



### Deepika's new life

Deepika Padukone, who is currently relling in the joys of motherhood, shares a playful video for her actor husband Ranveer Singh

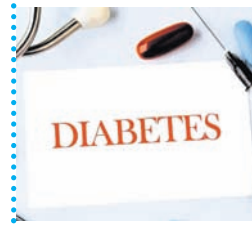
LEISURE | P2



### PM, Netanyahu talk

Prime Minister Narendra Modi speaks to his Israeli counterpart Benjamin Netanyahu on the conflict in Middle East

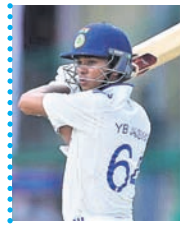
NATIONAL | P8



### China's breakthrough

Chinese scientists claim to have cured a chronic type-1 diabetes patient using cell transplants - the first such case in the world

INTERNATIONAL | P10



### Dominant show

India play a sensational T20-style cricket to take a 52-run first-innings lead against Bangladesh in the second Test

SPORTS | P12



SHOW OF STRENGTH: Tough Tusker INS Kochi, the second indigenous P15A class destroyer, during its 9th anniversary celebration

# Keep Gods out of politics: SC

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, Sept 30: Twelve days after Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister N Chandrababu Naidu made a public statement that Tirupati laddus contained animal fat, the Supreme Court Monday questioned the propriety of Naidu making such statements September 18 when the matter was under investigation, and observed that at least Gods should be kept out of politics. The apex court said the laboratory test report was "not clear at all" and it prima facie indicated that 'rejected ghee' was subjected to test. "It is very clear from the report that this is not the Ghee which has been used. Unless you are sure, how did you go to public with that?" a bench of Justices BR Gavai and KV Viswanathan said. "It is not clear at all and it is prima facie indicating that these were rejected Ghee which were subjected to test. If you yourself have ordered investigation, where is the need to go to the press?" the bench told senior advocate Mukul



Rohatgi, who was appearing for Andhra Pradesh. The SC was hearing a batch of petitions, including those seeking a court-monitored probe into the alleged use of animal fat in making Tirupati laddus. Observing that these pleas pertain to an issue which affects the sentiments of crores of people living in the world, the bench noted the CM had gone in public making a statement that animal fat was being used to make Tirupati laddus under the previous regime. It said according to the state, an FIR was registered September 25 and a special investigation team (SIT) was constituted September 26 to probe the matter. "We are prime facie of the view that when inves-

tigation is under process, it was not appropriate on the part of a higher constitutional functionary to go in public to make a statement which can affect the sentiments of crores of people," it said. The bench asked Solicitor General Tushar Mehta to assist it in deciding whether the investigation by the state-appointed SIT should continue or the probe should be conducted by an independent agency. While posting the matter for hearing October 3, the SC asked the top law officer to ponder over the issue and assist it in this regard.



## SHORT TAKES

### Bharatpur: Judicial panel begins probe

Bhubaneswar: The judicial commission headed by retired High Court judge Chittaranjan Das Monday began its inquiry into the allegations of the torture of an Army officer and sexual assault of his fiancée by the cops at Bharatpur police station here September 15 this year. The commission held its first meeting with DGP YB Khurana, Additional Chief Secretary (Home) Satyabrata Sahu, and Information & Public Relations Secretary Sanjay Singh at the special circuit house here. P3

### Student pushed off hostel building, critical

Bhawaniapatna: A Class XII student of a private school in Kalahandi district was critically injured after allegedly being pushed by some of his classmates from the second floor of a hostel building, police said Monday. The incident at the school, near Jagannathpur on the outskirts of Bhawaniapatna, took place Sunday night. An injured Anshu Bag has been admitted to Bhawaniapatna government hospital where his condition is stated to be stable.

### IRREGULAR by MANJUL



When the govt gave us jobs, I had no idea that the notes will have Anupam Kher's photo instead of Babu

## Dadasaheb Phalke Award for Mithun

AGENCIES

New Delhi, Sept 30: Veteran actor Mithun Chakraborty, star of films like "Mrigayaa", "Surakshaa", "Disco Dancer" and "Dance Dance", was Monday named recipient of the prestigious Dadasaheb Phalke Award, the government's highest recognition in the field of cinema.

The announcement comes months after Chakraborty - the only Indian actor to receive a national award in his debut film - was awarded Padma Bhushan. Chakraborty's memorable role in Mrinal Sen-directed Hindi film 'Mrigayaa' (1976) which gave the actor a nationwide recognition was



based on Odia short story "Shikar" (the Royal Hunt) by Bhagabati Charan Panigrahi. It was in fact Sen's first film made in colour and came 10 years after the celebrated director made an Odia film based on Panigrahi's brother Kalindi Charan Panigrahi's novel 'Matira Manisha'.

## Honour killing rocks Sukinda

POST NEWS NETWORK

Jajpur/Kalinganagar, Sept 30: In a blatant case of honour killing, a youth was allegedly killed by his family members for marrying a girl of another caste in Sukinda area of Jajpur district, a report said Monday. The deceased was identified as Sushilmaya Singh Samanta, son of Debaranjan Singh Samanta. Sushil was working as a security guard in Bangalore and had returned home a few months ago. He had married Bijayalakshmi Sahu, daughter of Nilamani Sahu in Duburi area, following an affair. They have a four-year-old son out their wedlock. Sushil was from upper Kshatriya caste, while Bijayalakshmi belongs to other backward caste (OBC) for which the deceased's family members had driven the couple out of their house after their marriage.

Left with no option, the couple was staying in a rented house in Sukinda. According to his wife, Sushil's family members had taken several lakhs from him but didn't repay. This led to fight between him and his family members. Meanwhile, Sushil required money to go back to Bangalore for which he visited his home and sought the money back. However, he never returned home as his body was spotted floating in a well near his house the next day. His body was recovered by Fire Services personnel September 17. Sukinda police registered a case of unnatural death and sent the body for post-mortem the next day. His wife lodged a complaint of murder with Sukinda police alleging involvement of her husband's parents, his five sisters and a maternal uncle in the case. Investigating officer Madan Mohan Samal said a probe is underway.

## ED books Siddaramaiah in MUDA case

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi/Bangalore, Sept 30: The Enforcement Directorate (ED) Monday booked Karnataka Chief Minister Siddaramaiah and some others in a money-laundering case linked to Mysuru Urban Development Authority (MUDA), taking cognisance of a recent state Lokayukta FIR, official sources said. The federal agency has filed an enforcement case information report to

book the chief minister and others, they said. Siddaramaiah, his wife BM Parvathi, brother-in-law Mallikarjuna Swamy and Devaraju - from whom Swamy had purchased land and gifted it to Parvathi - and others have been named in the FIR registered by Mysuru-located Lokayukta police establishment September 27. The FIR was lodged after a special court ordered a Lokayukta police probe against Siddaramaiah.

## Britain's last coal-fired plant shuts down

AGENCIES

London, Sept 30: Shutters for Britain's last coal-fired power plant Ratcliffe-on-Soar station were finally down Monday, ending 142 years of coal-generated electricity in the nation that sparked the Industrial Revolution and also making England the first G7 country to phase out coal. The Ratcliffe-on-Soar station in central England finished its final shift at midnight after more than half a century of turning coal into power. The UK government hailed the closure as a milestone in efforts to generate all of Britain's energy from renewable sources by 2030. Plant manager Peter O'Grady said it was "an emo-



tional day." "When I started my career 36 years ago, none of us imagined a future without coal generation in our lifetimes," he said. The shutdown makes Britain the first country from the Group of Seven major economies to phase out coal - though some other European nations, including Sweden and Belgium, got there sooner. Owner Uniper says many of the 170 remaining employees will stay on during

electricity plant, Thomas Edison's Edison Electric Light Station, opened in London in 1882. Ratcliffe-on-Soar, which opened in 1967, is a landmark whose eight concrete cooling towers and 199-metre (650-foot) chimney are seen by millions of people a year as they drive past on the M1 highway or speed by on trains. In 1990 coal provided about 80% of Britain's electricity. By 2012 it had fallen to 39 per cent, and by 2023 it stood at just 1%, according to figures from the National Grid. More than half of Britain's electricity now comes from renewable sources such as wind and solar power, and the rest from natural gas and nuclear energy.

DSPL - 129

ଜାତୀୟ ସ୍ୱେଚ୍ଛାକୃତ ରକ୍ତଦାନ ଦିବସ  
୧ ଅକ୍ଟୋବର ୨୦୨୪

ରାଜ୍ୟ ରକ୍ତ ସଂଞ୍ଚାରଣ ପରିଷଦର ଲକ୍ଷ୍ୟ ଓ ଉଦ୍ଦେଶ୍ୟ

- ସ୍ୱେଚ୍ଛାକୃତ ରକ୍ତଦାନକୁ ପ୍ରୋତ୍ସାହିତ କରିବା
- ନିରାପଦ ରକ୍ତ ସଂଞ୍ଚାରଣ ସୁନିଶ୍ଚିତ କରିବା
- ରକ୍ତ କେନ୍ଦ୍ରଗୁଡ଼ିକୁ ଆବଶ୍ୟକ ଭିତ୍ତିଭୂମି, ସାମଗ୍ରୀ ଓ ଅନ୍ୟାନ୍ୟ ସହାୟତା ଯୋଗାଇ ଦେବା
- ଜାତୀୟ ରକ୍ତ ନୀତିକୁ ଅନୁସରଣ କରି କାର୍ଯ୍ୟକାରୀ କରିବା

ଆପଣ ବି କଣେ ସ୍ୱେଚ୍ଛାକୃତ ରକ୍ତଦାନ ହୋଇପାରିବେ ଯଦି ଆପଣଙ୍କର;

- ବୟସ ୧୮ ରୁ ୬୫ ବର୍ଷ ମଧ୍ୟରେ
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- ରକ୍ତଚାପ ସିଷ୍ଟୋଲିକ ୧୦୦ରୁ ୧୪୦ ମି.ମି. ଓ ଡାଇଆଷ୍ଟୋଲିକ ୬୦ରୁ ୯୦ ମି.ମି. ମଧ୍ୟରେ ଅଛି
- ହିମୋଗ୍ଲୋବିନ୍ ସ୍ତର ଅତି କମରେ ୧୨.୫ ଗ୍ରା.ରୁ ଅଧିକ ଅଛି
- ପାଚିର ତାପମାତ୍ରା ୩୭ ଡିଗ୍ରି ସେଲସିୟସରୁ ଅଧିକ ନାହିଁ

ଆଲାସିମିଆ, ସିକିଲସେଲ, ହେମୋଫିଲିଆ ଆଦି ରୋଗୀମାନଙ୍କୁ ଚିକିତ୍ସାଳୟକୁ ଯାତାୟାତ ନିମନ୍ତେ ମାସିକ ୫୦୦ ଟଙ୍କାର ଆର୍ଥିକ ପ୍ରୋତ୍ସାହନ ଯୋଗାଇ ଦିଆଯାଉଛି ।

ଅଧିକ ସୂଚନା ପାଇଁ ଜିଲ୍ଲା/ଉପଖଣ୍ଡ ସ୍ତରୀୟ ରକ୍ତ ଭଣ୍ଡାର କିମ୍ବା ରାଜ୍ୟ ରକ୍ତ ସଂଞ୍ଚାରଣ ପରିଷଦ, ଭୁବନେଶ୍ୱର ସହ ପରାମର୍ଶ କରନ୍ତୁ ।

ସାମ୍ବ୍ୟ ଓ ପରିବାର କଲ୍ୟାଣ ବିଭାଗ, ଓଡ଼ିଶା

facebook.com/HFWOdisha  
@HFWOdisha  
http://www.health.odisha.gov.in/

# leisure

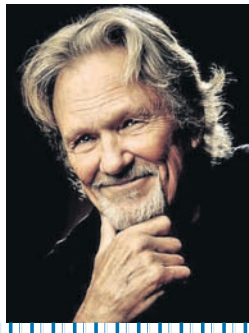


## SHAZAM STAR FACES BACKLASH AFTER ENDORSING TRUMP

Zachary Levi came under intense fire on Twitter after showing support for Donald Trump Saturday. Netizens reacted strongly to the *Shazam* actor's political stance after his Michigan rally appearance.

## SINGER-SONGWRITER KRIS KRISTOFFERSON NO MORE

Kris Kristofferson, who became one of the most influential American singer-songwriters of his time with works such as "Me and Bobby McGee," as well as becoming a successful actor, died Saturday at the age of 88, according to a family statement.



### FORTUNE FORECAST

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#### ARIES

You are bristling with excitement about your work and relationships. In your workplace, you will impress other people to join your group. But Ganesh warns you to be cautious and think before taking any action, as things can backfire and you will have to bear the responsibility.

#### TAURUS

Managers and administrators are in for a very profitable day, assures Ganesh. They must, however, not expect too much from their subordinates. Doing that could be a source of great disappointment and anxiety. Later in the day, you could be in for some cheerful and encouraging news from abroad.

#### GEMINI

You will feel the urge to chuck your daily routine and spend time leisurely with your friends and family, entertaining and being entertained. You may also decide to embark upon a trip. The number of guests turning up at your place will increase. Family time is here to stay, says Ganesh.

#### CANCER

Give priority to your life and prestige in stead of meddling in others' matters, says Ganesh. Your enterprising nature will give you prestige and respect. Ganesh suggests that you take time off from your chores and indulge in entertainment or travel.

#### LEO

You will be busy dealing with health-related issues. You need to watch your diet carefully. You will become more serious about your work. Everything will go smoothly in your personal life, says Ganesh.

#### VIRGO

Today will be a day full of emotions and insights into love. Despondency may trouble you all through the day. However, Ganesh advises you to remain unaffected by it in your work. At your workplace you will be in great demand as a problem solver.

#### LIBRA

Wear your best suit and put on your favourite tie, because today you shall be in the limelight at work. Watch your hard work and innate talents get their share of rewards. Also, expect the best possible assistance from your colleagues. The stars align themselves in a position to give you the maximum leverage possible and boost your reputation by leaps and bounds, says Ganesh.

#### SCORPIO

Like an oracle, you can feel how things might turn out today. Trust only what you say, and hear yourself to avoid any sort of confrontations. Ganesh expects your antennas to be on high alert especially with your dearest at your side today.

#### SAGITTARIUS

Charming as ever, your close ones will be swooned by your beauty today. Thanks to the new look your beautician suggested. Clad in the best of attires, you grab eye-balls at a social do. Your status and prestige is likely to increase.

#### CAPRICORN

When work starts to give nightmares, even meditation cannot restore the peace of mind. You are likely to have a similar kind of harrowing experience at work today, says Ganesh. But the day won't be completely dulling. It's an auspicious day if you have plans to buy a house or a car. You may also move to a new house some time soon.

#### AQUARIUS

The rising Sun of today, brings one of the most important days of your life. You will make important decisions which will have long-term impact on your life. During the second half of the day, you may be lucky to have a windfall. It is a very favourable day for all the professionals, says Ganesh.

#### PISCES

In times of adversity, it is your loved ones who will stand you in good stead, and it is your patience and persistence which will get you home. Your actions today will demonstrate your dedication and sincerity to the job at hand, says Ganesh.



## Ananya reflects on deepfake videos

(Vihaan Samat) from her life after she catches him cheating on her. "It's very scary. As public figures, our faces and voices are out there. (So) I don't know how much we can safeguard. I think it will have to come from regulations by the government, that's probably the only solution," Panday said when asked about deepfake videos of celebrities. Deepfake is a digital method where users can replace one person's likeness convincingly with that of another using AI technology. Produced by Saffron and Andolan Films, CTRL will start streaming on Netflix from October 4. The cyber thriller is directed by Vikramaditya Motwane. IANS

**Mumbai:** Actor Ananya Panday, whose upcoming film CTRL peeks into the world of artificial intelligence (AI), says government authorities need to come up with certain regulations to prevent misuse of technology. Recently, top movie stars like Aamir Khan, Ranveer Singh, Alia Bhatt, and Rashmika Mandanna fell victims to deepfake videos. The trailer of CTRL sees Panday's character ask an AI app to "erase" her lover Joe

On September 8, Deepika and Ranveer officially announced the arrival of their first bundle of joy, a baby girl. Deepika took to Instagram stories, where she has an impressive 80.2 million followers, to re-share a fun reel video titled, 'Me when my husband tells me he will be home at 5:00 and it's now 5:01'. The playful clip features a little baby running towards the door, peering out through the

## Deepika's lifestyle takes 360 turn

**Mumbai:** Actress Deepika Padukone, who is currently reveling in the joys of motherhood, Monday shared a playful video for her husband, actor Ranveer Singh. In the lighthearted clip, Deepika humorously showcases how she patiently waits for her husband at home, capturing the warmth and fun of their relationship while offering a glimpse into their life as a family.

glass with binoculars, perfectly capturing the anticipation of waiting for a loved one. Deepika tagged Ranveer Singh in the post and added a big smiley sticker, adding to the lighthearted charm of the moment.

On the work front, Deepika was last seen in *Gehraiyaan*, *Pathaan*, *Fighter*, and *Kalki 2898 AD*. She will be next seen along with Ranveer in the upcoming Rohit Shetty directorial *Singham Again*. IANS

## Priyanka emphasises importance of 'rest'

**Mumbai:** Priyanka Chopra, a multifaceted star in the entertainment industry, has made significant strides as an actress, producer, and global icon. Known for her remarkable performances in both Bollywood and Hollywood, she has garnered a massive fan following worldwide. Recently, she has been particularly busy, balancing a demanding work schedule with her personal life. Recently, she re-shared a poignant post on her social media that stated, "REST is a radical act of self-love in a world that glorifies EXHAUSTION." This quote resonates deeply as she navigates the challenges of her professional commitments alongside her personal life. In an interview with *Vogue India*, the *Dostana* actress revealed that she often works 12-hour shifts, waking up at 5 AM to prepare for her day. Despite the exhausting schedule, Priyanka remains focused on her work while also cherishing moments with her family. AGENCIES



## IIFA ROCKS 2024 Ponniyin Selvan Part - 2, Jawan, Animal win top honours

**Yas Island (Abu Dhabi):** Filmmaker Mani Ratnam's period drama *Ponniyin Selvan Part - 2*, superstar Shah Rukh Khan-starrer *Jawan* and Ranbir Kapoor's *Animal* bagged three awards each in technical categories at the 2024 IIFA Rocks here.

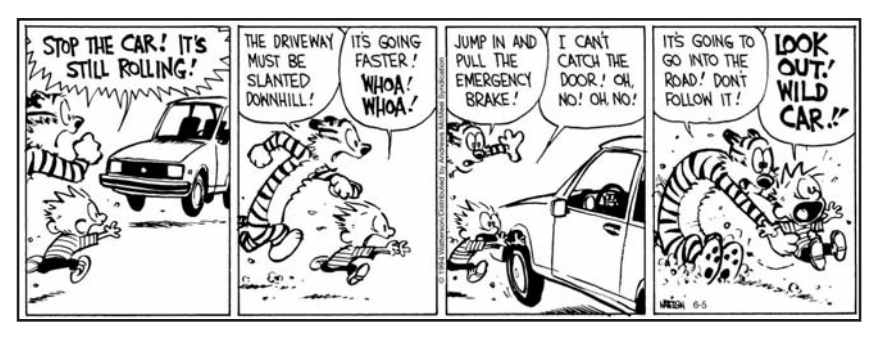


The awards ceremony, held on the third and final day of the 24th edition of IIFA Festival Sunday, celebrated the best of technicians across languages. Music maestro AR Rahman received the best background score award for *Ponniyin Selvan Part - 2*, with Ravi Varman winning the award for best cinematography (Tamil) and Thota Tharani earning recognition for best production design (Tamil) award for Ratnam's ambitious film. *Jawan* registered wins in categories of best cinematography (GK Vishnu), sound mixing (Sampath Alwar, Chris Jacobson, Rob Marshall, Marti Humphrey), and special effects (Shah Rukh's company Red Chillies VFX). Director Sandeep Reddy Vanga won the best editing award for *Animal*. Sachin Sudhakaran and Hariharan M were awarded best sound design honour and Harshvardhan Rameshwar received award for background score for Vanga's movie. The best screenplay award was given to filmmaker Vidhu Vinod Chopra, Jaskunwar Kohli, Anurag Pathak, Aayush Saxena, Vikas Divyakirti for their critically-acclaimed and hit film *12th Fail*. Ishita Moitra won best dialogues film award for *Rocky Aur Rani Kii Prem Kahaani* and the trophy of best choreography went to Bosco-Caesar for *Pathaan*, also starring Shah Rukh. IIFA Rocks ended on an electrifying note with the grand finale of the IIFA Festival 2024, which kick started September 27. Hosted by Siddhant Chaturvedi and Abhishek Banerjee, IIFA Rocks featured enthralling performances by Shankar-Ehsaan-Loy, Shilpa Rao, Honey Singh, and Iulia Vantur. IIFA Rocks paid homage to the trailblazers of Indian cinema, spotlighting the technical brilliance behind the scenes. The event recognised excellence in cinematography, screenplay, dialogues, editing, choreography, sound design, sound mixing, background score, and special effects (visual). PTI

### PEANUTS



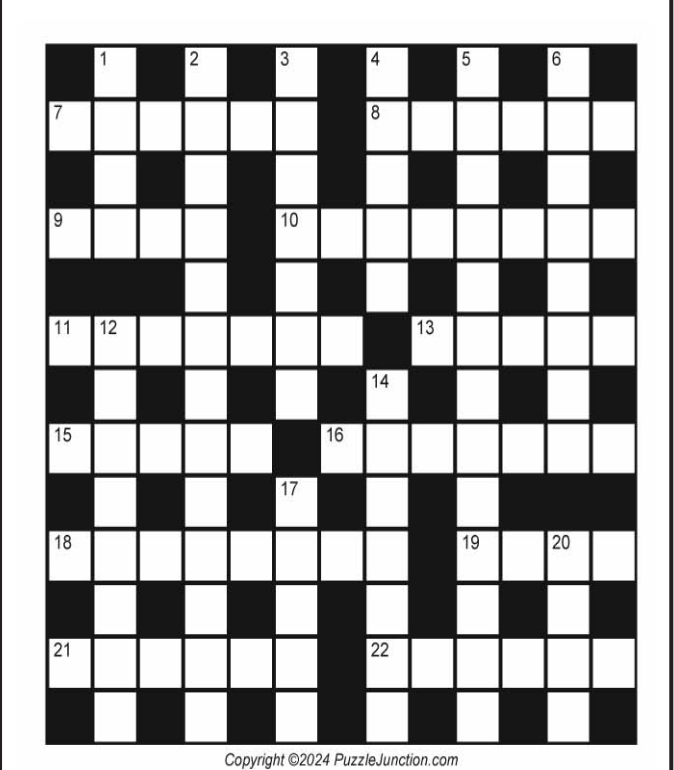
### CALVIN AND HOBBS



### BREVITY



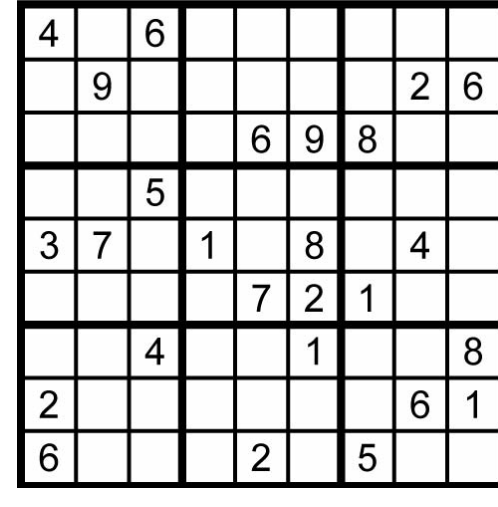
### FUN post CROSSWORD



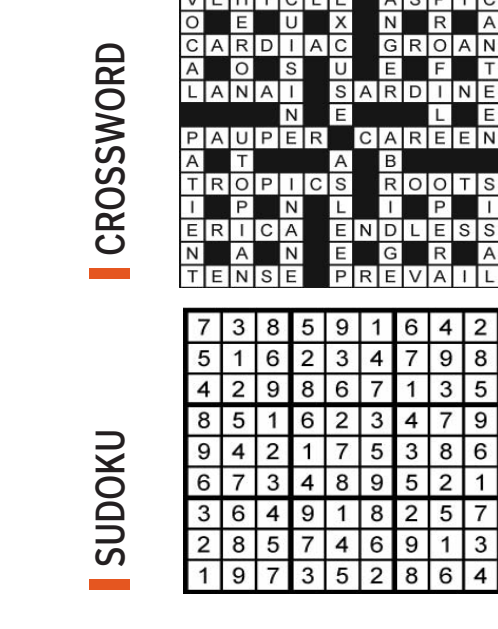
- Across  
7 Ravel classic  
8 Treatise  
9 Host's request  
10 Bloodline  
11 Unfortunate  
13 Fidgety  
15 Key material  
16 Critiques  
18 Scottish lake (4,4)
- 19 Toothpaste holder  
21 Amati, e.g.  
22 Leased
- Down  
1 Kind of cheese  
2 Good and evil, as told by Stevenson (6,3,4)
- 3 Write  
4 Opus  
5 Olympic event (6-7)  
6 Circus attraction  
12 Food and drink of the gods  
14 Reprimand  
17 Flood embankment  
20 Casket

### SUDOKU

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



### SOLUTIONS



CHECK FOR SOLUTIONS OF THE PUZZLES TOMORROW

# Mumbai fraud in EOW net for duping Umrah travellers

PNN & AGENCIES

**Bhubaneswar, Sept 30:** The Economic Offences Wing (EOW) of Odisha Police Monday claimed to have arrested a man from Mumbai on charges of duping around 189 people in Odisha to the tune of ₹1.20 crore on the pretext of facilitating them cheap, secured and safe Umrah pilgrimage to Saudi Arabia.

The accused, identified as Nabeel Abdul Mubin Shaikh, was arrested by a team of Odisha Police September 27.

He was later produced before a local court in Andheri, Mumbai and brought to Odisha on a transit remand.

The arrest was made on the basis of a complaint filed by Mir Khursid, a resident of Kazimahala in Bhadrak. The EOW registered a case against the proprietors of Al-Adam Tour & Travels and Al-Izma Tours & Travels of Vikhroli Kurla in West Mumbai September 12.

During the probe, the EOW allegedly found that the tour operators collected a total of ₹1.20 crore from 189 people between



2019 and 2023 to arrange their pilgrimage to Saudi Arabia. However, they neither took the prospective pilgrims on the tour, nor did they refund the amount collected from them.

"As found in the investigation, during the period between 2019 and 23, the proprietors of M/s Al-

Adam Tour & Travels agency floated advertisements on social media apart from distributing leaflets containing the lucrative packages, contact details etc," said EOW sources.

The accused induced the Muslim devotees to avail the opportunity under two of their tour packages of ₹45,786 and ₹50,786 per individual pilgrim to go on Umrah pilgrimage to Saudi Arabia.

Being induced, several unsuspecting devotees of Bhadrak, Balasore, Baripada and other parts

of Odisha deposited their amounts in accounts mentioned in the advertisements through bank transfers, in UPI and even by cash.

"The arrested accused Nabeel and his mother are the authorised signatories of the accounts in which the pilgrims' money had been deposited. The collection of money from devotees by the accused persons continued till the first half of 2023 after which the proprietors switched off their mobile phones and remained disconnected from the depositors," informed EOW sources.

# Govt nod to ₹4,671cr projects

POST NEWS NETWORK

**Bhubaneswar, Sept 30:** The Single Window Committee (SWC) of the Energy department accorded in-principle approval for investment proposals worth ₹4,671.81 crore in the renewable energy (RE) sector, Monday.

Chaired by Energy department Principal Secretary Hemant Sharma, the SWC approved 749.5MW of RE proposals consisting of a 600MW Pumped Storage Plant (PSP) project by OHPC in Kalahandi, three wind power projects of 148.5 MW by ONGC Tripura Power Company

Ltd (OTPCPL) in Nabarangpur, Khurda and Jagatsinghpur districts and a 1.4MW rooftop solar project at Patia in Capital city. "These investments will facilitate the development of transformative green energy projects, reinforcing Odisha's commitment to meet its RE target of 10 GW by 2030," an official statement said.

These ongoing efforts also reflect Odisha's dedication in fostering green energy, reducing carbon emissions, and creating a sustainable future for the State in alignment with its long-term environmental goals, the statement added.

# 'Will make force more gentle towards people'



POST NEWS NETWORK

**Bhubaneswar, Sept 30:** Senior IPS officer Suresh Dev Datta Singh who took charge as the twin city police commissioner Monday, replacing Sanjeeb Panda, said his first priority as the unit commander will be to make the force more compassionate and gentle towards complainants, especially at police stations.

"If people approach the City police to register their grievances, we will strive to give them justice. Though, it might not be judicial justice, but the police

would be amicable to their immediate issues," he said.

Singh's assertions assume special significance in the backdrop of the alleged assault of an Army officer and sexual assault of his female friend at the Bharatpur police station September 15 when the duo approached the cops to lodge a complaint of road rage. The incident not only invited criticisms from several quarters, including the judiciary, but also prompted CM Mohan Charan Majhi to issue a veiled warning to the law enforcers to 'mend their ways'.

# LoP: Communal unrests tainted state's image

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

**Bhubaneswar, Sept 30:** Leader of Opposition (LoP) Naveen Patnaik Monday said four incidents of communal unrest during the initial three months of the new BJP government have tainted the state's image.

Reacting strongly, the ruling BJP alleged Patnaik's statement was intended to 'provoke more violence and create havoc'.


Patnaik, the former Chief Minister, made the comment while meeting BJD leaders of Bhadrak from where communal flare-up was reported.

"Four incidents of communal unrest in a span of three months under the BJP government has adversely impacted Odisha's image as a peaceful state. First, in Balasore, then in Khurda, Dhamnagar and Bhadrak, the communal unrests have raised questions about the efficiency of the state government," he said. Peace and harmony is the identity of Odisha and all should work together to maintain this, he added.

In a statement, the BJP said Odisha had seen many incidents communal violence when Patnaik was in power.

"Odisha recorded the third highest communal riots in the country in 2017, revealed NCRB report. The state with 91 communal/religious riots stood third after Bihar and Karnataka. Who was in government at that time?" it said.

"The people of Odisha have not forgotten the large scale violence in Kandhamal in 2008, Sambalpur riot in 2023 and Bhadrak Ram Navmi riot in 2017," it added.




**ଜାତୀୟ ସ୍ନେହାକୃତ  
ରତ୍ନଦାନ ଦିବସ ଅବସରରେ  
ମାନ୍ୟବର ମୁଖ୍ୟମନ୍ତ୍ରୀଙ୍କ  
ଶୁଭେଚ୍ଛା**

ପ୍ରତିବର୍ଷ ଅକ୍ଟୋବର ୧ ତାରିଖକୁ ସାରା ଦେଶରେ ଜାତୀୟ ସ୍ନେହାକୃତ ରତ୍ନଦାନ ଦିବସ ଭାବରେ ପାଳନ କରାଯାଇଛି । ଏହି ଅବସରରେ ସମସ୍ତ ରତ୍ନଦାତା ଏବଂ ଏହି ମହତ୍ତ୍ୱପୂର୍ଣ୍ଣ କାର୍ଯ୍ୟ ସହ ଜଡ଼ିତ ଅନୁଷ୍ଠାନମାନଙ୍କୁ ମୋର ଧନ୍ୟବାଦ ଜଣାଉଛି ।

ରତ୍ନଦାନ ଏକ ମହତ୍ତ୍ୱପୂର୍ଣ୍ଣ କାର୍ଯ୍ୟ । ରତ୍ନ ଅଭାବକୁ ଅକାଳରେ ଓଡ଼ି ପଡ଼ୁଥିବା ବହୁମୂଲ୍ୟ ଜୀବନକୁ ରତ୍ନଦାନ ମାଧ୍ୟମରେ ବଞ୍ଚାଯାଇ ପାରୁଛି । ରତ୍ନର ଆବଶ୍ୟକତାକୁ ପୂରଣ କରିବାପାଇଁ ରାଜ୍ୟରେ ସ୍ନେହାକୃତ ରତ୍ନଦାନକୁ ବ୍ୟାପକ କରାଯିବା ଆବଶ୍ୟକ । ଏଥିପାଇଁ ସବୁ ପ୍ରସ୍ତରରେ ଜନ ସହଯୋଗୀତା ଦୃଷ୍ଟି କରିବାର ଆବଶ୍ୟକତା ରହିଛି ।

ଆସନ୍ତୁ, ଆଜିର ଏହି ପୂଣ୍ୟ ଦିବସରେ ନିୟମିତ ଭାବେ ସ୍ନେହାକୃତ ରତ୍ନଦାନ କରିବା ପାଇଁ ସଂକଳ୍ପ ନେବା ଏବଂ ଅନ୍ୟମାନଙ୍କୁ ରତ୍ନଦାନ ପାଇଁ ଉତ୍ସାହିତ କରିବା ।

**ନାମମଧ୍ୟମ**  
(ମୋହନ ଚରଣ ମାଝୀ)  
ମୁଖ୍ୟମନ୍ତ୍ରୀ, ଓଡ଼ିଶା



**ବାର୍ତ୍ତା**

ଅକ୍ଟୋବର ୧ ତାରିଖରେ ଅନୁଷ୍ଠିତ ହେଉଥିବା ଜାତୀୟ ରତ୍ନଦାନ ଦିବସ ଅବସରରେ ଆମ ରାଜ୍ୟର ସମସ୍ତ ରତ୍ନଦାତା ଏବଂ ଏହିଦିନି ଏକ ମହତ୍ତ୍ୱପୂର୍ଣ୍ଣ କାର୍ଯ୍ୟରେ ସାମିଲ ହୋଇ କାର୍ଯ୍ୟାନୁଷ୍ଠାନ ସୁପରିଚାଳନା କରୁଥିବା ସମସ୍ତ ଅନୁଷ୍ଠାନଙ୍କୁ ମୋର ଆଭିନନ୍ଦନ ଶୁଭେଚ୍ଛା ଓ ଅଭିନନ୍ଦନ ।


ରତ୍ନଦାନ ଏକ ମହତ୍ତ୍ୱପୂର୍ଣ୍ଣ କାର୍ଯ୍ୟ । ରତ୍ନ ଅଭାବକୁ ଅକାଳରେ ଓଡ଼ି ପଡ଼ୁଥିବା ବହୁମୂଲ୍ୟ ଜୀବନକୁ ରତ୍ନଦାନ ମାଧ୍ୟମରେ ବଞ୍ଚାଯାଇ ପାରୁଛି । ରତ୍ନର ଆବଶ୍ୟକତାକୁ ପୂରଣ କରିବାପାଇଁ ରାଜ୍ୟରେ ସ୍ନେହାକୃତ ରତ୍ନଦାନକୁ ବ୍ୟାପକ କରାଯିବା ଆବଶ୍ୟକ । ଏଥିପାଇଁ ସବୁ ପ୍ରସ୍ତରରେ ଜନ ସହଯୋଗୀତା ଦୃଷ୍ଟି କରିବାର ଆବଶ୍ୟକତା ରହିଛି ।

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**ପ୍ରଫୁଲ୍ଲ କୁମାର ମହାଲିକ**  
ମୁଖ୍ୟମନ୍ତ୍ରୀ, ଓଡ଼ିଶା

ସ୍ୱାସ୍ଥ୍ୟ ଓ ପରିବାର କଲ୍ୟାଣ, ସଂସଦୀୟ ବ୍ୟାପାର  
ବୈଦ୍ୟାଧିକ ଅଣ୍ଡା ବିଜ୍ଞାନ ତଥା ସୂଚନା ଏବଂ ପ୍ରଯୁକ୍ତି ବିଭାଗ

OIPR-10080/13/0002/2425



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Hon'ble Minister of Social Justice and Empowerment, Government of India

**SH. B. L. VERMA**  
Hon'ble Minister of State for Social Justice and Empowerment, Government of India

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# Admin apathy endangers students' lives

STUDENTS FORCED TO WALK HALF KILOMETRE THROUGH FOREST IN DARK FOR DINNER

**POST NEWS NETWORK**  
**Nuapada, Sept 30:** Believe it or not, students of an Ashram School have to walk more than half a kilometre through a forested road every night to have their dinner, as food is not cooked in the hostel but on the school premises at Kamkeda village under Nuagaon panchayat of Komna block in Nuapada district.



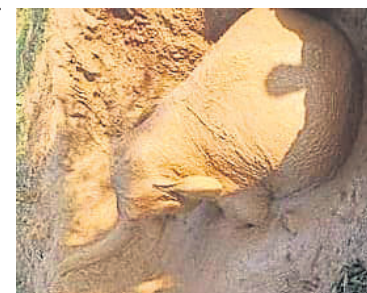
The school owned by the state government and managed by the Scheduled Tribe and Scheduled Caste (ST & SC) Development department is plagued by a host of problems. The residential school has over 300 students on its rolls from Class I to Class VIII. All the students reside in the hostel established separately from the school at a distance of at least half a kilometre. The students have their mid-day meals in the school and leave for their hostel after class hours. However, they have to risk their lives and pass through the forested area in pitch darkness every night to reach their school for dinner. After finishing dinner, they again cover the same distance to reach their hostel which is located close to Chandel hill. Locals said the hill is inhabited by wild animals including leopards, bears and poisonous reptiles, and there is every possibility that they might stray near the hostel and endanger the students' lives. Walking on the forested road at night is an open invitation danger, the locals said. Rules mandate that both lunch and dinner should be prepared in the respective hostels. However, the authorities are cooking the food on the school premises instead of the hostels. Furthermore, instead of transporting the food to the hostel, they make the students walk to the school for dinner.

Meanwhile, incessant rainfall triggered by low pressure is lashing the area for past few days. However, in the absence of any alternative, the students walk to their school in rain and pitch darkness for dinner. Guardians alleged that the teachers and concerned education officials are playing with the students' lives and pushing them into grave danger. They said that the authorities are bound by rules to cook the mid-day meal at school and the dinner on the hostel premises at night. However, the concerned officials have thrown the norms to winds, they alleged. Parents further alleged that the

hostel authorities are yet to give essentials like tooth brush, and tooth paste to the hostel inmates while oil, soaps and detergent powder are not given to them on regular intervals. As per rule, they need to deliver the essentials to the students every week but students have to wait for one or two months to get the supplies. Moreover, the students are not served food as per the menu but are given rice, dal, dalma and curry prepared with potato and soybean chunks. Earlier, District Welfare Officer Deeptimanta Bhoi had assured to resolve the problems within a week. Since then a month has passed but the problems remain unresolved, they alleged. When contacted, Welfare Extension Officer Shyamsundar Majhi of Komna block acknowledged the problem. The school and hostels are separate and hostels are surrounded by private lands making it difficult to dump the wastes, he said, adding that they are arranging two trolleys which will ferry the dinner to the hostel inmates at night. Moreover, dustbins are also being arranged for dumping of garbage and disposing the soiled plates of students, he added.

# Jumbo rescued from well after 6-hour rescue ops

In recent days, a herd of 30 elephants has been roaming in the area, causing widespread damage in Parlasinga, Podhakhamba, Shirol, and Dumeramunda villages



POST NEWS NETWORK

**Bhawanipatna, Sept 30:** A wild elephant, which was found trapped in an abandoned well near a cashew plantation close to Saurapadar village under the Kesinga Forest Division in Kalahandi district, was finally rescued after a 6-hour rescue operation by the Forest department. Upon discovering the elephant, which was struggling to get out of the well, locals informed the Forest department. On being informed, Ranger Prabhavati Seth and Forest department personnel reached the spot and initiated efforts to rescue the elephant. After six hours of continuous effort, the elephant was rescued from the well using a JCB machine. Once freed, the elephant ran

towards the Bajragarh forest. In recent days, a herd of 30 elephants has been roaming in the area, causing widespread damage by consuming crops like paddy and cotton in Parlasinga, Podhakhamba, Shirol, and Dumeramunda villages. Farmers have lodged written complaints with the Forest department regarding the destruction of their crops. Despite efforts, the Forest department has been unable to drive the elephants away, leading to discontent among the local population. Meanwhile, due to the presence of the elephant herd in the area, electricity is being cut off at night in nearby villages such as Balsi, Rengali, Masanibandh, Parlasinga, and Shirol. As a result, villagers are suffering owing to the darkness and extreme heat during the night.

# Man burnt alive as two bikes collide head-on, catch fire

POST NEWS NETWORK

**Rourkela, Sept 30:** In a gruesome road accident, one person was burnt alive and two others were seriously injured Monday morning near Kurupani village of Kuranmunda panchayat in Sundargarh district, police said. The incident occurred under Biramitrapur police limits when two motorcycles collided head-on at high speed and caught fire, they said, adding, that both the vehicles were completely damaged in the fire. Rajesh Tigga, the pillion rider on one bike which was coming from Biramitrapur side, died on the spot, and the rider identified as Belen Bading also received burn injuries on his back, hand and other body parts. Rider of the other bike coming from Raibaga side, Ashok Agarwal, was injured in the accident but had no burn injuries. The injured have been admitted to a hospital in Rourkela for treatment.



By the time the fire brigade personnel arrived the bikes were charred completely. Ashok was thrown out of his bike and fortunately received no burn injuries. However, Belen and Rajesh were trapped under the burning motorcycle. Belen somehow managed to escape but Rajesh was burnt alive on the spot. Biramitrapur IIC Bandita Patra said the actual cause of the death could only be established after proper enquiry. "Both the bikes have been totally gutted. It is suspected that the petrol tanks of both the bikes burst under the impact, causing the fire. We will wait for the enquiry report," Patra said.

# 13-km snarl: NH gridlocked for four days at Dwarasuni ghat

POST NEWS NETWORK

**Bangiriposhi, Sept 30:** A massive traffic jam on the National Highway-49 passing through the Dwarasuni ghat in Mayurbhanj district has left many truckers and passenger vehicles stranded for the last four days and kept the highway out of bounds for pedestrians. Sources said that the ghat road under this block has remained gridlocked for the last four days with containers, trucks, pas-

senger vehicles and two-wheelers seen stranded in a 13-km long traffic snarl on the highway in the middle of a forest. The traffic jam occurred after three vehicles broke down on the ghat road. The situation worsened due to the delay in arrival of cranes to tow away the vehicles. Such is the situation that a vehicle takes around four hours to cross the stretch of the highway, commuters alleged. An ambulance was also seen stuck on the route for over four



hours. Office goers could not attend their offices and several youths travelling for the OSSC examination could not appear the test after remaining stranded

on the route. The traffic jam, around 13 km in length, led to a harrowing experience for commuters. They alleged that the traffic jam has oc-

curred due to the apathetic attitude and negligence of police and administrative officials. Left with no option, commuters were seen hurriedly searching for drinking water. They alleged that the police personnel are making no effort for smooth plying of the vehicles while the officials of the regional transport department are also not properly verifying the cargo laden vehicles. Helpless truckers are reportedly surviving by cooking and

consuming food inside their vehicles. Some of the trucks were carrying essential commodities, sources said. Earlier, several political leaders and ministers had assured to take up renovation of the highway and make it safer for travelling. However, as no construction works were taken up, the stretch of the highway at Dwarasuni ghat is witnessing frequent traffic jams and severe accidents leading to loss of lives and properties.



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# national

## of the day quote

**Kumaraswamy** must focus on creating 50,000 to one lakh jobs in the state rather than doing politics




**D K SHIVAKUMAR**  
KARNATAKA DY CM

**Women's safety** is the first test of good governance. If the '1090' and 'Dial 100' initiatives launched during the Samajwadi Party's tenure had been properly continued and expanded under the BJP government, responsible officers would not need to make apprehensive calls about women's safety today




**AKHILESH YADAV** | SP PRESIDENT

**The youths** during the Congress rule could not believe that they would get government jobs without paying a bribe. Even for low-paying jobs, they were required to pay ₹1 crore of bribe



**HIMANTA BISWA SARMA**  
ASSAM CHIEF MINISTER

## XPOST OF THE DAY



**BIGGEST BREAKING** Supreme Court gives belt treatment to BJP alliance partners including Andhra Pradesh CM N Chandrababu Naidu

"The reports doesn't show Prima Facie that there was an adulterated Ghee used in Tirupati Laddu" SC slammed leaders for making public statements which hurt the people's sentiment. Will Pawan Kalyan and Chandrababu Naidu apologise?

*@Amockx2022*

## SHORT TAKES

### Snehamayee Krishna booked

**Mysuru (Karnataka):** Social activist Snehamayee Krishna, a complainant in the alleged land allocation scam against Chief Minister Siddaramaiah, has been booked over a woman's complaint that he threatened her in a property dispute, police said Monday. According to police sources, the 30-year-old woman, a resident of Nanjangud in Mysuru district, alleged Krishna had threatened her and her mother July 18 with dire consequences, asking her to stay away from a dispute with her in-laws regarding a property over which her late husband has a share.

### Delhi HC grants last opportunity to Hina

**New Delhi:** The Delhi High Court Monday granted a last opportunity to television actress Hina Khan to advance the submissions in a defamation suit filed by her against a public relations consultancy that has accused her of stealing jewellery. The court was informed by Khan's counsel that the "Bigg Boss 11" star has been diagnosed with cancer and the lawyer has not received any further instructions in the matter.

### 3 of family killed in road accident

**Nagpur:** Three members of a family were killed when an unidentified vehicle hit their motorcycle on a highway in Maharashtra's Nagpur district Monday, police said. The accident occurred in the morning on Pandhurna Highway in the Kelwad police station area, around 60 km from the district headquarters, an official said.



**If you press the wrong button then Haryana which is going upward will go into the basement**

**RAJNATH SINGH** | DEFENCE MINISTER

## PAK NATIONAL HELD

A Pakistani national was arrested along with his wife and two others who were allegedly living illegally with fake identities for the past six years, police said Monday



# SC PULLS UP BENGAL GOVT

EXPRESSING DISSATISFACTION OVER PROGRESS BY WEST BENGAL GOVT IN INSTALLATION OF CCTVS, CONSTRUCTION OF TOILETS AND SEPARATE RESTING ROOMS, THE APEX COURT SAID IT WAS "TARDY"

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

**New Delhi, Sept 30:** The Supreme Court Monday expressed dissatisfaction over "tardy" progress by West Bengal government in installation of CCTVs and construction of toilets and separate resting rooms at medical facilities, and directed the state government to complete ongoing work by October 15.

The apex court was hearing a suo motu case related to the rape and murder of a postgraduate medic at the R G Kar Medical College and Hospital in Kolkata.

The top court also reiterated its earlier order that no intermediary is allowed to publish the name and photo of the victim in the case. As the hearing commenced, advocate Vrinda Grover told a bench of Chief Justice D Y Chandrachud and Justices J B Pardiwala and Manoj Misra that the parents of the deceased victim are disconcerted by repeated clips in social media disclosing her name and photos. The top court said it had already passed an order on this issue and it was for the law enforcement agencies to implement the order. It clarified its earlier order and said it applies to all intermediaries.

The bench noted that substantial leads have come up in the CBI investigation and it has



**KOLKATA HORROR**

given statements on both aspects -- alleged rape and murder and the financial irregularities. During the hearing, the apex court asked Solicitor General Tushar Mehta, appearing for CBI, who are the people under probe still employed in R G Kar Hospital against whom financial irregularities are alleged and asked it to share the information with the state government for appropriate action.

On the issue of doctors' protest, the West Bengal government told the bench that resident doctors are not performing inpatient department and outpatient department work. The submission was opposed by senior advocate Indira Jaising, appearing for resident doctors, who said they are per-

forming all essential and emergency services. The top court directed Mehta to submit a report on progress of National Task Force and posted the hearing in the rape-murder case to October 14.

The court September 17 had said it was disturbed by the findings given in a status report filed by the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) in the rape-murder case but refused to divulge the details, saying any disclosure may jeopardise the ongoing investigation. The apex court September had voiced concern over the absence of the "challan", a key document forwarding the body of the junior doctor who was raped and murdered at the

# Congress criticises govt's 'half-truths'

*Amidst the poor economic climate, the share of salaried, formal employment in the labour market has decreased, Jairam Ramesh said and pointed out that workers are moving to low-productivity informal and agricultural jobs, which KLEMS is capturing as jobs created*

## JOB SCAMS



PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

**New Delhi, Sept 30:** The Congress Monday dismissed as "half-truths" the government's assertions of creating eight crore employment opportunities between 2021 and 2024 and 6.2 crore net subscribers joining the EPFO database, and said no "spin-doctoring" can take away from the fact that 2014-24 has seen "jobloss growth".

Congress general secretary Jairam Ramesh said that amidst the "U-turns and scandals" that have marked the last few months of this "tottering" government, "the non-biological PM and his drum beaters have tried to find some solace in their economic record, claiming to have created eight crore employment opportunities between 2021 and 2024".

is recording unpaid household work done by women as "employment" he said, adding that it is not new job creation.

The '80 million new jobs' headline also elides discussion on the quality of jobs, Ramesh said.

Amidst the poor economic climate, the share of salaried, formal employment in the labour market has decreased, he said and pointed out that workers are moving to low-productivity informal and agricultural jobs, which KLEMS is capturing as jobs created.

Thus, factory workers, teachers, miners, etc. who returned home during COVID-19 and had to return to farming and agricultural labour are registered as a "job created" in agriculture, Ramesh argued.

This shift to low-productivity, poorly paid jobs is an economic travesty, which the government is touting as an achievement, the Congress leader said.

## Maharashtra govt declares desi cows 'Rajyamata Gomata'



PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

**Mumbai, Sept 30:** Maharashtra Government Monday declared desi (indigenous) cows as 'Rajyamata-Gomata', citing the importance of cows in Indian culture, agriculture, and healthcare.

The decision was taken to ensure the conservation of desi cows, Deputy CM Devendra Fadnavis told reporters after the state cabinet meeting in Mumbai.

Fadnavis said the state government would also provide farmers feed for these cows. The state Cabinet, while highlighting the significance of desi cows since Vedic period, also approved the animal husbandry department's proposal to provide ₹50 daily subsidy per animal to cow shelter operators. The Maharashtra Cow Shelter Commissionerate will oversee the functioning of such shelters, an official release said.

There are 46,13,632 desi cows in the state, according to the 2019 census, a drop of 20.69 per cent compared to the earlier census figures. A government resolution (GR) issued Monday said, "Since Vedic times, the significance of cows in human life is religious, scientific, and economical and hence it is called as Kamdhenu."

## SC uses special power, asks IIT to admit Dalit youth

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

**New Delhi, Sept 30:** The Supreme Court Monday came to the rescue of a Dalit youth, who had lost his seat in IIT Dhanbad after missing the deadline to deposit a fee, by asking the institute to admit him to the BTech course.

"We cannot allow such a young talented boy to go away. He cannot be left in lurch," a bench comprising Chief Justice D Y Chandrachud and Justices J B Pardiwala and Manoj Misra said. The top court used its extraor-

inary powers under Article 142 of the Constitution in asking the IIT Dhanbad to admit Atul Kumar into its Electrical Engineering BTech course.

"We are of the view that a talented student like the petitioner who belongs to a marginalised group who did all to secure admission should not be left out... we direct that candidate is granted admission to IIT Dhanbad and let him be in the same batch to which he would have been granted admission if the fees would have been paid," the bench said in the

order. Article 142 of the Constitution empowers the top court to pass any order in the interest of justice.

The parents of Atul Kumar, 18, failed to deposit ₹17,500 as the acceptance fee by June 24, the deadline for depositing the requisite fees for blocking the seat.

The parents of the youth also approached the National Commission for Scheduled Castes, Jharkhand Legal Services Authority and the Madras High Court to save the hard-earned seat.

# Lockdown on earth led to dip in Moon's temperature: Study

**MAXIMUM TEMPERATURES ON THE EARTH'S NATURAL SATELLITE FELL IN THIS PERIOD, WHILE NIGHTS WERE FOUND TO BE COOLER BY NEARLY 8-10 DEGREES CELSIUS**

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

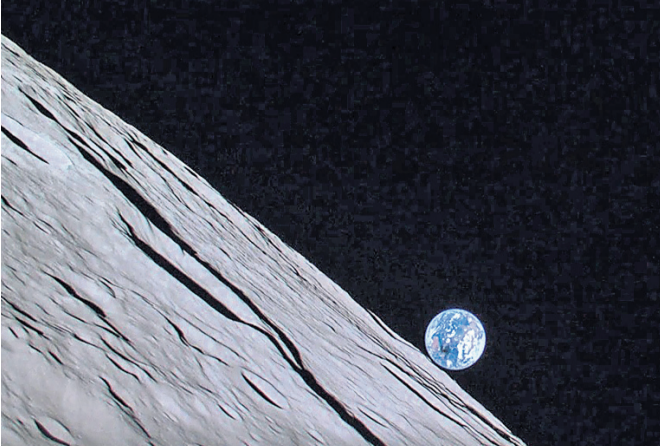
**New Delhi, Sept 30:** Effects of COVID-19 lockdowns on Earth may have reached the Moon, as lunar temperatures were found

to have abnormally dipped during April-May 2020, according to a study.

Maximum temperatures on the Earth's natural satellite fell in this period, while nights were found to be cooler by nearly 8-10 degrees Celsius.

The Moon could therefore possibly serve as a "stable platform" to study climate change on Earth, K Durga Prasad and G Ambily, researchers from the Physical Research Laboratory, Ahmedabad, said in a study published in the journal, Monthly Notices of the Royal Astronomical Society: Letters.

Brought in to arrest the spread of the COVID-19 disease, lockdowns were first introduced in



China and Italy in March 2020. The measures were quickly adopted by other countries and

by the following month, about half the world's population were reported to have been under

some form of lockdown, including quarantine and stay-at-home orders.

Lockdowns have been shown to have starkly impacted human activities such as industrial pollution, transportation and fossil fuel burning. The reduced human activity translated into lower greenhouse gas emissions and pollutant levels, and therefore, less heat being released from the Earth's surface during night-time, the researchers said.

Part of this heat is known to reach the Earth-facing side of the Moon at its night-time and warm the lunar surface.

Therefore, to look for lockdown-induced effects, the researchers analysed night-time

surface temperatures recorded at six sites on the Earth-facing side of the Moon from 2017-2023. During April-May 2020, the heat reaching the Moon was found to have significantly reduced, and was, therefore, attributed to the COVID-19 lockdowns.

"A decrease in the maximum temperature is observed at all sites during the global lockdown period of April 2020 and May 2020. We observed a night-time temperature change of nearly 8-10 Kelvin," the authors wrote.

Observations of the Moon, such as night-time temperatures, could possibly support ongoing efforts to study climate change, along with informing Earth's radiation budget, they said.



Police personnel detain activists during a protest by members of Youth Congress against SEBI Chairperson Madhabi Puri Buch, outside SEBI office in Mumbai, Maharashtra

PTI PHOTO





TEST  
TURNS  
T20

# Batting blitz by India

Jaiswal, Rahul make fifties to give India command; Bangladesh 26/2 at close on Day 4

CHAMPIONS TROPHY

## Govt to decide on India travel to Pak, says BCCI



The BCCI may request the ICC to pull the tournament out of Pakistan and organise it either in Sri Lanka or Dubai

India and Bangladesh here. India and Pakistan only play each other in ICC events. India have not travelled to Pakistan for bilateral cricket since 2008 following the Mumbai terror attacks in which over 150 people were killed.

Pakistan were in India for the ODI World Cup last year after a gap of seven years. It is being speculated that India will not travel to Pakistan for the Champions Trophy.

The BCCI may request the ICC to pull the tournament out of Pakistan and organise it either in Sri Lanka or Dubai.

The latest edition of the Asia Cup was played as per a hybrid model allowing India to play all their matches in Sri Lanka. As a result, the island nation hosted nine games while Pakistan hosted the remaining four matches.

The Pakistan Cricket Board (PCB) is averse to the idea of taking the tournament out of their country.

Recently, Pakistan all-rounder Hasal Ali had also said that if India do not travel to Pakistan, the tournament should go ahead without their Asian neighbours.

The ICC, on its part, has maintained that it would not force a member board to go against government policy.

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

**Kanpur, Sept 30:** Reiterating a long-held position, BCCI Vice President Rajeev Shukla Monday said a decision on whether the national cricket team will travel to Pakistan for next year's ICC Champions Trophy will depend on government approval.

Pakistan are scheduled to host the prestigious ODI tournament from February 19 to March 9.

"No decision has been taken (yet). But our policy is that for international tours, we always seek the permission of the government. It's up to the government to decide whether our team should go to any country or our team should not go to any country," Shukla told reporters here.

"In this case (also), whatever the government will decide, we will abide by that," he added.

Shukla was talking to the media on the sidelines of the ongoing second Test between

### FRESH RECORDS

India unleashed their batting might on the visitors, striking at 8.22 runs per over to reset the records for fastest team 50 (18 balls), 100 (74 balls) and 200 runs (24.2 overs) in Test cricket.

Virat Kohli became only the fourth player in history to complete 27,000 runs in international cricket across formats.

Ravindra Jadeja cherished a rare double of 300 Test wickets and 3000 Test runs. He is the second quickest to complete the double behind England great Ian Botham. He also became only the seventh Indian to take 300 Test wickets when he dismissed Khaled Mahmud.

building on the foundation with their swift 87-run stand for the fifth wicket.

In a breathtaking show, Indian batters hit 28 fours and 11 sixes, collecting 158 runs in boundaries.

roof of the stadium.

It was clear that India were showing an urgency to surpass the Bangladesh total quickly after more than two days' play was lost to bad weather.

The onslaught surprised the rival attack but the home fans were rewarded for visiting the stadium.

Adopting a see-the-ball and hit-the-ball approach, India completed the fastest team fifty in three overs.

Realising the ineffectiveness of his pacers, Bangladesh skipper Najmul Hossain Shanto introduced spinner Mehidy Hasan Miraz and he responded to the call by casting Rohit.

Jaiswal completed his fifty with a single off left-arm spinner Tajjul Islam and continued in his aggressive fashion. His innings, which con-

tained 12 fours and two sixes, was cut short by Mahmud.

The young opener added 72 runs for the second wicket with Shubman Gill (39).

Rishabh Pant did not last long but there was no change in approach for the hosts with Virat Kohli and KL Rahul



### CHINA OPEN

## Sinner, Alcaraz through to semis



PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

**Beijing, Sept 30:** Top-ranked Jannik Sinner moved into the semi-finals of the China Open with a 6-2, 7-6 (6) victory over Jiri Lehecka Monday.

Just two days after the World Anti-Doping Agency announced it was seeking a ban of one to two years for the US Open champion, who tested positive twice

for an anabolic steroid in March, the 23-year-old Italian didn't appear distracted as he quickly got to grips with the No 37-ranked Lehecka's serve in a dominant first set.

The defending champion faced two set points at 4-6 in the second-set tie-break, but found a way to close out his 14th consecutive win and advance to a semi-final against either fifth-seeded

Andrey Rublev or local favourite No 96-ranked Bu Yunchaokete, who play later Monday.

"So happy how I handled a tough situation," Sinner said. "Feel like I still can improve a couple of things here so hopefully tomorrow is going to be that day when I feel better on the court."

Third-ranked Carlos Alcaraz advanced to the semi-finals for the second straight year after an impressive 7-5, 6-2 victory against Karen Khachanov.

The 21-year-old Spaniard was characteristically relentless from the baseline and ground down the No 27-ranked Khachanov's service games and converted four of 12 service break opportunities to win in 96 minutes.

It was Alcaraz's 46th win of the season and it allowed the reigning French Open and Wimbledon champion to climb back above the absent Alexander Zverev into second place in the ATP live rankings.

### CLOSE MISS

## India's U20 Asian Cup journey ends

INDO-ASIAN NEWS SERVICE

**Vientiane (Laos), Sept 30:** India came within just a few goals of qualifying for the AFC U20 Asian Cup China 2025, in what was their best qualification campaign in 22 years at this age group.

The equation was simple for India as they took to the pitch against Laos in their last match of Group G of the AFC U20 Asian Cup qualifiers. After beating Mongolia (4-1) and suffering a heartbreaking defeat against IR Iran (0-1), India needed to win against hosts Laos at the Lao National Stadium KM16 in Vientiane, Laos, and then hope for the results in the other nine groups to go their way.

India only fell short on goal difference, after garnering six points, the same as Thailand and Jordan.

LEGENDS LEAGUE CRICKET  
WATCH LIVE ACTION TODAY!  
MANIPAL TIGERS VS SOUTHERN SUPER STARS  
7:00 PM ONWARDS  
Streaming on STAR SPORTS FC

## Usha slams EC members for not felicitating Olympians

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

**New Delhi, Sept 30:** Indian Olympic Association (IOA) President PT Usha Monday said it is "deeply concerning" that the Executive Committee members failed to honour Olympic medalists and accused the Finance Committee of blocking funds intended to support Indian athletes' preparation for the Paris Games.

India secured six medals, including two historic bronze by young shooter Manu Bhaker, but Usha said the "EC does not want to celebrate their success" and it makes her "very sad."

"These athletes have made the nation proud, and it is the responsibility of the IOA to celebrate their achievements with the respect they deserve. It is deeply concerning that, even after returning home in mid-August, the EC has failed to discuss or take any steps towards organizing a formal felicitation ceremony," she said in a statement.

She revealed that a proposal for a preparatory grant of Rs 2 lakh for each Olympic-bound athlete and Rs 1 lakh for each coach had been blocked by the Finance Committee, notably by IOA Treasurer Sahdev Yadav.

"I strongly believe that this grant would have given our ath-

letes and their coaches the support they needed in the crucial period leading up to the Olympic Games. The refusal to disburse these funds reflects a lack of understanding of the needs of athletes and shows a complete disregard for their preparation and well-being," she stated.

Highlighting the contrast with previous leadership, Usha pointed out that a successful felicitation ceremony was organised for the seven medalists from the Tokyo 2020 Olympics, even amid the pandemic.

The IOA had planned to award each individual medalist between Rs 50 lakh and Rs 1 crore, with coaches receiving Rs 15 lakh to Rs 25 lakh as part of the official felicitation.

## Blow for France as Griezmann hangs boots

WORLD CUP WINNER ANTOINE GRIEZMANN RETIRES AFTER A DECADE WITH FRANCE

ASSOCIATED PRESS

**Paris, Sept 30:** World Cup winner Antoine Griezmann took the soccer world by surprise Monday when he announced the end of his international career with France.

The 33-year-old Atletico Madrid player has played 137 matches with Les Bleus, scoring 44 goals during a successful 10-year tenure. Griezmann started with France in 2014 in a friendly match against the Netherlands then quickly established himself as a stalwart of the team coached by Didier Deschamps with his versatile talent and influence as both a goalscorer and an assist provider.

Only two players, Hugo Lloris and Lilian Thuram, have played more international games with France than Griezmann.

"It's with a heart full of memories that I close this chapter of my life," Griezmann said in a message posted on Instagram. "Thank you for this wonderful tri-



color adventure and see you soon." Griezmann is fourth on France's list of all-time scorers behind Olivier Giroud, Thierry Henry and Kylian Mbappe. He

won the 2018 World Cup and the Nations League three years later with his France teammates.

"I was lucky enough to experience some incredible moments

Griezmann is fourth on France's list of all-time scorers behind Olivier Giroud, Thierry Henry and Kylian Mbappe

alongside some exceptional teammates. We have shared victories that will remain forever engraved in our memories," he said.

After a disappointing showing at the European Championship earlier this year, where France lost in the semi-finals, Griezmann had lost some of his influence in Deschamps' team. His final appearance in the France kit was in September in a 2-0 win over Belgium in a Nations League match when he came on as a late substitute.

Although Griezmann has admitted he struggled at the Euros, he was expected to keep on playing with France until the 2026 World Cup.