

OCTOBER 8-14 2023

SUNDAY POST

HERE . NOW



WORLD POST DAY- OCTOBER 9



Reliable & Relevant

COVER STORY

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He works in the insurance industry, but his other interests have earned him recognition in Odisha's art and culture circles. Tapas Ranjan Rout, a multiple award-winning filmmaker, recently had his maiden novel, 'Bidaya Belara Surjya', released to critical appreciation, while his habit of reading and reviewing books online has fetched him as many as three Best Reader awards so far. He's also one of the most sought after names in the business for his photography skills. On a lazy Sunday, the Deputy Manager of a government-owned insurance company enjoys pampering his family with a scrumptious dinner



BIJAY MANDAL, OP

Meditation session

As an early riser, I frequently attend the morning meditation class at the nearby ashram. Meditation is part of my daily checklist as it keeps me going, alive, and energised. It's my way to detoxify stress accumulated over the period.



With author-publisher Subhransu Panda, novelist Pratibha Ray and fiction writer Gayatribala Panda during release of Bidaya Belara Surjya

Passionate photowalker

When I get a break from my office work, I go on a photowalk with other enthusiasts to capture Temple City Bhubaneswar, its scenery, rising sun, temple, birds, flowers, and bugs in all their magnificence. Tan, my five-year-old daughter, now joins me in my leisure activities.

Creative hangout

I don't miss the occasion if there is an invitation for a literary evening, a book release event, a stage play by a friend or favourite director, or a special screening.



With family

Day of introspection

Though Sunday is commonly associated with relaxation, detox, movies, tours, friends, parties, and so on, it is a day for me to meet with myself. I reflect on what went wrong in the week before and how I can be a better version of myself in the future.

Book review

I have a tendency of finishing a book in a week and reviewing it. So, after lunch, I sneaked into my library-computer room to do the job. Sometimes, I also have to host my friends, the majority of whom are involved in literature, theatre or movies.

Pampering family

Sunday is also the day when the family gets my full attention. I often take my wife and daughter to the movies, then to a nice restaurant for dinner. On this day, I let Tan eat anything she wants and pamper her mum to her favourite nonveg treats.

WhatsApp This Week

Only on Sunday POST!

Send in your most interesting WhatsApp messages and memes at: features.orissapost@gmail.com
And we will publish the best ones

THE BEST MEMES OF THIS ISSUE

- What did the little mountain say to the big mountain? Hi Cliff!
- Q: Did you hear about the man with a broken left arm and broken left leg?
A: Don't worry he's "ALRIGHT" now!
- What does a panda ghost eat? Bam-BOO!
- What is an astronaut's favorite key on a keyboard? Space!

EXCITING PROSPECT

Sir, I am very excited to learn that Vishal Bhardwaj, one of the top directors of Hindi film industry, wants finally to join hands with Superstar Shah Rukh Khan for his upcoming project. I believe, it is certainly going to be one of the most memorable movies ever made in history of Indian cinema. Talking about SRK, he has worked with almost all top directors of his time but Vishal. I remember, the two came very close to doing a film. The DDLJ star and Vishal were expected to work together in the adaptation of Chetan Bhagat's novel 2 States. The shooting schedule was also finalised but somehow it didn't happen. This time, I'm quite sure that the viewers will not dishearten as the SRK himself has expressed his desire to work with the Omkara director. I also like to see Tabu, a permanent feature in most of Vishal's movies, to share frames with the Jawaan actor in the movie.

SAMBIT SAHOO, PARADEEP

LETTERS

A WORD FOR READERS

Sunday POST is serving a platter of delectable fare every week, or so we hope. We want readers to interact with us. Feel free to send in your opinions, queries, comments and contributions to features.orissapost@gmail.com
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WORLD POST DAY- OCTOBER 9

Reliable & Relevant

Unlike the sterile text messages and emails that are in vogue today, postal mail preserves a piece of a human's physical presence, be it a signature on a letter or the touch of a loved one on a cherished card

courage people to embrace the art of letter writing. Taking the time to write a heartfelt letter can be a therapeutic and deeply personal experience that strengthens connections with loved ones.

On the other hand, behind every successful postal system are the dedicated postal workers who tirelessly sort, transport, and deliver mail and packages to our doorsteps. So Postal Day is an opportunity to express gratitude to these unsung heroes who work through rain, sleet, snow, and the scorching sun to ensure that our mail reaches us.

Ahead of this, **Sunday POST** takes a look at the history of postal service and speaks to a few India Post officials who explain the relevance of the aged-old service even today.

MADHUSMITA SAHU, OP

In today's fast-paced digital age, where communication happens at the speed of light through emails, text messages, and social media, it's easy to forget the humble origins of our postal system. Yet, it is this very system that has been the cornerstone of communication for centuries, connecting people across vast distances and serving as a bridge between distant hearts. World Post Day, celebrated October 9, is the anniversary of the establishment of the Universal Postal Union established in 1874 in the Swiss Capital, Bern. It was declared World Post Day by the UPU Congress held in Tokyo, Japan in 1969 and is followed by National Postal Day observed October 10 in India. These days are dedicated to recognising and celebrating the vital role of postal services in our lives.

Postal Day is an opportunity to reflect on the power of handwritten letters and to en-

HISTORY

The history of postal services can be traced back to ancient civilizations, including the Roman Empire, where a network of couriers facilitated the exchange of messages and documents. However, it was in the 19th century that the modern postal system began to take shape. In the United States, for example, the Pony Express revolutionised mail delivery by reducing the time it took for letters to cross the country from weeks to just ten days. This marked a significant milestone in the history of postal services.

It serves as a reminder of the journey postal services have undertaken over the centuries, evolving from horse-drawn carriages to high-speed trains, airplanes, and advanced sorting technologies that ensure our mail is delivered with unparalleled efficiency.

SNAILMAIL VS EMAIL

One of the most endearing aspects of the postal service is the personal touch it adds to communication. Handwritten letters, postcards, and packages carry not only messages but also the emotions, thoughts, and sentiments of the sender. Unlike the sterile text messages and emails we send today, postal mail preserves a piece of our physical presence, be it a signature on a letter or the touch of a loved one on a cherished card.



'POSTAL SERVICES CONTINUE TO ADAPT AND THRIVE'

Mrutyunjay Panda, Postmaster of Sailashree Vihar branch of Bhubaneswar, says, "As a postmaster, I have had the privilege of witnessing the dynamic evolution of postal services in the face of the ongoing digital transformation. The advent of the internet and digital communication has undeniably changed the way we communicate, conduct business, and even send and receive mail. While some may view this transformation as a threat to traditional postal services, I believe it presents us with a unique opportunity to adapt, innovate, and thrive in the digital age."



Explaining the importance of postal service, he adds, "Firstly, it is crucial to acknowledge that the core function of postal services, which is the physical delivery of mail and packages, remains essential in today's world. Even with the rise of email, instant messaging, and e-commerce giants, there are parcels and documents that require a physical journey from sender to recipient. So, the role of postmen, which is beyond just delivering letters and packages, will continue to be pivotal."

Expressing optimism about the future of postal service, he concludes, "The ongoing digital transformation is reshaping the landscape of postal services, and the role of postmen is evolving in response to these changes. While the traditional functions of mail delivery remain crucial, postmen are becoming versatile professionals who can provide a wide array of services, leverage technology for efficiency, and contribute to their communities. By embracing these changes and staying ahead of the digital curve, postal services can not only survive but thrive in the digital age. It is an exciting time for the postal industry, and I am optimistic about the future as we continue to adapt and evolve."

'INDIA POST CONNECTS REMOTE AND UNDERSERVED COMMUNITIES'

Retired postmaster Bruhaspati Samal says, "The digital age has undeniably revolutionized the way we communicate."



Emails, instant messaging, and electronic bill payments have become the norm, leading many to question the relevance of traditional postal services. Yet, despite the decline in personal correspondence, the postal service remains essential for various reasons."

"First and foremost, it serves as a vital lifeline for those who still rely on physical mail. From pension cheques to legal documents, many essential items cannot be replaced by digital alternatives. Postal services continue to connect remote and underserved communities, ensuring that all citizens have equal access to communication and essential services," he adds.

"Moreover, the rise of e-commerce has created new opportunities for postal services. Online shopping has increased the volume of packages being delivered, and the role of postmen has evolved to meet this demand. Postmen are now not just letter carriers but also parcel carriers, playing a crucial role in the last-mile delivery process. Their adaptability and familiarity with local communities make them an invaluable asset in the e-commerce ecosystem," says Samal.

"As a retired postmaster with decades of experience in the postal service, in the ongoing digital transformation, postmen have an opportunity to expand their role further. They can serve as ambassadors of community engagement and local support. Post offices can become hubs for various services,

such as government document processing, financial services, and even healthcare outreach. This evolution requires training and upskilling to equip postmen with the necessary skills to take on these additional responsibilities," he further adds.

The retired postmaster concludes, "While



the digital transformation challenges the traditional role of postal services, it also opens up new possibilities for innovation and adaptation. The role of postmen is evolving beyond just delivering letters, and they have a vital part to play in the future of postal services. To ensure the continued relevance and sustainability of the postal sector, it is essential to invest in technology, training, and modernisation while preserving the core values of reliability, accessibility, and community connection that have defined postal services for generations. The future of postal services lies in striking a balance between tradition and innovation, and postmen will be at the forefront of this transformation."

DID YOU KNOW?

- The first post office in India was started by the British East India Company in 1764.
- Mahatma Gandhi was the first person whose picture was depicted on free India's stamp in 1948.
- The highest post office in the world is located at Hikkim in Lahaul district of Himachal Pradesh at an elevation of 15,500 ft.
- World's first official airmail - The flight took off from India February 18, 1911 and covered a distance of 18 km from Allahabad to Naini.
- The Postal Index Number (PIN code) is a six-digit, unique code of post-office numbering. It was introduced August 15, 1972 by Shriram Bhikaji Velankar.
- India has the largest postal network in the world with 1, 54,939 post offices as on March 31, 2015.
- Due to the increase of digital services, Indian Post had terminated two important services - Telegram (in 2013) and Money Order (in 2015).
- India also boasts of the only floating post office in India over the beautiful Dal Lake, Srinagar.
- Located in Dakshin Gangotri, India's first scientific base in Antarctica, this post office first became operational on February 24, 1984. It was established during the third Indian expedition. As many as 10,000 letters were posted and cancelled in this post office in total in the first year of its establishment.



Khushi sees herself in *The Archies'* character



Neha to debut in web series

director and will go on floors in late October. The show explores modern-day human relationships from the perspective of a nuclear family. On the work front, Neha was last seen in *A Thursday*.

IAN S

Rising actress, Khushi Kapoor who was in the spotlight and set social media on fire for attending the iconic Dior Ready to Wear SS24 show at Paris Fashion Week was seen speaking in the most charismatic manner on stage to a live audience earlier.

Opening up about playing the character Betty in her upcoming movie *The Archies*, Khushi affirmed at India Today Conclave 2023 that, "I'd like to think so I mean I think we were casted because I was so much of us that we have in our characters and there's a lot about Betty that I see in myself as well and I think I found that out the more I played her."

Speaking on the best advice she has ever got, she said that, "I think as cliché as it sounds, the best advice I got was to just have fun and I think everyone on set at some point has told me this because I tend to get in my own head a lot."

Talking about *The Archies* helmed by Zoya Akhtar, the film is a coming-of-age musical film. The Netflix original follows the lives of Archie, Betty, Veronica, Jughead, Reggie, Ethel, and Dilton, who will take audiences to the fictional hilly town of Riverdale on December 7, 2023.

AGENCIES



Sanjay recalls his incarceration days



Actress and entrepreneur Neha Dhupia who previously starred in *Lust Stories* is all set to make her mark in the digital space with a quirky comedy about modern-day human relationships.

Neha shared, "I am thrilled to be part of this wonderful project that not only marks my debut in the OTT series space. It's a fun concept and I can't wait to explore a whole new gamut of quirks that the project and script had tied in with it."

The show is being helmed by a debutant

Sanjay Dutt, who is set to be seen in the upcoming adventurous Sculinary show *Star vs Food Survival*, has spoken on serving jail time at the Yerwada jail in Pune.

Talking about the difficult time in his life, the actor said: "The first time I went to jail if you see the photographs outside Thane jail --- Anna (Suniel Shetty), Akshay Kumar, Ajay Devgn, Shah Rukh Khan, everybody came and wished me well. I had no respite from serving jail time, so why overthink it? I had to make up my mind that yes I had to go. I have to face it."

Sharing about how he utilised his time while serving the sentence, Sanjay said: "In six years, I faced it, managed it, made the most out of it, and learned from it. I used that time to learn cooking, scriptures, and working out. I came out with a better physique."

Talking about Bollywood during the 1980s and now, Sanjay said: "There was so much bonding among all of us. We were so together, we worked in so many movies together."

The first episode of *Star vs Food Survival* will air October 9 on Discovery Channel, and discovery+.

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Tamannaah shells fashion goals in Zurich

Tamannaah Bhatia, was recently spotted in Zurich, Switzerland, shelling major fashion goals for her fans.

The actress looked red carpet ready in a beautiful green floral printed dress, while checking out the scenic views of Zurich's Old Town with its guild houses, historic churches, and hidden squares that dot the Limmat River.

She opted for a neutral makeup, messy hair bun, and completed the look with red pointed heels.

Zurich is the perfect destination for globe trotters like Tamannaah that love the convenience of a city surrounded by nature with lakes and mountains close by.

The city is also a capital for gastronomy,

wine and fashion and has many delectable options for vegetarian foodies as well.

Meanwhile, Tamannaah was recently seen in the action comedy film *Jailer*, directed by Nelson Dilipkumar and produced by Kalanithi Maran of Sun Pictures.

The actress next has *Bandra*, and *Vedaa* in the pipeline.

IAN S

The Supercars

In today's automotive landscape, the best-selling cars often hog the limelight. But there are some iconic models that have left an imprint on the industry, racking up astonishing sales figures over the years. From classic legends to modern marvels, these machines are a testament to innovation, design, and connoisseur demand. **Sunday POST** presents a list of highest-selling models of major carmakers from across the globe



Toyota - Corolla (1966-present); units sold: 46mn

By a very large margin, the Toyota Corolla is the world's biggest-selling car, a position it achieved after just eight years in production to unseat the Volkswagen Beetle. So, the Corolla is king and remains the most popular choice in many countries. A long production life and a multitude of bodyshapes also helps its grip on the title and that's resulted in Toyota popping one into the world every 15 seconds. It also helps that the latest generation model that went on sale in 2019 is one of the best hybrids you can currently buy



Opel/Vauxhall - Corsa (1982-present); units sold: 18.6mn

The Corsa name first arrived in 1982 for continental European buyers. In Britain, the car was known as the Nova and sold more than half a million between 1982 and 1993 when the Brits adopted the Corsa name for the second generation of this supermini. From there, sales soared further and it continues to feature in the top three best sellers in many countries across Europe.



Ford - F-Series (1948-present); units sold: 43mn

The post-war USA has been built on the back of the Ford F-Series that comes in all manner of shapes, sizes and guises. It remains the most popular vehicle in the US, routinely outselling more frugal, comfortable passenger cars. What's the appeal? Simple, rugged build allied to a low price and huge loyalty from customers who want, need or just plain like what this pick-up offers. A new generation F-150 was unveiled in 2020.



Lada - Riva (1980-2015); units sold: 18mn

The Lada Riva - also known as the VAZ 2105 and Nova - has had a lengthy life, and it started before that as the Fiat 124, first seen in 1966. Cold War needs on the eastern side of the Iron Curtain demanded a cheap, rugged machine that could deal with poor roads and fuel, and the Riva managed. Don't expect much in the way of comfort or driving dynamics if you take the plunge into ownership as 18 million drivers can be wrong.



Volkswagen - Golf (1974-present); units sold: 35.5mn

Think of Volkswagen's best seller and many will mention the Beetle, but the Golf has long since surpassed its famous ancestor's total of 21.5 million. In 2013, VW built its 30 millionth Golf, which was a 1.6 TDI BlueMotion model. Now past the 35 million marker, this prototypical small hatch is built at a rate of 2000 per day every day of the year. A new generation Mk8 model was unveiled in 2020.



Renault - Clio (1991-present); units sold: 15mn

More than 15 million Clios have found homes. It's been a huge hit for Renault and the Clio is a global success story thanks to various different versions being sold in different markets. That worldwide appeal is what pushes this supermini into the upper reaches of single model car sales. A fifth generation of the car arrived in showrooms in 2019.



Honda - Civic (1972-present); units sold: 20mn

The swoopy, scoopy looks of the present Honda Civic are some way off from the basic hatch that started this multi-million selling dynasty. Yet the Civic has always majored on delivering great value for money, generous specification and engines aimed at good fuel consumption. The Type R models don't worry so much about that latter point, but they've played their part in building the legend of the Civic. Honda recently announced the forthcoming closure of its UK factory at Swindon that builds the Civic; the next generation due in 2021 will be built in Japan and the US only, it seems.



BMW – 3 Series (1975-present); units sold: 13.7mn

The 3 Series has come to define every era its sold through, from funky 1970s saloon through chisel-jawed 1980s saloon, estate and convertible and into the clean-cut noughties. This evolution has been entirely planned, sometimes with bold steps forward and occasionally with gentle revisions. It's kept the 3 Series at the forefront of its class for sales and driver appeal. A new, seventh generation, version hit the show-rooms in 2019.



Hyundai – Elantra (1990-present); units sold: 13.7mn

If asked to name the biggest selling cars in history, the Elantra would most likely be overlooked by all but the keenest Hyundai fan. Part of this cars success has been to appear inoffensive while delivering low-cost, reliable transport. Hyundai still sells the car many know as the i40 but with an Elantra badge so that big number is still rising.



Oldsmobile – Cutlass (1961-1999); units sold: 11.9mn

The Cutlass brings back fond memories for many of its 11.9 million new buyers thanks to the good looks of earlier generations. Later models went on to offer decent performance and good handling, even if the looks became bland. The original 1961 car is also notable for using a certain all-aluminium 3.5-litre V8 that went on to greater fame in a number of Rover and Land Rover vehicles. The Oldsmobile badge died on new cars in April 2004.



Chevrolet – Malibu (1964-present); units sold: 10.3mn

Always aimed at buyers of mid-size cars, the Malibu has been a staple of the US market for six decades and counting, which has helped sales top 10 million. Early on, Chevrolet offered it with performance upgrades to take on the muscle cars of the 1960s, while in later life it has erred more towards economy than speed. The latest version is now offered with hybrid power. With the demise of the Impala, the Malibu is the only saloon Chevrolet now sells in the US.



Mercedes-Benz – C-Class (1994-present); units sold: 10.2mn

The first W202 C-Class was built on the reputation Mercedes had built with the superb 190 range. Aimed at the BMW 3 Series, the C-Class erred more on the side of comfort than out and out handling. It's an approach that worked a treat then and continues to do so today as the small Mercedes' sales are not far behind its Munich rival despite almost 20 years' less time on the market. A new fifth-generation C-Class was unveiled in early 2021.



Peugeot – 206 (1998-2013); units sold: 8.4mn

The 206 brought back some of the pep that had made Peugeot's 205 such a success. Attractive styling and a range of frugal engines were allied to three- and five-door hatch bodies. In time, there followed the CC with its folding metal roof and an estate version. All proved popular and, when European sales ended with the arrival of the 207 in 2006, the 206 carried on for a further seven years thanks to its popularity in China and South America that helped sales nudge beyond 8 million.



Mitsubishi – Lancer (1973-present); units sold: 7.4mn

Who says sex sells? Not Mitsubishi, that's for sure, as the Lancer has only ever raised the pulse in its most extreme rally-bred versions. While those Evo models garner the headlines, it's the mainstream Lancer models that make up the huge majority of its 7.3 million and counting sales. Usually sold in sedan form, there have been hatches and estates, and it carries on its success in China to the present day.



Audi – A4 (1998-present); units sold: 6.9mn

It's hard to imagine the roadscape without the Audi



A4 now, yet it was launched relatively recently compared to its arch rival, the BMW 3 Series. Even so, A4 sales have increased year on year, helped by its reputation for solidity and the option of four-wheel drive.

THE LIST GOES ON...

- MINI – Hatch (1959-present); units sold: 6.4mn
- Skoda – Octavia (1998-present); units sold: 6.3mn
- Fiat – Uno (1983- 1994); units sold: 6.2mn
- SEAT – Ibiza (1984-present); units sold: 6mn
- Buick – Le Sabre (1959-2005); units sold: 6mn
- Kia – Sportage (1993-present); units sold: 6mn
- Suzuki – Wagon R (1993-present); units sold: 5.2mn
- Subaru – Legacy (1988-present); units sold: 4.8mn
- Nissan – Qashqai (2006-present); units sold: 4.2mn
- Mazda – 3 (2003-present); units sold: 4.2mn
- Pontiac – Grand Am (1973-2006); units sold: 4mn
- Hindustan – Ambassador (1958-2014); units sold: 4mn
- Cadillac – de Ville (1959-2005); units sold: 3.9 mn
- Citroën – 2CV (1948-1990); units sold: 3.9 mn
- Plymouth – Fury (1956-1978); units sold: 3.68 mn
- Jeep – Wrangler (1987-present); units sold: 3.2 mn
- Mercury – Grand Marquis (1975-2011); units sold: 2.96 mn
- Lexus – RX (1998-present); units sold: 2.9 mn
- Volvo – 200 (1974-1993); units sold: 2.86 mn
- Dodge – Coronet (1949-1976); units sold: 2.5 mn
- Holden – Commodore (1978-2018); units sold: 2.5 mn
- Lincoln – Town Car (1981-2011); units sold: 2.45 mn
- Saturn – S-Series (1991-2002); units sold: 2.21 mn
- Land Rover – Defender (including Series), 1948-2016; units sold: 2.06 mn
- Smart – Fortwo (1998-present); units sold: 2 mn
- Chrysler – Newport (1961-81); units sold: 1.9 mn
- Lancia – Ypsilon (1996-present); units sold: 1.7 mn
- Saab – 900 (1978-1998); units sold: 1.2 mn
- Porsche – 911 (1963-present); units sold: 1.1 mn
- Alfa Romeo – Alfesud (1972-1989); units sold: 1.02 mn
- Jaguar – XJ (1968-2019); units sold: 1 mn
- Tesla – Model 3 (2018); units sold: 1.4 mn
- MG – MGB (1962-1980); units sold: 513,272
- Triumph – Herald (1959-1970); units sold: 464,238
- Rover – 800 (1986-1999); units sold: 317,126
- Bentley – Continental GT (2003); units sold: 66,000
- Maserati – Biturbo (1981-1994); units sold: 36,373
- Rolls-Royce – Silver Shadow (1965-1980); units sold: 29,030
- Lotus – Elise (1996-present); units sold: 20,000
- Ferrari – 430 (2004-2009); units sold: 17,499
- Lamborghini – Gallardo (2004-2013); units sold: 14,022
- Alpine – A310 (1971-1984); units sold: 11,616
- Morgan – 4/4, (1936-present); units sold: 10,500
- De Tomaso – Pantera (1971-1991); units sold: 7,260
- Aston Martin – DB7 (1994-2004); units sold: 6,640
- TVR – Chimaera (1993-2003); units sold: 6,500
- Bugatti – Type 57 (1934-39); units sold: 685





Ashima