India, Tata Motors, JSW Steel, Maruti and Power Grid were among the major laggards.

On the other hand, Sun Pharma, Infosys and ICICI Bank



were the gainers.

"FII-triggered selling pressure continued to impact the domestic market. The recent strengthening of the dollar, driven by aggressive 'Trumponomics' is adding fears," Vinod Nair, Head of Research, Geojit Financial Services said

Foreign institutional investors offloaded equities worth ₹2,306.88 crore on Monday, while domestic institutional investors infused ₹2,026.63 crore in shares, according to exchange data.

"The markets remained under pressure, shedding over a per cent, extending the ongoing correction phase. Despite an initial uptick, Nifty witnessed sharp swings in the first half before selling pressure in heavyweight stocks shifted the momentum downward.' Ajit Mishra – SVP, Research, Religare Broking Ltd, said.

Analysts said investors also turned cautious ahead of inflation and IIP data which were released after market hours.

Official data released Tuesday showed retail inflation rose to 6.21 per cent in October from

### Rupee hits fresh all-time low

5.49 per cent in the preceding month mainly due to higher food prices, breaching the Reserve Bank of India's (RBI's) upper tolerance level. India's industrial production

growth slowed down to 3.1 per cent in September from 6.4 per cent in September 2023. The BSE smallcap gauge

tanked 1.26 per cent and midcap index declined by 0.98 per cent. Among sectoral indices, pow-

er slumped the most 2.79 per cent, followed by utilities (2.20 per cent), capital goods (2.14 per cent), auto (1.95 per cent), industrials (1.82 per cent) and metal (1.52 per cent).

Realty and Focused IT were the gainers.

A total of 2,742 stocks declined while 1,226 advanced and 93 remained unchanged on the BSE.

Global oil benchmark Brent crude climbed 0.56 per cent to USD 72.23 a barrel.



Factory output rises 3.1% in Sept

New Delhi, Nov 12: India's industrial production expanded by 3.1 per cent in September after recording a contraction in the preceding month, as all three major segments -- mining. manufacturing and power generation -- showed improvement.

However, the growth in the Index of Industrial Production (IIP) during the month was lower than 6.4 per cent registered in September 2023.

The factory output had turned negative in August at (-) 0.1 per cent, mainly on account of floods affecting mining operations in the different parts of the country.

According to the data released by the National Statistics Office (NSO), mining sector output grew by 0.2 per cent, manufacturing production by 3.9 per cent and electricity output by 0.5 per cent in the month of September 2024.

In August, the mining sector output contracted by 4.3 per cent and power generation by 3.7 per cent. The growth in manufacturing too was muted

'The IIP growth rate for the

month of September 2024 is 3.1 per cent which was (-) 0.1 per cent in the month of August 2024," NSO said in a statement. During April-September 2024-25, the IIP growth was 4 per cent lower than 6.2 per cent in the

> As per the use-based classification released by the NSO, the capital goods segment growth decelerated to 2.8 per cent in September 2024 from 8.4 per cent

in the year-ago month. Consumer non-durables output grew by 2 per cent against a growth of 2.7 per cent in September 2023. Consumer durable goods pro-

duction expanded by 6.5 per cent during the reporting month, up from one per cent in September According to the data, infrastructure/construction goods

reported a growth of 3.3 per cent in September 2024, down from a 10.1 per cent expansion in the vear-ago period. The data also showed that the output of primary goods rose by

1.8 per cent as against a growth

of 8 per cent a year earlier. The expansion in the inter-

mediate goods segment was 4.2 per cent. Commenting on the data, Adi-

ti Nayar, chief economist, ICRA

said that the IIP expanded by 3.1

per cent on a year-on-year basis

in September 2024 after declin ing by 0.1 per cent in August 2024, amid a favourable base. The uptick was broad-based with all the use-based segments witnessing an improvement in

their year-on-year growth in September 2024 vis-à-vis August 2024, she said. "Balancing between the posi tive impact of the early onset of

the festive season and an unfavourable base (+11.9 per cent in October 2023), ICRA anticipates the YoY IIP growth to print at ~3.0-4 per cent in October 2024, Navar added. Within the manufacturing

sector, NSO said top three posi tive contributors in September 2024 were - 'Manufacture of coke and refined petroleum products (5.3 per cent), 'Manufacture of basic metals' (2.5 per cent), and 'Manufacture of electrical equipment' (18.7 per cent).

# PSBs show robust performance in H1

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, Nov 12: The finance ministry Tuesday said public sector banks (PSBs) have shown robust performance in the first half of the current fiscal year with a 26 oer cent growth in net profit, increase in business and decline in non-performing assets

The aggregate business of 12 public sector banks (PSBs), including State Bank of India and Punjab National Bank, stood at ₹236.04 lakh crore during the April-September period, registering an 11 per cent year-onvear (YoY) growth.

During the first six months of FY25, credit and deposit portfolio grew 12.9 per cent and 9.5 per cent YoY, and stood at ₹102.29 lakh crore and ₹133.75 lakh crore, respectively.

The operating and net profit during the period was ₹1,50,023 crore (14.4 per cent YoY growth) and ₹85,520 crore (25.6 per cent YoY growth).

The gross and net NPA stood at 3.12 per cent and 0.63 per cent, respectively, in September 2024, declining 108 bps and

34 bps YoY).

In a statement, the finance ministry said banking sector reforms and regular monitoring have addressed many concerns and challenges, and resulted in setting up enhanced systems and processes for credit discipline, recognition and resolution of stressed assets, responsible lending, improved governance, financial inclusion initiatives, technology adoption, etc.

"These measures have led

to a sustained financial health and robustness of the banking sector as a whole, which is reflected in the current performance of the PSBs," the state-

ment added. PSBs have also shown significant progress in adopting new age technologies like AI/cloud/ blockchain, etc., upgrade of existing digital infrastructure, putting in place necessary systems/controls to tackle cyber security risks and taking multiple steps to provide best-in-

**During the first six** months of FY25, credit and deposit portfolio grew 12.9 per cent and 9.5 per cent YoY, and stood at ₹102.29 lakh crore and ₹133.75 lakh crore, respectively

class customer services, it said. The ministry further said major banking reforms such as implementation of enhance access and service excellence (EASE), enactment of Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code (IBC). putting in place a robust governance framework, setting up of National Asset Reconstruction Company Ltd (NARCL). amalgamation of PSBs, among others, were undertaken in the last few years.

The review meetings chaired by Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman also facilitated deliberations on a range of current and emerging issues with the chief executives of PSBs.

## AI-Vistara merger becomes reality

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, Nov 12: Marking a significant consolidation in the fast-growing Indian aviation space, Air India Tuesday completed the Vistara merger to create an integrated airline, partly owned by Singapore Airlines, that will be flying over 1,20,000 passengers daily and connect more than 90 des-

The completion of the much-awaited amalgamation, which was announced in November 2022, comes within six weeks of the integration of Air India Express and AIX Connect. The two mergers have created a full service carrier and a lowcost carrier of scale for the Tata Group, which is seeking to establish a "world class global aviation company with an Indian heart"

Earlier in the day, the nearlv 10-vear-old Vistara -- a joint venture between Tatas and Singapore Airlines -- flew into the sunset and its last flight was from Delhi to Singapore.

As part of the merger, Singapore Airlines (SIA) will invest an additional ₹3,194.5 crore in the enlarged entity

The enlarged Air India will

operate over 5,600 weekly

90 domestic and international destinations with a fleet of 210 aircraft, according to an Air India release. Also, the new entity will fly over 1,20,000 passengers every day and offers an extended

flights, connecting more than

worldwide connectivity to over 800 destinations through more than 75 codeshare and interline partners. It is now the country's larg-

est international carrier and the second-largest domestic

"Post-merger, Air India Group operates a combined fleet of 300 aircraft covering 55 domestic and 48 international destinations, with 312 routes and 8,300 flights per week. The collective staff strength stands at over 30,000," the release said.

## Record-breaking bitcoin surges towards \$90,000 on Trump boost

Singapore/London, Nov 12: Bitcoin rallied to the verge of \$90,000 Tuesday, riding a wave of euphoria since the election of Donald Trump as U.S. president on expectations his administration will be crypto friendly.

The world's biggest cryptocurrency has become one of the most eye-catching movers in the week since the election and touched \$89,982 - a gain of around 30% since Nov. 5. It was

last down 1.4% at \$86,730. Bitcoin is surging along with Elon Musk's automaker Tesla, opens new tab, which is up nearly 40% since voting results rolled in, as investors figure Trump's friends and interests

will do well while he is in office.

think they have a like-minded incoming president," said Alvin Tan, head of Asia FX strategy at RBC Capital Markets. The thing about bitcoin at

the end of the day is that there is no valuation anchor to it, it's hard to get a grip on fair value. So when sentiment is very positive, it does get carried away a lot more than other asset Trump embraced digital

assets during his campaign, promising to make the United States the "crypto capital of the tional stockpile of bitcoin.

planet" and to accumulate a na-It is not clear how or when that could happen but the possibility drove a speculative surge

in crypto mining and trading

stocks

"I think it increases the chances that other nation states buy bitcoin in a bid to front run the US," said Matthew Dibb, chief investment officer at cryptocurrency asset manager Astronaut Capital.

"Additionally I think it would be a crazy catalyst for the U.S. listed bitcoin miners ... given possibilities of such entities getting nationalised." Crypto miner Riot Platforms

jumped nearly 17% on Wall Street Monday. Fellow miners MARA Holdings and CleanSpark leapt nearly 30%. Software company and inves-

tor in bitcoin MicroStrategy announced it had spent about \$2 billion buying bitcoin between Oct. 31 and Nov. 10. Shares rose 26% Monday.

"Obviously (it's) a clear Trump trade as he is so supportive of the industry, and this can only mean more demand both for crypto stocks as well as the currencies themselves," Nick Twidale, chief market analyst at ATFX Global in Sydney, said of the bitcoin rally.

"The fact that bitcoin was trading near all-time highs when the election result came through meant that it had clean sky above.'

The euphoria extended

across the crypto landscape with smaller tokens such as ether and dogecoin surging, although they dipped on Tuesday morning in Europe.

Crypto investors see an end to increased scrutiny under U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission Chair Gary Gens ler whom Trump has said he will replace. Trump also unveiled a new crypto business, World Liberty Financial, in September. 'What we're seeing isn't just

a price milestone; it's a signal that the market is warming to the idea of bitcoin as a more sta ble, even politically favoured, asset," said Justin D'Anethan, head of Asia-Pacific business development at digital assets market maker Keyrock.









factors affecting the automotive

# Deepika goals ensure thrilling win

Indian eves win their 2nd successive match in Asian Champions Trophy with a 3-2 victory over Korea

Rajgir (Bihar), Nov 12: Strik er Deepika converted a penalty stroke three minutes from the final hooter to lead India to a tense 3-2 win over South Korea in the women's Asian Champions Trophy hockey tournament, here Tuesday.

India raced to a 2-0 lead in the first half through goals from Sangita Kumari (3rd) and Deepika (20th, 57th) before Korea mounted a strong comeback in the third quarter and drew parity with goals from Yuri Lee (34th) and skipper Eunbi Cheon (38th).

The match headed for an exciting finish with both teams pushing for that deciding goal and it was Deepika, who scored from the spot to seal India's second consecutive victory in the tournament.

India had defeated Malaysia 1-0 in their tournament-opener Monday. The hosts will next play Thailand Thursday.

The Indian eves started from where they left off Monday and continued to play attacking hockey from the onset. India's dominance can be gauged by the fact that the Koreans didn't have a single shot at the Indian goal in the first two quarters.

India, on the other hand, attacked the Korean defence relentlessly and created chances which resulted in two field goals. However, had they utilised the chances that came their way in the first two quarters, they wouldn't have had to wait till the final minutes of the game for the winning goal.

It didn't take long for the Indians to surge ahead as Sangita scored. Neha Goyal initiated the move and passed the ball to Navneet Kaur, who found Sangita inside the circle. The striker beautifully received the ball. side-stepped her marker and then found the back of the net

POWER-PACKED SHOW: India's Deepika waves at the crowd after scoring the first goal against Korea at Rajgir, Tuesday

with a fine reverse hit.

India kept up the pressure on the Korean defence and their efforts bore fruit when Deepika slammed one home from close range from Beauty Dung Dung's pass from the right flank. A minute later Preeti Dubey's reverse hit was saved by an outstretched right leg of Korean goalkeeper Seoyeon Lee.

In the 24th minute, Sangita came tantalisingly close to scoring her second goal of the day, but her push from a Deepika pass went just wide of the post.

Korea came out all guns blazing after the change of ends and secured back-to-back penalty corners in the 34th minute and

Lee pulled one back for her side from a rebound. They kept on the pressure and earned a penalty stroke which skipper Cheon made no mistake with to level the scores.

Penalty corner conversion continued to haunt the Indians as they failed to make use of the eight set pieces they secured in the match - four consecutively

in the 39th minute.

With the scores level 2-2, India decided to throw numbers upfront and it paid off. India managed to earn a stroke after Navneet was fouled in the circle. Deepika converted it with aplomb by beating the Korean goalkeep er to her left and ensuring

## India eye batting revival against SA

**Important for** Suryakumar, Rinku and Tilak to get runs under their belt

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Centurion, Nov 12: The Indian batting line-up needs to get its mojo back against a resurgent South Africa to regain lost ground on rather unfamiliar SuperSport Park conditions when the two teams clash in the third T20I here Wednesday. Since 2009, India have played only one T20I at this venue, which they lost by six wickets Abhishek

Along with that unfamiliarity factor, India will also grapple with the ordinary form of their batters, particularly when the pitch here is touted to be similar to the one at Ggeber-

struggled against South African pacers upfront and Centurion has similar characteristics. The problem starts from

ha – quick and bouncy. In

the top – more precisely with Abhishek Sharma, whose extended lean run with the bat has now snowballed into a serious concern. He is in desperate need of a good outing here before the management thinks of juggling the combination.

However, senior batters like skipper Suryakumar Yadav, Hardik Pandya and Rinku Singh too cannot absolve themselves of the blame entirely for India's struggles. Both Suryakumar and Rinku have shown only fleeting images of their prowess while Pandya made 39 in the second match but consumed 45 balls for it. These three batters will have to chip in more to support the inform Samson or to carry India

to a strong total even when the

Kerala man has a vapid day. Similarly, pacers Ar shdeep Singh and Sharma's lean Avesh Khan had two patch at the top of contrasting games. the order is a cause for Arshdeep returned with figures of one Indian middle-order has for 25 at Durban, also not been firing but in the second

properly game he went 41 for in his four overs. The left-arm pacer's third and fourth overs which went for 28 the second T20I, India batters runs, made a deep impact on the low-scoring match.

However, the efforts of Varun Chakravarthy, who bagged a maiden fifer in the previous match, and Ravi Bishnoi over the last two matches have been



concern

Skipper Suryakumar Yadav needs to find some form with the bat AP PHOTO

### SHORT TAKES

### **Skeet shooter** Gill bags gold

New Delhi: Young Indian skeet shooter Bhavtegh Singh Gill added a second gold to the country's tally, taking the top-podium finish with superb marksmanship in the **World University Shooting** Championships here Tuesday. The air pistol mixed team of Palak Gulia and Amit Sharma had struck the first gold Sunday Gill shot 58 points in the final to take home the gold. India also won three other bronze medals Simranpreet Kaur Brar finished third in the women's 25 pistol event while, Yashasvi Rathore (women's skeet), and Abhay Singh Sekhon (men's skeet) were the other medal-winners.

### **Blind cricket team** wait for clearance

New Delhi: The Sports Ministry has given NOC, with no cost to the government, to a 17-member Indian cricket team to travel to Pakistan to participate in the T20 World Cup for the Blind, and the side now await clearance from Home and External Affairs ministries. The fourth edition of the tournament in which India are the reigning champions, is scheduled to be played at Lahore and Multan November 22 to December 3. Upon receiving the clearance from the ministries concerned, the squad will travel to Pakistan via the Wagah Border, November 21. The development came in the backdrop of the BCCI informing its Pakistan counterpart that the Men in Blue will not travel to the neighbouring nation for next year's Champions Trophy.

### Jolly, Gayatri beaten

Kumamoto (Japan): The Indian pair of Treesa Jolly and Gayatri Gopichand was knocked out in the opening round of **Kumamoto Masters badminton** tournament after they lost 16-21. 16-21 to Hsu Yin-Hui and Lin Yin-Hui of Chinese Taipei. The match lasted only 36 minutes. This is the first time Yin-Hui and Lin have won against the Indian duo, who still lead the head-to-head contests 2-1. PV Sindhu and Lakshva Sen will start their campaign in singles Wednesday.

## Fit-again Shami to play Ranji Pacer to play for

**Bengal against Madhya Pradesh in the match** starting Wednesday

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Kolkata, Nov 12: Premier India pacer Mohammed Shami will make his much-anticipated return to competitive cricket after a hiatus of 359 days through Bengal's Ranji Trophy match against Madhya Pradesh in Indore from Wednesday, the Cricket Association of Bengal (CAB) said Tuesday.

Shami has been out of action since the 2023 World Cup final November 19 due to an ankle injury and subsequent surgery. He will aim to prove his fitness in a real match situation after undergoing intense rehabilitation at the BCCI Centre of Excellence in Bangalore.

"In a major boost to Indian cricket and the Bengal team, star pacer Mohammad Shami will make a comeback into competitive cricket against Madhya Pradesh in the Ranji Trophy Elite Group C match in Indore starting Wednesday," CAB secretary Naresh Ojha said in a statement.



bowling unit and the Indian think-tank in Australia too will closely follow the pacer's outing. India have opted for a largely untested pace attack for the Border-Gavaskar Trophy with rookies such as Akash Deep, Harshit Rana, Nitish Kumar Reddy and Prasidh Krishna backing senior pros Jasprit Bumrah and Mohammed Sirai.

There was intense speculation surrounding Shami's inclusion in the Indian squad to tour Australia but skipper Rohit Sharma struck down such thoughts saving

he did not prefer taking an 'undercooked' senior pacer Down Under

Shami had played a big role in India's historic 2-1 Test series victory in 2018-19 against Australia, claiming 16 wickets at an average of 26.18.

Shami recently had a onehour net session with Indian bowling coach Morne Morkel where he bowled at full tilt in Bangalore after India's Test against New Zealand. He bowled with a lot of rhythm and pace. Later Shami also said during a promotional event that he was feeling '100 per cent' about his fitness and bowling levels.

## Solid Zverev cruises past faltering Rublev

Turin (Italy), Nov 12: Alexander Zverev began his bid for a third ATP Finals title by beating Andrey Rublev 6-4, 6-4 here late Monday evening. He is in the same group where earlier Carlos Alcaraz lost to Casper Ruud. The top two finishers from each group advance to the semifinals.

Zverev, who won the ATP Finals in 2018 in London and here in 2021, extended his winning streak to six matches following a title run at the Paris Masters. Rublev is making his fifth consecutive appearance at the ATP finals but hasn't won a match at the event since 2022.

Zverev served nine aces and dropped only 10 points on his serve in 10 service games. He was dominant from the baseline, but was quick to advance to the net whenever the opportunity came.

Before the Zverev-Rublev match, Jannik Sinnner received the trophy for finishing the year at No. 1 in the rankings. "There's no place better to celebrate this trophy," Sinner said as his mom, Siglinde,



for finishing the year as World No. 1

### Rohan, Ebden lose

Turin: Rohan Bopanna and his Australian men's doubles partner Matthew Ebden started their ATP Finals campaign on a losing note, suffering a straight-set defeat in a group stage match. Bopanna and Ebden were defeated by the Italian duo of Simone Bolelli and Andrea Vavassori 2-6, 3-6 in just 56 minutes here Monday. The Indo-Australian pair had defeated their opponents in this year's Australian Open final. Bolelli and Vavassori, the fourth seeds. dominated from the outset, and never allowed Bopanna and Ebden to settle down.

looked on in tears. "Thanks for all of your support," added the Italian player.

### 'Perth pitch will have good pace' ASSOCIATED PRESS

Perth, Nov 12: India will be accorded a tough welcome to Australia as the Optus Stadium pitch for the opening Test of the Border-Gavaskar Trophy has been prepared to offer 'good bounce and pace' true to the tra dition of the fiery tracks here.

India will enter the Perth Test, beginning November 22, without playing any practice match as the visitors had cancelled an intra-squad side game that was scheduled to be played behind closed doors November 15 to 17.

"This is Australia, this is Perth... I'm setting ourselves up with a pitch for really good pace, really good bounce and really good carry," Western Australia Cricket head curator Isaac McDonald told 'ES-PNcricinfo'

McDonald is trying to prepare a pitch that has similar traits of the one that he readied for the first Test against Pakistan in December last year. In that match, Pakistan were bundled out for 89 in the second innings.

McDonald also said he is looking to leave some grass on the pitch to make it a bit spicier.

## Odisha face stiff Maha test

POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar, Nov 12: After suffering humiliating losses against Baroda and Mumbai, hosts Odisha will have to put in a lot of effort to turn things around when they face Maharashtra at the Barabati Stadium in Cuttack with the game starting Wednesday. Odisha are currently at a poor seventh position in the eight-team Elite Group A table with just four points to show from their four games. Maharashtra on the other hand, have eight points.

Odisha batters have not been doing well in this year's matches. Except for skipper Govind Poddar who got a hundred against J&K and Sandeep Pattnaik's hundred in a losing cause against Mumbai, none of the other batters have



The Odisha players at the nets Tuesday

shown the consistency that is so required from a team. The batters will certainly have to tighten up if Odisha are to salvage some points from the Maharashtra game.

The Barabati pitch looks like

one which will offer some assistance to the seamers early

## Team for Tripura game announced

POST NEWS NETWORK

Cuttack, Nov 12: The Odisha Cricket Association (OCA) announced Tuesday a 15-member team that will take on Tripura in a match of the Col CK Nayudu Trophy. The game will be played at the cricket stadium in Sundargarh, the OCA said in a release. Basant Mohanty has been named the head coach of the side.

The squad: Sawan Pahariya (Captain and wicket-keeper), Sambit Kumar Sahoo, Subham Naik, Sujal Kr Singh, Om T Munde, Saideep Mohapatra, Surya Mohapatra, Anshuman Bej, Sambit Baral, Ashutosh Chhuria, Vimal Kumar, Ashutosh Marndi, Badal Biswal, Swayam Srivastav and Binayak Sahoo.

## ANAND IN QUARTERFINALS

Bhubaneswar, Nov 12: On a day when star player Ashutosh Padhy made a break of 95, the highest so far in the ongoing 30th All Odisha Billiards and Snooker State Ranking Championships -2024, promising cueist Chetan Anand sealed his maiden quarterfinal spot in the competition here Tuesday. In the pre-quarterfinals, Chetan trounced Rumi Gupta 3-0 in a

one-sided match. In the other matches played on the day, senior Odisha cueist Subrat Das defeated Jiten Sarangi 3-0. Abinash Mohapatra overcame the challenge of Gyana Das 3-1 and Rakesh Roshan Pradhan beat Mishal Swain by an identical margin. In two other matches, Ashutosh defeated Subhasis Sethi 3-0 while Chirag Arora showed the exit door to



**CHETAN ANAND** 

Clifford Vincent 3-0.

The quarterfinals are expected to be keenly-contested with the top players of the state fight ing for honours.

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on every day before easing out

under the sun. The Odisha bat-

ters must bat circumspectly in

the morning session to tackle

the opposition pacers